

America's Forgotten Victory!

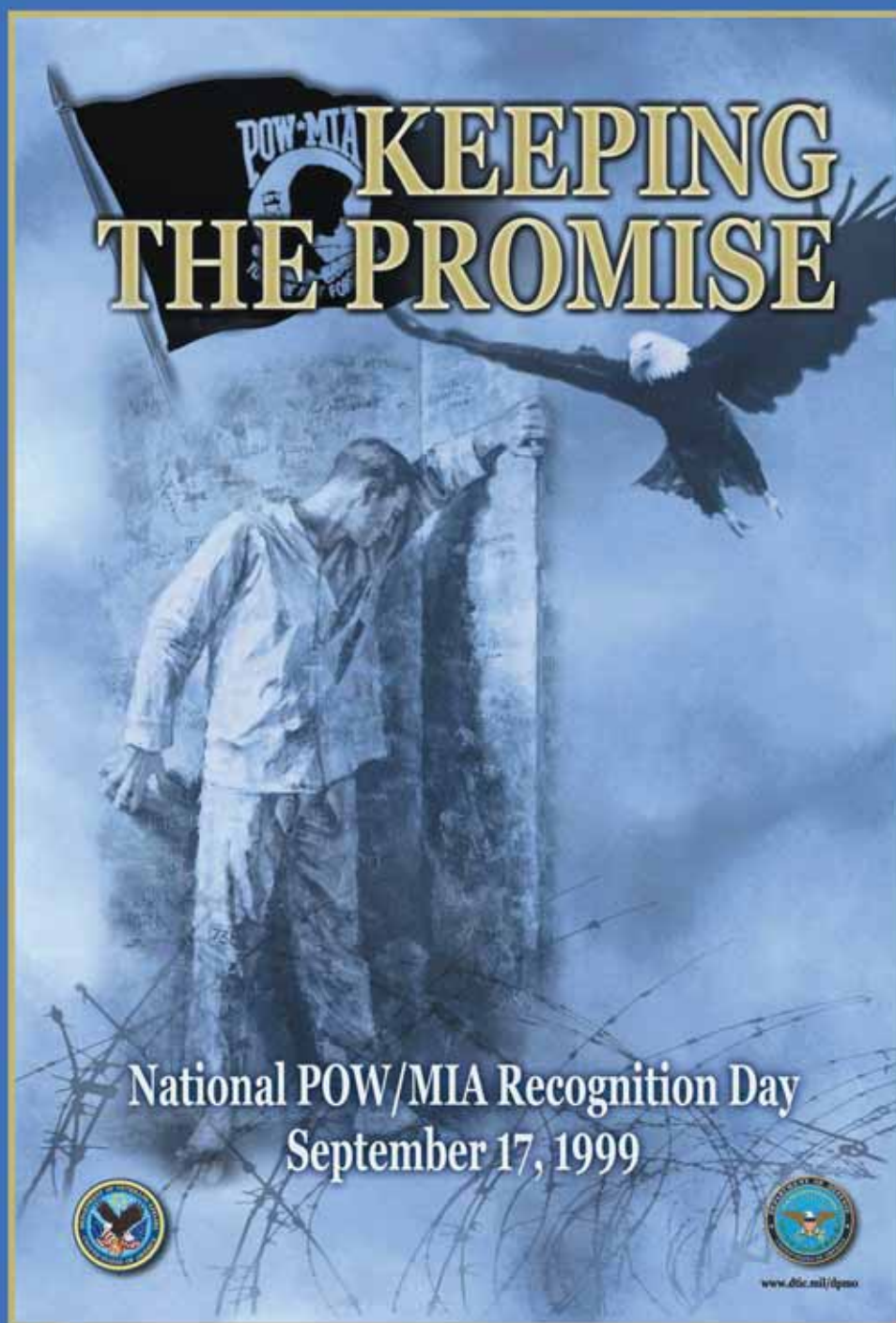
# The Graybeards

Official Publication of

**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

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# 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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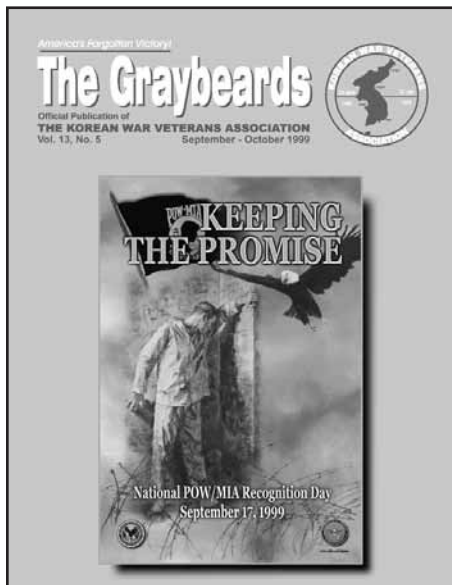
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# On the cover...



Pictured on the cover of this issue of *The Graybeards* is the DoD poster remembering our POWs/MIAs. This poster was presented at the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Office (DPMO) Family Update last June. We thank DPMO for allowing us to use the poster on our cover but most of all for their service of looking for and bringing home our loved ones. Their Motto is Keeping the Promise.

## Our Vision

We are committed to an unwavering effort to bring home or account for each and every service member lost due to hostile action. We are committed to communicate openly, honestly, and with understanding to the families of missing Americans and the entire nation.

## Our Mission

To lead and oversee the effort to locate, account for, and repatriate Americans captured or missing as a result of past, current and future hostile actions.

To provide the expertise, technology and resources necessary to uphold this commitment with integrity and dedication.

To resolve uncertainties by illuminating the facts and informing the families, the Congress and the American people.

## Korea

On May 8, 1996, former Secretary of Defense William Perry signed a DoD policy statement stressing the Department's priority and commitment to the Korean War accounting effort. In honoring these

commitments, DoD has negotiated Joint Recovery Operations (JROs) with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), conducted dozens of recoveries, created a database on Personnel Missing-Korea, and contacted thousands of surviving family members.

## Historical Context

North Korea returned several thousand remains during Operation GLORY in 1954. US graves registration teams ended a search for remains from South Korean battlefields in 1956. These efforts accounted for thousands of identified remains; however, officials declared about 854 unknown. Next, officials buried one unknown in the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington, Virginia, and buried the remainder in Hawaii in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific known as the Punchbowl.

From the final repatriation of remains in Operation GLORY in 1954 until 1990, the US sought, through the United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission (UNCMAC), to no avail to persuade the DPRK to search for and return remains of US and Allied personnel lost in North Korea.

Between 1990 and 1994, the DPRK unilaterally recovered and returned 208 remains to the United Nations Command. Unfortunately, North Korean record keeping and recovery techniques greatly complicated the identification process. North Korean recoveries combined remains and mixed identification media. Consequently, DoD has identified fewer than 10 of these remains to date. Clearly, these efforts demonstrated the need for joint recovery operations, where the Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii (CILHI) could exercise its vast experience and technical expertise to increase the effectiveness of identification efforts.

## Joint Recovery Operations

In 1994, DPRK's President Kim IL Sung unexpectedly accepted former President Jimmy Carter's proposal to permit joint US-DPRK remains recovery operations. Though this surprising development was encouraging, the North Korean

Please turn to **COVER** on page 35

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# President's Message



Harley Coon  
President, KWVA

**W**e have just completed the national reunion in Mobile, AL. Neil Livingston and the committee put on a wonderful convention. We had several great speakers, The honorable Togo West,

Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, spoke on veteran benefits and cemetery openings. General Kim from South Korea thanked the Korean War Veterans for the saving of South Korea. We had Al Daily a much decorated Korean War Veteran. Al spoke about all the battles that occurred in Korea. There was a ground breaking for the Alabama State Korean War Memorial, then a tour of the battleship "Alabama"

I Would like to congratulate the elected board members. Bob Morga, Oreste "Rusty" Tramonte, James F. Jones Jr., and James W. Kerr. I look forward to working with the new directors. I would like to thank Ted Trousdale for his service to the KWVA.

I have just completed my first year as your president and feel a lot has been accomplished. Much more needs to be done. We have made every effort to keep the negative articles and letters out of *The Graybeards*. We want to keep *The Graybeards* the best veterans magazine. We are sorry if any article printed offended any member.

We have stopped the flamboyant spending. The telephone credit cards have been canceled and we have eliminated the bank charges while we have increased the interest income on our funds in the money market. (i.e. last year we paid over \$4,000.00 in bank charges while we only received \$6,000.00 interest, that is only a \$2,000.00 profit This year we paid about \$400.00 bank charges while we will receive over \$12,000.00 in interest The new treasurer Thomas Gregory (not the Gregory with The Chosin Few) initiated a

**This next year marks 50 years since the Korean War started. We must join together to remember those 54,246 that were killed, 103,000 wounded, the 7,500 Prisoners of War, and 8,100 unaccounted for, and missing in action**

safeguard so that the association money will be safe. It takes two signatures to approve payment of bills and it takes two signatures on every check. The finance committee chairman will be furnished a bank statement and a financial report every month, the membership will be furnished a financial report every 3 months in the *Graybeards*.

This next year marks 50 years since the Korean War started. We must join together to remember those 54,246 that were killed, 103,000 wounded, the 7,500 Prisoners of War, and 8,100 unaccounted for, and missing in action. We went to Korea as 17,18 and 19 year old boys, we became men overnight. In July of 1950 we went to Korea and we had no maps only those in Japanese. We didn't really know what the North Korean soldiers looked like. We soon found out. We became street wise in a hurry.

We must now make plans for the year 2000, in Washington D. C. This will be the

50th commemoration of the Korean War. We should try to get all Korean War Veterans together. There are several Korean War Veterans Organizations. We must make every effort to get as many Korean veterans at the 2000 commemoration in Washington D C. There will be many events over the next 4 years. The Korean government has increased the quota for the revisit program.

The Board of Directors voted to have a drawing to help continue the publication of *The Graybeards* and to help with some expenses for the year 2000/2003. We have a commemorative Thompson Sub-machine gun, 2 (two) M1 Rifles, a Commemorative Colt .45 and a \$500.00 savings bond. The tickets will be mailed in December. The drawing will be July 27, 2000.

The Australian Korean War Memorial will be dedicated on Tuesday April 18, 2000 in the city of Canberra. There will be more in this and the next *Graybeards*. The Australian Korean War Veterans are looking forward to welcome their American friends.

Harley



When I was back in Korea in April, I was asked to cross the Bridge of No Return. I crossed that bridge on August 31, 1953. The Eight Army reporter wanted a picture: (L to R), CMS Park, Lt. Col. Nixon, Harley Coon and Capt. Walker (Chaplain).



## The Future of Health Care in the Va:

We attended a seminar on Capitol Hill moderated by Jesse Brown. Many good points were expressed and some questionable ones. Topics as home nursing care., hospice care, clinics closer to the veterans population, backlog of claims were discussed. Note the following:

### Tele-medicine:

Veterans will be able to get on-line with a VA doctor from their home to discuss their illnesses. Medication can be prescribed through this medium. Disabled can be monitored in this manner.

### Pain Management:

A relatively new concept spreading through the medical field. It is designed to relieve sufferers no matter what trauma, etc. they experienced. Listen to the talk show physician and news reports from the various studies.

### Research:

Hepatitis "C" and AIDS, both are communicable diseases being studied extensively. Other research projects were mentioned. We asked why research on Veterans?. Are veterans being used as guinea pigs? Has the veteran authorized himself/herself to be used in such projects. Not a good response.

### Hospice:

This was mentioned at the VAVS meeting in Richmond. The VA is proposing something better than offered in the private sector. More time will be allowed to the terminal ill. More details later.

### Long Term Care and Geriatrics:

Plans are to improve end of life care. Use innovative practices (another name for research).

### VA's National Strategy Summit:

"No dying veterans shall suffer from preventable pain while being cared for by the VA health care system. — Every Veteran with a serious, life-limiting illness receiving care from the VA shall have a comprehensive, individualized care plan that supports self-determined life closure, safe and comfortable dying, and effective grieving. Every veteran enrolled in the VA health care system who has a serious, life-limiting illness shall have access to hospice care and/or comprehensive palliative care services and shall have an understanding about availability of those services." Many words. Translation??

### Reimbursement to VA:

VA receives compensation from private sources for research. Will investigate thoroughly.

### Hemorrhagic Fever:

The VA will respond later on this subject.

### Chemical Usage:

Has the VA identified any in Korean War Veterans. Again, to be answered later. Britain, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Turkey have identified 60.

## Legislative Directors Report:

Note comments elsewhere in the *Graybeards* regarding the congressional charter. If you want the KWVA recognized you must appeal to your congressman and senator. Don't rely on hanging the bill (House 1671 ) on a Christmas tree. SR 620 was approved by the Senate. The House can present a problem. Get those letters in the mail, ask your friends and relatives to request its passage. We must have it done when this session continues after the summer recess.

### On-line Records:

It appears everyone who was in a VAMC or treated at a VA clinic will have their records available to whomever wishes them. Allegedly the VA states they must protect private information on veterans in accord with the Privacy Act. Hearings will continue on Capitol Hill.

## Korea — "Forgotten No More"

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(617) 327-3524

The airplanes represent Sunday, June 25, 1950 when "Reds" slammed across 38th parallel into Korea

The arm holding flag symbolizes the dying passing the flag to the living in the fight to preserve freedom and the "American Way."

The numerals 33629 is the number of Americans who perished defending freedom in Korea - 1950-1953.

The stars honor the Gold Star families.

## Research:

Hearings on the suspension of medical research is being conducted on Capitol Hill regarding the West Los Angeles and Sepulveda Medical Research facility. The subcommittee on Oversight has been studying this matter. There are ethical questions involved..

## Executive Directors Review:

We do our best in Washington to let our voice be heard on Capitol Hill. KWVA is a member of both NMVA and COMO. As a member we are recognized by all veterans groups. No cost to the KWVA. The Executive Director contributes as a member to avoid expense as others do. Luncheons: everyone opens their wallets if they wish to partake of the repast offered. Our thoughts are expressed by signing on various letters that concern issues dealing with our military retirees, veterans and their dependents. It is difficult with many congressmen and senators never having served in the military to get legislation on the floor for a vote. Several congressmen and senators have aligned themselves with the veteran senators and congressmen. They are our greatest supporters. We will avoid listing names lest we forget someone.

Have any of you witnessed the documentary prepared by Seoul Broadcasting System on the effects of the Korean War on U. S. soldiers and their families. It will be played at the convention in Mobile. You may want a copy.

Please note the contest data from The Korea Society appearing below.

## Testimony for Congressional Record:

In March-April we will be notified of the time the KWVA will present testimony before the Joint Committees on Veterans, Affairs. This is a first for the KWVA. All future National Presidents will have this privilege. This is a privilege not granted to all military and veterans organizations. You will be notified in advance in order to have many of our members present. Locals in the D.C. area take all their veterans hats, and change them accordingly in order to insure the National Commanders can point to the audience and say I thank all of my members for making an appearance today. The KWVA is on its way to full and total recognition.

## National Essay Contest on Korea

### 50 Years Later - The Significance of the Korean War

The topic of this year's contest is focused on the upcoming 50th anniversary of the Korean War. While still often referred to as the "Forgotten War," the Korean War remains central to the U.S.-Korea relationship and a failure to appreciate its significance bedevils the people of both countries. Drawing on what has been learned about the Korean War over the last 50 years, contestants are asked to explore the significance of the war in terms of its impact on the modern history of Korea, relations between the United States and Korea and the other countries of East Asia, and the development of the Korean American community.

## Prizes

### For teachers (6 prizes).

- ☐ Grand Prize (1): \$800/plus a one week, all expenses paid, trip for two to Korea
- ☐ First Prize (1): \$800
- ☐ Second Prize (2): \$500
- ☐ Third Prize (2): \$300

### For students (13 prizes):

- ☐ Grand Prize (1): \$500/plus a one week, all expenses paid, trip for two to Korea
- ☐ First Prize (2): \$500
- ☐ Second Prize (5): \$250
- ☐ Third Prize (5): \$100

## Guidelines

1. Write an original work of fiction or non-fiction in English on the designated topic. A comprehensive list of the sources consulted must also be submitted.

2. Any reliable source may be used for your background research including information obtained from an interview of someone with first hand experience of the Korean War (either American or Korean).

3. All submissions must be a minimum of three but no more than six pages in length, excluding the list of sources and the cover page. Entries must be typed, double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman or an equivalent font with a one-inch margin on all sides of the page.

4. A cover page with your name, school's name, grade level (currently attending or teaching), home address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if available) must be attached to each copy of your entry. The contest is open only to full-time students (grades 8-12) and teachers (grades 8-12).

5. Four (4) sets of the cover page, original work and list of sources must be mailed to The Korea Society by the postmark deadline,

6. All submissions must be postmarked by February 29, 2000.

7. Submissions will be judged on the basis of originality, creativity, clarity, style and evidence of a serious research effort.

8. Entries will not be returned. All winning submissions will become the property of The Korea Society. Previous Grand and First Prize winners of the National Essay Contest are not eligible to participate in this year's contest.

9. Winners will be announced in May 2000. All decisions by the judges are final.

For further information write to: The Korea Society, c/o Essay Contest, 950 Third Avenue, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10022; Tel: 212-759-7525 ext. 17; Fax: 212- 759- 7530; e-mail: korea.ny@koreasociety.org.





## How to Create a New Chapter

by Skip Rittenhouse

### Step 1

Decide on the area. If it is a large population center and it has no chapter, it is to be targeted. Determine which is the largest newspaper serving that area. When dealing with a large organization such as a newspaper try to make your first contact as high as possible. If your name is passed down to the reporter by the publisher or the editor you will usually get better results than if you try to contact the reporter personally. Sometimes the publisher or editor is a Korean veteran himself.

Once a reporter has been assigned to the story, hopefully he or she will call you. If however you initiate the first contact be sure to drop the name of the publisher or editor with whom you spoke. Establish a date and time for a face to face interview.

This interview is the goal of step 1 and can usually be arranged by phone.

### Step 2 (first trip)

Prepare for the interview. Know the story you want to tell the reporter. *Remember it's your interview, not his or hers.* Know your organization's history, How we are the oldest organization of Korean veterans and that we initiated the effort in 1985 which resulted in the memorial in Washington.

If you have a blazer, wear it with a a tie. If not wear your cap with our logo on it.

It is not necessary to have a meeting place arranged before the meeting, but if you do that is great. If you haven't, ask the reporter to suggest one. Often they can be very helpful. Stress to him that you will call him with the meeting information before you leave town. It is best not to use an American Legion or VFW post for the first meeting, but it is not unusual for one to be the site of the second meeting which has been arranged by someone who attended the first meeting and is a member of that post.

A good date for the first meeting is about a week after the interview appears in the paper.

Remember, the place, date and time of the organizational meeting is the most important piece of information to be included in the article.

### Step 3 (second and most important trip)

Obtain 50 back issues of THE GRAYBEARDS from national organization if available. (They can be purchased from the editor for \$25 including postage). Duplicate the membership form found in the publication so the copies can stay intact. Establish the amount of dues and be sure to have receipt book so dues can be collected. Dues are 5.00 per quarter for the balance of the current year and 20.00 for the entire next year.

For example, if the meeting is in Sept;

Oct, Nov, Dec. ....\$ 5.00

Following full year .....\$20.00

\$25.00

The amount due for a regular membership would be 25.00

from each member wanting to join. Again, *take no money without furnishing a receipt!*

Wear blazer and or KWVA cap w/logo.

Be at the meeting place an hour before the meeting in case there are any glitches in the preparation. When the appointed time arrives, introduce yourself. (if you have a chalkboard, write your name on it.) Have each person stand and introduce himself telling of the unit in which he served during the war. This is an excellent icebreaker and establishes that you are not going to monopolize the meeting. You are approaching the critical part of the entire project. If you are talking and they are listening it will be difficult to discover who has leadership ability. In most cases you will have a room full of people who have never met and are reluctant to step forward.

After everyone is feeling comfortable and willing to talk, inform them that this is the only meeting at which you will preside. That this will be their chapter, starting immediately. Ask for one of them to be chairman (Pro-tem) and arrange the time and the place of the next meeting. Explain that this does not mean that he or she will be chapter president (although it usually works out that way). *This is the most crucial time in the formation of a new chapter.*

Once one person in the group has agreed to arrange the next meeting, the organizer's job is nearly done. Remind everyone that once 12 members have paid dues a charter will be sent and a chapter number assigned. Collect the national dues from all those who are ready to pay and give them a copy of *The Graybeards*. Leave all extra copies of the magazine and membership forms when you leave.

If a member has volunteered to arrange (and chair) the next meeting and you have received dues from at least 12 people you can feel pretty sure the chapter will develop on it's own.

### Step 4 (Third trip)

This step is not necessary, but very desirable. Stay in contact with the leader. When you know that officers have been elected and a charter issued you should attend the meeting and swear in the officers.

When you leave you will have created another chapter of The Korean War Veterans' Association.

Please note that this method was used to form the following chapters;

#### Ohio

Central Ohio (Columbus)	Mahoning Valley
(Youngstown)	
Greater Cincinnati	Akron Regional
Ohio River (Portsmouth)	Hocking Valley (Logan)
Marion	Richland County (Mansfield)
Northwest Ohio (Toledo)	Hancock County (Findlay)
Coshocton	

#### West Virginia

Mountaineer Chapter (Charleston) (The first of three)

Military Shop Ad – 4 color

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# National VA/VS Representative Report

By Norman S. Kantor

Departments and Chapters should encourage all members to participate in V.A.V.S. activities. Being active in the V.A.V.S. programs is gratifying work in which you can become involved, these programs are desperately in need of volunteers.

Our hospitalized Veterans need and deserve our support and concern. As a Veteran YOU must realize that it is not morally right for these hospitalized Veterans to be forgotten. The Korean War is known as the forgotten war, can the hospitalized Veterans be forgotten ??? As your national V.A.V.S. staff officer I strongly urge all members to enter into and participate in the V.A.V.S. program.

Current information received from Washington, D.C. mentions the following new areas of volunteer assignments:

1. Ambulatory care lobby customer service, greater
2. Homeless Veteran outreach, assist with shelters
3. National Cemetery - Honor Guard
4. Nutrition & Food service - Nutritional Assistant
5. Senior Companion
6. Telephone triage Receptionist assistant
7. Adult Day craft assistant

Would your chapter like to host a health promotion clinic? Contact the VA medical center voluntary service office.

Countless chapters failed to submit their V.A.V.S. summary report covering January through June 1999, this was due by 15 July covering hours, miles, donations, and functions at VA centers, etc. New V.A.V.S. summary sheet will be sent to those chapters and auxiliaries that are active in the V.A.V.S. program. As a member of the KWVA is your chapter showing concern? At your next chapter meeting ask your elected officers what are we doing for our fellow Veterans ?

*"Make A Difference Day"*

Make a difference day will be held on Oct. 23rd, how many KWVA members will make a difference? The *VA Medical Centers Clinics*, and *Veterans Homes* need volunteers, a few hours spent is a worthwhile effort on your part. Some chapters sit back and do nothing, you as a Veteran and as a member can make a difference.



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 or fill out USPS Form 9076 "Authorization to Hold Mail" if you will be away from your regular mailing address for 30 days or less. For an address change, contact the KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210, Attn: Membership Chairman or call Nancy Monson at (703) 522-9629.

## Home Based Primary Care

### Basic Requirements for Home Based Primary Care:

- ◆ Essentially Home Bound.
- ◆ Have a Primary Care Provider at this VAMC or GROPC.
- ◆ Have a skilled care need which can be managed with in-home appointments.
- ◆ Preferably have a caregiver available in the home.

### How To Receive Home Based Primary Care:

- ◆ Your Primary Care Provider (Dr., PA, or Advanced Practitioner Nurse) writes a consult to HBPC- any member of the hospital can ask for a referral to HBPC.
- ◆ A Nurse from HBPC will review your needs and talk with you about your needs.
- ◆ The HBPC Nurse will then discuss your needs with the Primary Care Provider.
- ◆ The HBPC Nurse will then call you and schedule an appointment in your home to complete an assessment.
- ◆ After the assessment is completed, a plan of care will be developed and shared with you.
- ◆ If you agree to receiving the care and meet the criteria for admission to HBPC, you will be given a schedule of times the HBPC staff assigned to your case will visit you.

### Examples of Expectations of the Veteran Patient in the Program

- ◆ You are expected to be at home for your scheduled appointment visits with the HBPC staff.
- ◆ You or your caregiver are expected to be willing to learn the skills necessary to meet your continuing needs at home.
- ◆ You are expected to fulfill the responsibilities identified in the Rights and Responsibilities for HBPC Patients handout you will receive on your initial visit.
- ◆ To be provided the 24 hour contact telephone numbers as well as an emergency plan.

### Examples of What You Can Expect from the HBPC Staff

- ◆ You will be informed of when your next appointment is and who will be involved in your case.
- ◆ The HBPC Staff are expected to honor your rights as identified in the Rights and Responsibilities for HBPC Patients handout.

The purpose of the Annual Joint Review (AJR) is to provide an overview of the organization's participation in the VAVS program during the preceding year. The review provides an opportunity for the organization's representatives and Voluntary and Community Resources Department to develop plans that will ensure active participation by the organization in programs for the welfare of veteran patients. As past performances are reviewed, plans and goals for the future can be developed.

**Note:** The following is from VA Manual M-2, Part XVI I, Chapter 2. *The name of the member organization will be removed from the cumulative attendance record when the organization has not been represented at three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings of the Medical Center VAVS Committee by a certified Representative or Deputy Representative.*

# Inchon visitors to New York thank Korean War Vets

By Richard Dwyer,  
Chairman, Westchester Veteran's  
Memorial Committee

Looking back over history, there are major events by which we measure all others, affecting the lives of millions of people. Many of us in the United States remember one of those events, the 49th anniversary of which occurs this fall on September 15th — General Douglas MacArthur's celebrated landing at Inchon, South Korea. This daring military maneuver cut off the invasion by the North Korean armed forces into the South and altered the course of the war. During the events of 1950-1953, the United States armed forces sacrificed 54,000 soldiers, while South Korea suffered over one million casualties. Today, on the southern border of the demilitarized zone on the Korean peninsula, Koreans and Americans continue to work side by side in one of the longest allied military operations in history.

The Korean War is often referred to as the "Forgotten War". This statement rings true for many in the United States and Korea. However, for those who served, the war is anything but forgotten. This month a benevolent reversal of the Inchon landing took place when representatives from local government in Inchon visited New York City to thank Korean War veterans for their sacrifice and also to thank American families who had adopted Korean children. The landing at Inchon nearly fifty years ago paved the way for the democracy, economic prosperity and emerging middle class that is now part of Korea and for which Koreans are thankful.

Friendship equals ally, which results in mutual trust and understanding. This message of peace was heard by more than a thousand veterans, families members and friends who gathered at the Town Hall Theater in Times Square on July 14, 1999 to watch the world famous Inchon City Dance Company perform in tribute to the sacrifice, service and friendship of the citizens of Korea and the United States. Mutual expressions of friendship were exchanged among the visiting Koreans, the many veterans in attendance, and the young Korean-

**The landing at Inchon nearly fifty years ago paved the way for the democracy, economic prosperity and emerging middle class that is now part of Korea and for which Koreans are thankful.**

Americans who attended with their adopted families.

Mayor Choi, Ki Sun of Inchon Metropolitan City delivered a heartfelt welcome, recalling the damage and destruction of the war, not only to the physical country of South Korea, but also to Korean families; many of whom remain separated by the 38th parallel. Mayor Choi noted the humane response by Americans, both those who selflessly gave their lives and others who cared for the children left behind in the destruction. He ended his remarks speaking of Inchon's progress, noting that if any veteran who served in the war would return and see their success, they would be proud to witness the fruits of the sacrifice they made half a century earlier. Once virtually devastated, Inchon is today Korea's third largest city, with a population that continues to grow. Due to its rapid growth, Inchon is forecast to become the second largest city in Korea in five years. From under-development to major OECD nation, Korea has become the 11th largest economy in the world. Truly, this is a remarkable achievement.

At the end of the 20th century, the city of Inchon hardly reflects the western coast of Korea upon which MacArthur gazed. In 2001, the largest airport in Asia will open in Inchon with a design that anticipates advances in aerospace engineering. In addition, the construction of Media Valley is planned, making this city Korea's answer to Silicon Valley's research and production of information and telecommunication technologies and rivaling those of other Asian nations. To further accommodate the expected increase in commerce, Inchon is also expanding its seaport, thus making it a vital link in trade with China, Russia, Japan and the rest of the world. As Korea prepares to host the 2002 World Cup Soccer tournament, Inchon is more than

poised to join the ranks of the most international of cities.

A few short weeks ago in New York, it was a proud evening for veterans and adopted families who watched a dance performance that was in essence a memorial to those who have brought the United States and Korea closer together. One veteran commented after the performance that "to hear the words, to see the beauty of the performance and the performers, made me realize that we made the difference that will last for generations. Now I know in my heart that our sacrifice was not made in vain.

John F. Kennedy in his inaugural address said, "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty. This much we pledge and more." A decade before these words were spoken, the United States had demonstrated a commitment to the people of Korea. The sacrifice of American lives is repaid when the Korean people embrace democracy and free enterprise in a manner that generates economic prosperity in which all share. Commitment to the principles of freedom now unites an expanding community of nations that maintain these goals, including Korea and the United States. As the new millennium rapidly approaches, it is a time to remember those who have sown the seeds of our current condition and to work still harder for prosperity around the world.

Richard Dwyer is a founding member of the Westchester Veterans Memorial Committee and has earned numerous awards for his service to veterans. For twenty-five years he was a member of the police department in the Town of Bedford. Mr. Dwyer resides in Katonah, New York.

# Inchon Dance Company honors parents of adopted Korean children

By Jane Kandiew, 10 Clover Drive,  
Wilton, CT 06897, Tel: 203-761-1360

A recent cultural event brought together local Korean War Veterans and Families with adopted Korean children. On July 14th The Inchon City Dance Company held a Traditional Korean Dance Performance in appreciation of Korean War Veterans and the parents of adopted Korean children.

Veterans and adoptive families came to New York City that evening from all over the tri-state area. Two Connecticut families with Korean children attended the performance. Jane and Andrew Kandiew of Wilton attended with their daughter Alexandra Lee, who was born in Korea. "I saw the poster announcing the performance and contacted Mr. Ed Wern, who served in Korea in 1952-1953, and lives here in Wilton", said Mrs. Kandiew. I wanted to take my daughter to the performance, and Ed graciously provided us with the tickets. He also came through when a good friend also wanted to attend!"

Unfortunately, Mr. Wern was unable to be present at the moving performance. The Mayor of Inchon, Korea, Mr. Choi, Ki-Sun, addressed the crowd filling the Town Hall, and asked all of the Korean Veterans to stand while the audience gave a thunderous round of applause. The Mayor thanked the Veterans, and dedicated the performance as a token of appreciation for their sacrifices and contribution to the development of his city and nation.

The Chairman of the Korea Society, Mr. Donald P. Gregg, also addressed the audience. He stated that the Inchon landing was the pivotal event in the Korean War that turned the tide in favor of the 20 Countries that were fighting together in Korea under the United Nations banner. Inchon, which has a population of 2.5 million citizens, is today the fastest growing city in Korea.

After the emotional speeches, the Dance Company performed nine traditional and folk dances, including the Drum Dance and the Fan Dance.

Before the performance both Alexandra and her friend, Brittany Schlenk had their photo taken with the Principal Dancer of the Company. "Brittany and Alexandra were the only children in attendance who wore their Hanboks (Traditional Korean Dress) and they attracted much attention from the Veterans and



Mayor Choi, Ki-Sun and Alexandra Kandiew (top) and Korean dancer with Brittany Schlenk (bottom).

Adoptive families alike."

"At one point during the evening, Alexandra tugged on a man's sleeve who was wearing a overseas cap with pins and medals all over it. He turned to her and she said "Kamsa Hamnida" to him, which is "Thank you" in Korean. He was so affected by her and her words that he reached up to his cap and removed a pin from it and fastened it on Ali's hanbok. Then he did the same to Brittany. It was a very heartfelt moment, recalled Mrs. Kandiew".

Please turn to **CHILDREN** on page 17

## A Daughter to Love

My husband and I have a daughter who was born in Korea. Alexandra Lee is the most beautiful, intelligent, wonderful child in this world (No, she really is!). She arrived at JFK airport on Valentine's Day in 1996 when she was just 4-months-old. That day, in the middle of a crowd of travelers, we became parents. Our life has never been the same. To say that she has brought joy and happiness (never mind the mudpies and ear infections) to our lives is an understatement. She is our lives. We humbly thank her birth mother for this gift she has given us, we know it wasn't an easy decision for her to make. We also thank the thousands of Korean War veterans (including Alexandra's Grandpa, Corporal Eugene Casey who served 3/52 to 7/53 in the 2nd Division, Artillery) for all their sacrifices to help preserve and protect the Great and ancient Country of Korea. My daughter is proud to be Korean, and we are proud of her! Thank you all!

Kamsa-Hamnida!

Sincerely,

Jane Kandiew, Wife of  
Dear Husband, Andrew,  
Proud Mom to Alexandra  
Lee, born in Seoul, Korea  
And Katherine Pham,,  
born in Dong Nai, Vietnam  
(Just arrived 5/25/99 at 15  
1/2 months old!)



# Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

## Washington Remembers



Photos above and left are of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Olympia, Washington. The memorial was dedicated on July 24, 1993.

*(Thank you Walter Koopman for the photos and Dedication booklet. This is the first time for me to see your beautiful memorial. All Korean War Veterans thank the State of Washington and all who made this memorial possible.)*

## Illinois Remembers



Korean/Vietnam War Memorial at Hazel and Williams Streets Danville, Illinois, dedicated May 31, 1986.

*(Thank you Hershall Lee for photo. Left side is Korea)*

## Maryland Remembers



Maryland Chapter Honor Guard and Baltimore City Police Honor Guard at Flag House in Baltimore, MD at Flag Raising Ceremony during Flag Day 1999. This annual ceremony starts the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag all across America. *(Thank you Jack Cloman for photo.)*

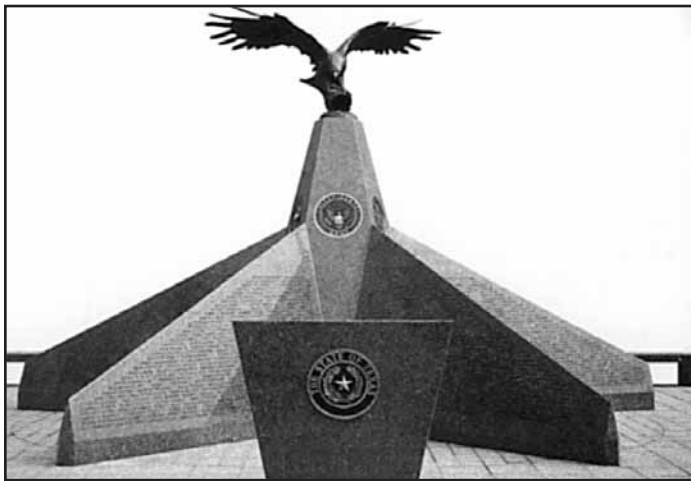
## Virginia Remembers



Memorial and sections of the memorial remembering POW/MIA s located near Virginia Beach on the route to Oceana Naval base.

*(Thank you Charles Marsden for the photo and details.)*

## Texas Remembers



Texas Korean War Veterans Memorial on State Capitol Grounds, Austin, Texas  
Dedicated April 16, 1999.

### What does it mean?

As you study this impressive memorial, you may wonder about the symbolism of its components. The memorial is a constant reminder for future generations of the sacrifice made by more than 289,000 Texans who fought in Korea to defend a friendly nation. It also respectfully identifies more than 1700 Texans killed in action (KIA) or missing in action (MIA). Engraved on each of the fins of the star you will find the names of those Texans missing or killed in action. Look above the engravings near the top of the obelisk, and you will find the emblems of the five branches of service. The stunning eagle with its talons reaching for a helmet and dog tags represents that moment when these fighting men were taken home.

*(Thank you Sal Gambino for the photo, dedication booklet and Lone Star Chapter newsletter. You and your veterans have a beautiful memorial. We are proud of all you Texans)*

## Oklahoma Remembers



Oklahoma Veterans Memorial Highway sign installed in the "Rest Areas" on I-35 and I-40. Pictured are, left to right; Ernest Tally, Hershall Burn, kneeling, Robert Engler, Thomas Gilliam, Harold "Muley" Mulhausen, pres. Okla. Chapter, and 3 men from the Clinton Veterans Center.

This was a joint effort between the Oklahoma Chapters of the KWVA and Chosin Few.

*(Thank you Harold for photos of a great tribute to your veterans)*

## Pennsylvania Remembers

KWVA—Yongdung Po Chapter 114, Bucks County PA., attend the Korean War Memorial Groundbreaking, at the Bucks County Courthouse Courtyard; June 25, 1999.

*(Thank you Andy Lynch for photos and letter. Wish we could print it all. These photos show what great work your Chapter and the Korean War Veterans of Pennsylvania with help from other super people can do. We look forward to printing your dedication photos.)*



At the groundbreaking (top) were Commissioner Charles H. Martin; Commissioner Sandra A. Miller; Commissioner Michael G. Fitzpatrick, Esq.; Dan Fraley, Director, Veterans Affairs; Rear—Willow Grove N.A.S. Marine Color Guard; Podium—Chapter President Thomas McManamon. Yongdung Po Chapter 114 members and other veterans attending the ceremony are shown in lower photograph.

### Memorial Photos Needed

If we have not shown your memorial (whatever size) in the last 2 years please send in a photo. We will accept photos with veterans near the memorial if you will identify the memorial and the veterans. Send us the best photo that does your memorial justice. Describe your memorial in detail and give us the location. I will also send that photo on to our webmaster to place on our KWVA web page. Please do not send photos you want returned. Please no newspaper clippings.  
—Editor



# Letters



## Thanks KWVA members and *The Graybeards*

Last fall someone (I can't remember who) gave me your name and address and suggested I write you for help. This person knew I had been searching for almost three years for my best friend. We had been gunners on the same B-29 crew in combat over Korea.

Early this year I began hearing from men who said they were KWVA members and had seen my appeal for help in *The Graybeards* magazine. It had appeared in the January-February issue. Several of them knew what had happened to my buddy, others offered various ways of trying to assist me in finding him, and others said they did not know him or were able to offer any suggestions but simply wanted me to know they had compassion for my search.

As of this date I have heard from over a dozen KWVA members and have become an e-mail correspondent with several of them. One I heard from turned out to be at Kadena AFB during the same time we were there (May-December 1952) and was on a number of the same combat missions we were. He was in the 93rd Bomb Squadron and we were in the 28th. However both squadrons were part of the 19th Bomb Group.

His name is Darold Woodcock and we correspond on a regular basis. I was extremely impressed with the common feeling of wanting to help a fellow Korean War vet that was evident in all of the men who contacted me. Another turned out to be from a town less than 60 miles from my home and he (Tag Jensen of Leesville, LA) and I are hoping to find enough Korean War vets in Central Louisiana to form a KWVA chapter. Yes, thanks to the warm feeling I received from all who contacted me, I am now a member of the KWVA. My membership card came a few weeks ago.

Back to my friend. Less than a week before I heard from the first KWVA member I found out about my buddy. In early January 1999 I received a letter from a lady in Florida. Her husband, now retired, had been Senior Pilot with Ozark Airlines, later absorbed by TWA. The retired Ozark pilots have an association with a monthly newsletter. The Florida folks had just received their January issue about the same time their sister in law from Ohio came for a visit. The Ohio lady brought a clipping she had just cut out of *Grit* magazine. It was one I had written them about the same time I wrote *Graybeards*. Theirs was published a few weeks prior to yours.

In the January issue of the Retired Ozark Pilots Association there was a brief news story telling of the death of one of their members, James A. (Jim) Eckols in a one-car accident near Phoenix, AZ, on the night of December 7, 1998. In later weeks I have found out more details, including the fact he had an ex-wife and two daughters I never knew about. He also had a seven month old grandson that he adored. I have since been in e-mail contact with them.

That I knew about Jim when the first KWVA man contacted me in no way changes the fact that they rallied to assist a fellow veteran in whatever way they could. It made an impression that will be with me as long as I live.

By the way, two friends and I were on a trip visiting several

military museums and one stop was at the USS Alabama in Mobile, AL. I was wearing my Korean War Veteran cap and was hailed from several decks below by a gentlemen inquiring about my outfit, etc. After a few minutes conversation back and forth we met a short time later and introduced ourselves. He was Harley Coon along with three State of Alabama KWVA officials. Had a great 20 or 30 minute visit with them. Told them about the response to my letter to *Graybeards* and of my intention to be one of them.

My main purpose in writing is to tell you what you already know, namely that there are a great bunch of men who make up the KWVA and I'm proud to become a part of them. I just wish I had known about all of you many years ago. May God Bless You All. Clyde G. Durham, 1016 Hwy 3128, Pineville, LA 71360-8531. Tel: 318 445-3247, E-mail address [cgbdsdurham@aol.com](mailto:cgbdsdurham@aol.com)

(Thank you Clyde for the kind words. We are very proud of our Association and the membership. They did their duty when called and today they continue in any way to help families and veterans. We are also proud to have you as a member.)

## Flag of Remembrance

The veterans flag is long overdue. This flag is in recognition of veterans past, present and future. In making this flag I have used as few words and colors as possible so at a glance them seeing it will know its heart warming message and will remember. This will awaken all of us of our military forces of today scattered throughout the world enabling us to remain free. This flag has thirteen (13) stars and thirteen (13) stripes for the beginning of this nation.

1. The thirteen stars are colored in gold in recognition of Gold Star Mothers and wives. This will keep alive the memories of them who made the Supreme Sacrifice so we would remain free.



Flag of Remembrance: NH Registration TM-2 Vol. 78 Page 155. Designed and registered By Charles R. Bell, 123 Rt. #27, Raymond, NH 03077.



2. The thirteen stripes are seven red and six white. The red stripes are for the blood that was shed. The white stripes bestow honor on them that serve.

3. Within this flag is our national colors. This flag shows the veteran is part of our past, and will have all to do with our future.

4. The words *Land, Air and Sea* are colored in purple for pains of battle. This flag shows there is thanks and recognition for a job well done. It shows Peacetime or Wartime we are Rounded as One.

6. Them seeing the Veterans Remembered Flag will remember and feel pride and joy.

7. The time we have on earth now has been paid for by them: "We Remember."

*(Charles Bell is a true veteran and a special KWVA member. I get many letters from Charles but somehow nothing was ever printed but many were intended for print. Charles sent me this flag and it is beautiful. Thank you Charles.)*

### **A special letter from a generous donator.**

A few years ago, my wife, Ruth and I promoted a "Big Band" theme cruise and signed up 152 passengers which really got the attention of the steamboat company. They were interested in any ideas we might have for future cruises, and we strongly urged them to have a "Korean War" theme cruise, citing the fact that there had never been one, although there had been many other themes, including WWII Well, their first one just finished on June 5, and it was a roaring success!. The ads we placed in "Graybeards" certainly helped get the word out. They undoubtedly will have another next year. From the commissions paid to my wife's small cruise agency, Shoreline Travel, she is donating \$100 per cabin to various Korean War functions around the country. Please find enclosed a check for the KWVA for \$200.00. We are pleased that we are able to do this, as we believe the 'Forgotten War' deserves to be remembered.

Sincerely, Bob Hammond

*(Thank you Ruth and Bob for such a generous gift to the KWVA. We were proud to print your ad and hope many of our members will join you on your next trip.)*

### **A message from a grateful Korean who remembers**

Hi, I am Inyang Jo from Seoul, Korea. 50 years ago, Korean War broke out, and my mother was born three days after that. My grandmother told me that when she was packing to escape, my aunt was so excited because she thought that her family was going to picnic. But we all know it wasn't that pleasant trip. During that chaos; my mother was born, and my grand mother was so worried about her baby. Because nothing was sure for her future.

Now she has a husband and two children who loves her very much. And she is an elementary school teacher. I am her daughter who is about to graduate from university. I bought a shirt for her birthday, it is green. Green is great on her.

I am writing to you to say how I am grateful for your being at that tragic war. Not only my country's young men but also young men from all over the world fought for justice, peace and liberty.

Consequently, you got hurt and even killed. I am sure my mom has had happy life because of that sacrifice of yours.

I thank you for safety of my mom and her family. Because of you, I am here having my mother whom I love more than anything in the world.

Therefore I want you to know that as long as Korea exists, as long as my mother lives and I live and my kids (I don't have them yet, though ) live, you can never be forgettable.

Love, Inyang Jo

*(Thank you Inyang Jo for this special letter that I am honored to pass on to the members of KWVA and all veterans of the Korean War. This letter was e-mailed to me from Inyang Jo. If you would like to respond as I did then I will give you the e-mail address that it was sent from. <pisajo@netsgo.com>)*

### **A veteran remembers M.A.S.H. and life saving efforts**

The article on the 47th MASH in the Graybeard issue for Sept.-Oct. 1998, and the accompanying photo, stirred up some memories I recall vividly. Spent some time on the afternoon of July 28, 1953 in a similar setting at the 44th MASH. I remember being put in a sitting position on one of the tables so the lung could be tapped to remove old blood before shrapnel could be removed from the back, chest and lung. Glancing down the line seeing the others being operated on, I could hardly wait for the anesthesia to take effect and sleep while the medical team did it's job. There were wounded from Outpost Harry from a mortar barrage on July 26 with Charlie Co., 23rd Regt., 2nd ID. Wounds to face and head cleaned, probed, bandaged and returned to MLR. How lucky I was, or so I thought, when word came of cease fire on the 27th. On July 28, men of Companies B and C, working together to stockpile ammo from outpost and MLR for removal as terms of truce creating the DMZ.

Korean civilian laborer plays with phosphorus grenade, drops pin, panics, and then the blast came. Five laborers killed, five infantryman killed (two disintegrated), and thirteen wounded, including old lucky me.

My thanks to Dr. Modjeski and his battalion aid crew and our battalion adjutant, Bob Povsha, for coming into the site, with rounds still being expended, and getting survivors to safer ground. And, thanks to that chopper pilot, whomever he was, that raced me to the 44th MASH.

Also, a thank you to all those life savers in that operating room, and a big kiss to all those angels of mercy, for the tender loving care they showed, I have never forgotten the role all of you played in assuring I would recover and have a life.

I recently turned 65 in August and retired on Sept 1. My bride of 42 years, Sandra, and I raised five children. I am still percolating and getting a kick out of life, due in large part to those people in the 44th MASH, and those who delivered me into their capable and caring arms. Sincerely, Charles Herch, Jr., 2394 Fabor St., Hamtramck, MI 48212

*(Thank you Charles for your story and the deserved kind remarks about the Medical Teams. They are true heroes.)*

## China Night remembered

This is a response to a request by Tex R. Berry in the May-June 1999 issue of 'The Graybeards' for a song called "China Nights." I have two records in my collection. One is "China Night" with the reverse side of "Hill of Pure Heart". The second record has "The Song of Arirang" with the reverse side of "Japanese Rumba". My son and I have listened to both "China Night" and "The Song of Arirang" and each are different. Both records are the old 78 speed style and we had to use an old record player that played 78 to listen to them. Take care, Henry J. Sobieski, 4 Biggans Place Phila, PA 19154-3406, Tel: 215-824-1522 e-mail: <icshis@afo.net> (213th FAB, B Battery, 1953)  
(Thanks Henry for the update.)

## The Misfits



Shown left to right Francis Keenan, Robert Holly, Jack Dean and John Stephan last met in 1951. They called themselves The Misfits from 1st Sqd., 3rd Plat., 17th Regt., 7th ID. Herman Sutton not shown. Deceased - Holand Sanders and Floyd Pope. Harry Schood - KIA Not located Chris Musulla.

(Great group. Would share a foxhole with each of you.)

## A Letter Remembering an Uncle

I am enclosing a copy of an article which my brother wrote and is putting in a book he is making up for our family. We did get to talk to my uncle's first sergeant. He is in his 80's now and told us of some of the events that were happening before my uncle was captured. I received a wonderful letter from the lieutenant who was in charge. He also gave us some background info on what was going on. Thank you again for the "Looking For."

Shirley Whanger



*I raise my eyes toward the hills, Whence shall my help come? Psalm 121 : 1*

In June of 1950, Thomas Dale "Dewey" Jones was stationed in Japan at Camp Hakata, a sea plane base for the Japanese during WWII, the war in which his brother "Fish" was killed. He was due to come home in December, when he would have completed his 3-year duty.

On June 25, 1950, the North Koreans, supported by the Soviet Union, began the invasion of the Republic of Korea, catching the U.S. government totally unprepared. The ROK (Republic of Korea) forces were overwhelmed by the superior weapons & forces of the North Koreans. Since most American combat divisions were thousands of

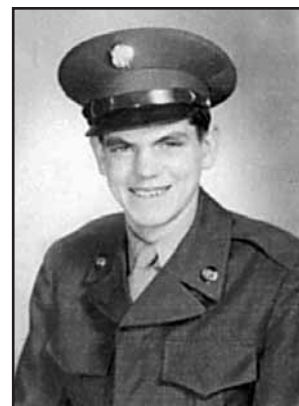
miles away, the occupying 8th Army 24th Inf. Div. in Japan, which included Pfc. Thomas Dale Jones, was ordered to Korea. Dewey's 1st Sergeant stated that he would never forget the words he was told by the general: "We have got to sacrifice you for the sake of time."

The 24th Div., despite being largely outnumbered and equipped, held off the southward advance for many long hours as they poured their howitzer, bazooka mortar, and small arms fire at the Russian-made tanks. Eventually the enemy was able to overtake them, including Dewey's "A" Battery 52nd Field Artillery; however, the time that these men purchased with their lives allowed main forces to group and drive the North Korean Army almost to the Chinese border.

Dewey was taken prisoner somewhere along the Kum River, reportedly on July 10, 1950. He and the other prisoners were treated worse than dogs and were gradually herded northward, often beaten. By October, the prisoners could hear the bombs in the distance, marking the advance of the U.S. Army, but this hope soon went away when China decided to enter the war, and it was pretty-much a stalemate after that. The further north they went the colder it got, reaching 30 below at times. Dewey was captured in the heat of summer, and now in the frigid winter, they were being forced to sleep outdoors on the hard, frozen ground.

On October 30, 1950, the prisoners were taken over by the "Tiger." He ordered them on a "Death March" through the snowy mountains near the Yalu River, shooting those that couldn't keep up. Through all the bloody footprints in the snow, they eventually wound up at a "hell hole" called Hanjang-ne, where Dewey and 201 others died due to the inhumane conditions. The able prisoners would carry the dead to a nearby hill, where the bodies were put in a natural indentation in the frozen ground. What's left of Dewey's remains may still be there.

(Thank you Shirley for the story of a true hero. We will remember him.)



Thomas Dale "Dewey" Jones

## 1999 Election Results

### Officers, Directors and Members:

The results of the vote to fill the four Director positions is as follows:

P. G. "Bob" Morga .....	459
Oreste "Rusty" Tramonte.....	455
James F. Jones, Jr.....	396
James W. Kerr .....	344
Theodore "Ted" M. Trousdale .....	336
The results of the vote on the Education Resolution:	
Agree .....	380
Disagree .....	166
Respectfully,	

Dick Wainwright, Co-chairman  
Nomination and Election Committee



## CHILDREN from page 11

**The adoptive families were very touched by the evening's festivities and remembrances.**

Deborah Schlenk, Brittany's mother, said "I never realized the connection between these two groups of people before, and it is wonderful that this City in Korea is recognizing both adoptive families and Korean Veterans. It is especially fitting to do so when we are so close to the Korean War Armistice Day on July 27th."

After the performance Alexandra was invited on the stage for photos with the Dance Company. Then the Mayor of Incheon requested a photograph with her!

The adoptive families were very touched by the evening's festivities and remembrances. Both the Kandiew and the Schlenk children have Grandpas that served in Korea. (Alexandra and Katie's Grandpa - Corporal Eugene Casey served from 1952-1953 in the 2nd Division Artillery, and Brittany and Austin's Grandpa - Sargent John Mayernik - served from 1952-1953 as a combat engineer in the 84th Company).

On this Korean War Armistice Day, these families would also like to personally thank the thousands of Korean War veterans for all their sacrifices to help preserve and protect the great and ancient country of Korea. Our children are proud to be Korean, and we are proud of them!

**Editors Note:** My wife Susan and I attended this super event. I was proud when asked to speak at the News Conference and at the Reception. During the program were we honored to sit in the Mayors box. Many thanks to all who helped to make our trip possible.



Above is Incheon City Dance Company with officials, including the Mayor of Incheon, Mr. Choi, Ki-Sun and below is the Incheon City Dance Company with Alexandra Kandiew.

### Submissions to The Graybeards

Readers are welcome to submit letters, poems, articles, notes and stories to *The Graybeards* for publication. Submissions are selected for publication on the basis of suitability, length, and timeliness.

Opinions and comments published are the sole responsibility of the author. Official opinions of the Korean War Veterans Association appear under "Official Announcements."

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# Command Reports of 92d Armored Artillery Bn.

*Submitted by Allan P. Hambly*

*Continued from March-April 1998 issue.*

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Of interest, the 999th AFA Bn is the only other M41 Battalion in the theatre. Surveillance plane reports of the road-block area reported no enemy action in the area. The 13 trucks were still there blocking the road. Bridges were reported intact. The Task Force got under-way at about 0930 hours, preceded by a reconnaissance platoon. The Battalion Commander and S3 marched with the Task Force Commander, General Mead. The march was slow due to the unknown disposition of the enemy, if present. The 1st road-block of eight trucks was removed by driving them off to the side of the road. Throughout the march, Artillery communications proved superior to any others.

At all times, constant contact with Forward Observers was maintained and these proved to be the only reliable source of information to the Task Force Commander. The eight trucks halted behind a bend in the road apparently went unnoticed to the enemy, leaving their loads of rations intact. The 2nd northern most road-block of 4 trucks was negotiated by rolling them into the stream bed. Four or five dead Marines were removed and several dead enemy were in the area. These trucks had been completely ransacked. With this 2nd and last road-block, the column progressed more easily. One bridge was found partially blown but insufficiently so as to affect traffic. Unexploded charges were removed. The Battalion closed in the Chinhung-Ni area at approximately 1550 hours and was laid and ready to fire by 1610. The relief of Marine outposts and installations by Army personnel was begun and continued through the night. The Battalion perimeter was established and reinforced by additional personnel. Two hundred rounds of Harassing and interdiction fires were fired during the night. At the close of this day, a light snow began to fall steadily.

8. 8 December found a light snow fall continuing intermittently. The 1st Bn., 1st Marine Division relieved of its local defensive missions, attacked north from

Chinhung-Ni during the early morning hours reaching a point approximately four miles up the road prior to meeting resistance. The object of their attack was to seize prominent high ground to the north and facilitate the southward movement of the 1st Marine and 7th Infantry Division elements. This Battalion reinforced the fires of Battery "F" of the 11th Marine Regiment in support of the attack. Good rapid progress was made in spite of the extremely poor visibility and snow.

At 1300 hours, the Battalion Commander and S2 went forward to establish Command Liaison. Locations of advance elements were verified and information on the progress of the Marine Division obtained. At 1400 hours, the Battalion Commander attended a briefing. With the S2, the Battalion Commander reported to Brig General Mead, the Task Force Commander, the elements of information obtained forward, these were the first reports to come to his attention. By reason of the heavy overcast and intermittent snow, planes could not be used during this period. Some much needed baking powder and coffee was obtained from the Marine Class I dump which they seemed to have in adequate quantity. Hot biscuits and pancakes reappeared supplementing the dull "B" ration menu.

The Battalion Executive concentrated on the improvement of security and the improvement of the one exit to the area which crossed two streams and became boggy over heavy traffic. At approximately 1930 hours, an enemy patrol attacked a machine-gun outpost of Company "L" of the 3rd Bn of the 7th, causing many defensive concentrations to be fired. One man was reported wounded by enemy action and six others burned by white phosphorous when an Infantry mortar shifted its concentration into a friendly outpost. The perimeter was alerted.

Personnel were placed in a standby status. At 2030 hours, a general settling down

## Headquarters 92D Armored Field Artillery Bn. APO 909 "Red Devil" Unit History December 1950

occurred for the remainder of the night. The Battalion continued to fire many harassing missions of avenues of approach and road nets from the northwest. Snow resumed falling heavily during the night, causing considerable concern in the light of the nature of the operation at hand and the one-road north-south.

9. 9 December broke clear and sharp revealing approximately 2 inches of snow. At an early hour friendly air began buzzing in all directions after a full day's inactivity. The Battalion S2, Captain Bessler, with 1st Lt. Stofflet as Forward Observer, reported to the Advance Marine elements establishing liaison and obtaining timely information. Lt. Stofflet remained with the 1st Bn, 1st Marine Regiment to coordinate fires and the link-up with the tail of the Marine column. Artillery missions during the day decreased with the link-up of forces from the North and South. Maintenance was stressed to assure the expeditious exit of this Battalion from this position.

During the day the temperature dropped several degrees giving warning of an extremely cold night. Stripped to the minimum essentials the Battalion had inadequate tentage to house all personnel. Warm up tents were set up to which the men could go from their dug-outs and vehicles. Mess Sergeants and cooks contributed their typical best efforts by trying to vary diets and supplement same with hot biscuits and cake. Reports indicated the Marine Division column preceded by its trains had reached Koto-Ri and would pass the Battalion area during the night. Perimeter fires were coordinated with other units and emphasis placed upon guerrilla attacks since several enemy pockets were known to be cut off in the mountains.

Despite extreme cold and the absence of sleeping bags the morale of troops remained high and proud of their participation in this effort. A meeting was called by

the Task Force Commander for 2030 hours and restricted to the Battalion Commander.

10. 10 December blew in with a blasting frigid wind revealing a temperature of eight degrees above. Clear skies gave our air complete command of the situation. Marine convoys from the north continued to roll by since an early hour. Long columns of weary Marine foot troops followed vehicle convoys moving slowly but steadily. Specific plans for the delaying action following the passage of Marine and 7th Division elements were firmed as a rear guard action. Artillery fire plans in support of this action were prepared and submitted and approved.

Our Liaison Officer, Major Hotopp with Task Force Dog, ably represented the Battalion with Task Force and supported unit. Lt. Stofflet, Battery "A" was Forward Observer with the 1st Bn of the 1st Marine Regiment, kept the Battalion informed in all aspects of the situation. His information proved most valuable to the Task Force, since it was the only source available from which the progress of the Marine elements moving south as well as those moving north could be evaluated. Frostbite casualties continued to harass and handicap all front-line elements. The greatest preponderance of cases occurred in those units involved in great physical exertion where men became sweaty and upon lying down for sleep were over taken by the cold.

Many cases were avoided through the Buddy System of one observing the other to become affected by stomach upset and/or drowsiness and alerting him to exercise. At approximately 1300 hours a report was received that the enemy was digging-in on Hill 577 near Sudong approximately 3000 yards to our rear. The Battalion S2 was dispatched in a half-track to the area to report what he could find out. Upon arriving there he found one Lt. Norton in command of the reconnaissance platoon of Task Force Dog, there with two M24 tanks and a squad of Infantry. Lt. Norton had sent a patrol on Hill 577 from where it was taken under fire by the enemy. He withdrew his patrol and platoon without taking them under fire. Captain Bessler, our S2, observed the enemy digging-in a machine gun from which position the enemy could command the road through which the Marine forces were withdrawing. Captain Bessler immediately called for Artillery

**A marine wounded by an enemy bullet, completely penetrating his skull, was first to be evacuated. An hour later the helicopter returned to evacuate Pvt. Kirk of Battery "A," who was shot through the back by an enemy bullet.**

fire, and adjusted same on the enemy. While adjusting fire, Captain Bessler was brought under enemy machine gun fire but maneuvered himself so that he could continue to bring Artillery fire to bear upon the enemy. Battery "B" was turned about and fired on hill 577.

From the Battery position cannoneers and other personnel could observe the enemy and the effectiveness of their fire. Following timed fire, white phosphorous was dropped upon the enemy effectively neutralizing the enemy on the hill. Concentrations were repeated on this hill at irregular intervals throughout the night. At approximately 2000 hours, enemy automatic weapons fire was received in the Battalion position area. This delivered from a distance of about 300 yards was unaimed wild fire into the general area.

Outposts were alerted and men made to man their fox-holes. Gun crews continued to fire their assigned missions. Some designated half-tracks were made to open fire in the general area of the enemy and the Marine 105 mm Battery was called upon to deliver direct fire. By 2100 hours the situation quieted down with only one casualty. Pvt. Kirk, of Battery "A", was wounded when an enemy bullet entered his back lodging itself in the shoulder. The entire Command was alerted for the remainder of the night. Hot chocolate was made available to the Command at midnight. At approximately 0800 hours, the Battalion Commander called X Corps Artillery for the evacuation of two seriously wounded men by helicopter. An area was readied and marked with panels when the first helicopter arrived about 0900 hours.

A marine wounded by an enemy bullet, completely penetrating his skull, was first to be evacuated. An hour later the helicopter returned to evacuate Pvt. Kirk of Battery "A", who was shot through the back by an enemy bullet.

11. 11 December found the Battalion position under enemy fire at approximately 900 hours, apparently by the same group

of enemy firing automatic weapons indiscriminately into the area. The entire Command, being on total alert, made it relatively easy to cope with the situation.

Machine guns were fired into the high ground overlooking the position on the west flank. Some enemy forces were observed moving approximately 200 yards away and taken under machine gun fire. By 0330 hours everything was in hand again. The enemy band apparently realized that the automatic weapons power was too great a match for their "burp guns." During the early morning hours word was received that the Marine column had been ambushed at Sudong, to the rear. There the enemy had set fire to ammunition trucks causing some loss of life and seriously blocking the road and its bumper to bumper traffic.

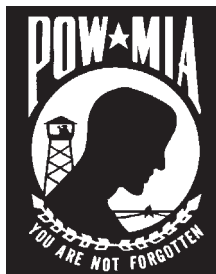
Companies were deployed from the North and South and after approximately three hours delay, the lengthy column resumed progress. By 1000 hours word was received that the tail of the Marine column would soon pass our Forward Observer, Lt. Stofflet, on a signal, long range fires were placed on prominent high ground and likely avenues of approach. This fire was marched as the tail drew closer to our Chinhung-Ni position. The batteries were ordered to march order successively and were formed, ready to fall in the prescribed column position at the prescribed hour of 1130.

Somehow, the Marine tanks turned out to be the final element and the Battalion did not move until approximately 1410 hours. Meanwhile, the Infantry was covering avenues of approach and high ground with mortar and automatic weapons fire.. Once on the road, the column progressed very slowly, primarily due to the slow progress of the foot-troops ahead. Sudong continued to be a constant threat to the column as the enemy appeared determined to harass, if not cut the column there.

Continued on page 34

# Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

Korean War/cold War Document Family Research



June 24, 1999

## Staff Completes Mission in Czech Republic

Two staff members from the Joint Commission Support Directorate of DPMO returned recently from a two-week mission in the Czech Republic. The team received copies of documents pertaining to Czechoslovak special military and medical aid to North Korea and North Vietnam. They interviewed two Czech military attaches who provided some anecdotal information on their encounters with American POWs in Vietnam. In addition, the team met with several other people who had either seen people they believed to be American POWs or had heard rumors of the presence of American POWs in Czechoslovakia. In each case, DPMO is pursuing the lead to identify the reported American involved. Finally, the team expressed their concern over the lack of access to intelligence archives and personnel, and discussed different approaches to access this information with Deputy Defense Minister Novotny.

## More Korean War Records Located

DPMO archival researchers recently located some Army Forces Far East (AFFE) Korean War-era POW/MIA accounting records for the period from 1950-1956 at the National Archives (Washington National Records Center).

These archival searches have proven useful as analysts work to piece together the fates of Americans missing in action from all conflicts. These records include United Nations Command unconfirmed POW lists from 1951-1953 and background data for the lists of 944 (the September 1953 and April 1954 versions). Other records include additions and deletions to the POW/MIA Master List from the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps for the period from 1951-1954.

To streamline the process of cataloging and retrieving such documents, DPMO archival researchers and analysts scanned

over 4,800 pages of data into an electronic collection. These records also include casualty questionnaires completed by repatriated POWs, lists of POWs mentioned in propaganda broadcasts, and data on POW camps. U.S. Army and State Department personnel declassified a significant portion of these documents. Following analysis, records that pertain to specific MIA service-members are provided, through the military service casualty offices, to family members.

July 1, 1999

## Korean War Soldiers' Remains Identified

The remains of two soldiers missing in action from the Korean War have been identified and returned to their families for burial in the United States.

They are identified as U.S. Army Cpl. Charles W. Tillman, Columbia, S.C., and U.S. Army Pfc. Herbert Ardis, Detroit Mich. The remains of Tillman and Ardis were recovered about three miles apart in an area approximately 60 miles north of Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea.

The remains of both soldiers were recovered during investigations and excavations directed by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office following negotiations with North Korea in 1996, 1997 and 1998. The U.S. teams conducted ten excavations from 1996-99 inside North Korea and have recovered 39 remains of American servicemen lost during the war. Three have been identified, including Tillman and Ardis, with approximately 8,200 still missing in action.

The recovery of the remains of both these soldiers, as well as the forensic identification work, was carried out by the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii.

On Nov. 25, 1950, elements of the 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, were attacking enemy positions near the Chongchon River in North Korea. That night, Chinese communist forces launched an all-out frontal attack along the entire regimental front. The following day, American forces withdrew from the area of the attacks, and Tillman was reported as missing in action.

In August 1998, a joint U.S.-North

Korean team excavated an isolated burial site in P'yongan-Pukto Province. The team recovered Tillman's remains along with American military artifacts such as a mess kit spoon and military buttons.

During the Nov. 26, 1950, battles with Chinese communist units near the Chongchon River in North Korea, Ardis' unit was surrounded, but broke through the encirclement and took up a defensive position where they continued to repel the enemy for the next two days. But on Nov. 28, his unit encountered a Chinese roadblock, where they abandoned their vehicles and retreated to the south on foot. Ardis was listed as missing in action as a result of these encounters. His remains were recovered by a joint U. S. /North Korean team in P'yongan-Pukto Province in July 1998.

August 6, 1999

## Access to Russian Archives Resumes

After a Russian-imposed break during NATO operations in Kosovo, DPMO researchers from the Joint Commission Support Directorate have resumed work reviewing the Soviet 64th Fighter Air Corps records held in the Russian Military Archives in Podolsk, Russia. The records being reviewed include the daily operational summaries for air defense fighters and air defense artillery, as well as documentation proving personal shootdown claims. DPMO has now received an additional 1,800 pages of these records, carefully reviewing each claimed shootdown to determine if there is a U.S. loss that matches the claim.

All information discovered relating to an American POW/MIA is translated into English and forwarded with the original Russian through the services to the primary next of kin. Sixty-nine such packages already have been forwarded in 1998 and 1999, and more are being developed. To date, this effort has provided information clarifying the circumstances of the loss and in some cases the fate of the aircrew for 138 Korean War MIA cases

The Russian material received is unclassified. The entire collection of Russian documents received through September 1998 is available to the public in the original Russian, with some translations, at the National Archives (Record Group 330



11.81) in College Park, Maryland. In addition, some Russian archival material that has been translated into English is available online at the Library of Congress website <<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/tfrquery.html/>>

### Documents Found in National Personnel Records Center

Three DPMO staff members conducted archival research at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis recently. They copied more than 800 Report of Death Memoranda that document the deaths of U.S. Army personnel in combat or while prisoners of war in North Korea. Each memorandum contains the name(s) of personnel who witnessed the death of the individual concerned and any other amplifying data on the decedent (whether mentioned in propaganda broadcasts, POW lists provided by the Communists, etc.). The analysts and archivists plan to return to the NPRC in the near future to continue searching for additional documents.

DPMO personnel also conducted research of morning reports on specific U.S. Army units and reviewed the 201 (personnel) files of some Korean War personnel who remain unaccounted-for. As documents are analyzed on individual cases, copies will be forwarded to family members through the service casualty offices.

*August 31, 1999*

### Korean War Commemorative Recognition

The Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office has been recognized as a "Commemorative Community" by the 50th Anniversary Korean War Commemoration Committee. DPMO is the first Department of Defense agency to be so recognized. The term "community" can include civilian cities and towns, veterans' organizations, civic and charitable groups, as well as federal, state and local government agencies. Communities are required to sponsor a minimum of three events per year during the three-year commemoration that honor veterans and their families, or support school programs in teaching the history of this era. DPMO submitted approximately 30 events per year for 2000-2003. The DPMO now displays the official flag of the commemoration, as well as a certificate of recognition.

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## CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 19, 1999

Mr. Harley Coon  
2439 Lantz Rd  
Beavercreek, OH 45434

Dear Mr. Coon (Harley):

Thank you for calling to express your support for granting the Korean War Association a national charter. As a veteran and member of the Appropriations Subcommittee which funds veterans' programs, I was glad to hear from you.

I share your support for veterans of the Korean War. As you know, on August 5, 1999, the Senate passed S. 620, which grants a Federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association. This legislation has since been referred to the House Judiciary Committee for further consideration. Rest assured, I will remember your support for this bill should it come up for a vote in the full House of Representatives.

Additionally, you may be interested to know that on September 9, 1999, I voted for and Congress passed the Fiscal Year 2000 VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Appropriations bill by a vote of 235-187. This bill provides \$19 billion for the VA, including a \$1.7 billion increase over the President's request for veteran's medical care. I look forward to supporting these increases for veterans as this bill continues through the legislative process.

Again, thanks for calling, for it is always good to hear from you. Please continue to let me know whenever I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,  
DAVID L. HOBSON  
Member of Congress

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## U. S. Navy Carrier Operations in Korea

By Thomas H. Hoskins

**T**his story pertains to Air Group Two who departed Virginia in August of 1950 to assist South Korea against the North Korea and China Communists.

Did you know that personnel from 17 countries lost their lives on Korean soil? That was way too many for a so called conflict or police action!

To the men risking their lives fighting in Korea it was a war. Why did we kid ourselves between June 15, 1950 through July 23, 1958 about it's status? It is often referred to as the "Forgotten War," but, for those of us that fought in it, no way will it ever be forgotten. Our troops on the ground often had long 24 hour work days. They were generally at maximum effort with no possible relief available from anyone. Meals were only available now and then!

There were young men barely able to stand because of frostbitten toes. We were all comrades from different countries attempting to keep South Korea from being taken over by the Communists. We worked with other military personnel from other countries connected by a common thread that bound us together. It was a job miles from home in a foreign land that most of us had never heard of, then suddenly we were thrust into the Korean War!

Air Group Two departed California in early September aboard the Carrier *U.S.S. Boxer* and arrived in Korea in time to support the Inchon Invasion (September 15, 1950). I was a young LTJG Aviator in Fighter Squadron 24 flying corsair aircraft. We had four squadrons of Corsairs and one squadron of Skyraiders, a total of 120 aircraft aboard.

Not being in combat during WWII, I cannot include myself in the exclusive fraternity of those pilots who were in air to air combat and shot down enemy aircraft. However, I am a veteran of 10 months in Korea with 75 Sorties including 61 combat missions. One of our young 19 year old Ensigns flying his first

**To the men risking their lives fighting in Korea it was a war. Why did we kid ourselves between June 15, 1950 through July 23, 1958 about it's status? It is often referred to as the "Forgotten War," but, for those of us that fought in it, no way will it ever be forgotten.**

combat mission during the Inchon Invasion from the *Boxer* shouted, "Hey, they're shooting back at us." Unfortunately, a week later he flew too low on a strafing run in his corsair aircraft and it was hit by ground fire. He bailed out in enemy territory and was captured by the North Koreans. Several days later our ground troops advanced about 10 miles North of Seoul and his body (still warm) was found with two bullet holes in his back. He still had on his yellow Mae West life jacket. His shoes had been removed and his calves had been beaten by the North Koreans. That tightens up the muscles so he couldn't attempt to escape by running. Six other soldiers met the same death. After the news reached the carrier, our pilots were astonished at such an atrocious act and their attitude immediately turned to hatred.

I also made my first combat flight during the Inchon Invasion and saw red trackers coming up during our bombing runs. Also heard a thump each time they hit my aircraft. After landing aboard the *Boxer* it was reported that my corsair had several holes from small arm and flak.

Our air group first flew from the *Boxer*, and later transferred to the *Valley Forge*, then to the *Philippine Sea* carriers. We flew deep support missions into North Korea, bridge strikes, close air support and recco strikes as far north as the Siberia border. On the return flight we had targets of opportunity. I think the

double RR track south (175 miles) to Ham Hung had at least 125 tunnels that we strafed and fired rockets into to scare the enemy.

We carried 1000 lb bombs to both the chosen and Hwachon reservoirs. I conducted a three hour naval gunfire spot mission for our "Big Mo" battleship, another for a cruiser and the last one for a destroyer, all lobbing shells just beyond the beach above the 38th Parallel.

All fighter pilots took their turn flying three hour combat air patrol flights at 20,000 ft. The MiG aircraft were just 25 miles north of us at 30,000 ft. Our Air Force tangled with the MiGs most of the time.

Air Group Two had a fantastic ordnance record. The Skyraiders carried 2000 lb. rockets and 20mm for strafing. Corsairs departed with 1000 lb bombs or a napalm tank plus 2400 rounds of 50 caliber in our wing guns.

Due to the fact that the North Koreans and Chinese would immediately start rework on bridges that we hit, we changed our tactics and dropped bombs with 2, 4, 6, 12 and 18 hour delay fuzes. We often carried eight 100 lb. bombs or 8 anti tank rockets under our wings. They could be dropped in pairs or fired in pairs as required.

Near Chosin Reservoir, we recognized the enemy rubber tanks in mountain terrain trying to entice us down between the hills to hit high tension wires and be able to fire small arms at us.

During the ten months Air Group Two supported the Koreans, we lost a total of 28 aircraft, fourteen pilots were killed and two were prisoners of war for over two years. My commanding officer was shot down on April 20, 1951.

In May of 1951 the senior Ensign in our squadron was shot down, picked up by a helo, only to have it shot down after flying a few miles, then picked up by a small spotter aircraft and it was hit by ground fire during take off. They finally made it back to friendly territory, howev-

er it crashed in a small wooded area. Our pilot was back aboard the carrier within three days flying another mission. I returned to the carrier from a flight with over a dozen holes in my Corsair aircraft. In my opinion I felt that we accomplished more on the eighteen close air support flights assisting our troops on the ground. Our flights were generally about three hours long.

Late in May of 1951, I was the Flight Leader of 32 aircraft near Hamhung destined to hit eight different targets within a half mile radius. On my initial dive from 12,000 feet, I dropped a 1,000 lb. bomb and heard a couple of thumps. There was an eight inch crack on the right side of my canopy plus oil streaming along the left side of the fuselage from the engine. I immediately made a bee-line to the coast that was 38 miles and our carrier an additional 50 miles out to sea. Sea water temperature was 55 degrees. As I approached the carrier, the engine sputtered up the grove on a straight in approach. Fortunately I landed aboard, but the engine stopped so I was unable to taxi forward out of the arresting gear area. Later the maintenance chief reported there was no more oil in the engine. So, I was indeed lucky to return safe. The flight to the ship seemed like an eternity.

There is absolutely nothing like the feeling of flying from a carrier, especially in combat areas, meeting that challenge and doing it well. I only had to make one night landing during our time supporting Korea. When I think back about our invasion on Inchon and know that it forced North Koreans and Chinese communist North and saved South Korea, perhaps it was worth it. But, we paid a high price to do it.

Ground troops faced rugged terrain in subfreezing conditions in the mountains. The temperature was an unbelievable -35 degrees in the fall of 1950 near Chosin Reservoir, just south of the China border. Some of our troops were killed by deadly land mines. Our fleet was on constant lookout for unknown mines, some just a few feet under the surfaces. Under these conditions our Naval task force always remained at least 35 miles off shore.

When a pilot went down in the frigid waters he could be immobilized in less than a minute, even wearing the primitive

## **Both fighter and attack pilots flying single engine aircraft are trained with an aggressive spirit that allows them to conquer the mission on hand.**

“Poopy suit” for cold water immersion. In December and January a pilot would experience hypothermia after 30 minutes, leading to serious harm or even death.

The pilots of five squadrons in Air Group Two flew as many as 350 sorties a day while on line in the battle area. We had an amazing record of ordinance dropped.

Statistics show:

- 3,450 tons of bombs
- 4,500 gallons of Napalm
- 10,096 rockets fired
- 3,831,000 rounds of ammunition

It was estimated that 11,755 enemy troops were killed during our ten month period of action. I thought that our 14 young Ensigns in Fighter Squadron 24 performed outstanding in combat conditions. They had confidence in themselves. To fly, day after day, under stressful conditions and remain alive was living life on the edge.

Both fighter and attack pilots flying single engine aircraft are trained with an aggressive spirit that allows them to conquer the mission on hand. I also commend the Forward Air Controllers and those on the surface for their excellent performance directing close air support missions.

Success in a war belongs to those who put their lives on the line. There is an extra feeling of camaraderie among those who shared common dangers as we did for months in the combat area.

During the past years we have attended several Group Two reunions. It should be noted that the Korean War Veterans Association and the U.S. Department of Defense have a “Revisit Korea” program. Air Group Two plans to accept their invitation and return to Korea for a six day visit in the year 2000, just fifty years following our participation in the war. I plan to attend.

Thomas H. Hoskins  
Sun City West, Arizona

## **Book Review**



### **Clear Conscience**

*By Gen. Ray Davis  
and Judge Dan Winn*

August 6th marks the anniversary of the dropping of the Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima. Though most WWII veterans are quick to rationalize the strategic logic of the bomb while praising President Harry Truman's resolve, there are countless others from subsequent generations whose view of August 6, 1945, is one of shame, shock, and virtual contempt. The grim perspective has been nurtured, in part, by historians who are adamant in the belief that the bomb was unnecessary. The national media has also furthered the notion by annually flaunting the survivors (depicted as victims) in front of cameras so all the world can see how much they have suffered. The United States has been referred to as “barbaric” and the action has been likened to the role of Germany during the Holocaust.

This slant on the bomb reached a crescendo during the time of the proposed Enola Gay exhibit at the National Air and Space Museum (in the Smithsonian) which was to commemorate the end of World War II. The exhibit was said to be dominated by photographs of suffering Japanese and the horrors of the bomb. Certain phrases were spotlighted in the exhibit, including one that claimed “for most Americans” our war in the Pacific was one based on “vengeance” but for the Japanese, “it was a war to defend their unique culture against western imperialism”.

And so it was that these factors; the revising of history, the media depictions, and the proposed exhibit at our nation's capitol, all began to weigh heavily in the mind of two former marines who felt a need to end what they call “the distortion of truth”. Dan Winn, Senior Judge for the state of Georgia, and General Raymond Davis, former Deputy Commandant of the United States Marine Corps and recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, have written a book which provides new insight on that which has been considered one of the most significant events of mankind.

Originally titled *Shut-up About the Damn A-Bomb*, the book was named *Clear*

Please turn to **BOOKS** on page 46



# Small Units – Big Jobs

**During the Korean War, small provisional units were created to provide special support.**

By George Pakkala

As the Korean War started, a number of provisional units were created to provide special skills as needed. One of those unique outfits was the 8221st A.U. Field Artillery Topographical and Meteorological Detachment which came into being on September 7, 1950. The T.O. & E. called for 1 Officer, 1 WO and 52 EMs. The personnel were all RA and the unit was integrated with two black NCOs. All support functions such as motor pool, food service, etc. were provided by the outfit to which the 8221st was attached.

The task of the unit was to provide survey control and weather data not only for artillery units in its vicinity but also for the Air Force operating in the area. These were ordinarily the functions of a F.A. Observation Battalion.

The personnel assigned to it were drawn from various posts in the U.S. and areas of the Far East. Upon arrival in Japan in September 1950, many of the men were mistakenly sent to the 7th Cavalry in Korea or scattered over posts in Japan. In time the orders were straightened out and the last errant trooper traveled from Pyongyang to Wonsan in November to join his buddies.

The unit landed in Wonsan on November 5, 1950 with elements of the 65th RCT. Early the following day an advance party started for Hamhung where they arrived that same evening after running a gauntlet set up by the communists. A burnt out hotel in the northern outskirts of the city became the base of the unit for the duration of its stay in North Korea. From there, topo units ranged on their missions in support of the X Corps and marine artillery units. The met unit had its operation somewhat north of Hamhung on Orori road and was preparing to move to the Chosin Reservoir on the day the decision to withdraw was made.

During the Chosin campaign about half

of the unit strength was utilized in transporting ammo and other supplies to the front. One member, Cpl. David Klepsig, accompanied Col. Page of the X Corps Arty in activities for which the latter was awarded the Navy Cross and the Medal of Honor posthumously.

The unit was evacuated by sea a week before Christmas 1950. Their last assignment in the Hungnam perimeter was at the water's edge, where artillery pieces were cross-registered allowing them to cover the total defensive perimeter.

Upon landing in Pusan the 8221st was assigned the task of artillery survey of the defensive perimeter around Pusan in case of a total withdrawal from the Korean Peninsula. General Matthew Ridgway's arrival changed all that and the men were on their way north to join the newly organized X Corps in late January 1951.

For the remainder of the war the unit remained with the X Corps on the Eastern Front in the foothills of the Taebak Mountains. In 1951 it supported the First Marines and the Second Infantry in battles of Bloody Ridge and Heartbreak Ridge. In 1952 followed the many battles around the Punch Bowl. While the divisions assigned to the X Corps changed, the tasks of the 8221st remained the same.

Once the front stabilized in the latter half of 1951, the much traveled, mud caked tents of the unit received rest and the men were able to give touches of home to their "residences". When the hostilities ceased in 1953 the unit was still in the vicinity of Yanggu, not far from where it had been almost two years earlier.

Upon signing of the Armistice in 1953 the need for artillery intelligence lessened and the 8221st was disbanded with the personnel going to the First F.A. Observation Battalion and various division artillery units.

"Freedom is not free"; in March 1952 the unit lost Sgt. Donald Burdette to hostile action. In addition two men were

One member, Cpl. David Klepsig, accompanied Col. Page of the X Corps Arty in activities for which the latter was awarded the Navy Cross and the Medal of Honor posthumously.

wounded later that same year. For its service in the Korean War the 8221st was awarded two Korean Presidential Unit Citations.

Although the 8221st Field Artillery Topographical and Meteorological Detachment is now a distant memory with nary a mention in the annals of warfare, those who served with the unit continue their camaraderie from almost half a century ago. The 8221st A.U. Association has located 100 veterans of the about 250 who served with the detachment from 1950 through 1953. (In addition there are some 90 known deceased veterans of the unit)

At least every two years the veterans gather to renew ties on the anniversary date of formation of the unit. Over the years the attention has shifted away from war to peaceful endeavors such as sight-seeing, comparing family pictures and golf tournaments. However, with the approach of the 50th Anniversary of the Start of the War the members of the 8221st are again counting cadence in preparation for festivities commemorating the event.

## 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 \$10.00 plus \$1.50 (s&h) to:

B.R. Spiroff  
524 Old Annapolis Rd.  
Severna Park, MD 21146  
(410) 647-4503  
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Hat ad-1  
pg 25

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Pg 26



Hat ad-3  
Pg 27

# Chapter Affairs

## Gen. Raymond G. Davis Chapter of Georgia

The General Raymond G. Davis Chapter participated in the Cumming, Georgia Annual Fourth of July Parade. We had our float with fourteen of our members aboard it and a trailing automobile. A holiday barbecue followed at a member's home.

*(More photos of special members and a great chapter from Georgia. Sorry for March-April error.)*

Walking down the hill, Retired Marine Sgt. Thomas Woods (left) No. 401 and Retired US Army SFC Curtis McGee No. 6861.



Participating members: Retired US Army Colonels Henry Taylor (left) KWVA No. 1749 and Thaddeus Sobieski No. 467

## Chapter 1 of Delaware



Shown left to right, William Schulz, Ruley Banks, Donald Dentinne, George Goss and Nick Pappas Past KWVA President at July 4th parade at Bethany Beach. (Thanks for photo George )

## Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter of Illinois



Honor student and teen volunteer Ashley Haussy is shown receiving her certificate of service at the local banquet honoring those volunteers. KWVA VAS representative Ray Nasser is shown congratulating her

The Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter, Danville, Illinois, sponsors a teen volunteer at the Danville VAMC each year. Sponsored this year was Ashley Hausse, an honor student at Schlarman High School and a state athletic champion in several field competitions.

The Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter also presents two \$250 scholarships each year. This year's recipients were Stephanie Benner and Kylee Elaine Billings. Both were top students in their classes. Benner is the granddaughter of KWVA members, William and Laura Steffy. Billings is the granddaughter of Gerald and Reva Holycross who are also KWVA members. *(Thank you Ray for photo and story of a special deed.)*

## Arden A. Rowley Chapter of Arizona



The Korean Restaurant, owned by Mr. Ari Soo, gives the KWVA chapters a free dinner every year on June 25th. Mr. Pete Romero won a free air line ticket on Korean Air Lines to Korea in a drawing at the dinner. Men in the picture above are (left to right) Mr. Ari Soo, owners brother, Pete Romero, Pete Sewart - secretary, Larry Milfelt - Commander, Ernest Lucero - Sgt. at Arms, and G.E. Dunn. *(Thank you Larry Milfelt for the first photo I can recall being printed in The Graybeards from this chapter. Hope to see more.)*

## Greater Cincinnati Chapter #121 of Ohio



The Greater Cincinnati Chapter #121 marched in the Memorial Day Parade on May 31, 1999; the parade was held in Blue Ash, Ohio.



Kim Hwal Ran with her family (left) marched with Chapter #121 in the parade. She is the president of the South Korean Organization headquartered in Bookville Indiana.

*(Thank you Roy F. Miller for the photos of pride in remembering the Korean War.)*

## Treasure Coast Chapter #106 of Florida



Captain Cheryl Phillips of the Salvation Army accepts a check for \$2,011 from the Treasure Coast Chapter Kosovo Refugee Relief Fund. L. to R.: George Hill, 1st Vice President, Captain Phillips, State President and Chapter Secretary Fred Shear and Bob McCaffrey originator of the fund raising idea.

About three weeks ago Bob McCaffrey, Treasure Coast Chapter #106 president, thought up the idea of collecting donations for the refugees fleeing Kosovo. Reminded of the helpless Korean refugees, we began a radio, TV and newspaper publicity campaign. So far we have raised over \$2,000 in contributions

from the residents of the Treasure Coast. The Salvation Army has promised that every penny will be used for the refugees and noted that our donation will pay for over 4,000 hot meals including deserts!

*(A great deed by special veterans. Now they know for sure who the Korean War Veterans are and you will not be forgotten.)*

## PFC Stanley A. Gogoj Chapter #38 of Pennsylvania



Left to right are Edward Corbeil, John Barlas, John Rdesinski, John Plenskofski, President, Chapter No. 38, Inc., John Mitchell, Jr. honor guard coordinator and Frank A. Chiavaroli. Some members of our honor guard who marched in the Memorial Day Parade, on May 31, 1999, in the Bridesburg section of Philadelphia, to honor our fallen comrades and other veterans.

*(Thanks John for the photo of a proud Honor Guard)*

## Cpl Clair Goodblood Chapter of Maine



Chapter representatives in the parade were, (left to right), Bob Bean (180th Inf., 45th Inf. Div); Cliff Hebert (92nd MP Bn, 8th Army); Phil Tiemann (89th Tank Bn, 25th Inf. Div); Ed Hoyt (1 CSG, 1st Mar Div); and Ken Cyphers (2nd Eng. Bn, 2nd Inf. Div).

On Memorial Day, members of the Ceremonial Squad of the CPL. Clair Goodblood Chapter, KWVA, Augusta, Maine, marched in the annual parade at Gardiner, Maine.

*(Thank you Marty O'Brien for the photo of a proud group of Korean War veterans.)*



## Chapter 1 of Connecticut



Connecticut Chapter 1 attended the dedication ceremony of the memorial in Rhode Island. They are hoping to have one of their own in Hartford, Conn. Those who attended the ceremony were President Jim Shelmerdine, 1st Vice Jim Raynor, 2nd Vice Norm LaRoche, Treasurer Ray Slanda and Secretary Pat Lausier. *(Thank you W.H. Yopp for photo. We look forward to seeing the dedication of your memorial and hope to print those photos also.)*

## West Bay Chapter 2 of Rhode Island



Honor Guard leader is Bernard J. Eaton and others shown left to right are Roland H. Gravier, Joseph J. Guthrie, Edward S. Inman Jr., Robert E. Cushing, and Robert Hartley.

The Honor Guard of West Bay Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 2 of Rhode Island, had the honor of leading the Memorial Day Parade in Coventry, Rhode Island.

*(Thank you Walter R. Greene for the photo of a proud honor guard and they really look sharp.)*

### Dear members and readers.

I must repeat again that articles from 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. .  
— Editor.

## Taejon Chapter #170 of New Jersey



Taejon #170 Chapter members at a M\*A\*S\*H Museum dedication which was dedicated by the Chorwon, NJ Chapter in May 1999. Commander William J. McGuinness standing out in front of the troops. The armored vehicle is guarding our left flank.

Our Taejon Chapter # 170 KWVA of NJ Inc. joined and received our charter in Feb. 1999 as Chapter # 170. Hence we are the new kids on the block. We currently have over eighty members and growing every month. Our chapter meets monthly in the Saddle Brook, NJ VFW Hall.

We march in parades and attend veterans events. We also donate clothing and other items to the Paramus, NJ. Veterans Home and to the Bergen County, NJ "Tracers" Organization which helps homeless veterans in Northern NJ. Our Chapter also assisted in getting veterans to sign up for health care at veteran's fairs in NJ. We are currently raising monies to purchase a Korean War Memorial Monument which we will dedicate in June 2000. We are located at 524 Winne Ave., Oradell, NJ 07649 Tel: 201-262-0094

*(Thank you William for the photo and the story about our new chapter. We are proud of what you have done in a short time.)*

## Proud Korean War Vets Display Tags



Paul R. Weber



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Urban G. Rump



Ray Bahler

### Publish your Events

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

## A Love Affair That's History

By Carl Bernard

This "Love" affair began just 48 years ago for me, an infantry 2nd Lieutenant with four years enlisted time, part of it in the 7th Marines and the rest in the Army's 82nd Airborne. "Love" Company was in Camp Wood, at Kumamoto on Kyushu in Japan. The remnants of this outfit-and those who joined us in our first year in Korea-just assembled in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for the 18th consecutive year. Our company commander began his service as a National Guardsman in the 36th Infantry Division ("T for Texas") in WWII. He was wounded twice with them; two of his brothers were also killed with this stand-out lot of soldiers.

Almost 600 men went through "Love" Company during this first year. 102 were KIA, and more than 200 were wounded at least once. 38 of the 43 captured died in prison camp after we used up our ammunition to "hold at all costs" a meaningless bit of ground. The 20 of us at Myrtle Beach know, as one of us wrote, that: "War is an intensely personal thing. For the individual infantryman, war seldom extends more than a few yards. Because of this, rarely will two soldiers agree on what took place in a given battle or engagement, unless they were foxhole buddies. Much of what is recounted has to be taken with the knowledge that what you hear is not necessarily what you saw or felt at the time. What you hear is a part of the person telling his tale, part of his vision, part of his hearing, part of his thinking, yes even a part of his soul."

Everything any of us say about what happened to us in the past is conditioned by, and must be heard with this reality. Example: it is certain that few of us knew the same old soldier (29!) who joined us on the Naktong as First Sergeant. He passed this year; my enclosed letter to his widow says what he was for me, by then the only original officer still about. (The other living one was in Tiger's Camp.)

As a parachutist, I had helped load the C-54s transporting the members of Task Force Smith, the battalion (-) from the 21st Infantry flown to Korea on July 1st, 1950

Almost 600 men went through "Love" Company during this first year. 102 were KIA, and more than 200 were wounded at least once. 38 of the 43 captured died in prison camp after we used up our ammunition to "hold at all costs" a meaningless bit of ground.

to stop the North Korean attack. LtC Brad Smith, said: "stay on the plane." We failed in this first mission for a variety of reasons, in large part because they were an overwhelming force of skilled, well trained and well equipped soldiers exploiting the momentum of their successes against poorly equipped South Koreans. (These Koreans' "poor equipment," i.e., no armor, was to keep their President, Syngman Rhee, from attacking north to accomplish his cherished hope: reuniting the two Koreas.)

The driving Army slogan of a few years ago, "No More Task Force Smiths" misleads people. Our problems as a righting force in 1950 were not because we were diverted by our "occupation" duties. The entire Army in Japan was an under-trained, unorganized force of badly led men, whose inadequate equipment was missing and/or badly maintained. Personnel moved constantly in and out of various postings in Japan; and combat units live on people knowing and trusting (loving) one another. Knowing takes time; cohesion, a critical word in a soldier's lexicon takes a lot of it. My platoon in TFS was my fourth in the Regiment in less than ten months. (After my three day walk away from the fight at Osan, I went directly back to "Love" company like a shot, and without authorization. Our splendid Texan commanding officer-and all the other officers, and all the NCOs, but one—were killed or captured three days later with most of our outfit, following that obscene "hold at all costs" order given by our very ignorant chiefs.)

Our Army is yet traumatized by the failure of its "occupation" troops from Japan to be a successful righting force when they were deployed to Korea. This concern is characterized by the amount of time every-

one pronounces it will take to "retrain" forces posted to OOTW (Operations Other Than War) missions before they can take on the usual role of combat soldiers.

The concern itself is real; the rationale behind it is false, or at best questionable. My objection to its exaggerated place in our concerns is personal and based on reflection about my early experience in Korea. Our egregious failures were those of our unconscious high command. Our infantry anti-tank rocket had proved itself a failure to the 82nd Airborne on Sicily seven years earlier. General Gavin-still the 82nd's commander when I joined them in 1947 was burying parachutists with this piece of trash ground up in their bodies in 1943! (The tracks of a tank are a powerful psychological weapon for very good reasons.) The bazooka's replacement was adequate, but was not in the hands of the troops.

There were adequate tanks in the States; our division had the M-24 Chaffee, a light reconnaissance vehicle thought to be a tank by our innocent soldiers, fooled by its shape. Its' outfit was even called the 78th Heavy Tank Battalion (emphasis added). Two of "Love's" replacements came from this outfit after it was destroyed by North Koreans, unimpressed by the shape of its vehicles and the units "heavy" label.

None of us will ever forget "Sleeping Bag Hill." Our seasoned and competent company bore the brunt of an attack by a Chinese Regiment, a central component of their "Fourth Offensive." We held the ground they regarded as crucial to take. Our cost was horrendous, properly characterized as "the second, final death of a rifle company," sadly ours. The 16 men KIA and the 65 WIA, many seriously, crippled

See LOVE CO. on page 52





# Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation



By Bill Van Ort,  
President KWVEGC  
– National Director,  
KWVA

The election is now over. Our sincere “thanks” to the veterans who voted in support of education for our descendants. In addition to the support given by the KWVA, we have listed the individuals and separate Chapters who have contributed to our success. The KWVEGC will increase it’s solicitation in the coming months ahead. We would like to give more awards in the year 2000, exceeding the 21 which were awarded this year.

If you would like to join our dynamic organization, please let us know. College Professors, Doctors, CPA’s, Fund Raisers, Attorneys, are especially needed, etc. All that is really required is a serious desire to help our descendants succeed in life.

The generous support by the veteran community is a commitment to the education of our descendants. Although unable to list everyone by name, the Board of Directors is deeply grateful to all donors who gave up their resources to further education.

The following are lists of donors to the KWVEGC. These lists are from 1 January 1999 to the present. These lists will be updated annually at the end of the year.

Individual members are recognized in the following categories: Sponsors \$10.00 - \$49.00; Supporting Sponsors \$50.00 - \$99.00; Associate Sponsors \$100.00 - \$499.00; Patron Sponsor \$500.00 to \$999.00 and Special Sponsors over \$1,000.00. Chapters, Departments, Corporate Sponsors and Separate Foundations are similarly recognized.

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- ♦ Minnesota Chapter # 1, KWVA
- ♦ Lester Hammond Chapter, KWVA

### Memorials

- ♦ In memory of Thomas E. O’Keefe  
(by Robert D. Rutter)

We would like to present another essay from one of our 1999 recipients. The selections committee enjoyed this essay, and wanted to share it with our readers. The author is Kathryn Eident who will become a Freshmen at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Her proud grandfather is Clifton E. Macdonald of Plymouth, MA.

### The Korean War Verteran

A cold, tired, hungry young soldier leans his head back wearily on the wall of the fox-hole. Four more hours until daylight, he sighs. The camp is relatively quiet, and has been all night. Sounds of other men, miserable, just like the young soldier, are barely audible in the cold December sky. He has been in Korea for four months now, slowly pushing forward, falling into the routine of walking and digging shelters, with smatterings of fighting in between. It’s wintertime, and he’s always cold. The young soldier is ill equipped for this type of setting; he was sent over with only a summer bedroll and light clothing. His food rations are often eaten raw, washed down with snow. River water is not allowed for fear that it is contaminated.

Back home, life is proceeding as if nothing happened. After a war like World War II, this conflict is just a mere skirmish.

The general opinion is a lack of knowledge and caring for the situation and the men involved.

Meanwhile, the young soldier in his fox-

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hole, worlds away from the comforts of home, is fighting in a war in which he, himself, does not know much about. He's just twenty-one years old, and new to the world and the idea of living on his own. For he and his fellow soldiers, the transition from leaving the American life to entering the war was swift. In a matter of two weeks, he had to report for recall, and before he could blink an eye, he was on a train from Pusan to Wonju, equipped to fight a war.

The arrival home from the war would not be a big affair. There would be no parades and no fanfare. The young soldier, like so many others, had served his time, both on the front lines, and behind the desk, and had injuries to show for his work. Upon returning home, he would quietly resume a normal life; picking up where he had left off, and trying to forget the war, as the rest of the country seemed to already have done.

As the years went by, and the young soldier aged, he felt a myriad of emotions. He felt emotions from resentment at not being recognized for serving in a war, to resignation that honor may never be given. Throughout that time, the soldier stayed involved in the memory of the Korean War, by collecting what little literature exists, to donating and raising funds for the long overdue, and much delayed Korean War Memorial. Despite the disgust he felt at the mismanagement of the memorial production and the publicizing it received by the media, the soldier remained active, and planned to witness the memorial dedication.

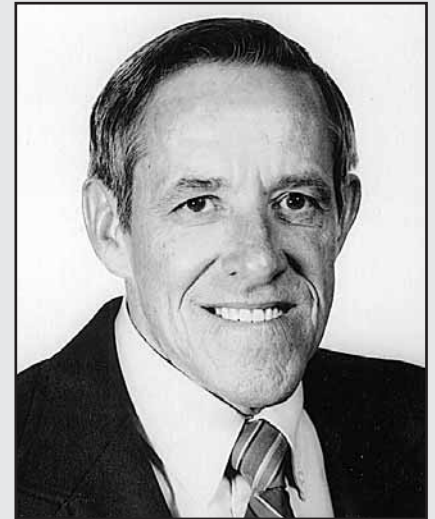
In 1995, under the intense heat of the southern sun, the soldier, with his wife and loved ones watched, with over six hundred thousand others, the dedication of the new Korean War Memorial. He was moved at the sight of the wall with the 2,500 faces of those who worked behind the lines. He looked in awe at the patrol of life sized statues, and remembered his service in Korea while listening to the dedication speeches of others. The first time in many years, the soldier began to feel some of the resentment and resignation had begun to dissipate. A long overdue tribute was finally being made.

The Korean War still does not receive the recognition it should, and almost remains a legend passed on by word of mouth. Rarely does a newscaster or politician mention the war, and until recently, it was considered only a conflict. History books make little mention to the war, instead focusing more on wars such as Vietnam. The fact that the Korean War was the bloodiest war in the 20th century for American soldiers is a hidden truth. Though reparations to those who fought in the Korean War have been made, the soldiers who gave their lives for their country have not received their full amount of recognition. Sadly the phrase, "the forgotten war" still rings true.

My grandfather served in the Korean War as part of Company D, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, on both the front lines and in Service Company. He was interviewed for the purposes of this essay.

.... for the Children of our Sacrifice.

## Meet Our New Treasurer



**Thomas J. Gregory**

4400 Sillman Place  
Kettering, Ohio 45440  
Telephone: (937) 299-4821,  
Fax: (937) 299-8161

### Education

- ❖ University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio — Double Major:
  - ◆ Bachelor of Science, Economics
  - ◆ Bachelor of Science, Business Administration
- ❖ American Management Institute — Graduate
- American Sales Institute - Graduate

### Service Record

- ❖ Director, International Weights & Measures
- ❖ Director, International Waste Management Controls
- ❖ President, Chaminade High School Alumni Board
- ❖ President, Carroll High School Athletic Board

### Military Service

- ❖ **United States Army**



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## 92nd Armored from page 19

Evidence of bitter action was at hand on all sides in this Sudong defile where the enemy had persistently displayed determination. Smoldering trucks loaded with ammunition and equipment burned to rubble with charred and gutted bodies of Marines intermingled were testimony to the enemy's sneaky guerrilla tactics in catching the column on the road, bumper to bumper. Setting fire to one or two vehicles was sufficient to hold the entire column and pin down personnel. Constant small arms, automatic weapons and mortar fire appeared along the column. One mortar shell landed two vehicles to the rear of the Battalion Commanders, wounding Lt. Mooney, General Mead's aide. Another man was wounded in the truck ahead of the Battalion Executives.

Fortunately, for the Battalion, no one was wounded nor did any vehicles fall out. The Battalion closed in the assembly area in Hungnam at approximately 1930 hours. Worn, tired and dirty the "Red Devils" enjoyed a hot meal prepared by Service Battery. By 2000 hours all men were tucked-in., dead to the world after some 72 hours without sleep and several days of active combat with Task Force Dog. On this mission of holding the Chinhung-Ni area open for the evacuation of the Marine forces, this Battalion displayed exceptional spirit and cohesion.

Through long hours and hard work supported this difficult operation which could have readily turned into another isolated pocket. Cool but vigilant, the Command supported the operation splendidly and secured itself through its tremendous firepower capabilities. Under guerrilla attack, men manned their battle stations tense but confident and repelled both attempts.

Seasoned and proud of their accomplishments the "Red Devils" gathered a few hours of much needed sleep feeling grateful and thankful that they had successfully sustained themselves and successfully assisted in the deliverance of their Comrades.

*...to be continued.*

*At the end of this report I will give details of how you can order your command reports from the National Archives —Editor.*

## Photo file...



14 October 1953 Officers of the Korean Base Section and the 91st. Military Police Battalion, review the troops of the 91st. Military Police Battalion, during ceremonies held at Hialeah compound, Pusan, Korea. From left to right: Capt. Edwin A. Mayo (Lynn, Mass) Bn Adj; Maj. Samuel E. McCune (Baltimore MD) Bn Exec Off.; Lt. Col. Martin S. Ryan (Dallas, TX) Bn C.O.; Capt. George Ansloan, Asst.Bn Adj.; Lt. John Ken Leithman (Gretna, LA) Bn Operations Off.; Lt. Martha Voyles (Terre Haute, Ind) Aide-de-Camp to General Whitcomb; Brig. Gen. Richard S. Whitcomb (New York, NY) C.G. Korean Base Section; Lt. Col. Harry E. Hagerty (Greenville, NC) Provost Marshal KBS; WOJG Clyde Floyd (Jacksonville, FL) Supply Officer 91st Military Police Battalion. (Thank you Ken Leithman for the photo and the notice of your reunion. Have a great time. Those hills look familiar.)

## Fly the colors!

The official flag of the Korean War Veterans Association is now available at a price all chapters can afford!

It is a 3' X 5' blue nylon, two sided flag. The gold colored letters ("Korean War Veterans Association") at the top and bottom of the flag are applique and securely stitched as is the map logo in the center. All lettering on the logo itself, (i.e. the cities on the map of Korea) are machine embroidered.

This flag is currently a part of several color guards in Ohio and an identical flag was presented to president Harley Coon as a gift for his years of service as the first president of the department of Ohio.



The Gulf Coast Chapter in Mobile has just received it's flag and president Neal Livingston was quoted as saying that this is a quality product and that they are looking forward to adding it to their color guard

The flag that the national organization has, was made in Korea at a cost of about \$800.00 but now one can be added to your color guard for only \$175.00. Shipping and handling included

Contact:

Skip Rittenhouse  
1540 Norma Rd.  
Columbus, Oh 43229  
(614)885-4118

demand for almost \$4 million in payment for the 162 sets of remains returned between 1993 and 1994 slowed further progress. In January 1996 at CILHI, DoD met with North Korean representatives to resolve the compensation issue and to discuss joint recovery operations. These meetings moved the two sides closer to agreement. Then in May 1996, when talks resumed in New York City, the parties agreed on compensation and joint recovery operations.

Nine joint recovery operations occurred between July 1996 and November 1998, during which DoD recovered the probable remains of 29 American soldiers. As of January 1, 1999, CILHI has identified one and believes that the evidence recovered with the other remains should lead soon to more identifications. Along with these successes, DoD won agreement to conduct archival research inside North Korea on wartime military operations. Two such visits took place, in 1997 and 1998, resulting in dozens of documents related to American prisoners.

#### **Sightings of Alleged POWs Living In North Korea**

DoD investigates reports of POWs in North Korea. Because of the publicity surrounding these efforts, additional reports have surfaced - some repeating earlier claims. The US government uses all available resources to investigate these reports; however, they have not yet been able to substantiate any of the information regarding alleged POWs. Analysts have correlated many of the reports to US defectors living in North Korea since the 1960s.

#### **US-Russia Joint Commission on POWIMIA's Korean War Working Group**

Through this working group, the US government has investigated reports alleging the transfer of US POWs to the former Soviet Union during the Korean War. The working group follows a two-pronged approach. They investigate the possibility that transfers of US service members to the former Soviet Union and the Peoples Republic of China took place and they clarify the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of unaccounted-for US service members. Despite circumstantial evidence

and intensive investigation, DoD has not yet found conclusive evidence of transfers.

After years of negotiations brought DoD access to Russian Ministry of Defense archives, the fates of more than 70 Americans has been clarified. By the end of 1998, the Russians had provided over 6,000 pages of text and nearly 300 photographs relevant to missing Americans that helped determine their fates. Additionally, US officials have extensive interview programs in Russia and the former republics of the Soviet Union. Interviews with Soviet veterans and other officials have provided additional information on the fates of several Americans.

#### **Other Important Initiatives**

DoD officials conduct extensive archival research around the world. Their efforts succeeded in locating a large collection of intelligence reports dating from the Korean War in the US National Archives which US researchers are currently analyzing.

The US government continues to ask the People's Republic of China (PRC) for information on American POWs whose fates remain unresolved. While the PRC has assisted significantly on American World War II and Vietnam War cases, Chinese officials have hindered DoD access to Korean War records held in their country. DoD has submitted several specific Korean War case inquiries to the Chinese government; these cases are currently under consideration by the PRC.

DoD created the US government's first comprehensive database on Personnel Missing-Korea (PMKOR) in 1998. PMKOR reconciles the three major casualty-related databases from the Korean War and provides the most accurate accounting baseline since the conclusion of hostilities in 1953. DoD made extensive efforts to ensure accuracy; however, PMKOR is a dynamic document, and will continue to change to reflect new discoveries achieved through archival research.

Based on increasing access to Korean War battlefields and the advent of new identification technologies, DoD and the Armed Forces have mounted a massive outreach effort to locate families of the more than 8,100 Americans unaccounted

for from the Korean War. Unfortunately, a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis destroyed many US military personnel records holding evidence useful for identifying recovered remains. Therefore, DoD has requested family members' support in its accounting efforts.

These offices provide POW/MIA families support in finding answers to their case specific inquiries. They dedicate addresses and telephone numbers to provide direct access for family members. Concerned citizens, organizations, and media should contact the service casualty offices through the respective public affairs offices listed below.

#### **Air Force**

USAF Missing Persons Branch, 550 C Street West, Suite 15 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4716 Tel: 1 (800) 531-5501  
<<http://www.afpc.af.mil/>>

#### **Army**

Department of the Army, TAPC-PER, 2461 Eisenhower Ave. Alexandria, VA 22331-0482 Tel: 1 (800) 892-2490  
<<http://www.perscom.army.mil/>>

#### **Marine Corps**

Headquarters US Marine Corps Manpower and Reserve Affairs (MRC), Personal and Family Readiness Division, 3280 Russell Road, Quantico, VA 22134-5103 Tel: 1 (800) 847-1597  
<<http://www.usmc.mil/>>

#### **Navy**

Navy Personnel Command, Bureau of Naval Personnel, Casualty Assistance Branch, (NPC-621P), 5720 Integrity Dr., Millington, TN 38055-6210 Tel: (800) 443-9298 <[p621@persnet.navy.mil](mailto:p621@persnet.navy.mil)>

#### **Department of State**

Department of State, Office of AmCitizens Services and CM, CA/OCS/ACS/EAP, Attn: Ms. Jenny Foo, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20520 Tel: (202) 647-6769

#### **1999 "Family Update Schedule**

16 Oct Birmingham, AL  
20 Nov Houston, TX

*(Again we thank all DPMO, CILHI personnel. They are special military and civilian people with a common goal. KWVA POW/MIA staff officers are honored to work with this dedicated group.)*



# THE GALLOPING GHOST

By Donald A. Wayman

The following description of events is a product of my personal recollections, war diaries, action reports and deck log of the destroyer Ernest G. Small.

*Ernest G. Small (DD-838)* was a gear-ing class destroyer launched in June 1945 by Bath Iron Works, Bath, Maine. Sponsored by Mrs. Ernest G. Small, commissioned on 21 August 1945 and named for Rear Admiral Small who was awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism, in action against Japanese surface units, off Savo Island 11-12 October 1942.

The destroyer would distinguish herself nine years later. In October of 1951, Small would get her first opportunity to actually engage the enemy, since commissioning.

*Small* transmitted the Panama Canal in June of 1950, as war broke out in Korea. We were ordered to proceed directly to Hawaii, refuel and rendezvous with units of the Seventh Fleet in the Sea of Japan. We had never heard of Korea, but that was where we were going. We were part of DES Div 72, which included *USS Mackenzie (DD 836)*, *USS Hanson (DD-832)*, and *USS Taussig (DD-746)*. *Taussig* would join up with us at a later date.

On August 1, we were steaming in company with Task Group 53.7, composed of *Clymer (APA-27)*, *Fort Marion (LSD-22)*, *Pickaway (APA-222)*, *Whiteside (AKA-90)*, *Alshain (AKA-55)*, *Horace A. Bass (APD124)*, *Mackenzie* and *Hanson*. At 1800, *Henrico (APA-45)* would join the formation.

The next day the amphibious group in column entered the port of Pusan, Korea. The First Provisional Marine Brigade from San Diego, disembarked. The Marines would reinforce the embattled Eighth Army defending the Pusan Perimeter. In September the First Marines would make a successful amphibious assault at the Port of Inchon on Korea's West Coast.

*Small* would take part in the Inchon Invasion, the landing at Wonsan on the East Coast in October and the evacuation of Tenth Corps at Hungnam after the bat-

## USS ERNEST G. SMALL (DD-838)

tle at the Chosin Reservoir in December. Marines did not use words like 'retreat', this operation was called a withdrawal or redeployment.

For most of our first tour of duty in Korea we were assigned plane guard and ASW screening (anti-submarine warfare) duties to every 'bird farm' in the 7th Fleet. Most often we replenished at sea. GQ (general quarters) was sounded day and night as carriers conducted flight operation in support of the United Nations Troops ashore. Usually we were chasing *Sicily (CVE-118)* or *Badoeng Strait (CVE-116)*. We shot up jettisoned wing tanks and investigated fishing boats that at times were on mine laying missions. Sonar contacts were pursued and at times depth charge attacks were made. After the war both sides denied the use of submarines.

We seldom received reports on the fighting ashore but it was apparent that things were not going very well. Our green and poorly trained UN Forces were retreating and breaking ranks when under heavy attack and heading South. Many were captured without weapons and shot hands and feet bound. The casualty rate was high among officers and non-coms. General Dean commanding officer of the 24th division was captured after hiding out in the hills for a month. He would remain a prisoner for the duration of the war.

We returned to the Navy Base at Sasebo, Japan, periodically to take on stores or make repairs. There was baseball, beer and shopping downtown in Sasebo. The Army may have had some serious problems but from our perspective the war was pretty much one sided. The sea and sky belonged to the Navy and Air Force. Life was good.

When at sea we performed messenger duties delivering Guard Mail, US Mail and an occasional passenger. General



drills and gunnery practice were held between GQ and Flight Operations.

In September we were at Inchon. Corsairs from *Sicily* and *Badoeng Strait* pounded Wolmi-do, a small island attached by a causeway to downtown Inchon. Heavies of TF-77 bombarded the invasion site, the LSMR's rocketed the city with an unforgettable display of fireworks. The Marine Amphibious Assault on September 15 was a complete success. From the bridge on *Mt. McKinley*, General MacArthur signaled Admiral Struble .... "the Navy, Marines and Army have never shone more brightly than this morning." Several days later *Small* was moored alongside *Piedmont (AD-17)* in Flying Fish Channel. I got permission to go aboard for some dental work returning to the *Small* with four less teeth. Soon after dentists on *Piedmont* fixed me up with a temporary partial plate. Dead North Koreans floated in the harbor, burial ashore was not an option with the retreating Communists.

The next landing was to be at Wonsan on Korea's Eastern Coastline. Mines in the harbor caused some serious delays. The Marines wallowed offshore in transports as the *Pirate* and *Pledge* (minesweepers) went down. On October 25, the Marines landed they were met by units of the South Korean Army and none other than Bob Hope to their profound embarrassment.

*Small* continued operating with *Sicily* and *Badoeng Strait*, which we now were calling 'Bing-Ding' for obvious reasons.

*Small* operated in and around Wonsan Harbor and the East Coast, conducting flight operations with *Sicily*. In late October we were dispatched to sink a floating oil drum. On one occasion we left station to investigate a possible mine, the object was identified as a buoy, sharpshooters in the gun tubs sank the buoy and we returned to our screen station. This would be typical of our activities much of the time.

In November of 1950 *Small* and *Taussig* accompanied *Sicily* to Guam in the Marianas to conduct carrier qualification flight operations. We returned to Yokosuka one week later and entered dry dock for routine maintenance. Discovering a rudder problem, we returned to Sasebo remaining in dry dock until December 7.

General MacArthur had been predicting that the troops would be home for Christmas. North Koreans were in retreat. The First Marine Division and 8th army were marching to the Yalu River and total victory. On 27 November, 300,000 Chinese volunteers entered the war and ambushed UN Forces at the Chosin Reservoir, and on the Central Front, they would have to fight their way South.

With our rudder repaired and a full load of fuel we reported to Com 7th Flt for duty. We joined up with all of our old friends, *Sicily* and 'Bing Ding' enroute to Hungnam for flight operations in support of our surrounded troops.

It was brutally cold in Korea in December, salt spray immediately froze heavy ice accumulated on the superstructure and had to be chopped away. No one went out on deck when they could stay in the inside passageways. When we did venture out you could smell the country. Korea stunk as did the garlic-chewing army. The sounds of artillery fire got louder and closer every day. Our Army and Marines were running the gauntlet from Chosin to Hagaru, Koto-ri and on to Hungnam where transports were waiting.

By December 24 everything that could sail was loaded with survivors and civilians enroute to Pusan. There would be no Dunkirk in Korea. Army engineers and Navy underwater demolition teams blew up the harbor facilities and anything that could be used by the Chinese what a memorable sight it was. Certainly the Marines

enjoyed their short stay aboard ship, but once in Pusan they would have to regroup and take the offensive again.

On Christmas day, *Small* and the task group refueled from *Cacapon* (AO-52) and headed for Korea's West Coast conducting gunnery practice and general drills when secured from flight operations.

The new year arrived unnoticed, no celebration, just our regular diet of sea duty. DES Div 72 was now operating off the West Coast with *USS Bataan* (CVL-29). The replenishment group was always around with fresh and frozen stores, ammo, fuel oil and the medical care for anyone who was too ill for our own pharmacist to handle.

*Small* acted as communication link ship for two ships, frigates sent to Korea by Thailand, *HMTS Bangpakong* and *HMTS Sichang*. We escorted them to Yokosuka, arriving on 30 January. Later in the day, *Small* and DES Div 72 left the harbor enroute to the Continental United States via Midway Islands and Pearl Harbor. *Small* would be in the San Francisco shipyards for three months, beginning in March of 1951. The overhaul included up to date radar and enlargement of CIC (combat information center). We went to San Diego for training in the use of our new equipment. A baseball team was organized, we performed routine maintenance during the day. During off hours we did what sailors do... enjoyed time 'on the beach.'

In September of 1951 the war in Korea was still raging. President Truman fired General MacArthur, the Commander-in-Chief of UN Forces in Korea. We thought that the little guy from Independence, Missouri didn't have a full seabag. The press referred to the war as a police action and the public was oblivious to the hostilities, unless they had a friend or relative living in a foxhole. The 'police action' would become known as the forgotten war. Stateside fun would end and in September the *Small* began her second tour of duty in Korea, The Land of the Morning Calm.

On October 1, we had joined up with *USS Rendova* (CVE-114), *USS Tingey* (DD-539), and two Canadian Frigates, *Athabaskan* and *Sioux*. Our new skipper was Cdr. R.L. Neyman. There were two ROK ensigns aboard for training, Sae

Hyun Cho and Yong On Pak.

CTF 95, on October 2, dispatched *Small* to Task Force 77 for reassignment. We proceeded independently to the East Coast of Korea and joined TF 77 at 1630, on 3 October. The battle group comprised *USS Essex* (CV-9), *USS Bon Homme Richard* (CV-31), *USS Helena* (CA-75), *USS Los Angeles* (CA-136), *Des Div 72 and 21*, *USS Mansfield* (DD-728), *USS Swenson* (DD-729), and the battleship *New Jersey* (BB-62). We rendezvoused with the replenishment group the next morning and remained with them all day, refueling and taking on supplies and ammo.

In the group was *Cacapon* (AO-52), *Chemung* (AO-30), and *Mt. Katmai* (AE-16). At 2100, *Small* was detached with *New Jersey*, *Helena* and *Hanson* designated Task Element 77.14 Bombardment Group. It appeared that our plane guard and ASW duties were over.

Captain Neyman would write in his action report...

"This was the first opportunity this vessel had since commissioning to actually engage the enemy. Morale was particularly high and all hands demonstrated a keen interest in doing their jobs to the best of their ability."

We arrived off Hungnam on the morning of the 5th of October. *USS Shields* (DD-596) and *USS Epperson* (DDE-719) joined the formation by order of Rear Admiral Libby Sopa aboard the *Helena*. The mission of this force was to harass North Korean forces by bombardment to disrupt communications by destruction of rail lines, bridges, rolling stock and to inflict casualties on such enemy troops and positions as possible.

This would be the first visit to Hungnam by UN Forces since the near annihilation of the 1st Marine Division and 7th Inf. Div. at Chosin and the reverse amphibious operation in December 1950. There quite possibly was a revenge factor in the planning of the attack. Ships on the firing line bombarded all day. We left the area enroute to Songjin at 2345, arriving at 0640 on 6 October. We commenced shore bombardment at 0838, breaking off at 1430 to rescue a downed pilot. It was not uncommon to receive a call from a carrier with the news that they had 'a bird in the water'. I do not recall receiving the tradi-

tional ice cream reward for our humanitarian effort. Never the less, we were back on the firing line at 1515, either firing or screening until 1800, at which time we departed with *Shields* and *Helena* for night bombardment at Kyoze Wan, South of Chongjin. We arrived on station in darkened ship condition at 2345.

We went to G.Q. and fired illumination for *Helena* using an aircraft spotter. *Shields* was screening to seaward while we took on targets of opportunity. We had expended 427 rounds of 5"/38 ammunition before securing from general quarters. Reports on enemy damage included an oil refinery, ammo dumps, four box-cars, a railroad bridge span and shore batteries. Casualties inflicted could not be determined. We left Chongjin at 0200 enroute to Hungnam arriving at 0930 on 7 October 1951.

*Small* was assigned screening duties for *Shields* and *Helena* until 1300, when permission was granted to take firing position. Enemy shore batteries were engaged off and on throughout the afternoon, while the minesweepers continued to sweep between our ships and the shore batteries. At 1755, shell splashes were reported off our port bow as enemy gunners took us under fire. The skipper took the conn, trying to avoid the shellfire while our gun mounts attempted to lock on the enemy artillery.

In the radar shack I heard *Helena* over voice radio order us to 'get the hell out of there,' obviously they had tracked us into the unswept area of the harbor. At 1801, an explosion lifted our bow out of the water. Power went out. Our knees buckled as the deck rose and threw us into the overhead. It seemed like slow motion, the bow reached it's apex and settled back into the water, listing heavily to port. Battle lanterns provided light as we waited for more explosions, thankfully there were none. It was then that we became more angry than scared.. those bastards are shooting back.

Power was restored by damage control parties, we put our headsets back on, C.I.C. was back in operation. A reservist who had been reactivated for the Korean 'Police Action' was taping his wallet in case we had to go into the water.

SO/3c Von Allmen, and a few radiomen were out on deck watching the

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gun battle develop when the blast occurred. They sought refuge under the torpedo mount as oil, sea water and debris from the masts rained down upon them. Von Allmen came into the radar shack to see if we could reach his buddies in the sonar room by phone, having no success, he left followed by SO/2c Quentin Saylor, the Captain's JV talker, stationed in CIC, they would attempt to reach the sonar crew below decks.

From Cdr. Neyman's battle report:

The repair party isolated and limited the damage immediately. Main engines continued in operation despite temporary loss of suction forward due to ruptured oil lines. Volunteers and repair party personnel removed the injured from the damaged area to the forward dressing station for first aid.

In the radar room, we were trying desperately to reach the sonar crew by phone, I had taken over Saylor's headset. There was no response. The operations officer ordered me to keep trying. The effort was futile. We already knew what had happened, the sonar gang was in the impact area, they certainly could not have survived.

At 1835, after crew's muster, it was determined that nine men were missing and fifty one had been wounded. *Helena* sent a boat over with medical aid and eight of the most seriously wounded were taken aboard *Helena* for treatment. Of the nine killed, six were in the sonar room, another was a seaman, a member of the secured gun crew of mount 51 (out of ammo), and two were in the mess hall, on damage control station. One of them was Allen Schlueter, DC/3, who would never get to see his daughter born just four months after his death.

The action report of 5-6-7 October 1951 submitted by Commander Neyman describes the damage:

"Explosion opened a hole forty feet long, compartments A306-L, FO tanks A-3F and A-508F were flooded. Bulkhead 48 was rolled up and bent in. First and second plat-

form decks were blown out and upwards. Main deck was bulged at centerline of frame 50 and wrinkled on port side at frame 48. All steam lines, electric cable, ventilation and fire mains were cut or ruptured forward of frame 60. All compartments and equipment between frames 33 and 60 were damaged or flooded."

Crew members with sleeping quarters forward, lost everything that they owned. We would be re-issued a full clothing allotment and receive partial payment for personal items such as cameras and shaving gear.

At 2125 we cleared the area, proceeding with *Shields* and *Hitchiti* (ATF-103) enroute to Sasebo. Inventory was taken of all ammo in the magazines. There were 400 rounds of 5"/38 and 200 cases of 40mm. Several of the 40mm had exploded as evidenced by the ruptured brass casings found in the magazines. We had expended 1086 rounds of 5" 38 and 2848 rounds of 40mm. Damaged ammunition was jettisoned. No one on board the *Small* would ever forget 7 October, 1951.

On October 8, at 0615, *Shields* left the formation on assignment. *USS Carmick* (DMS-34) joined up later in the day. Our destination was changed to Yokosuka. We were steaming under our own power, making 10 knots. All hands not on watch attended a brief but moving memorial service on the fantail. At 1134, the flag-draped bodies of ME/3 Joseph F. Munier and DC/3 Allen F. Schlueter were buried at sea. Burial was necessary since we had lost all refrigeration. It was a sad day.

The mess deck had been destroyed, cooks and bakers served meals topside. Crew members whose berthing compartments were flooded slept on deck. I had keys to the radar countermeasures room, it was uncomfortable, but it was a place to sleep. The one thing that we could not escape, was the sickening smell of oil. Our gyro compass was inoperative, *Carmick* was designated course guide, *Small* was speed guide and *Hitchiti* took station 2000 yards astern. Early on October 9th,



*Carmick* was detached and *Hitchiti* took station 2000 yards ahead. We transmitted the Shimonoseki Straits and the Inland Sea. At 2200 we entered the open sea, steering 090 and making 8 knots enroute Yokosuka.

We had enjoyed two days of relatively calm seas, protected by land on either side of the Inland Sea. When we cleared the straits, into open water the sea was running high, kicked up by an approaching typhoon. On the morning of 10 October, an unusually large swell lifted the bow section, breaking the keel. General quarters sounded waking me from a sound sleep in the RCM room. I wondered if a Russian MiG-15 had spotted us dead in the water. The skipper backed down all engines, the bow lifted, turned and broke loose. Mount 51 and ninety-five feet of the *Ernest G. Small*, including our number 838, floated away. The gunners on *Hitchiti*, after many near misses, landed a shell in the paint locker. The bow exploded and went down, no longer a hazard to navigation taking with it the body of a shipmate who was writing a letter home when the mine exploded.

The ship looked as though the forward section had been sheared off with a giant razor. We lost our anchor gear, messing compartment, boatswains store room, chiefs living quarters, officers and crew's forward berthing compartment, number one mount, handling room and magazine. Fortunately the forward bulkhead was holding. An attempt was made to reverse engines and steam backwards to Japan, but the bent out hull plates acted as a rudder and the best we could do was steer perfect circles. *Hitchiti* strung wire towing cable around mount 53 and by mid day we were being towed, stern first, engines in reverse and making 12 knots. We headed to Kobe on the Inland Sea. Temporary port and starboard running lights were set up on the fantail. Merchant ships that passed were not sure what they were seeing.

On the 11th of October, we were ordered to Kure, and the Harima Shipbuilding Yards. Harima had built Japan's largest battleship (18in. guns) in world war II. *USS Eversole (DD-789)* joined the formation and spread oil to calm the rough seas. *Hitchiti* moored to port and continued to tow. As we approached Iyo Nada, Inland Sea, we

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secured all engines, while a diver was sent over the side to inspect the damage. We remained there, moored to the anchored tug *Hitchiti*. Movies were shown on the fantail that night.

By 0500 on the next day, 12 October, we were under tow again, enroute Kure, and at 1300 *Hitchiti* turned towing duties over to tug #3 and tug #4 out of Harima Shipyard. The pair assisted us to our temporary mooring in Kure at 1423. It had been five days since we left Hungnam, 130 miles North of the 38th Parallel.

Joseph Edward Brown, in the May 1952 issue of *Our Navy* poses the question... which ship in the Korean War can rightfully claim the title, Galloping Ghost of The Korean Coast? Author Brown answers his own query ... few other ships have a better chance for the nomination than *Ernest G. Small*, how many could be sliced nearly in half and yet proceed under their own power for 600 miles. The crew of the *Small* would agree with Brown's reasoning. *Small's* sailors say their ship is the real Galloping Ghost.

Less than one hour after our arrival in Kure, Rear Admiral W.B. Ammon came aboard with his staff. A board of investigation convened per order COM 7th Flt. It was not until 2030 that the remaining bodies were removed from the wreckage and transferred by hearse in coffins to the British Commonwealth Hospital for possible identification. On the 14th of October, RD/lc Johnnie Ludwig USNR was dispatched to Yokosuka to escort his brother-in-law's body home to Texas. He had been killed in action in Korea. We were getting to know how terrible this war could be.

The typhoon intensified and arrived in full force early on the 15. Towing cable and wires had been added to reinforce our mooring lines. Emergency conditions were set, engines were warmed up and on standby. Getting underway in a typhoon with that ship was the last entry on my pri-

ority list. Any port in a storm was my philosophy. A tug came alongside to port to keep the ship breasted to the dock against the force of the typhoon. All 6in. mooring lines parted, but tow cables and wires held. Weather conditions improved and at 0900, Rear Admiral Ammon returned to reconvene the board of investigation. They would meet daily thru the 17th of October.

*Small* was towed to dry dock on the 16th and on the 17th another crewman's remains were removed from the damaged section of the ship.

The port of Kure was controlled by the Australian Navy. They provided us with plenty of beef and mutton while we were waiting for supplies. We ate steak for breakfast, dinner and supper, it was great at first but the novelty soon wore off. We patronized the Aussie NCO Club, spending the evening hours drinking beer and saying goodbye to many of our buddies who were being transferred out to fill vacancies on other cans in task force 77. Strangely, new men were reporting aboard for duty. They had been chasing us all over the orient. Bunk space was at a premium and most of them were reassigned. We were sad to see the guys leaving who had been through it all since our mining at Hungnam.

While in Kure's dry dock the officers went to OSO Kanko for five days R and R, (rest and recuperation). Most of the enlisted men went to the special services hotel in the sacred city of Nara. Tame deer foraged in the park, we took rickshaw rides, paddled canoes on the lake and enjoyed great meals at the hotel. The Japanese residents were friendly, the children very cute and polite and despite the language differences we were able to communicate quite well. They showed a genuine interest in our family lives and of course there were always the questions about the USA.

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...to be continued

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# Looking for...



Does anyone remember a **Robert L. Gillette** from Minnesota who died January 11, 1951 at Hanjang-ni, North Korea? That is where we spent that first horrible winter. He was from Hq Co. 34th/24. His sister has contacted me for information. I know it is painful to bring back the memories but we owe this much to the men who died and to their families who are still seeking any tiny bit of information about their loved ones. I am sure you remember Lt. Donald Sirman. He was USAF, shot down early in the war. (July 7, 1950). You would remember him being shot while scrounging outside the camp for dikons.

The North Koreans refused Colonel Dunn and Doc Boysen to look at his body and as far as is known the North Koreans disposed of the body. What has been told to me so far: Tamaye made a statement way back to the effect that he buried his friend IZU, who died on 12 July 1951 at Andong. (Japanese Army camp) He also states that he buried a "jet pilot" at the same time. Gave no name. Remember Sirman was shot on 7 July and IZU died on 12 July and that several of the officers told me that Sirman was buried by the North Koreans and that no one saw his body. Who was the "jet pilot" that Tamaye buried?

Scott has told me that he was in the hospital at that time and one night the North Koreans brought a body into the next room. Scott could see through the cracks. He said the body was in an orange jump suit and thought that he must be an AF type shot down near by. Scott said he knew Sirman and that Sirman always wore a faded brown jump suit. Scott said that the man he saw on the stretcher was not from our group.

And there you have it—another mystery. Help me with this. At the time of this incident I was with a detail in the mountains where we cut wood. We stayed there. It was like a sub camp. About 15 of us were there. Love, Peace & Freedom. Shorty and Marti E-mail address <tiger53@ix.netcom.com>.

*(Dear Shorty, I tried to e-mail you back several times and my e-mail would not go through. If you have a reason please let me know. I also have trouble with printing long lines. I can wrap them but when I print them to scan, the end of the sentence is cut off. I have had this one for a long time and I have another with the same problem. You are not the only one that tends to make long lines. I want to print all letters but sometimes I do not have the time to do extra typing. Thanks, Vince.)*



Need information available, family background, age/DOB, dead or alive, etc., on Korean national, **Suh Kyn Chul**; info-anything on woman named **Suh Ok Soon**. Need to hear from anyone who might have heard 'Seoul City Sue' radio broadcasts at any-time during the Korean War. Also anyone who knows anything of Ann Wallis (Suh/r), where she's at or if she's dead, how, where and when. Anyone who may have any information on any of these persons, no matter how slight, please contact: H.G. Rezac, 14 2nd Ave. SW Pocahtontas, IA. 50574-2012, Tel./fax (712) 335-3139



I'm looking for any information I can find about my father, **Thomas Roehrich** AF, as he has recently had health problems after brain surgery. He has lost his memory of his service in the

Korean War. If any one has any information relating to him or Maj. Joseph Cutger, I would like them to contact me Tammy Rochrich from Murfreesboro, TN at E-mail address <idoxlr8@worldnet.att.net>



My father, **Anthony Miller**, served in the Korean War in the airforce. 12 years ago he died of multiple myeloma (sp?) - a rare blood cancer similar to leukemia. This cancer is linked to those who exposed to radiation and the most likely place he would have been exposed to radiation would have been during his military service. I have heard that there are a high percentage of Korean War veterans that contracted this type of cancer than in the general population. Can you tell me where I may find out such information and also where I might find someone who served with my father? Thank you John Miller. Contact Rachel Hellner at e-mail address <rachel@pccinternet.com>



Perhaps I'm taking a shot in the dark, as is said, but I would really like to re-establish contact with the Korean that worked for me in the 2nd Comm Sqdn of the 5th Comm Grp at the 5th AF compound in Seoul between April 1952 and January 1953, as interpreter and "houseboy honcho." His name: **Kim Ki Hyung**. He was about 17 years old. (Date of birth: March 18, 1935, I think; or maybe it was 1936). Contact was broken in 1967 after he'd spent a tour in the Korean Air Force Band and was graduated with a degree in engineering from the U. of Seoul (or Korea); had married and was father of two daughters. Any help to locate him or suggestions for locating him will be appreciated. Contact: Rev. Alfred J. Tschopp, (MSgt, USAF-Ret), 418 No. Main St, West Point, NE 68788. Or call: (402) 372-5468.



I was in Korea from June 19, 1952 until about 3 days before the cease fire. My outfit was **HQ Btry 980 Field Arty, 40th Div**. I am primarily interested in making contact with guys that I served with. They were from all parts of the country. When I was assigned to the 980th they were in Kumwa, almost in the shadow of Mt. Popason. Contact John R. Galberth of 826 Waldo Rd., Campbell, CA 95008-4630 tel/fax at 408-378-8035 or e-mail address <jrgalberth@webtv.net>.



My father is looking for 1st Lt. **Judy Foust** (nurse) - last residence known is California. He was stationed with Ms. Foust for 21 months (1952-1953) 20th Station Hospital/Bad Kreuznach, Germany. Any information you have, please send to my dad at: Roy Clinton White, 909 Camellia Drive, Columbia, TN 38401 phone # - 931-388-6172 Thank you, Pam White Lawrence



Looking for anyone who remembers **Larry Goga**. I entered the Army via draft November 5, 1952 from Minnesota. Basic training at Ft. Riley, KS., K Co., 87th Inf. Regt., 10th Inf. Div. Shipped to Korea on *USS Marine Adder*, assigned B Co 223rd Inf. Regt 40th Inf. Div. Punch Bowl Spring of 1953 reassigned to Hqs Co. I&R Squad, 1st Bn., Heartbreak Ridge shipped back to States on *USS*

Gen. Collins ordered to Hq. & Hq. Bn. 28th Inf. Regt. 8th Inf. Div. Ft. Carson, CO. Contact, Lawrence A. Goga, 1115 Pineview Lane N., Plymouth, MN. 55441-4655, Telephone 612-595-9188.

★

I served in Korea with the Air Force in the **67th Motor Vehicle Sqdn of the 67th Tack Recon** Wing from May 1951 until June 1952 at Taegu K-2 and at Kimpo K-14. I have never heard of the 67th having a reunion. I think it is about time we had one. I would love to hear from anyone who served in Korea with 67th Tac Recon Wing. Contact: William R. Lovitt, 581 Hillside Court, Melbourne, Florida 32935

★

I would like to contact any former **Marine from Able Co.** 1st. Bn. 7th Marine. I was with Able as their F.O. from 1950 to 1952. As a 81 MM F.O. my duty station was with 1st./7th. But was never with them, or very little. While with Able I was called a lot by the name of Skinhead, I shaved by head due to the lice that were there. Robert E. Graham, 712 Monterrey, Victoria, TX. 77904, Email <regpag.@tisd.net> Tel: 361-579-9123

★

I am looking for a **young medic**. He was wounded at the "Punch Bowl" around August or September 1951. He had stepped on a anti-personnel mine and could not walk. I carried him across the "Punch Bowl" approximately. 2 miles and got him on a MASH helicopter. I haven't seen him since (48 years).



Having dinner on roof of Army PX in Osaka is "young medic" in center with Charles F. Eads to his right and Ray Willig.

The picture above shows us in Osaka on the roof of the Army PX having dinner. He is the young man in the middle, I am to his right with *Raymond Willig*, who I would also like to locate. Contact, Charles F. Eads, 6416 San Como Lane, Camarillo, California 93012-8145.

★

I am looking for **Aniello J. DeGregorio**, drafted 1951 from New York. We served in Japan and Korea from June 1951 to October 1952. We were in CO. A, 120th Combat Engineers, 45th Division. Contact, Joseph C. Giordano, 400 Scituate Avenue, #B7, Cranston, RI 02921, Telephone 401-944-8993.

★

I am looking for anyone that served at **APO 354, Eta Jima Specialist School**, between November 1951 to April 1953. Contact, Andrew Landheer, 16350 Fruit Ridge Avenue, Kent City, MI 49330. Telephone 616-675-7467, Fax 616-675-4101 or e-mail LANDHEER@WMIS.NET

★

I would like to locate **Albert J Isbell** or hear from anyone who has information about him. He served in 1953 in Korea as a Master Sergeant with me in the 40th Division, 223rd Tank Company. I believe he was from Tennessee. Contact: Richard W Dean 1708 Bluebird Drive, Webb City, Mo. 64870-1139 or phone 417-673-0382.

★

I am trying to find out if the **pilot of an observation plane** on July 27, 1953, Day of Truce, made it back to his base. On line with Hq. & Hq. Co. 15th Inf., this pilot was flying thru intense fire in front of marble faced cliffs. He was just to the left of our positions artillery fire from both sides. They were hitting each other's rounds in the air. This pilot kept trying to complete his mission. Always wondered how he made out. Possible 3rd Div Air Recon. Contact, Robert L. Bates, 218 7th Street, Saint James, New York 11780-2714

★

I am trying to locate buddies who served with the **987th FA in Korea** from May 1952 to March 1953. Contact, Lawrence J. Mattie, 1138 Presque Isle Drive, Port Charlotte, Florida 33952-1685

★

I am looking for gals who were stationed on the **WAC detachment on Okinawa** (1951 through 1953) especially medical personnel. Contact Marty Fogle, 4131 Mt. Hukee Avenue, San Diego, California 92117. Telephone 619-292-0936

★

I am searching for information concerning **Cpl. Charles Augustus Langdale** of Bamberg, South Carolina. He became a KIA on September 20, 1950 with the 1st Marine Div. Contact George Langdale, 125 Orchard Knob LN, Athens, Georgia 30605. Telephone 706-549-8980

★

Looking for a fellow named **Art Gagnon**. He was in 2nd Div, 38th Inf, M Co. All I knew was he lived near Chicago area in IL someplace? We are searching for "M" Co., survivors of Massacre Valley near Hoengsong, S. Korea Feb 12, 1951. He was on an "M" Co. Roster in 1950-51. Contact Doyle H. Parman, RR4 Box 43, Grant City, MO 64456 or e-mail <lparman@ccp.com>

★

I am trying to locate anyone who may have known and served with my uncle, **Thomas Dale Jones**. He was with A Battery, 52 FAB, 24th Inf Div. He was a POW, captured in July 1950, and died at Hanjang-ni, North Korea, 1-1-51. It would mean a lot to our family if we could learn about his military life. I never got the opportunity to know him. He was on leave in December 1949 and left for Japan. I was born January of 1950. My brother and I did find the Tiger Survivors veterans group and the head of the group filled us in on some details. (where he died, cause, conditions in



camp, etc.) His remains have never been recovered. Any information about our uncle or the events of his capture would be greatly appreciated. Contact Shirley (Jones) Whanger, niece, at e-mail address <wedded9@webtv.net> (David Whanger)

★

I am attempting to get records on my brothe. **Vito Prano** was killed while serving in Japan during the Korean War. He was killed in September 1952. He was 19 years old, if any one could help me to get additional information please email me. My wife and I went to the Korean War Memorial while in Washington and we could not find any information on Vito. Vito was the first of 12 children of Francesco (Frank) N. Prano. There were 9 boys and three girls I am the eighth child that is why prano8 is my e-mail address and we keep the prano1@aol.com address open for Vito for those who would like to post messages in his memory. I was only 12 years old at the time of Vito's death. Contact Joseph Prano, prano8@aol.com or prano8@worldnet.att.net

★

Looking for anyone who was with the **15th Inf. Battle Patrol**, [Stilwell Raiders] Feb. 53 to Apr. 53. Who knew what our main objective was. Who can remember, Rice, Kasee, Perry, Cochran, O'Ragan or Walker. Who was on a two day recon. to Jaskson Heights. Any pictures or roster. Contact Howard Walker, P.O. Box 832, Cedar Ridge, CA 95924, Tel: 1-530-274-3440 or e-mail <hnwalker@jps.net>

★

I am looking for members of the old **Reserve Unit Baker Co, 21st Infantry**, from USMC RO, Bayonne, NJ. Called to active duty in 1950. Also looking for members of Platoon 2-34 in Marine Corp Training Base San Diego, especially John McManus from Pittsburgh, PA. Contact Robert Melen, Box 248, Eccles, WV 25836

★

I am looking for information concerning my brother, **William Ackermann**, Army 51112347. KIA April 16, 1952 in Korea. He was with the 160th Infantry Regiment, 40th Infantry Division. Contact Kenneth Ackermann, 174 Benedict Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314

★

Looking for anyone who knew or served with Pvt. **Arthur L. Bishop**. 21st Regt 24th Div during 1950 in Korea. He was captured and his name is on Johnnie Johnson's list as died on November 22, 1950. He was from Danville, IL and San Angelo, TX before he joined up. Worked in the oil fields. Anyone knowing what happened in his last days or where he was at? Contact Harley E. Wynn, 2377 County Road, 1500 N, Saint Joseph, IL 61873-9741

★

I would like to hear from some guys who were in **17th Regt. 7th Div. Hvy. Mtr Co**. Contact Robert L. Opdyke, 309 Carriage House Court, New Bern, NC 28562-8895 or e-mail: rlo@new-bernnc.com

★

Seeking the following men: F/O **Joseph Hazelbrouck**, WWII, (Later M/Sgt) and Lt **Carl E Breen**, Korean War. Contact Robert

H. Barnes, PO Box 1697, Battle Creek, MI 49016

★

Would like to contact **14th Engineer Combat Bn** members for purposes of a reunion. Contact Stanley H. Schwartz, 313 Hollow Creek Rd., Mount Sterling KY 40353. Tel: 606-498-4567, FAX 606-498-6594, e-mail <shs313@kih.net>

★

Looking for information on **Lt. Larger** from the 49th Ftr Bmr Group A/C F-84 number 387 on aircraft. Cant find any info on him. He went down returning to base after a mission July 27, 1953 at end of war. Contact Don at e-mail DK12399015@aol.com

★

I am the grandson of a Korean war veteran who has since passed on. I remember stories about him serving from 1950-1951 in a chemical unit. He was a former infantry man in WWII. He was called back to active duty from the Army reserves in 1950 and returned home in 1951. I have no idea what unit or what division he was in. Grandfather's name is **Eugene Gaither** from Alton, IL Contact Paris Williams. 708 Gilbert St., Watertown, NY 13601

★

Looking for **Allen K. Sharkey** from Pa., **Tim Roulle** from Vermont, and **Hal D. Barry** that were in the 2nd Infantry Div., with me 1985-1986 at Camp Pelham and 4P-3. If you know these guys contact me, Shawn K. Finley, 102 East Barney St., Gouverneur, NY 13642-1101 or e-mail at skf@northnet.org

★

Looking for information on **Irving Degenshien**. He was from NY, NY. He was originally in heavy mortar Co., but was transferred into B Co., 5th RCT when we suffered all the losses in Aug. 50. MIA Dec. 4, 1950 in the Sukchon area. Contact Bill Conley, 4442 Mulberry Court, Pgh. PA. 15227-1238

★

My friends husband, **Francis N. Choate** was killed in the battle of Pusan Perimeter and breakout on Sept 16, 1950. He was with the 9th Inf. Regt., 2nd Inf. Div., Co. F. She is very anxious to try to find someone who may have known him and survived the ordeal. Would appreciate any information you may have to offer. Contact Myrth Sunday at e-mail address <sundaym@win.bright.net>

★

My dad **Senon Mora**, from El Paso, TX was a Korean War veteran and served from 5 January 1949 to 18 June 1952. He served with the Battery B, 8th FA Battalion, APO 25. He was discharged at Fort Sill OK. We are searching for veterans who may have known my dad during his tour of duty because he now suffers from Alzheimer's disease and he cannot speak or communicate with his family. We are in the process of putting together a history of his life and times because we don't know very much about his military life and are very interested in finding acquaintances, friends or anyone who could share a story about serving with my father.

We have vague memories of stories he would share with us about his tour in the service which included combat duty in Korea. If anyone has any information about my dad and can share an experience shared with him with us we would be very grateful. We can also be reached at: Senon Mora Jr. or Jaime Mora 8319 Mt.

Ranier, El Paso, TX 79904 or (915) 751-5353. He was approximately 16 or 17 years old when he joined the Army.



Looking for Army men who served from '51-'52 with the **373rd T.M.P., Hqs. Trans. Corp.**, sent to Thule, Greenland, to build a SAC Base. Contact Cpl. F. Mordiglia at 17 Woodrum Dr., Stony Point, NY 10980-3101, phone 914-429-1025 or contact e-mail pasqualev@aol.com.



I have been looking for any old shipmates who were stationed at **NAS San Diego with Patrol Squadron 48 (VP-48)** in 1954 and 1955. If anyone has any information on any of the crew members I would appreciate hearing from them. I was a PN2 while with the squadron and worked in the Personnel Office. Left for early discharge in late January 1955, just before the squadron deployed. Would enjoy hearing from anyone from the old squadron. Contact Bernard (Bernie) Hall, 6724 Silvery Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89108



I am looking for Veterans of the **27th Wolfhounds** who fought in Korea. I am a Veteran of the Wolfhounds and since my retirement have time now to write some of the history of this famous unit. Please contact me, Dr. George Langdale, 125 Orchard Knob Ln., Athens, Ga. 30605 or call me collect at 706-549-8980.



Looking for anyone knowing information as to the whereabouts of "**Cousin Jeeter**". He lived in Cape Girardeau, Missouri in the early 1950's. He served in the United States Marine Corps

in Korea between 1950-1953. Marine buddies would like to make contact. Contact Tawny at e-mail Tawny41@webtv.net



Looking for any soldier who served in **Wire Co, 304th Signal Operations Bn** in Korea Nov. 1950 to Dec. 1951. Particularly any soldier who served in the Imjin River battle area. Contact Walt Walko, 25736 E Jamison Cir S, Aurora Co, 80016, 303-690-7399, e-mail wawlawl@juno.com.



While on a revisit tour to Korea in June, I met a Greek veteran who was looking for an American whom he was with as a F.O. with the 39th Artillery of the 3rd Division. The American soldier was 2nd Lt. **J. Morris**. They were in Korea in 1953 when the Armistice was signed. The American soon left to go to his own outfit and said before he left Now I will be able to see my daughter. The Greek Veteran's name is Lt. Demetrios Papadopoulos, (Ret.) He has contacted the 3rd Division without any results. Lt. Morris should contact the 3rd Division or Dominic A. Vitacco, 108 Maple Leaf Lane Pottstown, PA 19464 or Ann Reibsame at e-mail cocann@csrlink.net



I am trying to help my dad find some of his war buddies. He served in the army from Oct. 1951 - July 1953 in the **25th Div., & the 25th Recon**. Contact Charlotte Whisenhunt, P.O. Box 66, Malcolm, NE. 68402 or e-mail dw50738@navix.net



I am interested in hearing from any sailor that was aboard the **USS Thompson** Destroyer-Minesweeper when it was hit by a communist shore battery I believe off the coast of Hungnam. If you can help me with the names of the KIAs and the wounded. Contact Ray Melnik, 992 Westwood Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314 or E-mail ray0819@aol.com



I served in Korea in the **G-4 Section, 8th Army Hqs (EUSAK)** and I would like to hear from former G-4 men. Contact Thomas G. Roach, PO Box 357, Greencastle, IN 46135



Looking for members **67th Air Police Sqdn. 67th Tac. Recon Wg.** from Feb. 1951 to June 1952. Contact Joseph F. Ryker, 5211 Eagle Drive, Ft. Pierce, FL 34951, Tel: 561-466-6612

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Trying to locate Korean War Marines from **“C” Co. 1st Bn 1st Mar**, who participated in the combat actions from Jan 1953 through July 1953. Robert Guertin, former 0335. E-mail me at <wanaki@duluth.infi.net>



Looking for **Walter Rodgers, Serrette, Dale Packard, Walter Thedoran** plus other members of the 187th RCT., stationed in Beppu, Japan and Korea, 1952-53. I would like to hear from anyone who served in the 187th RCT., Hqs. & Hqs. Company, 1952-53. Contact Alexander J. McManus 270 Bronxville Road, Bronxville, N.Y 10708 or E-mail address <AMcma8l200@aol.com>



Looking for **Rodney Mannon** who was my father's Navy friend from Almena, MI. May have moved to Wisconsin. Also a career man. Enlisted in the Navy around 1945-1948. He and my dad served at Kingsville, Texas for a Training Squadron, VF-100. Rodney was an Aviation MM while my dad was an Aviation EM. They were together in Texas around 1954-55. Contact son, Steven K. Laughlin at e-mail address <Steven.K.Laughlin @ucm.com>

*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 important your information is. 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 looking for, 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 to and the page number. I spend many hours on this section alone, please help, we want your input. Thank you, Editor*

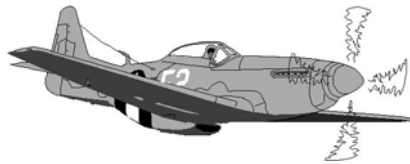
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# The Chinju Bridge



## *A Tough Nut to Crack*

*Chinju, South Korea, August, 1950*

**B**y the end of July, 1950, the North Korean's end-around flanking attack from the southwest coast was causing our United Nations Command major concern. If allowed to go unchecked beyond Masan, they could run almost unimpeded all the way to Pusan and cut us off from our last remaining seaport.

The North Koreans had taken the town of Chinju, on the swift Namgang River, with little trouble, and were busily streaming armaments and troops across a high, narrow wooden bridge over a nearby mountain tributary North of the city, which the retreating South Koreans had failed to destroy.

If we could knock out that little Chinju Bridge, the rough mountainous terrain would slow the advance considerably. But the bridge was heavily defended, and in a very difficult location ... deep within a steep mountain canyon.

Once we finally realized the value of the little Chinju Bridge, we immediately sent a pair of our 12th Sqdn. Mustangs to try to knock it out. Low ceilings, steep canyons and high concentrations of enemy flak kept our pilots from getting good hits, and their bombs went off harmlessly in the river below. They lobbed their rockets in on a second pass, but couldn't tell if they'd done any damage or not. If any, the damage would have been slight.

We sent another pair of '51s down that same afternoon, after the weather had

**"...my bomb bursts looked like they should have done some damage; they threw up a lot of dirt, water and debris from the river, but when I pulled up and looked back, the damned bridge was still standing..."**

improved a bit. They were able to get a good run on the bridge, and salvoed their rockets on the same dive-bomb run ... they were sure they'd hit the bridge square in the middle, but when they circled to leave, the damned wooden bridge was still standing.

We sent a third pair of Mustangs down to Chinju early on the following morning; they found the bridge still in use. So, around they went, making the same, risky dive-bomb pattern down through the steep, flak-filled canyons that the others had been forced to use.

It was not fun for our pilots. In fact, it was damned dangerous because, in addition to the proximity of the high cliffs, the 40 mm anti-aircraft gunners always knew just which direction to aim when they heard the sound of our fighters in the air. The latest flight chose to divide their

attention between the guns and the bridge, with the first going after the gunners and the second going for the bridge. They got near misses with their bombs, and knocked out one of the flak batteries with their rockets on a highly risky second attack.

But the old wooden bridge by Chinju was still standing when they left.

During the next two days we sent six more flights of two ships ... twelve sorties, 24 bombs and 72 rockets... down to knock out that damned little wooden bridge by Chinju. We were fortunate in not having lost any pilots while attacking the bridge, but the damage to our aircraft was becoming a worry. Their gunners were hitting us, but fortunately it had been minor skin damage thus far.

On the third day the bridge was still standing, and it had become a challenge to our professional capabilities, a very unpleasant challenge.

I was scheduled to fly the next early morning flight to try it once again... keeping in mind that a total of more than two dozen bombs had been dropped on or near the flimsy structure, and it was not only still standing, but was still in use. ...very carefully, no doubt, but still in use, nevertheless. We couldn't imagine what was holding the old pile of kindling up.

Dropping out of the early morning sun, my bomb bursts looked like they should have done some damage; they threw up a lot of dirt, water and debris from the river, but when I pulled up and looked back, the damned bridge was still standing, and to add insult to injury, a loaded horse-drawn cart was racing across without a driver.

The horse had apparently panicked and bolted. As I started to turn around to position myself for a rocket pass, I could see the horse swinging the cart from side to side. Then, just before it reached the far side, a large section of the bridge slowly crumbled sideways, throwing the horse, cart and all into the river below.

The Chinju Bridge was finally down.

But it wasn't defeated; it obviously just got too tired to keep up the fight!

*D. E. 'Bud' Biteman, Lt Col, USAF, Ret*  
*"...one of those Old, Bold fighter pilots..."*

Next Issue: Close Air Support: (The fighter pilots most dangerous, but most gratifying missions.)

### Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

*Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,*  
*Lt Col, USAF, Ret*

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## BOOKS from page 23

*Conscience* drawing from remarks made in the prologue by Paul Tibbets, the pilot of the Enola Gay. The book sets out to explain a campaign of propaganda designed to discredit use of the bomb while in other chapters, plain and simple math is used to refute claims as to the bomb lacking necessity. The book provides death tolls from land assaults on various islands throughout the Pacific in order to project what the death toll could have been in a similar invasion on the island nation of Japan. As for "American barbarism" portions of the book (in text and photographs not meant for the faint of heart) reveal some of the most grievous atrocities committed by Japan before and during World War II. The atrocities spotlight a particularly gruesome era of Japanese infamy known as "the rape of Nanking" wherein some 300,000 Chinese men, women and children were killed in six weeks of continuous massacre. Another section of the book deals with the 200,000 reported deaths credited to a little known Japanese military unit, #731, that performed experiments in germ warfare on live human subjects. The authors conclude that the Japanese "have no standing in the Forum of World Opinion to criticize the Atomic Bomb, or anything we did to end the war".

*Clear Conscience* is a no nonsense examination of America's resolve to end World War II and the manner in which history has remembered the event. Editor, Bill Schiller, commented on the importance of the work.

"The argument is quite clear to veterans, but one not readily understood by the masses ... especially young people. Our business here is recording and preserving history. Once you begin to understand the history, you come to the conclusion that the bomb saved many more lives than it took. This is very clear, but I've met so many young people who believe America was wrong. Ask some of our teenagers why America fought in World War II and they'll say things like 'it was to stop Germany from the Holocaust'. They don't connect with the reality of Pearl Harbor. I've heard others refer to the Bataan death march as a publicity stunt to drum up support for our forces in the Pacific. This lack of knowledge as to our history is frustrating for us in the business, but I can only speculate how frustrating it is for our veter-

ans who sacrificed so much in order to stop the oppression and preserve freedoms here and abroad. We saw a real need for a book of this type and hope that it is able to reach an audience who truly needs to understand that use of the bomb should never reflect adversely on the moral state of this nation. Beyond that, it was really an honor to work with men like Judge Winn and General Davis who is truly a living legend that commands the greatest of respect for his service in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. These veterans may be retired from the service, but they still have a lot of fight in them, and it is an important battle that they are now engaged in here at home- the way history records their actions as well as the actions of those they fought against. All veterans of WWII, whether in the Army, Air Force, Marines or Navy, needs to share this book with their family and enlighten them as to the way things really were."

*Clear Conscience* sells for \$21.95 (\$6.00 shipping and handling) and can be obtained from Turner Publishing Company at 412 Broadway, Paducah, Kentucky, 42001. Visa and Master Card orders can be made by dialing 1-800-788-3350.

*This book gave me a new understanding why Korea, Vietnam and Cold War were not World War III's. A must book for all veterans to read.—Ed.*

### Unforgotten—Dedication of the Memorial

By Daniel J. Meador

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Continued from March-April Issue.

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Laughter, shouts, and general crowd noises mingled with the band music. He did not understand the festive air. He saw nothing joyous about the war. All of his dark memories of death and suffering began to well up, memories he thought he had put behind. But from the shouts around him he sensed long pent-up emotions being released, a collective expression of joy over the nation's long deferred show of gratitude. "About time," a man passing him said, "thirteen years after the Vietnam boys had theirs."

He scanned the faces of the men in their sixties, hoping to find one he might recognize, despite the ravages of time. But he saw none. He passed along the line of huge tents, some containing exhibits sponsored by the

participating countries Turkey, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and others.

"Water! Anybody want water?" called out a man standing by a mountain of crates, freely handing out the six-ounce plastic bottles. John eagerly took one. He was already perspiring heavily, and the threat of dehydration was serious. He had taken off his coat and loosened his tie.

He came to a tent filled with computers. In one group, data was available on everyone killed in action. In another group was data on all those missing in action. His eyes brightened. Maybe now he could clarify the fate of those he had often wondered about in bygone years.

He went first to the KIA section. The procedure was simple. All he had to do was type in the last name of the individual and press the return key. There then flashed on the screen the individual's full name, service number, hometown, rank and branch of service, and date killed. By pressing another key, he could obtain a printed copy of the information.

*(To be continued as space permits.)*

For more information contact Daniel J. Meador, 580 Massie Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22903-1789, Tel: 804-924-3947, Fax: 804-924-4749

### Wolfhounds of Sandbag Castle A 96 Day Defense Korea; 1952 2nd Platoon, Company A 27th Infantry Regiment.

By George W. Langdale

A turning point that helped bring end to the combat on the battle field in Korea occurred without warning on a dark night with a massive enemy onslaught of heavy weapons fire and human bodies on September 6, 1952. A few common men of uncommon valor, devoted to duty to serve their country, turned the tide of battle that night which then led, in part, to the cessation of live fire for a Truce still lasting over 46 years. Tenaciously holding their precarious positions on the Sandbag Castle perched atop the strategic high ground while their fellow Wolfhounds on each flank were being wounded or killed. Their 2nd Platoon, A/27 position of the utmost importance was held, in spite of the rear High Command thinking it impossible due to the intense bombardment; each one did his duty even

though each bunker was isolated during the peak of the battle.

One exceptional Wolfhound Squad Leader, Corporal Benito Martinez from Fort Hancock, Texas, made the supreme sacrifice to hold his position in the face of overwhelming numbers of enemy and murderous fire power. To honor his memory and the ones that fought alongside him in that Forgotten War, this bit of history is recounted herein by the survivors that perhaps owe him their life. The freedom that this nation and the world enjoys today is due to individuals that did their duty in the line of battle when it counted.

September 6, 1952, was the beginning of the end to the Korean fighting that had raged for over two years. Second Platoon and supporting elements holding the 5 Sandbag Castle area that night convinced the enemy they could not win. Had they seized this strategic high ground, with its miles of view of the defensive rear positions of the United Nations (UN) Forces, it could have led to a debacle worse than Vietnam. The Korean/Chinese enemy had shown a few months earlier, while A/27 was in a Mundung-ni position, that they had built up their heavy weapons fire power to massive dimensions, enough to rake the entire rear areas inflicting many killed in action (KIAs) as far back as our rear artillery positions. This occurred after a Major had defected from our adjacent Republic of Korea (ROK) Unit. These barrages started on the exposed 2nd Platoon A/27 position on the front line and reached the entire rear support area. Army Intelligence was taken unaware as the rear positions were not dug in.

I requested assignment to the Wolfhounds upon arrival in Korea (Summer 1951) because of their unconquerable fighting spirit and attitude. I had learned about Wolfhounds by reading of their exploits led by Colonel Michaelis and his leadership methods as Commanding Officer (CO) of the 27th Regimental Combat Team. They were the first U.S. Unit to hold their ground during the end of the initial rapid onslaught of the North Koreans at the small perimeter around Pusan where the Americans made their last desperate effort to hold on to the peninsula. History records that the Wolfhounds are often called to lead in the battles, "Always Available Able" Company was usually out front. The 2nd Platoon had the most exposed positions during my tour

of duty.

During my training on the Northern Island of Hokkaido, Japan, with the 45th Oklahoma National Guard Division for nine months before volunteering for Korea, we line officers read and discussed training and leadership, Army manuals, articles and books by Colonel S.L.A. Marshall and others including the Vietnam's (Ho Chi Minn) guerrilla handbook. This helped us to understand our Oriental-Communist enemy and to prepare our men to excel. Preparing each individual to learn and perform, as well as being prepared to climb the ladder of responsibility, pays off in the fury of battle.

In that dead of night on Sandbag Castle, little did those Wolfhounds realize that they would help write history by just being there and doing their individual jobs. Their ultimate display of selfdiscipline was exhibited as each individual performed as he knew he should under intense enemy fire. Most lost contact with each other in adjacent bunkers.

This is a story of protecting our Nation's freedom, so few Americans realize in today's selfish morality. To succeed in battle requires many soldiers doing their jobs. Collective accomplishments are as important as those who become the focal point of valor. Recognition is also given herein to all who were fighting at Sandbag Castle.

My greatest regret is that all who contributed are not recognized and honored. Corporal Paul Myatt, 2nd Platoon's sole Prisoner of War (POW) was wounded at least twice while fighting on Sandbag Castle with Corporal Martinez and several times in captivity. For 46 years he has not been eligible to become a Purple Heart recipient. It pains me to see the shame heaped upon veterans that served their country by those that refused to serve. History needs to record each individual's account, no matter how

small the contribution. Just being there when called to serve one's country is more than can be said of many in subsequent conflicts.

Esper K. Chandler

*This 89 page book is full of personal history of Wolfhounds that fought at Sandbag Castle. Many photos and documents backing the valor displayed by this unit in 1952 and its history that dates back to 1902. Price of book \$20 plus \$3 postage. Send to George W. Langdale, 125 Orchard Knob Lane, Athens, GA 30605. Tel: 706-549-8980. George stated that profits will be donated to the Osaka Holy Family Home and Orphanage Osaka, Japan.—Ed.*

## Poems from the Alamo Saloon

By Thomas Lillard

Illustrated by William A. Fyles

250 pages of poems about everything one can think of. Thomas served in Korea with Co. A, 27th Inf. Regt. from Aug. 1950 to Sept. 1951 and a second tour with Co. C, 27th Inf Regt from Oct. 1952 to May 1953. Thomas was wounded on each tour.

Books may be obtained by writing: Order Dept, Vintage Press Inc., 516 W 34th Street, New York, NY 10001 or The Alamo Saloon, PO Box 367, Tacna, AZ 85382-1258. Price for members \$10.95. No Postage. Books ordered from The Alamo Saloon can be autographed.

*Great Poems written by a Korean War Hero.—Ed*

*Ed Note: I have gotten so many books, music and tapes. The space in our magazine is limited, so I ask those of you that have not seen your review to be patient. We will print all as space allows. We print these reviews to let our veterans know there are many new books on the Korean War and on subjects of veterans interest. We all know at one time books on these subjects, mainly the Korean War were few and far in between.*

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## Investing Blood 1950-1953

THE COLD WAR NEEDED OUR ATTENTION  
SO LONG AGO WE SELDOM MENTION  
THE FIRST TO GO, FOUGHT AND DIED  
WITH WEAPONS WE THEN DECRIED

THEY COULDN'T WIN, THEY COULD ONLY HOLD  
THEY GAVE THEIR BLOOD, THE BRAVE AND BOLD.  
WE PUSHED NORTH AND WENT SOUTH AND NORTH AGAIN  
SPILLING BLOOD AND KILLING MEN

WHEN WE STOPPED AT AN INVISIBLE LINE  
WE WERE FIGHTING AND GOUGING ON MOUNTAINS' SPINES

PEACE TALKS WERE NOT ABOUT PEACE  
THE ONLY CONCERN WAS THE FIGHTING SHOULD CEASE  
THE BLOOD RAN UNTIL IT SEEMED A CALL FROM HEAVEN  
ENDED THE SHOOTING ON JULY TWENTY SEVEN

WE WHO WERE THERE, NOW GRAY AND GETTING OLD  
SHALL NEVER FORGET THE BLOOD AND THE COLD  
THE HILLS, THE MOUNTAINS, THE RIVERS TO CROSS  
STAY IN OUR DREAMS AS WE TURN AND LOSS

AMERICA REMEMBERS NINA, PINTA AND SANTA MARIA  
LET HISTORY'S PAGES MARK ITS WAR IN KOREA.

By Warren Eckman

## HARM's WAY

*It happened in Korea one day  
Company "C" stood alone in "Harms Way"*

*The 728 MP's got the call  
to cover the retreat of infantry and all*

*The order came to hold at the bridge  
As infantry and armor disappeared over the ridge  
The 728 MPs were to hold at all cost  
Only the angels knew that all but three would be lost*

*The North Koreans needed to cross at the bridge to advance  
If not slowed there our infantry had no chance  
To have a courageous unit hold, that was the key  
Selected were the brave men of 728 MP's, Company C*

*With gunfire blazing and ammo supplies low*

*They gave their lives bravely, they refused to go  
Of the battle and bravery much has been said  
about the glory and blood that made the river run red*

*Today if you go to the Haun river Bridge and sense  
something you can't see  
It's the souls of the men still holding. . . . the men  
of Company C*

By John R Deppe  
728th MP Bn.

## The Seventh and the Chosin

*South of the Yalu River, Chosin Reservoir was the spot,  
carbines and rifles were blazing and machine guns were all red hot,  
The mighty Seventh were fighting, two battalions left to die.  
The wounded GI's were many and the dead Chinese were stacked high.  
The ground around our foxhole was bloody, we fought five days without rest.  
For hours they kept coming at us, sometimes hundreds abreast,  
The tactics they used were simple, they came rushing on like the wind.  
we fixed bayonets to repel them and we knew we wouldn't give in.  
The odds were eight to one! The Chinese thought we were lost,  
but the men of the Seventh would fight on, no matter how heavy the cost.  
The Marines and the Navy sent fighters to give us close air support.  
The weather was dismal and foggy and the pilots vision was short.  
But they turned loose their bombs and their rockets  
and sped swiftly down to their mark.  
And the weapon the Reds call the fire bomb,  
kept the mountains ablaze until dark  
Then the order came to withdraw! Item Company was picked for rear guard.  
The wounded were loaded on six-bys, for we knew the going would be hard.  
The Chinese had set up four road blocks, for they knew of our escape route.  
As we broke through the first three positions, we knew very few would get out.  
The story I tell is soon finished, the story of three thousand men  
who laid down their lives for their country and would do it all over again.  
Of the men who fought in that battle three hundred are living today.  
Though the enemies loss was much greater, it was too great a price to pay.  
But we who are living remember. Those men didn't die in vain.  
And to keep Communism from our country we'll gladly do it again*

By Harold J. Rawls, Gerald R. Wolters and an  
Unknown Soldier, all ex-POWs of the Korean War

## The Crow

*Cold rain hung a bleak curtain  
Of dirty grey early morning mist  
O'er the fields endless rows  
White headstones, fleshless bones.*

*A breath of wind swirled to show  
Eyes black as sin upon his perch  
The eerie smiling beak of crow  
'Twas there I heard his speech:*

*"Here, the sound of guns is mystery,  
The bombs have ceased to fall  
But the loudest wail in history  
Comes from heros' hallowed mall—*

*Remember us, we are the dead  
Remember us, we fought and fell  
Remember us, we have all bled  
Remember us, we died in hell!"*

*Remembered the horror so long ago  
My best friend Walter K.I.A.  
I salute my brothers and the crow  
His message taken, as I go away...*

*"Remember us, Remember us,  
Please, Remember us..."*

By Andrew Lynch

At the time of this printing I have many more poems sent in by members and friends. I intend on printing them all. Some are hand written which will take some time putting into type. I am trying to print the oldest postmark first of those that are typed. The non-typed ones will be intermixed in order to not delay this and other issues. Please try to type all poems and articles if you can.—Editor.

Granite Wall ad

Page 49

# POW LEGACY OF PAUL ANTHONY KLOZIK

By Paul Klozik

**I Circumstances of capture:** I was the Forward Observer working with a first day on the job Lieutenant. His name is Ernie Kovatch and he was fresh from the states. We were located on a hill over looking a valley. We are approximately 100-150 yards ahead of the MLR. There was a hill #840 about 1000 yards ahead of us. Another hill on the right side that was 1200 yards ahead of us. We had at our command 3 batteries of 105's and several batteries of 155's. We had phone lines and radio contact with the FDC. We had established an umbrella of fire protection that covered 180 degrees. Guarding us was a heavy weapons platoon. (So we thought.)

Late that afternoon, during the last light we received a very heavy bombardment for approximately one-half hour. As soon as it started we grabbed our telephone to report, but the phone was dead. Somebody had cut the wires. Then we went for the radio to report and found that it was sabotaged. Because two hours previous, I had made a routine check and found it in satisfactory order. We prepared for the invasion of Chinese troops. We noticed that they were coming out of caves that had openings only 50-60 feet in front of us. They had dug these during the lull in the fighting and the peace talks at Panmunjon. Surprise! We fought back with hand grenades, rifle and machine-gun. They over ran our position and we engaged in hand to hand combat. One of the Chinese threw a hand grenade and it exploded between my legs. The next thing I remember was the Chinese dragging me to a wider area and trying to take my flack jacket off. I saw a rifle near my head and grabbed it and started to fire. Soon there was a rifle butt knocking on my head.

The next thing I remember, two Chinese soldiers were dragging me down the hill. Each one had a hold of my arms and pulling my body face down with my wounded legs flopping around. Our artillery was pounding the area because a white pin had been in the map on top of our position back at the FDC. That means, "Pound the hell out of who ever is up there as well as the surrounding area". Shrapnel was flying all over. We reached

**I NAME:** KLOZIK, PAUL ANTHONY  
**I CURRENT ADDRESS:** 18325  
SPRING COURT SOUTH, FRASER, MI  
48026-4635  
**I BIRTH PLACE AND DATE OF  
BIRTH::** CLARKSBURG, W.VA. : JULY  
10, 1929  
**I BRANCH OF SERVICE AND SERIAL  
NUMBER::** ARMY: US55-187-822  
**I SERVICE DATES:** SEPTEMBER 6,  
1951 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1953  
**I CAMPAIGNS:** OLD BALDY AND THE  
IRON TRIANGLE  
**I NUMBER OF FIGHTS BEFORE CAP-  
TURE:** 4 MAJOR BATTLES  
**I NUMBER OF DAYS OF GROUND  
COMBAT:** 9 MONTHS  
**I PLACE OF CAPTURE:** LOCAL NAME  
OF THE AREA IS CHOP-SUL-NAK IN  
THE IRON TRIANGLE AREA OF KUMHWA  
CHORWON. 49TH FIELD ARTILLERY  
BATTALION, 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION,  
OCTOBER 6, 1952, CORPORAL 23  
YEARS OLD.

a wooded area and the shrapnel was cutting the branches and leaves to pieces making them act as flying shrapnel along with the real stuff. All of a sudden we stopped and I found myself face down. I looked up and found the two Chinese who were dragging me were dead, hit by the flying shrapnel. Before I had even a chance to survey the situation, two more Chinese grabbed my arms and off we go again. They were running and I was the drag. There was yelling and screaming all around. Soon we were in one of those caves I told you about. The dragging was still going on until we came out the other side of the cave. I found myself around back of the hill called #840. Surprise! I spend the night in this cave entrance trying to see how bad I had been wounded. I had compound fractures in both legs and the knee on the right leg was badly damaged.

The Chinese were curious about many things like my size 6 ft-3 in tall, size 14 shoes and my wounds. I did have some of

their food and water when they offered. Figuring that maybe I might get on their good side if I accepted their hospitality. Perhaps they won't shoot me so fast. Then another thought occurred. They definitely wanted me as a prisoner or else why all the bother. I found out a couple of days later during interrogation that they thought I was an officer. In that cave entrance was the last time I had any food for a long time. The next day they loaded me onto a litter and carried me for one full day to my first Interrogation Camp.

There I was subjected to their brain washing process. "You will not get any food nor medical care until you answer our questions". They were true to their word, neither food nor medical care was forthcoming. They tried to break down my will using the five most precious sensitive topics in my life. They tried to chip away at the core of my beliefs. First: was my family. "Your family is worried about you and we will send you back to them if you cooperate with us and answer a few questions". Second: "You are a Christian, why do you lie to us"? Third: "Some of your countrymen buy their way out of the service because they are rich. Do you think that is fair to you and all the other brave Americans who are sent here to fight poor helpless people?" Fourth: "As soon as you cooperate with us we will send you back to your lines. There you will get the proper medical care you deserve." "Sure yea right away." I was thinking about all the American soldiers they sent back, with their bodies mutilated and desecrated by the Chinese soldiers. Fifth: "I was their friend, now that I was a POW." Our country was a capitalistic country that robbed the poor and gave to the rich. A government that only protected those with money and got us underprivileged to do the hard work and fight their wars for them." "Here in China you will be treated fairly and we will give you chances to live peacefully." "You are our friend now."

Needless to say, we had some knock down battles about what's right from their point of view and my strong opinions about the topic listed above. This interrogator was very knowledgeable about many topics and clever is his deliberation



of the information he dispensed. He was on his home court. We discussed questions and topics he wanted to discuss. NOW, I would like to add one story that was very satisfying to me, but lead to my second interrogation camp where I almost died.

### **True story...**

My interrogator, I will call him Kim, wanted to know about many things, activities, movements of troops, attitudes, food, supplies etc and new weapons. I got an idea. "Kim, will you give me medical attention like a doctor to set my busted legs, some penicillin, some morphine, some food and cigarettes, if I give you information of a new rifle we were issued recently?" Kim could not say yes fast enough. "Before I disclose this vital information, I wanted to see a doctor and extras, just to make sure they were in the area." Kim produced all that I had asked for almost immediately. Where upon I began to describe this new rifle.

Today I could not tell exactly how I described this made up rifle, but at that time I knew weapons and could assemble and disassemble them blindfolded. So the weapon I described for Kim must have been so real and believable that as he squatted there on the ground, with me laying on the ground, his eyes and excitement were that of a wide eyed kid on Christmas morning. He pounced on every word with 'Ding-how,' 'Ding-how,' 'Ding-how.'

When I finished, he started to run away, but I grabbed his ankle and said, "What about the doctor and food?" With that he yelled something and the doctor appeared and a little while later the food appeared. The doctor did not set my legs. He just placed each leg between two boards and wrapped gauze around each leg. Well at least they won't move I thought. He did nothing for the damaged knee. He did give me a shot of Penicillin from an American vial. Then he gave me a shot of morphine. Oh how sweet is was! The food tasted like home cooking. I can't remember what is was, it was food. Meanwhile, Kim was on the phone to his superiors. The longer he talked the less excited he sounded. I was finished with the meal and was enjoying a sputtering Chinese cigarette when Kim exploded out

**KIM PROCEEDED TO KICK ME IN THE HEAD, IN THE MIDSECTION, IN THE LEGS, STOMPING ON MY HEAD, MIDSECTION AND LEGS. THANK GOD I HAD THE MORPHINE, BECAUSE IT DID NOT BOTHER ME ONE BIT. I FIGURED HE WAS GOING TO SHOOT ME RIGHT THERE, RIGHT NOW.**

of the hut he was in.

[I had described to Kim his own weapon with a few of my own modifications.] He was furious and screaming on the top of his lungs and saying some nasty things about me, to me and I'm sure about my Father, Mother and the entire Klotz family. Kim proceeded to kick me in the head, in the midsection, in the legs, stomping on my head, midsection and legs. Thank God I had the morphine, because it did not bother me one bit. I figured he was going to shoot me right there, right now. I caught myself laughing, not at my predicament but at a strange picture before my eyes. Here was Kim's feet thrashing around awkwardly, like a flamingo trying to do bodily harm. His arms were waving madly as if he were fighting with his equilibrium. And his mouth was strangely contorted, making some strange noises like a raving maniac.

It was over almost as soon as it started. The satisfaction of outwitting a Chinese Interrogator gave me the courage to face what I expected next, a bullet. It never came. The next day, Kim was no place to be found or heard. The food was there at the right time. The doctor would give me a shot of penicillin and morphine each day. I did not complain. Days went by and I never saw Kim again. Days of quiet time and I kept wondering what they had in store for me. One day a group of Chinese soldiers came by, placed me on a litter and carried me all day long to another interrogation camp. This one was not as peaceful.

■ POW Number – none issued

■ POW Camp. – I never knew at which camp I was held prisoner. They never told us. But my guess is in the hospital area around camp (five). I remember a very large three-story cave near the hospital area. I believe that they were no more than 1 to 2 miles apart. I do know that the cave was a holding place for wounded Chinese.

I was one of the wounded in the cave. Every once in a while a train whistle would be heard and all the wounded Chinese soldiers would be taken out of the cave. I would then hear the train again. The cave would be empty except for me and another American soldier named Wilber Waring. Next day, new wounded Chinese soldiers would start coming in again. Our stay in the cave is another interesting story.

■ Forced Marches – none

■ Ship Journeys – none

■ I did ride in an open truck for three days. This was before I had any medical attention. One of those days, it rained and there I was soaking wet, and with compound fractures in both legs, I just bounced all over the truck as it hurried over the pot-filled road. Months later, when we were on our way to Pamnujan to be returned in "Operation Little Switch", we traveled by night in a convoy. Several nights our planes bombed us as they attacked the convoy. Our truck was not hit and we continued on towards our next destination for that night.

■ We did not receive any Red Cross Parcels!

■ During the first month of captivity (a guess), I did not receive much food, nor medical attention. I have no idea as to how long before I received a meal. My wounds hindered my keeping track of days.

After, I was fortunate enough to be taken to a Chinese Hospital by a Chinese Doctor Whong, (who was trained in the USA) I did receive medical care and the food was mostly steamed rice and water

■ Conditions of our camp: In January of 1953, we were placed in a building especially for Non- Ambulatory Prisoners. Wilbur Waring and myself had leg injuries and could not move except to sit up or lay down on the hard beds (boards with some

straw). The building was approximately 30-40 feet long and 12 feet across. Both sides of the building had elevated boards about 3 feet high all along the wall. In the middle was the walking area for all of our visitors and people who took care of us. There was room for five wounded on each elevated side. There was a board separating one person from the other. The last part of January, six wounded Australian soldiers joined us. Then one wounded Colombian soldier joined us. His name was Angel Garcia. Several weeks later, Robert Weinberg an American flyer joined us. He had to have both legs amputated by Doctor Whong. This filled up our 10-unit hospital building. We did not work because we were not able to move from our beds.

We passed the time away by telling each other all about ourselves and our dreams and our wishes. We helped one another keep up our moral and the good things about our families and lives. Then on special days I was called upon to tell the story of the day. We had no windows, so we did not know always whether it was day or night. Anyway, I had a vast number of books to choose from. This was because when I was in college, I took a class that required each student to read 40 books during one semester. I loved it so much that I took two semesters of this course. Thank God my memory was still intact.

■ Doctor Whong made sure that all ten of us were exchanged during "Operation Little Switch". So in May of 1953, he put us on trucks and sent us to Panmunjon and on May 23, 1953. I was in the third exchange group and returned to the American Forces. That was my Freedom Day.

*Thank you Paul for your personal account of your days in hell. As you notice our front cover is in honor of all our POWs and MIAs. Your story touches on just some of the suffering endured every day. KWVA honors all of you that came home, those that are still in those shallow graves and those that may still be alive. May God Bless all of you and your families. I just returned from your Macon, GA reunion and it was very obvious to me that you will all remain a band of brothers forever.-Ed.*

## LOVE CO. from page 31

the unit, according to those still on hand. Fortunately, our fight and that of the 23rd Regiment at Chipyeong-ni helped make negotiations based on the ground held, more welcome to all concerned.

Do not accept the myth that soldiers will fail in combat if they are assigned other duties beforehand. They will fail if the Army's senior commanders are time-servers striving for promotion, who do not understand the responsibilities of their offices. Troop leaders properly guiding their subordinates and making them understand how peace-keeping is done and why, will have an adequately cohesive force. They will be as able to fight well as one that has rigorously followed TRADOC's various schedules. Leadership and unit cohesion are far more important for real fighters, and are not accomplished by simply following a prescribed training regime.

In any case, today's Army has OOTW to accommodate and it can be done. This includes learning to fight in cities, as the Marine Corps is now practicing. Do not

buy the concerns of those dedicated to half-understood myths and ignorant of our Army's actual history. Properly prepared peace-keepers can fight. All of us must insist on our forces preparing for the missions of today; these demand an understanding of who we are, how to fight and following the "art" of Sun Tsu: how to win without fighting.

The proper relation to one another of soldiers in a fighting unit is in our Company's name: Love. This emotion endures as our seance in Myrtle Beach illustrated once again. Our bond holds. It is what made us effective despite the enormous price many of us paid. Each of the "antiques" who were at Myrtle Beach is a witness to what "warrior" means, and how they are formed. We were all warriors during our time. "Love" Company's fights, not all victorious, are an integral part of each of us; knowing one another is a just reward for our having "kept the faith."

And much more love to each of you.

## 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: Membership, P.O. Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210

## 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.

Advertisements in this newsletter are not necessary KWVA Inc. associated unless otherwise stated. We do suggest our members support our advertisers through purchases, for the ads support the publication costs. KWVA Inc. and Editor are not responsible for purchases. All claims of dissatisfaction must be made directly to the distributor.

Assistant Secretary of Defense  
4000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301- 4000

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
(MANPOWER & RESERVE AFFAIRS)

Aug 20, 1999

SUBJECT: Military Decorations and Awards Policy - Korean War Service Medal

After careful review, your request for approval to authorize veterans of the Korean War to accept and wear the Korean Service Medal has been approved. The criteria for award of the medal will be promulgated in DoD 1348.33-M (Manual of Military Decorations & Awards). This decision is effective immediately and will be reflected in the next change to the awards manual.

Francis M. Rush, Jr.  
Principal Deputy

Our profound thanks to numerous sources which include Librarians, Archivists, government personnel, lawyers, military, civilian and Korean War Veterans who have inspired our efforts. Many contributions were received in the way of hard copy documents and personal conversations. We have to acknowledge those persons and the facilities which seek to preserve our history, lest we should ever forget.

Les Le Compte & E.G. La Quay, Researchers

**Editors Note:** This was faxed to me and due to the bad quality I cannot scan seals, signature and other important detail to make this look official. I am hoping to get other documents or announcements that I can print in the next issue. Also missing is how to get the medals. I hope to have that information for a later issue also. I have a long list of those that are to be thanked for their efforts in getting this medal approved. I will print only the paragraph above the names. I think that will give you the knowledge that many helped.

The list of acknowledgements covers many countries and facilities in those countries. Again, with a better fax copy I would have printed the 25 supporters. We would be remiss if we did not take the time to thank Les Le Compte, E.G. La Quay, and John Kenny for a job well done. I am sure there may be others that need to be thanked and we will do that when we become more informed.—Editor.

**Korean War Veterans Association**

**Balance Sheet**

As of September 22,

**ASSETS**

Current Assets  
Checking/Savings  
1st UNION 98.92  
Bank One 23,679.81  
Money Market 370,593.30  
Total Checking/Savings 394,372.03  
Total Current Assets 394,372.03

**TOTAL ASSETS 394,372.03**

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Equity  
Opening balance 305,845.24  
Retained Earnings 7,552.67  
Net Income 80,974.12  
Total Equity 394,372.03

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 394,372.03**

## KWVA PLaque Available



The beautiful Bronze Plaque above was sent to all known Depts. & Chapters. about a year ago is now available in 5 different sizes and priced for the size of plaque you may want. It was suggested by one chapter, to cut five cardboard circles of the five sizes in diameters of - 18" - 24" - 30" - 36" - 42" to demonstrate to your members, a visual comparison of different sizes. Another suggestion is to write the weight and the cost of each one on it's own size. Another smart chapter, took the picture around to businesses and asked for pledges or donation toward the plaque and raised funds in this manner. Use your imaginations and ideas on how to collect funds that would greatly offset the costs. And if you have a good idea that works, pass it along in *The Graybeards* so other chapters can use it.

**3-D KWVA Bronze Plaque Art in Bronze**

Sizes (Dia. inches)	18	24	30	36	42
Approx Wt. lbs.	18-20	32-36	50-60	72-82	98-108
Approx Cost/lb	20.52	19.41	17.85	17.63	17.37
Approx Area (sq in)	254.40	452.20	706.50	1017.40	1384.70
Approx Cost/sq in	1.53	1.45	1.39	1.33	1.29
Price incl. S & H	390.00	660.00	982.00	1358.00	1790.00
Sale price thru Jun 30, 2000	350.00	600.00	902.00	1258.00	1670.00
Savings \$	40.00	60.00	80.00	100.00	120.00

Note: Sale price thru June 30, 2000, and the savings on each size in the above chart. To get the savings, you must pay the complete cost at time of the order.

Please allow 8 to 12 weeks depending on size of the plaque. Order plenty ahead of time so you will have the plaque for that special use for a dedication or presentation, for a memorial at a monument, veterans cemetery, library, building or what ever.

I would like to request every Dept. and Chapter in the states to donate just \$10.00 for a 42" bronze plaque for the KWVA National Museum and Library in Tuscola, IL. I'll coordinate with John M. Settle and it would be donated by all organizations that contribute on behalf of all Korean War Veterans. I would do all record keeping and any excess money will be sent with the plaque for their building fund and I will make six month reports and a final report through *The Graybeards* when completed.

**ORDER THROUGH:**

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
Department of Delaware  
C/O Jim Schafer LR 01262  
204 Silver Leaf Ln.  
Dover, DE. 19901-3254 Tel: 302-736-0446



# Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library — Progress Report

## Museum Update - Oct 1, 1999



This is to bring you the latest information regarding the status of our project. At this time I have good news and some that is regretful.

Mrs. Sommer has resigned from the Board of Trustees to pursue her personal goal of writing a book. Tricia North and Sharon Corum were named as co-editors of our Newsletter. Some other changes were necessary for the operation of our office.

Our membership continues to grow, and is now over 1,000, and charter membership extended until groundbreaking. We will exercise the second option of land on January 1, 2000. That will give us the entire twenty-two acres on which we will build the museum and library. At the September 18, 1999 meeting of the board of trustees, Doug Fargo, Trustee from Charles Town, WV and Building

Chairman Jere Crise of Palatine, IL presented proposed site plans and building plans. This proposed plan would include all seven galleries as originally stated. In front of the building would be a display of flags from all nations that participated in the Korean War. The American flag, Korean flag and United Nations flag would be on a center line with the other nations flags in a semi circle around this center line.

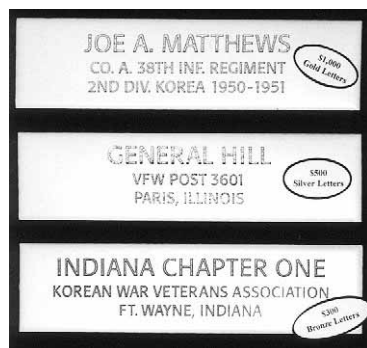
I was invited to speak to the KWVA National Board of Directors at the annual convention in Mobile, AL on September 12, 1999. I updated the status of our project. I also invited them to be involved as partners in the project that is the next logical step from the Tell America Program that they have endorsed.

Our local chapter and the other chapters of the Department of Illinois have participated in the Tell America program for several years, and it is a good experience that we all recommend. However,

the museum and library will be a living Tell America program to continue to tell of the experiences that you had in Korea, and GI's had where they served. This will also tell the story of the civilian population both in the war zone and on the home front. If we do not plan ahead for this museum and library, these events will go untold after we are gone. Our Grandchildren and future generations will never hear our story.

This is why our efforts must be successful. Time is slipping away. Over 1,000 veterans die per day. We can not afford to fail. The beautiful monument in Washington, D.C. is only a memorial. We are not trying to take away from the beauty of the monument. It brings back many memories for the veterans, but it cannot speak to the future generations. It is very important that historians recognize the importance of the Korean War and give proper credit for the fight against communism in Korea. The voices of the veterans will be heard in the museum and library, through the oral history

## Korean War Veterans National Museum Convention Center Wall Tiles



### 8" x 2" 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:

### ORDER FORM

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:

Mail check or money order to: **Korean War Veterans National Museum & Library, 700 S. Main Street, Tuscola, IL 61953 USA.**

interviews. Other memorabilia will be on display to further show the future generations of the hardships and conditions that veterans, civilians, and POW's endured during this time.

Mr. Ed Bailey, author and Korean War Veteran was the Keynote speaker at the KWVA banquet. His message was that the Korean War was the most significant event of the 20th century. It was the first conflict between communism for freedom. This was the first involvement with the United Nations and the first time the American forces fought under another banner, the United Nations flag. All twenty-two nations were involved to stop aggression. It is our duty to educate the historians that have failed us and our children and grandchildren. If we fail, who will get the job done??

Robert Kenney, President

### Graybeards Copies

The requests for extra *The 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* is a great tool for the chapters in New Membership and Tell America Programs. 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 or future issues, 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 (7 copies each of 6 issues) then a check for \$61.20 and your request is needed.—Editor.

### ERATTA

David Velasco wrote the poem on the back cover of July-August issue. His name was misspelled on the back cover but was correct on the "Poets Place" page. Sorry David for the error. Your poems are beautiful and you deserve the recognition for such meaningful words.

## 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 Editor KWVA, or Treasurer KWVA 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*, "Looking For," "Reunions," and "In Memory of." 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

Abels, R.  
Augustine, H.  
Baumann, D.  
Berry, T.  
Britt, J.  
Brust, N.  
Bue, R.  
Calabria, J.  
Chilcott, T.  
Cloman, J.  
Cook, K.  
Dall, A.  
Delp, C.

Domanoski, R.  
Easterly, W.  
Farnsworth, W.  
Famuliner, H.  
Fielder, S.  
Flaherty, J.  
Foster, C.  
Freed, M.  
Garmon, P.  
Gillespie, J.  
Giordano, P.  
Gowitzke, R.  
Hoppenbrouwer, W.  
Horrigan, P.  
House, E.

Ilgensfritz, E.  
Knepp, C.  
Knutstad, O.  
Kravitz, W.  
Krepps, V.  
Livingston, N.  
Marston, C.  
Mayen, M.  
Meehan, A.  
McFerrer, W.  
McHugh, T.  
Moehlman, T.  
Nigg, R.  
Roach, T.  
Robert, F.

Rubenstein, S.  
Rutter, R.  
Ryker, J.  
Schearer, J.  
Schwertfeger  
Sears, G.  
Slanda, R.  
Springer, W.  
Staas, D.  
Thompson, B.  
Tuliano, P.  
Van Ort, W.  
Wahlhaupter, W.  
Webster, W.  
Wiedhahn, W.

Yeo, T.  
Yohn, J.  
Zimmerman, I.

### Organizations:

Central LI Chapter  
Maryland Chapter

### In Memory of:

Lt. Donald Reetsma -  
POW/MIA (By W.L.  
Easterly)  
Linden G. Crawford -  
KIA (By Fawn  
Crawfoot)

## 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.



### Alabama

★ Robert J. Wilson

### Arizona

★ Herbert Dippold

### Connecticut

★ Don E. Spear

### Florida

★ Robert Cruz, Sr.

★ Roy Deibert

### Georgia

★ Clarence McGee

### Illinois

★ Louis H. Millmann

★ Francis D. Zirtzman

### Kentucky

★ George S. Wood

### Maryland

★ Bernard L. Smith

★ William J. Truly

### Michigan

★ Kenneth D. Kus

### Minnesota

★ Dale K. Moen

★ Arthur D. Sorensen

### Missouri

★ Arthur J. Ball

★ William Cox

★ William W. Millway

★ Norman Owen

★ Richard Sonderman

★ Clarence Walden

★ George L. Yehlen

### New Jersey

★ Robert Hermann

★ James Lawrence

★ Edward Mikulski

★ Larry Orson

★ Henry Rosenberg

### New Mexico

★ Tod Cornell

### New York

★ Stephen A. Dewitt, Jr.

★ Lawrence R. Binan

### Ohio

★ Norman M. Potter, Sr.

★ Frank C. Rolston

### Oklahoma

★ Thomas Gilliam

★ Carl Sealy

### Pennsylvania

★ Robert S. Robinson

### Rhode Island

★ Alan Dansereau

### Virginia

★ Andrew E. Gunderson

### West Virginia

★ Robert W. Mick

### Wisconsin

★ Earl Copper

## Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Irvin L. Sharp

On September 17th, I was greatly impressed and honored to be asked to attend and to give the Opening Prayer at the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 6676, Brookpark-Berea, Ohio. My thanks to Commander Earl Bass and Chaplain Bill Meixner.

The theme was. "POW/MIAs – Tell the World About Us."

We Shall never cease to remember those brave men and women until there is a complete accounting for every one of them.

The Prayer as given:

Almighty and ever blessed GOD, You are Father of all the families of the earth, and the ever present help of those who put their trust in You. Amid the weakness of infancy, You have sustained us; in youth, You have guided us; and during our advancing years, You have preserved us. Thus we are now meeting together to thank you for the mercies of the past, and to acknowledge that it is by Your power and goodness alone that we are protected from day to day.

O Lord, shield us this day from evil. Deliver us from those angry tempers to which our natures are so prone, and from all those sins that war against the soul. Help us to grow in grace, that we may prevail over the temptations by which we have formerly been overcome. Enable us to do all things in honor of You, and to Your glory.

We pray for your special blessings on this dedication in which we shall this day engage. May we undertake nothing that is contrary to Your will, and may our good works be crowned by You with success.

Particularly on this day, we ask that You shepherd and pilot us in remembrance of our fallen comrades, POW's and MIA's and their families and friends. Also bless all who have gathered themselves here today to participate in this ceremony and to commemorate this occasion. Grant us peace. Let thy will be done. All honor, praise and glory be to thee. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

## KWVA National at Arlington



Memorial Day, May 31, 1999 at Arlington National Cemetery, Harley Coon National President KWVA, Joseph Woody Maryland Chapter KWVA in VFW White Uniform and Norbert Reiner National Service Director KWVA placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Korean War Unknown. ( Thank you Joseph Woody for photo of a honored task.-Ed)

### Golf Shirts & T-Shirts For Sale



### Golf Shirts and T-Shirts for Sale

Golf shirts — \$20.00 plus shipping

T-Shirts — \$10.00 plus shipping

Shipping costs for 2 is \$3.00

Shipping costs above 2 is \$5.00

All sizes are available.(White Only)

Order from:

Sunshine State Chapter, KWVA

P.O. Box 5298

Largo, FL 33779-5298

Telephone: 727-582-9353

Book ad

"The Korean War"



Video ad - 4 color  
Pg 57

# Reunions

October 1999

**398th AAA AW BN Korea**, October 1-3, Lake Ozark Missouri, Contact Arlie Schemmer, 4195 Cappeln Osage Rd., Marthasville, MO. 63357, Tel: 314-228-4474

**USS Fessenden DE / DER - 142**, Oct. 3-6 in Albany, NY. Contact: Neil M. Beckwith, 56 Kings Highway, North Haven, CT. 06473-1208

**USS Satyr Assn.ARL 23 WWII - Korea - Vietnam**, 7th Annual Reunion October 3-7, in Norfolk, Virginia, at the Best Western Center Inn.Contact Bill Janosco, 2981 Anita Avenue, Lake Havasu City, AZ.86404, Tel: 520-453-6755.

**1st.Ordinance MM Co.**(Ft.Bliss/Korea 1947-1953) Oct.6-8, Quality Inn El Paso, TX.800/221-2222.Contact George Kvet, 330-769-4218 or Ross Goodrich, 847-223-5253.Tel: 203-239-5122 or 516-681-5545

**H-3-1 KOREA USMC** Oct. 6-10, San Antonio Texas. Contact Jack Dedrick, 6 Sheridan Terrace. Swampscott, MA 01907-2042. Tel: 781-598-9725 or e-mail JFDEDRIK@aol.com

**USS Finch (DE/DER-328 & Coast Guard WDE-428)** 12th. Oct. 6-10, San Francisco, CA., Contact Chuck Poreda, 5510 Southampton Drive, Springfield, VA 22151 Tel: 703-323-6019

**USS Valley Forge (CV/CVA/CVS-45; LPH-8; CG-50)** October 6-10 Mystic, CT Ships company, air group, flag and marines. Contact Rod Sweet at 860572-9256 or e-mail at outhouserod@snet.net

**86th Ordnance Company Association**, October 7-9, 1999, Holiday Inn, New Castle, PA. Contact: Richard Schildbach 101 South Whiting Street, Alexandria, VA 22304. Tel: 703-370-2707.

**11th Evac.Hosp, Won-ju**, Korea, 1950-1953, Oct 7-9, Morrings Hotel in Palatka, FL, Contact Ed Elliott, 86 Malone Ave., Staten Island, NY 10306, Tel: 718-987-3557 or Fenton Morris, PO Box 155, Palatka, FL 32178, Tel: 904-325-3814 or Joe Amerigo, P.O.Box 20462, Floral Park, NY 11002, Tel: 516-328-3716.

**7th Marines, 1st Bn., Co. C. Korea**, Oct 7-10, Virginia Beach, VA, Contact Bill Farrell, 357 Lighthouse Rd., New Haven. CT 06512-4319, Tel: 203-467-0369 or 757-464-3400

**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

**92nd AFA Bn.(Red Devils) Korea**, October 7-10, at: Holiday Inn-Center City (Ft Benning), 1325 Veterans Parkway, Columbus GA 31901, Tel: 706-322-2522, Contact Guy McMenemy, 12027 Westover Dr, Cypress, TX 77429, Tel: 281-469-2819, E-mail: RedDevilBn@aol.com.

**Navy Composition Squadron 12**, (VC-12) Oct.7-10, Pensacola, Fla. Contact Bob Marvin, 7244 Lincoln Ave. Lockport, N.Y., 14094 Tel: 716-434-1207, or e-mail mar1207@pcom.net.

**USS Lake Champlain CV-CVA-CVS-39**, National Convention, OCT 7-10, at Pensacola, FL.Contact: Eugene Carroll Box 131, 3851 Cayuga St.Interlacken, NY 14847-0131.Tel: 607-531-4735. Ships company and Air Groups.

**French Battalion (23rd Inf., 2nd US Div.)** In Paris on 11, 12 or 13 October (not firm yet) Contact Serge-Louis BERERD, 5 rue de Provence 86000. Poitiers France, Tel. 33-549477345

**31st Infantry Regiment Association** October 11-14 Laughlin, Nevada. Contact Tom Murray 3375 N Fairfax #66, Kingman, AZ 86401, Tel: 520-692-8710 or email recontom@ctaz.com. Or, visit our web site at <http://home.earfilink.net/~rontodd/index.html>, click on association then reunion 99 for full details

**Tank Co. 169th Inf. Reg. 43rd Div.** reunion in Sturbridge Massachusetts, Oct. 13-14, contact George Beer, Tel: 508-885-6477.

**10th Corps, Korea 1950-53, Army**, Oct 13-15, Titusville, FL, Contact James W. Lakin, Tel: 407-267-4971

**82nd AAA AW Bn (SP), 2nd Inf Div.**, Will hold the 7th Annual Reunion at

Conway, AR Oct. 13-17, Contact Melvin L. Bailey, 1020 Clarence Drive, Conway, AR 72032-5566, Tel: 501-329-4211.

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

**Navy Fighter Squadron 54, (VF-54)**, Oct 14-17, , Arlington, VA, Contact Glenn Ward, 2240 N. Trenton St., Arlington, VA 22207-4039, Tel: 703-527-7315.

**5th Comm Group (934th Signal Bn)** Eleventh Reunion - Oct 18-24 at Colorado Springs, CO. Contact: CMSgt Dave Felice, (USAF-Ret) 7237 River Bend Road, Colo. Springs, CO 80911-9612. Tel: 719-392-6150.

**195th Ordnance Depot**, Oct. 20-21 in Cape May, NJ Contact: John Cunnane, Tel: 440-526-4598

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

**USS Weiss APD 135**, Oct 21-24, San Diego, CA, Contact: George Theofanis, Tel: 818-368 7653

**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

**Army Engineer OCS** alumni staff and faculty reunion, Lake of the Ozarks, MO, 27-31 Oct., Contact: E.T. Mealing, CL 7 (52), 729 Summit North Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30324, Tel: 404 -231-3402, or Email: tmealing@eni.net.

**Maryland Chapter** Fall Conferance at Dunes Manor, Ocean City, MD., Oct. 30-31, contact Leroy Zamostny 8432 Alvin Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122, Tel: 410-225-4409

Korean War Veterans of the **90th Field Artillery Bn.**, 25th Infantry Division (1950-1953), Ninth Annual Reunion is scheduled for the Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN, area next October. Contact Andrew Lewis, 2139 Ora Dr., Fayetteville, AR 72701, Tel: 501-442-4612

**B-1-1 Korea**, October 1999 at Virginia Beach, VA, Contact Tom Prendergast at 561-283-6813 or Phillip Ackert at 650-712-9625.

**24th Draft to Korea** from Camp Pendleton, looking to form a reunion with any 1st, 5th or 7th Marines. Contact Tom Prendergast at 561-283-6813

## November 1999

**115th Medical Bn. 40th Inf. Div.**, November 2-7 in San Diego, CA, Contact: Herb Wittenberg, 3353 Rancho Rio Bonita, Covina, CA 91724-3536, Tel: 626-339-1813

**5th RCT** Florida Mini Reunion, November 10-14, Daytona Beach, FL, Best Western La Playa Resort, 2500 North Atlantic Avenue Contact Bill Kane, 5023 Andrea Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32807, Tel: 407-275-7450

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

## KWVA Members and Friends

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

Ad – Australian Korean War Memorial  
Dedication

Page 59



Certificate ad - 4 color  
Pg 60



# United States of America Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War



## Purpose

- Identify, thank and honor the veterans of the Korean War, their families, especially those that lost loved ones.
- Recognize and remember the Prisoners of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA).— POWs: 7,140; Returned to Military Control: 4,418; Died in Captivity: 2,701; Refused to return: 21)
- Recognize the contributions of women and minorities to their Nation during the Korean War.
- Provide the American public with a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons, history, and legacy of the Korean War and the military's contributions to the Nation in maintaining world peace and freedom through preparedness and engagement.
- Remember United Nations forces engaged in preserving the peace, freedom and prosperity of the Republic of Korea and strengthen the bonds of friendship and relationships throughout the world focusing on the 22 countries that fought as Allies.

## Commemorative Community Program

- States, Military and civilian communities, and civic and patriotic organizations will be requested to become Commemorative Communities to assist a Grateful Nation in thanking and honoring veterans in their home towns (to include hospitals, retirement centers, nursing homes, etc.), and supporting schools in teaching the history of this era.

For ordering Program Details contact: Department of Defense, 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, Commemoration Committee, 1213 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Ste 702, Arlington, VA 22202-4303 Tel: 703-697-4664 Fax: 703-697-3145.

- Establishing a 50th Anniversary Web Site that will support Commemorative Communities all across the Nation.

Web Site: [KOREA50.ARMY.MIL](http://KOREA50.ARMY.MIL)



## Proposed Entitlements

- A certificate signed by the Secretary of Defense designating your state, county, town, organization or group as an official "Korean War Commemorative Community."
- An official 50th Anniversary of the Korean War commemorative flag and leader lapel pin.
- Informational and educational materials pertaining to the Korean War, including maps, posters, fact sheets and a historical chronology.
- Authorization to use the 50th Anniversary logo on your letterhead, magazines, newsletters, and for other purposes.
- The "Korean War DISPATCH," a quarterly newsletter and a source of official information on Korean War Commemorative events.

**Find a supporter or one that shows interest – then order.**



**1950 — 1953**



**2000 — 2003**



## Proposed Commemorations of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War

Event	Place	ODV	Date (1999)
Veterans Day Breakfast and Wreath Laying	Wash DC/ANC	POTUS or Rep	Thurs Nov 11

\* designate US and/or Korean commemorations  
Time Zone Difference (EDT): Korea + 13 (EST): Korea + 14

**Ed Note:** The November/December "Graybeards" will print events for 2000 in the U.S. and in South 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!



Membership Application  
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# A Korean POW's Prayer to God

The Korean Winters were not kind to the captured GIs of the 10th Corp, General McArthur's shock-troops of the Inchon beach-landing of September 15, 1950. The die-hard GIs who would dare challenge their captors Communist rules by going against them and then getting apprehended for their right to try, was such the case at this point in time in the Winter of 1952, as three United Nations Soldiers who were proud of Their Nation's stand against Communism were standing silently in the freezing snow-covered courtyard of a Communist Labor Camp Stockade, a soft cry for our God's warmth was in the mind of a 20 year old GI as He stared at the endless beauty of a Star filled Winter's night . . .

## Time

Time, Time, my bare feet feel the freezing pain  
caused by a Winter's fallen snow as I solemnly stand  
in deep thought in the darkness of a Korean night .

Time, Time, endless time without feelings of pain or  
sorrow,  
only the freezing night with its blowing  
wind as its voice to remind me of my unholy pain!

Time, Time, the darkness of heaven is lit by the  
countless freckles of shining stars, minute stars  
that guide the creatures of earth to "give or take life."

Time, Time, my weary mind is in a freezing trance of  
pain,  
"oh Lord God" please hear my yearning  
prayer of love and grant us sinners "Thou's."

Time, Time, "Lord God" thou art our Father,  
hear this one man's plea for the warmth of thy  
precious Love,  
let us not crumble to become nothing!

Time, Time, oh beautiful and silent night,  
why can't We feel the warmth of thy beauty?  
Why must We only feel the cold of thy dark Infinity!

My silent prayer of Faith in "God" was answered,  
Amen.

Ex-POW Dan Arellano  
7th Division, 32nd Regt.

*Welcome Home Dan and all our ex-POWs. I spent some time with our Ex-POWs at their reunion in Macon, GA last July. It was a great honor for me and one thing that was most evident is that they are a proud band of brothers. We honor all of our ex-POWs with this issue of The Graybeards whatever your unit or Branch of Service. May God Bless You All*



**Korean War Veterans Association**  
**PO Box 10806**  
**Arlington, VA 22210**

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