

*America's Forgotten Victory!*

# The Graybeards

Official Publication of

**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

Vol. 14, No. 1

January - February 2000



## The Sam Dong Boys Town

The Children of our Sacrifice, still need our support today...



# 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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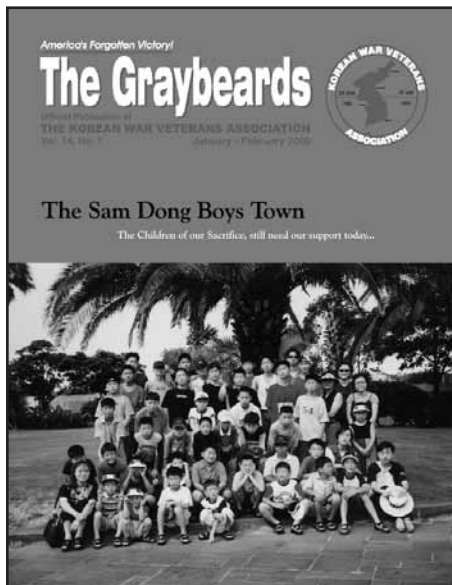
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# On the cover...



A modern day photo of the orphans in South Korea today. The veterans of that war when they close their eyes and go back to the 50's, remember a much different appearance of fear and hopelessness. Those faces then were dirty and clothes were ragged and many saw the destruction of family, home and school. Although we all enjoy a better life today, in their little minds and hearts a similar loss is still there. On my last trip to South Korea, I visited with these children with four members of the 5th RCT (photo below) and learned the following story.—Ed

**Sam Dong Boys Town, still here forty plus years later**

Monetary donations to the Sam Dong Boys Town orphanage began several years ago when Kim, Yong Ho, YMCA secretary general at Wolsan, and himself an alumni

of the orphanage, and Lee, Jae Won, an interpreter for the 5th RCT during the war, met members of the 5th RCT Association at a reunion in Chicago. It was then the group decided to renew their support to the boys home.

After their first donation, the members contacted the Association relaying the need at the home. The 5th RCT Association plans to make annual donations to the Sam Dong home.

The association members lost track of the orphanage for more than 40 years. Many of the soldiers came back from the war and started college or had families and I guess most just forgot about it.

The Sam Dong Boys Town original name was "The Korean Boys Town." This home was funded by the 5th RCT during the Korean War. The orphanage, then located on Nanjido Island in the Han River running through Seoul, had an elementary school, trade school, shops and living quarters.

At the original site the 5th RCT built 12 homes (including three school buildings) to accommodate more than 300 orphans. It moved to its present location in the 70's. It currently houses over 50 boys ranging from ages three and up—see photo on page 37.

*(It is my understanding that the home is moving again in the upcoming months due to an arena being built nearby for the World Cup that is to be held in South Korea. Any info please inform editor; The Graybeards. I thank my new friends: 5th RCT, Col's Jung Mo Park, Woo Sang Koh and Kwan Jin Kim for the great visit to Boys Town, Museum, Dinner and Theater.—Editor.)*



Sam Dong Boys Town visitors (l to r) are Walter Ade, Vincent Krepps, Keith Larson, Benard Scott and George Pempek. Except for Vincent, all are members of Sangamon County Chapter IL KWVA and 5th RCT.

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# President's Message



Harley Coon  
President, KWVA

**I wish all of you a very happy 2000.**

**A** lot has been accomplished on the national level this past year. We have had two very productive Board Meetings and a great convention in Mobile

in September. We now have in place an accounting system that safeguards our funds, The raffle kicked off in December and looks to be successful. We are going to expand *The Graybeards* by 8 more pages. We will have 72 pages with more information about the department and chapter activities. We want to recognize more Korean War Veterans and hear more of their stories. It hard to believe that 50 years ago that company ("B" Co. 35th Reg. 25th Div.) was in Mizaru, Japan, repatriating Japanese that were held by the Russians after WW II. Our Commander at that time was Capt. Godfery. He was promoted to Major and transferred to G2. The last time I saw Captain Godfery was in Korea in the back of a weapons carrier in

**We are going to expand *The Graybeards* by 8 more pages. We will have 72 pages with more information about the department and chapter activities.**

October 1950. The North Korean had killed him by cutting him open from his throat to just above his groin. Experiences like this, one never forgets.

Warren Weidhan our revisit chairman is working hard to get as many American K-Vets to attend the Australian National Korean War Memorial Dedication. Sir William Keys was a key note speaker at our dedication banquet in 1995. He is very involved in the dedication plans of their memorial. Many of the Australian Korean War veterans attended our memorial dedication. The dedication program starts on Sunday April 16th and ends on the 18th or 19th. I would suggest signing up with our revisit chairman as they have several side trips planned. If you are going to travel that far I would think it would be great to see as much as possible.

Nick Nishmoto of the Hawaii chapter is once again planning a great Prisoner of War Day at the Punch Bowl, National Cemetery. You can contact Nick at (808) 455-5088 for further details.

The Korean EX-Prisoners of War, is planning a mini reunion which includes wreath laying ceremony at Arlington national Cemetery an June 25th 2000. Please contact Nick Tosques at (302) 537-7826.

The Mid-Winter board meeting will held at the Arlington Sheraton National The meeting dates are March 24, 25, 26th. the board meeting will be on Saturday March 25th from 8 a.m. till 6 p.m. with a break at lunch and a tour of the hotel. The room rates are \$95.00 with comp/parking. One of the important items on the agenda will be the July 2000 convention. (This year we join the gathering and hope to have the best convention yet.) It is time for all Korean War Veterans to get together as one unit as we were in Korea. Another agenda item will be the up coming elections. There are 7 offices to be elected. The President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and 4 Directors. Because, the nominations are closed February 15th, it would be a good time for the candidates for each office to be present and present their positions on various issues. This would be a opportune time to meet those seeking re-election and those that are running for the first time. Come to this meeting and see how your KWVA organization is being administered. All board meetings are open to members and anyone wishing to attend our board meeting. The telephone number of Sheraton National (703) 521-1900 or (800) 468-9090. Tell the operator that you are with the Korean War Veterans Association. Room Rates will be \$95.00. I would like to have a dinner get together after the board meeting on Sat. March 25th.

On the 9th of December, my wife Sylvia and I were invited to Tallahassee FL. for the dedication of the Florida State Korean War Memorial. Emmitt Benjamin received much praise for his work in getting this memorial completed. There was a great ceremony honoring all the Korean

Please turn to **PRESIDENT** on page 6



Elliott Sortillo (l) President Korean Ex-POW Assn. and Harley Coon President KWVA Assn. They are preparing to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Ceremony on Veterans Day. Wreath held by Elliott is from Korean Ex-POWs and Harley's is from the KWVA

Military Shop Ad – 4 color

Page 5



# National VA/VS Representative Report

By Norman S. Kantor

As of March 31, 1999, there were 107,270 Volunteers serving in the VA. Reports received from The Dept. of Veterans Affairs showed an increase of 974 more than in 1998. The Korean War Veterans Association has now risen from Committee Member to now being a Service Member.

Countless Chapter Presidents are not showing enough concern in encouraging members to serve as Volunteers. One Chapter having a large membership participates in countless parades yet not one hour is donated toward their local VA Medical Center.

As health care changes, fewer veterans are in hospital beds and greater numbers are cared for in Out-Patient Clinics or in their own homes, as well as authorized VA Contracted Nursing Homes.

VAVS summary reports covering 1 July to 31 Dec. 1999 were due by 15 Jan. 2000. Annual joint reviews are to be completed in April. Chapter VAVS Reps must contact The Chief Of Voluntary Services to set up an appointment

VAVS Summery Sheet covering Jan. through 30 June 2000 will only be sent to chapters being active in the VAVS Program.

At this time there are openings for two National Deputy Reps; one on the East Coast and the other on the West Coast.

A hour or so a month would be of enormous help to our VAVS Program. Call me at 914-632-5827. Showing concern for hospitalized veterans is our main goal. Are you that busy? Many of us spent countless weeks or months in Military or VA Hospitals. As a volunteer you can help toward a patient recuperation. Remember a patient spending all their time in a wheelchair or a hospital bed without having visitors, is living in a lonely world. Think about your fellow hospitalized veterans. What would be your feelings if that was you? A member who is a combat veteran knows what the buddy system meant. Now, after all these years a unknown buddy being all alone waits for you.

## 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.

## PRESIDENT from page 4

War Veterans. National Director Jack Edwards and I were introduced as National officers.

The week after Christmas was a bad one for me and family as we all had a severe case of the flu. I had over 20 calls on my voice mail and it took me a week to answer them. One problem with these voice mail answering machines is that they miss a beat sometimes and you don't get all the message. Many Korean Veterans and families were down with this

flu. I sure feel for those that got sick. This was the worst case I have ever had.

My "E" mail address is <coonkorean-expow@aol.com>. You can contact me there if you would like. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the Executive Board meeting on March 24-25-26, 2000.

Till then I remain:

Harley  
President KWVA

# Book Review



## Korean Vignettes, Faces of War

This is a book about men The men of the Korean War. It contains vivid recollections and memories of 201 of the men who made up the fighting forces in Korea. It was undertaken to save for posterity the human side of the soldier and marine who served there. The 206 pages of photographs graphically illustrate the tableaux of battles, weather and topography of that mountainous country. The pictures show in blunt detail the ugly face and brutalities of war. All photographs were taken in Korea. Some were taken by the fighting men in this book. It is a 6" x 9" quality made, hard bound book of 486 pages printed on heavy 80 lb matte acid free paper. There are 32 pages of "soldier" poetry.

We at Artwork Publications, Art Wilson, editor and Norm Strickbine, photographer, both Korean veterans, believe that as you read the 201 vignettes, the 206 pages of pictures, the marine and soldier poetry, you will form a mental picture of those bygone days. Each vignette is an actual memory of a soldier, marine, sailor or airman that fought there. In remembrance, we invite you to again visit the "Land of Morning Calm." You may find some of your comrades who contributed, or were named In 'Faces of war.'

Since this book is not published or distributed in the normal manner, it would be appreciated if you would pass on to others the information on the advertisement in this issue to your family and friends, your community and your neighborhood library.

## Reviews

This book is a much needed addition to our history of the Korean War. It depicts the role of America's fighting men in that conflict The detailed narratives spotlight the individual serving in small Marine and Army units and salute his spirit and innate fortitude.

Raymond G. Davis General  
USMC Ret Medal of Honor  
Korea 1950  
CO 1st Bn 7th Marine Regiment  
Please turn to **BOOKS** on page 48

## Korean War Ex-POW

Excerpts taken from Korean War Ex-POW December 1999 Newsletter written by new President Elliott Sortillo.

### Happy Holidays to Everyone

By the time you receive this, Thanksgiving will have come and gone, Sandy & I hope you had a great day. There is so much to be thankful for that sometimes we take it for granted. Just flashback 49 years to where we were in the winter of 1950. The "Tigers" were already four months into captivity at the hands of the North Koreans, and "The Namwon Bunch" had been captured and liberated. We lost a lot of good men in the fighting and, in captivity to that point. For those of us who were fortunate enough to make it to the end of November, and have a frozen Thanksgiving meal it certainly was akin to a Last Supper. The rest is history, and we all have a lot to be thankful for. Lets all look forward to this Holiday Season with our loved one's, but let us also remember all our fallen and missing buddies who have yet to come home and, to their families who are still looking for some closure, God Bless them all.

### Veterans Day at the White House and Arlington Cemetery

Veterans Day 1999 saw Harley Coon, Sandy & I having breakfast in the White House. It was a great honor to be there and represent our Association. We met the President, VA Secretary Togo West and Defense Secretary William Cohen. After breakfast we were bused to the Memorial Amphitheater in Arlington Cemetery to await the Wreath Laying Ceremony by the President, at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The President spoke, honoring all Veterans, living, deceased, missing, and the families of all those still not accounted for. VA Secretary Togo West and VFW Commander-in-Chief John W. Smart also addressed the huge crowd. After the ceremony, Harley & I laid two wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Our wreath was for the ExPOW's from Korea, while Harley, as President of the Korean War Veterans Association laid his wreath for all Korean veterans. Sandy & I are so proud to have been included in this ceremony, we hope that our Association will continue to

be recognized, and invited to all future veteran related functions at the National level. Harley really took care of our Association, he arranged for our Comp Suite, transportation, breakfast at the White House, box seats in the amphitheater and, permission to join him and the KWVA in the laying of the wreaths. Thank you Harley from Sandy & I, and on behalf of the Association.

### 50th Anniversary and Commemoration in Washington, D.C.

Our man, Nick Tosques has been busy coordinating accommodations and events for the June 2000 Commemoration in D.C. We are hoping for a good turnout to help us celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the start of the War. The hotel is the Hyatt Arlington at Washington's Key Bridge, 1325 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209-9990. The telephone number is 703-525-1234. The rate is \$99.00 per night and is good for the period of June 22-26, or any part thereof, with checkout on June 27, 2000. Reservations must be made by May 22, 2000. Please don't wait till the last minute, get your reservation in. If you have any questions, please call Nick at 302-537-7826 or write him at 38 Assawoman Court, Bethany Bay, Millville, DE 19970. We will finalize the list of activities and events in the next newsletter.

### Our 25th Annual Reunion in Spokane., Washington July 23-30, 2000

Spokane, Washington in July of 2000 is the site for our 25th consecutive annual reunion, the dates shown above (or any part thereof), are ready now to receive your reservations. The toll free number is 1-800-325-4000 or, you can call 509-838-2711. The hotel is The Ridpath, and the rate is \$79.00 plus taxes. The complete outline of events will be published in the March Newsletter. Remember, this is also the 50th Anniversary of the beginning of the war and, we hope to have some special events planned. They tell me that Eastern Washington is very beautiful, and Spokane a great city. I plan to make a pre-reunion visit to Spokane in early 2000 and will report to you. But lets remember one of the main purposes of our reunions, and that is fellowship with each other. Sandy & I thoroughly enjoy the trips and events' at the reunion but our big thrill is being with you,

our friends. This will be another great one, so please plan on being there.

### Site Selection

Site Selection Chairman Clyde Livaudais is still accepting bonafide bids for the year 2002. In 2001 we will be in Louisville, KY. If you are interested in hosting a reunion please contact Clyde for particulars. His address is 3608 Neyrey Drive, Metairie, LA 70002. Tel: 504-454-1083 or E-mail [cplpawpaw@aol.com](mailto:cplpawpaw@aol.com). Please don't delay.

### TAPS

The following brothers were reported as passing on since the last Newsletter:

Thomas H. Waddill  
Milton A. Creech  
Ronald Sweeney  
Bennie Smith  
William J. Killion  
Wadie (Jiggs) Rountree  
Charlie Wolfe  
John C. King

### *God bless them and their families*

There are probably a lot more that passed on that we don't know about, because no one has notified us. Contact me at [elliott.sortillo@gte.net](mailto:elliott.sortillo@gte.net), 219-763-1915, Tim Casey, at [tfcasey@sprynet.com](mailto:tfcasey@sprynet.com), or Shorty Estabrook at [tiger53@ix.netcom.com](mailto:tiger53@ix.netcom.com) to name a few.

### Historian

The donations are coming in to support the publishing of the book, U.S. POW's In The Korean War: A Study Of Their Treatment and Handling By the North Korean Army And the Chinese Communist Forces but, they are slow. The last newsletter had all the particulars and a donation receipt form This is truly a worthwhile project, and one that we should support. If you have any questions please call Arden Rowley at 480-964-9444, FAX 480-964-9898 or email him at [rowleyxpowk@juno.com](mailto:rowleyxpowk@juno.com)

*(Arden, when you get close to that last \$1,000 needed to go to press, please contact me for I want to help get that book printed. Please read the request printed in the Nov/Dec issue for 33 supporters at \$1000 or the option for chapters to give a donation of \$500 and get 2 books. Contact Arden at 480-964-9444.)*

# The 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemorative Medal

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# Korean War Veterans Association 16th Annual Reunion Arlington, Virginia ♦ July 24 – 29, 2000

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(Please print or type legibly)

	Number of Persons	Cost per Person	Total
Registration Fee *	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Registration both husband and wife *	_____	\$40.00	\$ _____
Registration Children (15 years and older) *	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Welcome Party (Optional) *	_____	\$10.00	\$ _____
Bus trip to Dulles Mall (based on 47 persons)	_____	\$7.00	\$ _____
Breakfast Buffet (before Memorial trip Optional) **	_____	\$17.00	\$ _____
Bus trip to Memorial and Arlington Cemetery *	_____	\$14.00	\$ _____
Lunch between Memorial and Arlington (Optional)	_____	\$17.00	\$ _____
Banquet July 27, 2000 Sheraton National Hotel	_____	\$35.00	\$ _____
Banquet only (if not registered)	_____	\$45.00	\$ _____
Beef _____ or Chicken _____ (Indicate quantity of each per number of persons listed)			
Bus trip to Marine Concert (Optional)	_____	\$10.00	\$ _____
Departure Breakfast Buffet **	_____	\$17.00	\$ _____
Total Enclosed .....			\$ _____

Make Checks payable to KWVA National, Registration, 4120 Industrial Lane, Beavercreek, OH 45430.

\* Registration fee includes administrative cost, hospitality room snacks, table decorations, name badges and entertainment.

You must register in order to attend shows, welcome party and bus to Korean War Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery ceremonies.

\*\* Includes Service Charge and tax.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Military Service Branch \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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PH: (703) 521-1900 or (800) 468-9090

[These forms may be copied]

## KWVA and THE GATHERING 2000 REUNION EVENTS

### 24 July 2000

- ❖ Check in and Registration Hospitality room
- ❖ 6:00 pm Welcome Party

### 25 July 2000

- ❖ 8:00 am executive Board meeting
- ❖ Shopping at Pentagon City Mall
- ❖ Shopping at Dulles Mall
- ❖ Hospitality Room
- ❖ Registration
- ❖ 7:00 pm Entertainment

### 26 July 2000

- ❖ 9:00 am to 12:00 noon Membership meeting
- ❖ Registration
- ❖ Seminary for women
- ❖ VA Benefits
- ❖ Hospitality Room
- ❖ Table Assignments  
(Those registered will have first choice)
- ❖ 7:00 pm Entertainment

### 27 July 2000

- ❖ Breakfast ( optional)
- ❖ Buses to Korean War Memorial
- ❖ Return to Hotel for lunch
- ❖ Lunch (optional)
- ❖ Bus to Arlington National Cemetery
- ❖ Return to Hotel
- ❖ 5:30/6:30 pm Cash Bar President reception
- ❖ 7: 00 pm Opening ceremonies/install new Officers
- ❖ 7:30 Banquet
- ❖ 8:30 pm Key Note speaker
- ❖ 9:00 pm Awards.
- ❖ 9:30 pm Raffle Drawing

### 28 July 2000

- ❖ Breakfast (optional)
- ❖ 8:30 am Executive Board meeting
- ❖ Buses to Marine Barracks (salute to General Davis)

*All times will be posted, all changes to appear in Graybeards*

## ATTRACTIONS

### Smithsonian Institution Museum Group

All Smithsonian museums are open daily, 10 am-5:30 pm. Admission to all museums is FREE. Visitors information (202) 357-2700 (9 am-5 pm) Mon-Fri, 9 am-4 pm Sat, 10 am-4 pm Sun). Call Smithsonian's for museum locations, hours and daily activities, at (202) 357-2020.

### National Air and Space Museum

Chronicles the evolution of American aviation from the Wright Brothers' 1903 Flyer to Skylab and beyond. Includes special 5-story high IMAX movie screen and a working planetarium. 6th St. & Independence Ave., SW Washington, D.C. 20560. FEES for theater or planetarium admission. M (L'Enfant Plaza).

### Archives, National

Permanent display includes the original Declaration of independence, U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights and the 1297 Magna Carta. Also includes changing exhibitions and research rooms containing official historical documents. 8th St. & Constitution Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20408; (202) 501-5205 or (202) 501-5000 (tape). Daily 10 am —9 pm FREE. M (Archives).

### Arlington National Cemetery

A national shrine to the thousands of men and women who have died defending the United States and freedom around the world. Popular memorials include the Tomb of the Unknowns, the Challenger Space Shuttle Memorial and the grave sites of

John F. and Robert Kennedy. Arlington, VA 22211; (703) 607-8052. Daily, 8 am –7 pm, FREE. M (Arlington Cemetery).

### Capitol Building, U.S.

Home of the legislative branch of the U.S. Federal Government. Elected U.S. Senators and Representatives meet here to make federal laws. On the National Mall, East End, Washington, D.C. 20004; (202) 225-6827. Daily 9 am -10 pm. Tours Mon-Sat, 9 am-3:45 pm FREE. M (Capitol South).

### Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Near the Tidal Basin this memorial consists of four outdoor "gallery" rooms featuring ten bronze sculptures depicting President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt and events from the Great Depression and World War II. 1850 West Basin Drive (and Ohio Dr.), SW, Washington, D.C. 20024; (202) 619-7222. Daily 8 am- Midnight. FREE. M (Smithsonian).

### Holocaust Memorial Museum, U.S.

Reminds visitors of the horrors of the Nazi Holocaust and remembers the victims. Raoul Wallenberg Place between Independence Dr. and East Basin Dr., SW Washington, D.C. (202) 488-0400. Daily 10 am-5:30 pm (except Yom Kippur). FREE, but passes are required for the permanent collection. Same day passes are available at the box office at 10 am each day. Especially during summer months, a line forms early in the morning. Tickets can be reserved in advance by calling (800) 400-9373. M (Smithsonian)

### **Jefferson Memorial**

Dedicated to the third President of the U.S. and writer of the Declaration of Independence. Tidal Basin (South Bank). West Potomac Park, Washington, D. C.; (202) 426-6841. Daily 8 am-midnight. FREE. M (Smithsonian)

### **Korean War Memorial**

Serves as a remembrance of those who fought in the Korean War. Adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial. Daily 24 hours. FREE. M (Foggy Bottom/GWU).

### **Library of Congress**

World's largest library and one of Washington's most attractively decorated buildings. 10 First St., SE, Washington, D. C. 20540; (202) 707-5458. Mon-Fri. 8:30 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 8:30 am-6 pm. FREE. M (Capitol South)

### **Lincoln Memorial**

Honors the sixteenth President of the United States and his courage that preserved the Union through the Civil War West Potomac Park at 23rd St. NW, Washington, D.C. (202) 426-6841. Daily 24 hours. Tours, 8 am-midnight. FREE. M (Foggy Bottom/GWU or Arlington Cemetery).

### **Marine Corps Memorial, Iwo Jima**

The largest cast bronze statue in the world is dedicated to all Marines who have given their lives since 1775. Marshall Drive, between Route 50 and Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. Daily 24 hours. FREE. M (Rosslyn).

### **Navy Memorial U.S.**

Honors and remembers the men and women who have served in the U.S. Navy. Includes of the "Lone Sailor" and an amphitheater that is site for outdoor summer concerts. Pennsylvania Ave. between 7th & 9th Sts., NW Washington, D.C.; (202) 737-2300. Mon-Sat 9:30 am-5 pm.; Sun, 12-5 pm. Admission: only for movie. M (Archives).

### **Navy Museum**

Located at the nation's oldest naval facility, the Navy Museum offers hands-on exhibits from antiaircraft guns to a submarine room with operating periscopes to the destroyer USS Barry moored in the harbor. Also changing displays on naval-related art. 901 M St., SE, Washington, D.C. 20374; (202) 433-4882. Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm; Sat, Sun & holidays, 10 am-5 pm. FREE. M (Navy Yard).

### **Old Guard Museum**

The story of the oldest U.S. Army Infantry Regiment, from 1784 to present, is told in the only Army museum in the Washington, D. C. area. Building 249, Sheridan Ave., Fort Myer, Arlington, Virginia 22211; (703) 696-6670. Mon-Sat, 9 am-4 pm; Sun, 1-4 pm. FREE.

### **Old Post Office Pavilion**

A former city post office, this Romanesque building now houses restaurants and shops and an observation tower that provides splendid views of the city. 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20004; (202) 289-4224. Mon-Sat, 10 am-8 pm; Sun, 12-6 pm. FREE. M (Federal Triangle).

### **Pentagon**

Headquarters for the U.S. Department of Defense, this is the

world's largest office building with 3.7 million square feet covering 583 acres. Arlington, VA 20301; (903) 695-1776. Tours every half hour, Mon-Fri, 9:30 am-3:30 pm. Photo ID required. FREE. M (Pentagon).

### **Union Station**

An historic landmark, this restored train station's lobby is often used for presidential inaugural celebrations. Still serves as a functioning passenger rail station and includes shops, movie theaters and restaurants. 50 Massachusetts Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; (202) 298-1908. FREE. M (Union Station).

### **Vietnam Veterans Memorial**

"The Wall" remembers those who died or remain missing from the Vietnam conflict. Constitution Ave. between Henry Bacon Dr. & 21st St., NW Washington, D.C.; (202) 634-1568. Daily 24 hours. Tours 8 am-midnight. FREE.

### **Washington National Cathedral**

Gothic cathedral is 6th largest in the world. Daily worship services follow the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer; all denominations welcome. Mt. Saint Albans, Massachusetts & Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, D. C. 20016; (202) 537-6200. Daily 10 am-4:30 pm. FREE (donations accepted)

### **Washington Monument**

Dedicated to the memory of the first President of the United States and is the tallest masonry structure in the world (555' 5 3/8"). Elevator takes visitors to observation windows at top. National Mall at 15th St., NW, Washington, D.C.; (202) 426-6839 or (202) 426-6841. Daily 9 am-midnight. Timed tickets distributed at kiosk on grounds of monument.

FREE. M (Smithsonian).

### **White House**

Official residence of the President of the United States since John Adams. 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20500, (202) 456-7041 (tape); (202) 208-1631; (202) 456-2121 (TTY). Tue-Sat. Tickets for guided tours may be obtained from one's Congressional Representative or Senator, by contacting their Washington or local office.

These tours are scheduled from 8:15-9:30 am, and last about 35-45 minutes. Alternatively, tickets for self-guided tours are distributed at the White House Visitor Center at 15th and E Streets, NW, beginning at 8 am for the current day's tour; first come, first served. Self-guided tour tickets are timed from 10 am to noon.

FREE. M (Federal Triangle for tours; McPherson Square if visiting just the front of the White House)

### **Women In Military Service For America Memorial**

Located at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery, the memorial honors all women who have served courageously, selflessly and with dedication in times of conflict and in times of peace. The memorial features an education center and theater telling the history of women in the armed forces, which began more than 200 years ago during the American Revolution and continues through the present day. (800) 222-2294 or (703) 533-1155.

*M= Metrorail (Metro stop)*



## TRANSPORTATION

Many of the National Capital Area attractions can be reached by using Metro efficient and safe subway system. To use Metrorail, each person must have a farecard to enter and exit the system. Farecard machines accept \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills but be aware that the machines will give no more than \$4.95 in change. \$10 and \$20 bills are best used for multiple ticket purchases. Fares are based on time and distance traveled and are posted in each station. It is highly recommended that you purchase a round-trip ticket at your starting point. If you plan to ride Metro frequently in a single day, a one-day unlimited use pass is available for \$5

### Metrorail

*Hours of Operation:* Mon-Fri: 5:30 am - Midnight  
Sat & Sun: 8:00 am - Midnight  
Peak Hours: 5:30 am - 9:30 am and 3-8 pm.

The last train leaves some stations at different times so please note the times posted in the station for the exact departure time.

*Metro System Phone Numbers:* Bus & Rail Information: (202) 637-7000  
Lost & Found: (202) 962-1195

### Tour Buses

Tourmobile: (202) 554-5100; 1-888-868-7707  
Old Town Trolley Tours (301) 985-3020 — Gray  
Line Tours: (202) 289-1995

### Taxi Cabs:

Red Top: (703) 522-3333  
Arlington Blue Top: (703) 243-8575

### Tourmobile Sightseeing

Phone 202/554-5100; Daily narrated sightseeing shuttle tour service authorized by the National Park Service. American Heritage Tour of Washington, DC has 21 stops ( Historic Pennsylvania Avenue; White House; National Mall with Smithsonian museums, monuments, memorials; Union Station; Capitol Hill; Kennedy Center) and 4 stops in Arlington National Cemetery. Free Reboarding.

## REUNION BOOK

### Advertising Prices

I would like my name listed in the 2000 Reunion book at \$5.00 donation per name.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Or In Memory Of Name \_\_\_\_\_

Front Back Page.....	\$250.00
Back Cover Page .....	\$300.00
Inside Back Page .....	\$400.00
1 Full Page .....	\$200.00
1/2 Page .....	\$100.00
1/4 Page .....	\$ 50.00
Business Card .....	\$ 25.00

All ads must be in by June 15, 2000. Check or payment must accompany Ads. Make Checks payable to KWVA National.  
Mail above to: National Headquarters KWVA, Howard Camp, Secretary, 4120 Industrial Lane, Beavercreek, OH 45430

*[This form may be copied]*



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.

## Republic of Korea Medal

The KWVA and your Editor are expecting an official announcement from the South Korean Ministry of Defense and/or The U.S. Department of Defense that will give us the details of the authorized Republic of Korea Medal we have shown as far back as 1996 in our "Graybeards" magazine and are advertised in current issues.

We express caution when purchasing this medal without an official endorsement by the above named agencies.

## Monuments and Memories

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

## New York Remembers

Nassau County Executive Legislators and our members staged the first and only tribute to Korean War Veterans in Nassau County, Long Island on the occasion of the renaming of Merrick Avenue (the eight block boundary to Eisenhower Park) to Korean War Veterans Memorial Drive.



A tribute to Korean War Veterans in Nassau County, Long Island on the occasion of the renaming of Merrick Avenue to Korean War Veterans Memorial Drive. First Row, Left to Right: County Executive Thomas Gulotta; Legislator Dennis Dunne, Presiding Officer, Bruce Blakeman, John Quinn, President of Nassau County Chapter #1. Second Row, Left to Right: Ed Fenton, Sheldon Swirsky, Henry Nowicki, John Leignadier

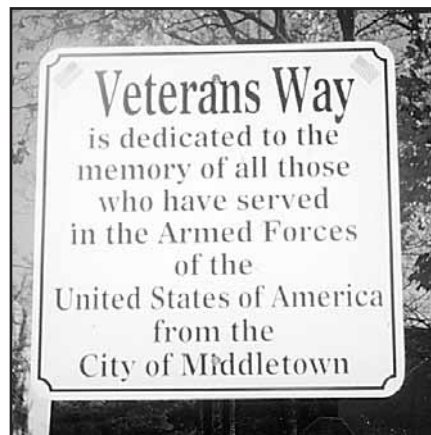


Renaming and the blessing of an anti-aircraft tank (Korean War Vintage).

*(Thank you John Quinn for photos and letter. The vehicle shown is similar to the one I drove in Korea in 1950-51 with the 82nd AAA AW (SP) Bn. 2nd Inf. Div. Since there were no major threats*

*to our ground forces from the air we were attached to the Infantry Regiments (38th, 23rd and 9th) for ground support. Our vehicle was the M19 with twin 40's and painted like all vehicles were in those days. This vehicle looks like an upgrade that may have been intended for use in Desert Storm even though I do not think it could do much to the aircraft of today. If you have any detail on this one like where it came from please let me know.)*

## Middletown Connecticut Remembers



Middletown, CT Veterans Way sign remembering those that served.

*Thank you Robert Bonaiuto, Sr. for photos. Wish I had a better photo of your memorial that I could show.)*

## Alaska Remembers



Charles Carafano shown next to Memorial in Memory of Korean War Hero Archie Van Winkle Col. USMC MOH. The action for this award is dated November 2, 1950 Sudong, Korea. Charles was returning from a cruise that docked in Ketchikan, Alaska where this monument is located.

*(Thank you Amy Carafano for the photo and letter. Our war, heroes and veterans are not forgotten.)*

## Notice

When calling an officer or the editor and you are leaving a message on an answering machine, speak slowly and leave your name and phone number twice. We are having problems responding because of not hearing your phone number clearly.



## Ohio Remembers

State Senator of Ohio, Merle Grace Kearns, announced the 10th day of February, that The Ohio Department of Transportation approved, the request made by the Greene County Chapter 125 of KWVA, that US 35 running through Greene County be called "Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway".

Past/Present officers and President; Harley Coon, National President of KWVA traveled to every government entity whose boundaries are adjacent to US 35 Highway and got a letter of approval to support our petition to the State of Ohio

KWVA, Greene County Chapter 125 of Ohio, gathered for the ribbon cutting and dedication of US 35, running through Greene County. Governor, Bab Taft, has approved and signed a



Present at the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway dedication were: Front Row – Harold Kitts, Jimmy Rogers, and Bill Griffey Second Row – Howard Camp, George Williams, Prentice Carroll, and Fred Norckauer. Third Row – Dale Anderson, Bill McKenzie, John Dillon, George Funderburg, and Kenneth Dillon.

Photo courtesy of Xenia Daily Gazette.



KWVA, Greene County Chapter 125 of Ohio members at the dedication, left to right front row, are William Griffey; Prentice Carroll, Vice President; Howard Camp, Past President; Jimmy Rogers, Past Treasurer; Kenneth Dillon, Sgt. of Arms; and Dale Anderson, President. In the back row are John Dillon; Russell McKenzie, Chaplin; Harold Kitts, Past Chaplin; Roger St. John; and George Williams. Photo courtesy of Fairborn Daily Herald.

proclamation designating a sign with the 16 Greene County KIA's names to be posted under the Korean War Veteran's Memorial Highway Sign.

*(Thank you Prentice Carroll for the above photos and associated letters. We join you in thanking all that made the memorials possible. I hope someday Maryland will do the same.)*

## Binghamton New York Remembers



Korean War Memorial dedicated to Broome County Veterans. This memorial is located at the Courthouse in Binghamton, NY.

*(Thank you Jack Edwards for photos and letter.)*

## Illinois Remembers



Pictured in front of the Illinois Korean War Memorial are the principal speakers at the 2nd anniversary of the memorial dedication, South Korean Consul-General Byun Jong-Kyou and retired Major General Richard Mills, U.S. District Judge, who served in the Korean War with the 3rd Infantry Division.

The address of MG Richard H. Mills (Ret) at th 2nd Anniversary of the Illinois Korean War Memorial Dedication on 14 June 1998:

An old army ballad proclaims that "God and Soldiers all People adore In time of War But Not Before When War is over and all things righted, God is forgotten and the soldier is slighted."

A sudden message was transmitted on July 26, 1953, to the



United Nations forces manning the main line of resistance (MLR) in Korea: there was to be "no celebration firing related in any way to the advent of the armistice." The armistice agreement was signed the next day, Monday, July 27, 1953, at 10:01 a.m., but the fighting and dying did not end until 10:00 p.m. that night. Each company on line was authorized to fire a single white star cluster to signal the ceasefire.

At 2200 hours, thousands of flares illuminated the sky along the 155-mile front, stretching from the Yellow Sea to the Sea of Japan. That day — after 3 years, 1 month and 2 days — the Korean War officially ended in Washington.

The United Nations had not scored a decisive victory but at least it showed its determination to hold the line against invaders anywhere. It was a costly war. In the first year alone, 1,250,000 soldiers and civilians were killed on both sides. After three years of combat, 54,246 Americans were killed, 103,284 wounded, and 8,177 are still missing and unaccounted for nearly 45 years later. The Korean War cost over 20 billion dollars — more than all of World War I. The war that began as a police action in which the objective was not victory but to stop aggression, 54,246 Americans died in uniform. (For comparison: 58,153 Americans lost their lives in the Vietnam War.) The total of United Nations casualties in the Korean War was 189,967, while the Republic of Korea lost a total of 1,037,000 — both military and non-military.

The Korean War quickly faded from the minds of the American people and today remains a hazy event at best. Only 40% of the public is old enough to remember it; less than a fifth of the total U.S. veteran population are from the Korean era. Traditionally, we have attracted little attention. Furthermore, the war in Korea was not even officially dignified by that term until 1958. Even today, the terms "conflict" and "police action" are sometimes used.

The cause of the conflict was never in doubt. On June 25, 1950, at 4:00 a.m. (Korea time), 135,000 North Korea troops, spearheaded by 200 Russian-built tanks and planes, stormed across the 38th parallel in a general invasion, crushing South Korean defenses. Nearly a third of the attacking troops were hardened combat veterans of the Chinese Army, while America and its South Korean protegee were totally unprepared for war in East Asia.

Regular forces were supplemented by reservists called to active duty. In fact, 20% of the Korean War servicemen had served in WWII. These "retreads" proved invaluable among the inexperienced ranks, since by the end of 1952, almost two-thirds of Army troops in Korea were draftees.

The terrain of the Korean peninsula was one of mountains, ridges, and valleys -baked by the sun in summer, with endless foul-smelling rice paddies. In winter, temperatures fell to 40 degrees below zero.

Fighting in Korea was fierce from the outset. Radio commentator Walter Winchell said, "if you have a son overseas, write to him. If you have a son in the 2nd Division, pray for him." That unit — the "Indianhead" Division — had a combat fatality rate which accounted for over 25% of the total Army battle deaths in Korea. The Marines — particularly the 1st Marine Division -suffered terrific casualties.

Although the Army accounted for over 80% of total U.S. battle-field deaths, the Air Force and Navy suffered a heavy toll in provid-

ing support. We lost more than 2,000 planes but took an immense number of enemy lives. Of the Navy's ships, 82 were hit — five were sunk, including four minesweepers.

After the initial collapse of our line at the 38th parallel and the fall back to the Pusan perimeter, General MacArthur's brilliant amphibious landing at Inchon occurred. Seoul was quickly taken by X Corps and General Walker's 8th Army broke out of Pusan. Tenth Corps then went again by ship around the peninsula, this time to the northeast coast of North Korea. 8th Army took over Seoul and continued to the northwest, taking the capitol city of North Korea — Pyongyang. Meanwhile, X Corps was overrun by the entry of Chinese hordes into the war. What followed was Chosin Reservoir, the Iron Triangle, and the heavy casualties suffered in the total evacuation of X Corps from the Hungnam area. General retreat to the 38th parallel took place and negotiations commenced at Panmunjom. There were 22 more long months of warfare before the ceasefire was signed. The final two years of the war were ones of static, frozen trench warfare — mostly a night-patrol war. Now the names that stand out are Heartbreak Ridge, the Punchbowl, Old Baldy, Porkchop Hill. Artillery duels played a large part in the fighting, more artillery being fired in Korea than in all of World War II. Before the armistice was concluded, 1.5 million Americans had served in Korea.

When the war inconclusively ended in only a truce still in effect, there were no celebrations. No heroes' welcome for returnees of the Korean War. The American people did not quite know how to regard a war they had not won, although 131 Medals of Honor were awarded for heroism in Korea.

Hopefully now, after 45 years, America can come to grips with the war's outcome.

And as we celebrate today the second anniversary of the dedication of this magnificent memorial, we reassure our fellow citizens that Illinois has not forgotten the sacrifices of its sons and daughters. Over 200,000 of us from Illinois served in Korea and 1,744 of our comrades gave the last full measure of devotion.

We remember and we have not forgotten. May God continue to bless both this memorial and the United States of America.

*(Thank you Judge Mills for a most moving address. I am sorry I have not printed this sooner. Just maybe after seeing the stories in the newspapers today this may be perfect timing.)*

## Korean War Veterans

Read how those involved, and those at home, recorded their experience...

### The Hermit Kingdom: Poems of the Korean War

Paul M. Edwards, Editor

\$11.50 including postage

Ordering address:

PO Box 456

Independence, MO 64051

Proceeds of sales go to the Center for the Study of the Korean War.

*R. Allan Christianson, the architect of the Memorial, in submitting his winning design of the Memorial in a national competition conducted in 1994, best described the concept of the Memorial as follows:*

American servicemen and women braved violent combat in Korea. The Nation suffered great losses in the War and spiritual anguish in its aftermath. Friends parted, lives were uprooted, futures were transformed; many died or were injured. We now join together to understand, to honor, to heal and to look ahead.

In Korea, each serving brought their own experience; their uniqueness, their dreams into peril. With each soldier the nation risked a part of itself. Many thousands, each with their own signature on life, united for freedom.

This Memorial intends to symbolize and express the life spirit of those who served, directly and indirectly, in the Korean War. It is a reflection, in part, of just one who served. It is meant to signal remembrance of the breadth and pulse of their identity. And, it is a marker for the array of human qualities nurtured by the freedom we protect.

This Memorial is positioned and shaped to capture sunlight. As the sun travels the horizon, columns of light articulate, sequentially, aspects of human spirit, experience and feeling. Through solid and void, light and shadow, the sun traces a spectrum of individual and shared experience.

It is hoped this Memorial will become a welcome place; that it can evoke memory, emotion and vision through the eyes of each visitor. It is meant to be very personal.

## Pennsylvania Remembers

Ed Stevens founded the Korean War Veterans Association of Western PA, Gen. Matthew Ridgway Chapter of which he's president.

Although Defense Department records showed more than 41,000 Korean War veterans in southwestern Pennsylvania - more than 26,000 of them in Allegheny County alone - "There was no roster, I had to find them the best way I could," says Ed Stevens.

Word of mouth has been effective enough that the association now has almost 500 members. It meets monthly at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, Oakland, where he is a member of the boards of directors and managers.

In 1993, Stevens founded the Korean War Veterans of Western Pennsylvania Memorial Fund, of which he also is president, to raise money for a tangible tribute to the more than 5.7 million Americans involved directly or indirectly in the war.

The city donated the site, which was dedicated July 27. R. Allan Christianson of Bordentown, NJ, won a national competition with a design that includes; A veterans wall about 180 feet long of polished black granite. It will contain the names of the 906 service personnel from 16 western Pennsylvania counties who died during the war and about 800 plaques bought by individuals and each

inscribed with the name of a veteran not necessarily a Korean War veteran - and his or her military history.

A flag plaza with four poles. One 25-foot pole will fly the state flag, another the POW/MIA flag. One 30-foot pole will fly Old Glory, and another will be what Stevens termed "an all-nations flagpole." The South Korean flag will fly from it Tuesday. Subsequently, the flag can be that of any nation.



The Pennsylvania Korean War Veterans Memorial.







Ed Stevens founded the Korean War Veterans Association of Western PA, Gen. Matthew Ridgway Chapter of which he's president. at Memorial in Roberto Clemente Park Pittsburgh, PA

The semicircular memorial itself, also of polished black granite and composed of nonattached columns that will allow sunlight to shine between them to illuminate, at different times of day, what he called 35 "inspirational words like 'honor,' 'duty' and 'country'... on the floor between the memorial and Stadium Drive. Stevens said some materials and labor have been donated. The fund raised money through the plaques, dinners and other activities, and has received private gifts plus grants from the city, county, state, foundations and corporations.

As a Korean War veteran, the memorial means to Stevens "that at least in western Pennsylvania there will be a structure that was built to recognize the service of those who were in the war in Korea – those who died and those who returned – and remind people of the sacrifices made in that war."



Robert E. Medberry found his plaque showing he served during the Korean War aboard the *USS Wisconsin* BB64. Robert is from Elyria, OH. This area is part of the new memorial in Pittsburgh.

*(Thank you Robert for photos of the new memorial in Pittsburgh, PA. We are also proud of you Robert for your service. Your plaque looks great..)*



Graybeards Editor Vincent Krepps pointing to twin brothers name Richard W. Krepps that is engraved on the memorial under Westmoreland County 20 miles southwest of Pittsburgh, PA where we were born and enlisted in the Army with 5 other hometown friends on September 2, 1949. Jack McClintock is also on the memorial. All five boyhood friends went to Korea in August 1950 in the same Battalion, different Batteries of the 82nd AAA AW (SP) 2nd Inf. Div. Richard and Jack were captured at Kunu-Ri, North Korea on or about 1 December 1950. Both are assumed to have died as POWs. Jack's remains have been returned. Richard is still assumed to be in North Korea at Camp #5 on the Yalu River.

*On my trip to PA to see the memorial I learned that I am the only one of the five that is still alive. God has been good to me and I think doing The Graybeards, thus remembering all of you and those that did not return is his reason for keeping me here. -Ed.*

*(Thank you Ed for the photos and the dedication booklet. I wish I could have printed it all. A great memorial. My family and I thank all of those responsible and for remembering.)*

## New York Remembers



Members of KWVA Nassau County Chapter place memorial plaque. Standing (l to r) are Jim Daros, Al Ratner and Carmine Serva. On ladder is Mike Martin.

The KWVA will be remembered at the American Legion Post #1711 in Levittown, NY. The members named above from KWVA Nassau County Chapter saw to that.

*(Thank you Hank Nowicki for photo and letter. We also thank your chapter members along with those named and the American Legion Post #1711 for this special honor.)*

**Need Raffle Tickets?...** Extra raffle tickets are being mailed to Chapters and Departments. If you need additional tickets contact your Chapter or Department President.



# Letters



## Korean War Memorial Tree

A Pin Oak Tree was donated by a Korean War Veteran, Mr. Robert Scully U.M.C. on October 25, 1991 to celebrate the completion of the Education Hall of the Cherry Hill First Korean United Methodist Church.



We are gathering here today to dedicate and name this tree the "Korean War Memorial Tree."

The Korean War, which became a just historical event, was one of the most destructive and wretched in the histories of war. It caused five million casualties and the entire Korean peninsula was trampled by battles. Ten million Koreans were separated from their families, and many are now dying without ever fulfilling their dreams of meeting their family members.

1. Through the naming ceremony of this tree:
2. We want to remind everyone of the tragedy, so as to remember that we do not want it to happen again.
3. We want to remember that our freedom today came in part through the blood and sacrifice of the 54,000 deaths of young American soldiers, and to give thanks to those who served in the war and to their family members.

Let us all participate for the unification of the two Korea's. The unification is the longing of the whole Korean folk and is the only way to solve the agony of the ten million Koreans separated from their families.

Myong Chol Lee, Korean Advisor to the President of KWVA  
(Thanks Myong for letter. We remember and thank the church for the Memorial Tree.)

## Killed in Action... Lost in a File Cabinet!!

*Situation:* Airman Samuel H. Rainey was a B-29 air crewman (gunner) in the Korean War. During a mission over North Korea in late 1951 or early 1952, his aircraft was severely damaged by enemy action. The B-29 was crippled and on fire. The pilot ordered the crew to bail out. Airman Rainey jumped and was lost in the Yellow Sea (life expectancy 20 min.) or over North Korea. His body was never recovered. Subsequently, his family was

notified of his death (KIA) in early 1952 and his mother (now deceased) received his government insurance. Airman Rainey's sole surviving next of kin is a brother John, who has no verifying paperwork or details in his possession.

*Dilemma:* The NJ Korean War Veterans Monument Committee (4710 Ventnor Ave, Atlantic City, NJ 08401) is in the process of erecting a monument to those South Jersey Veterans killed in the Korean War. There are currently 181 names, but this nineteen year old combat veteran will not be represented !!

*Reason:* His name does not appear on the KIA or MIA computer databases. Not only lost in action, but overlooked in the conversion of paper records to computer data!

*Background:* Sam and I were friends, enlisted in the Air Force on the same day (July 6, 1950), at the same place (US Post Office, Camden, NJ), and went through Basic Training together at Lackland AFB, TX. Our service numbers should be within two or three digits of each other. Mine was AF 123xxx56, his should end in 55, 57, or very close to it. His brother has requested information from NPRC in St Louis, MO but does not anticipate any immediate results.

His brother is seeking his Rank, Service Number, Unit of Assignment, Aircraft Number, Date of the KIA, and the circumstances relating to this action. I was amazed to find that Rainey's name was not on the list of those to be placed on the NJ Korean War Monument. It is devastating for me to think that this young man died by enemy action in the service of his country, and may not be recognized in his home state for this service. As a close friend and Korean veteran, I am hoping to bring to this veteran the recognition he justly deserves. Does anyone remember this mission, or Airman Rainey? I am available through American Legion Post 150. Contact James B. Lorenz, PO Box 152, Mt Ephraim, NJ 08059, or E-mail at [jbl-adanj007@juno.com](mailto:jbl-adanj007@juno.com)

*(Thank you James for the letter. This is sort of a looking for but has a more important message. Many who have died because of actions over or near Korea while the war was raging have been eliminated from memorials due to many reasons. We need to correct these omissions if we can, so please respond.)*

## Revisiting "Operation Big Switch"

Having read and enjoyed Robert B. Latour's, article "Operation Big Switch", I want to add some things that, from his point view of he no doubt could not see.

1. Coming by Chinese truck from the "hospital" where we were held for the last couple weeks, we noted that the returning Chinese, going the other way, were to put it mildly, fat as pigs. The road was strewn with new GI fatigues and boots and the Chinese were in their skivies. By contrast most of the Americans were rather thin, I weighed 147 lbs., down from a normal 175, but couldn't complain too much because I had gained some 40 or 50 lbs. from my low point.

2. The Chinese and no doubt the N. Koreans were in for a shock when they got past the big reception they received. At our camp, (Camp 2 annex) the Chinese had hauled in dozens of truck

loads of Goliang (sp), what we call sorghum grain to feed their returning troops and it was indicated to us by the guards that they were slated for some rather rigorous re-indoctrination. I'm sure glad they didn't feed us any more of that stuff than they did, it was really awful.

3. As to our returning men being quiet and subdued, I sure didn't feel subdued, you couldn't have wiped the grin off my face with a bulldozer. The truck load I was with were all very happy but we were not going to put on a big demonstration. We did try seriously to talk the Chinese interpreter, who had been in our camp, to come with us. He said he had family in China so couldn't. As an aside to this in the camp when the Chinese finally told us the truce had been signed, we just stood there until dismissed from ranks and then just turned and quietly walked away, much to the surprise of the Chinese commander. After a little conference between the big Chinese honcho's the interpreter (mentioned above) came to us and asked if we weren't happy that we would be going home soon, he was told we would have been a lot happier if they had told us a week before when it really happened. These were my observations on 31 August, 1953 and pretty much reflected what others had seen on their return.

To my best count there were only 22 Naval Aviators, of which I was one, and 2 Air Crewmen who came out of the prison camps. The Naval authorities seemed to be surprised that there were this many, but there were a couple of "dead" guys in the bunch, but that is another story.

Harlo E. (Ed) Sterrett, Jr. P00611  
Fighter Squadron 653, Air Task Group One  
USS Valley Forge (CV-45)  
Rt. 12, Box 810  
Poplar Bluff, MO, 63901-8225.

*(Thank you Harlo for the update. We welcome you home and honor your bravery. You saved many lives on the ground and we will remember your actions and those that did not return.)*

## Commemorating the Korean War 50th Anniversary

The Japanese American Korean War Veterans (JAKWV) are preparing final plans for an unprecedented all-veterans reunion on April 27-30, 2000 to be held in a Command Post to be established at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

In conjunction with the Reunion, a special tribute is planned to honor Korean War hero Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura, the only living American of Japanese Ancestry Medal of Honor recipient.

The families and relatives of those killed or missing in action during WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam War and other conflicts as well as those who died as prisoners of war will also be recognized during the reunion.

An added aspect of the Reunion is the fund-raising for the planned memorial for Americans of Japanese Ancestry (AJAS) who died in Korea during the war which is to be built in or near Seoul, Korea by the JAKWV. Korea Monument co-chairmen Ed Nakata and Min Tonai are visiting government officials in Korea to select the site and contract for the memorial listing the 246 AJAS who died in Korea during the conflict.



Nisei Week Princess Alissa Hiraga visits Americans of Japanese Ancestry Korean War Memorial with the name of her Uncle, Aranari Arthur Hiraga, killed in action during the Korean War

Ed Nakata stated, "We are presently visiting with the Korean government officials to select a site. Tentative locations are either in or near Seoul or at the site of Hershey Miyamura's one-man heroic stand and his eventual capture. It's our way of conveying to the people of the Republic of Korea that Americans of Japanese Ancestry served and sacrificed their lives for the freedom of South Korea."

The Reunion is open to veterans of all wars, families, friends and guests. President of the JA Korean War Veterans Robert Wada also extended his invitation to all Korean War era veterans, whether they are of Japanese ancestry or not, to attend. All Korean War era veterans are reminded that the JAKWV organization is for all Korean War veterans whether they served in Korea or not. The JAKWV is a war era group for all those who served during 1950-1955.

Registration forms, hotel reservation cards and booklet advertisement forms for the souvenir memorial booklet have been mailed. If you have not received your packet of forms or would like to receive a set, please contact Victor Muraoka, Tel 818-897-1533, Fax 818-897-1714, or Sam Shimoguchi, Tel & Fax 310-822-6688 or Robert Wada, 410 W. Amerige Ave., Fullerton, CA 92832, Tel 714-992-5461, Fax 714-525-9761, e-mail [rwainc@earthlink.net](mailto:rwainc@earthlink.net).

*(Thank you Robert for the letter and information for a super event. I had to reduce it some but full detail can be obtained by contacting those named above.)*

## A photo from the past

The photo tells it all. On May 16, 1953 our soldiers were still dying and also being wounded. This photo came by letter from Edward Murphy. He describes the photo being that of a MASH Unit at Kimpo Airfield removing wounded from helicopter while he was waiting to go on R & R to Camp Kokura, Japan for 5 days. The C154 Globemaster shown is being refueled for the





Mash Unit (8076th) removing wounded from helicopter at Kimpoo.

next mission. To the right of the helicopter you can see the canopies used to protect the wounded while in flight. As you can see these helicopters are not much more than a frame a protection for the pilot and co-pilot.

*(Thank you Edward for the special photo and letter of those Medical and Airforce heroes that allowed many of us to come home. Please do send more photos and stories.)*

## Lets start a new Chapter

I call upon all Korean War veterans here in Western Louisiana. There is a chapter now near New Orleans. If you like to start a chapter in this area then let me know by mail. My address is as follows: Tag M. Jensen, 1102 Dennis Ave, Leesville LA, 71446, or you may call me at 318-238-2598. If I am not home leave a message. You also can e-mail me at [korea@worldnetla.net](mailto:korea@worldnetla.net).

*(Thanks Tag for the letter, good luck and keep us informed.)*

## Thanks for the Memories

When going back to Tuscola and walking on the ground where the Korean War National Museum and Library will be built, I started to recall past memories of the 30's when my father was stationed at the University of Illinois with a Cavalry Unit when

they still had mules and horses. In the summer when school was out we would go riding through the corn and wheat fields. My father taught at a CCC Camp where the recruits were housed in three barracks on the east side of Tuscola. Today on these same grounds is a new school and playground. Little did I think when riding with my father that on this area there would be a museum



Tuscola Illinois The photo tells it all.

built for a war that I fought in during the 50's.

Ted Varner.

*(Thanks Ted for the memories. It is a small world. Please remember to send in your dues. New members and donations are needed for the construction phase. See Ad in this issue.)*

## Reunions brings veterans together after 46 years

Korean War veteran Ed Wern returned home with a smile last month with stories of the new friendships he had made. Wern attended a reunion of his fellow war veterans in Little Rock, Ark. "It just goes to show you that anything is possible," he said. Wren was a second lieutenant in the war and he specifically went to this year's reunion to speak with Walter True of Pflugerville, Texas, who served under Wern as a private. Wern met with True and his wife Susan and said he was fascinated to learn True had remained in the army after Korea and spent time in Vietnam. True spent 20 years in the army and retired as a master sergeant.

Wern said the reunion afforded them both the opportunity to make up for lost time and really get to know each other as peo-



Above: Lt. Wern in Korea standing in front of M-16.

Right: Wren, on the left, with True at the 1999 Reunion.



ple. In Korea they were in the 82nd AAA AW (SP) Bn. which was part of the 2nd Inf. Div.  
*(Thank you Ed for photos and story.)*

## Passing the message over the radio air waves

Daniel "Ed" Fenton, a former prisoner of war and a resident of Mount Dora was the guest on Veterans Cafe, September 30, 1999, a weekly radio program airing on radio station WLBE, Leesburg . The program is hosted by Ron Regan "The Old





Ed Fenton (left) and Ron Regan Host of radio program "Veterans Cafe."

Sarge."

Fenton stated many former POW's (Prisoners of War), in need of medical attention, have never availed themselves of the programs offered by the Veterans Administration. One of the reasons for this was a time restriction on filing for services. This inequity has been corrected. In 1981 Congress eliminated the one year block to filing. Another reason was the perception that Veteran Administration personnel displayed a negative attitude toward all veterans. The Veteran's Administration outlook has changed and its "members go the extra mile when it comes to assisting veterans", Fenton said

The Mount Dora resident was serving with the 555th Artillery (known as the triple nickel) Fifth Regimental Combat Team which was attached to the 24th Infantry Division when he was captured April 22, 1951, by the Chinese Communists, at the 38th Parallel. Three hundred Americans were taken prisoner at the time and forced to march to a prison camp four miles from the Yalu River. Only two hundred survived the march. Fenton spent 28 months as a POW. An active member of the POW Association, Fenton stated the latest information they have is recent sightings have been made of Americans still being held by the Communists.

Fenton is on the Board of Directors of Lake County Chapter # 169, Korean War Veterans Association. He also serves as the Chapter's Membership Committee Chairman. The Chapter meets at 2:00 P.M. the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Leesburg Senior Citizens Center, 1211 Penn Street, Leesburg. Former POW 's are invited to attend a Chapter meeting. Fenton said he would be available to assist them relative to any entitled benefits. He also extended the invitation to former POW's not from the Korean War who are seeking assistance.

Mr. Regan expressed sorrow that time did not permit their exploring many other veteran and former POW matters and asked the former POW if he would be willing to appear on a future program. Fenton stated he "would be happy to."

*(Thank you Joe Turner for sending in photo and story. Great job Ed. We welcome you home. We also thank Ron Regan for giving you the opportunity to tell your story.)*

## 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

Aronica, J.	Jannsen, H.	Trevino, R.
Ballou, J.	Jantos, E.	Tucker, W.
Becker, J.	Jeffery, D.	Vanderhave, N.
Calabria, J.	Jenkins, S.	Wahlhaupter, W.
Chilcott, T.	Jensen, T.	Wainwright, M.
Cirincione, A.	Krakovsky, J.	Walker, S.
Cloman, J.	Krepps, V.	Whitt, E.
Cook, K.	Lair, G.	Wiedhahn, W.
D'alessandro, L.	Landis, C.	
De Andre, L.	Marcarelli, R.	<b>Organizations:</b>
Defebaugh, S.	Marschhauser, N.	Central L I Chapter
Dieterle, J.	Morgan, W.	5th RCT Assn.
Dodson, J.	O'Keefe, C.	25th Military Police Co.
Domanoski, R.	Pakkala, G.	<b>In Memory of:</b>
Easterly, W.	Papaycik, E.	T-Sgt. John M. Garmon
Garmon, P.	Rechtenbach, R.	(By Parks M. Garmon, Sr.)
German, D.	Rehfeldt, W.	Robert Wayne McDermott
Glock, R.	Robinson, D.	(By John M. Konen)
Gould, D.	Rutter, R.	Cpl. Robert W. Mc Henry
Heefner, W.	Shearer, J.	KIA 2nd Inf. Div.
Hoffman, R.	Sterne, C.	(By Hiram B. Hollingshead)
Hosler, W.	Short, J.	Thomas E. O' Keefe
House, E.	Tamplin, J.	(By Clair T. O' Keefe)
	Torchio, V.	Lt. Donald Rietsma - MIA
		355 Fighter Interceptor Sqd.
		(By W. L. Easterly)

### President Harley J. Coon to seek re-election

I have been asked if I would run for another term. This past 2 years has been a challenge. I have enjoyed working with everyone on the board and the membership. I feel that working together we have put the KWVA on the right course.

We are sound financially and "The Graybeards" has become the best veterans magazine. With the 50th Commemoration coming up, I would like to lead the Korean veterans during the next 2 years. We should work together to unite all Korean war-era veterans. I will ask for your support.

# D.C. Affairs

J. Norbert "Skip" Reiner, National Director for D.C. Affairs



## Veteran Services Report

**Homeless Veterans:** Stand-Downs are periodically conducted throughout the U.S. to attract the homeless veterans to get medical treatment, have their records reviewed, get them into rehabilitation programs and so forth. Please participate in these, events. Many Korean War veterans are in this group. Some have fallen on hard times because their income level is below the poverty line., Many have mental problems. You can provide a service such as haircuts, shaves, donate/obtain clothing, feeding, aiding with forms/applications and some counseling.

**Drugs, Chemicals and Alcohol:** These cause too many problems for veterans. The Chemical aspect is a problem. Thanks to those who have sent data on chemicals used in Korea. Alcohol has been a serious disease since time began with military people. Our Korean War Veterans have a significant number in this category. If you have a problem with any of the aforementioned seek aid at the VA Medical Center nearest you.

**Frostbite:** you should not be denied treatment of frostbite at a VAMC. Refer to the interview of Dr. Kiser in a previous *Graybeards*.

**How to Handle Your Claim:** Remember the DAV is our official representative. I get many calls from Korean War Vets. The first question I ask is "which veteran service officer is representing you." Let an experienced VSO handle your case. There is no charge.

**Burial Honors:** It is the, law. Every veteran is entitled to receive burial honors. At the minimum, there. will be two representatives of the U. S. Armed forces at a veterans burial site. One must be from the military branch in which you served. The person presenting the flag will be from your branch of service. One or perhaps two of the persons will be activated from a reserve or national guard unit. Buglers are sought. If one is unavailable Taps will be rendered electronically. If you know or have a bugler in your chapter please request him to volunteer. Firing squads most likely will be volunteers. You can form your squad and obtain ceremonial rifles. A kit on Burial Honors, will

become available in late January. If your chapter seriously will participate please advise and I will supply one. Join with other Vet organization and meet with the local Funeral Directors Assoc. representative regarding this matter.

## Legislative Report

*Norbert Reiner and John Kenney*

**Korean War Service Medal:** It is approved by the Department of Defense. When will it be issued? How can I obtain it? Further discussions are scheduled with the DoD representative and Assistant Defense Military Attaché from the Korean embassy. There are several concerns about distribution, cost, locating eligible Korean War Veterans, and to whom the manufacture will distribute same. A meeting is planned for the major veterans organizations for input on distribution and location of Korean War Veterans. There are several scenarios regarding issue of the KWSM. It may first be presented at the annual Commemoration Ceremony conducted by the Korean War Veterans Foundation (their subsidiary —Korean War Veterans Armistice Day Coordinating Committee) to MOH recipients or others who have earned distinction. This has not been finalized. *Beware, do not purchase an imitation.* Their is only one legitimate manufacturer and distributor authorized by the Republic of Korea. There are many look alikes on the market. We are sure the medal will be released at the start of the 50th Anniversary Ceremonies. We have waited 47 years for medal; please be patient until the distribution details are complete. You will be informed through your local Department and/or Chapter president.

**Congressional Charter:** It got stuck in the Judiciary Committee of the House, it is in the subcommittee for Immigration and Claims. The immigration bill is the culprit. Hopefully it will clear sometime during the second half of the 106th congress. Write to your local congressmen expressing your wish to have this matter resolved quickly by having it voted on separately and sent to the floor or made an amendment to another bill. It is a no-money bill.

**Military Retirees:** You may be able to

join the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plans(s). Several test sites have been selected for this program.

**Active Duty and Retired Servicemen:** You are scheduled for a 4.4% increase in pay and allowance as of 1 Jan. 2000. The second half of the program will raise your pay from 1% to 5.5% effective 1 July 2000. The REDUX is repealed for those who began military service on or after 1 August 1986.

**Military Under NATO or UN Commanders:** Military and veterans coalitions/alliances and individually are demanding Congress reject any and all efforts by the White House to place our troop under command of other the U. S. Military Officers. More on this later.

**Annual commemoration ceremony:** The Annual commemoration ceremony at the Korean War Memorial is conducted by the Korean War Veterans Armistice Day Coordinating Committee (KWVAD-CC) a subsidiary of the Korean War Veterans Foundation (KWVF). The KWVF is the non profit organization who initiated the start of the Korean War Memorial in 1979 with Chion Kim. The groups lobbied for 27 July as a Day Of Recognition for Korean War Veterans.

Ceremonies for July 27, 2000 will begin at 1000 Hours. The prelude may commence, earlier as others will provide entertainment suited for this occasion. Details and additions are arranged with and approved by the National Capitol Park Service (Department of Interior). Units attending the ceremony will be processed by groups to expedite seating and allow for the earlier seating for general public. Korean War Veterans will be seated in the center section as they applied for seats. We have been requested to locate a supplier of water. We cry Freedom Is Not Free, neither is the annual commemorative ceremony. Everything has a cost and donations are welcome; send to: KWVF, 1801 Saw Mill Run Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15210 (made payable to KWVF.) If you bring a color guard please inform the KWVADCC, Director or Deputy Director, 6632 Kirkley Ave., McLean, VA 22101-5510 no later than 15 May 2000. Fax data if

you wish to 703-893-6313 The Korean War Veterans National Honor Guard is provided by Maryland. The National Capitol Parks Service needs data to assure they provides chairs for these units.

If certain VIPs attend security screening is invoked (other than the security sweep) by the Secret Service, Federal Police, and National Park Police. Carry a photo identification with you in the event you are challenged for some reason.

The Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) formal ceremony may be deferred until 1430 Hours. You may purchase your lunch at the NCO Club, Ft. Myers, the PX, or bowling alley snack bars. No food or beverages (other than water provided) may be brought to the Memorial, ANC, or Ft. Myers. This is strictly enforced. This includes box lunches in busses and other vehicles. The schedule and other data are included in this issue of *The Graybeards*.

## 1999 KWVA National raffle winner



Jim Sharp, KWVA member from Texas holds M-1 he won in raffle with ticket seller Joe Bolton, 1st VP Gulf Coast Chapter Mobile, Alabama..

Jim Sharp, KWVA member from Texas, won an M-1 in the national raffle. Jim picked up the rifle at the Holiday Inn during the KWVA National Reunion in Mobile, AL.

*(Thanks to Neil Livingston for photo and congratulations to Neil for being named Mobile Bay Area Veteran of the year. Get well Neil, KWVA needs you!)*

### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS III ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20310-0111

December 30, 1999

Mr. Harley J. Coon  
President  
Korean War Veterans Association  
4120 Industrial Lane  
Beavercreek, OH 45430

Dear Mr. Coon:

The Secretary of the Army has directed the U.S. Army Inspector General to conduct a review to determine the facts surrounding reports of civilian deaths near No Gun Ri (Nokuen-Ri), Republic of Korea, in July 1950.

We encourage all persons with information on No Gun Ri, especially Korean War veterans who served with the 1st Cavalry Division in late July 1950, to contact the U. S. Army Inspector General Agency. The Agency would like to reach as many veterans as possible who may have information to share about these events.

Should any of your members wish to provide information on No Gun Ri, please encourage them to use the Toll Free Number 1-877-379-5596 to communicate with the U.S. Army Inspector General review team. Individuals wishing to e-mail comments can reach the U.S. Army Inspector General web site by accessing the Army Homepage at [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil). Persons can also mail Information to the following address:

Department of the Army  
Office of the Inspector General  
Attn: SAIG-ID (No Gun RI)  
1700 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-1700

The Secretary of the Army has asked me to provide regular updates to Veterans' Organizations, as well as to the Congress, on the progress of this review. I conducted the first update for Veterans' Service Organizations on November 22, 1999. The inspector General Review Team or my staff will be in periodic contact with you regarding future meetings.

Finally, I would also like to reaffirm our commitment to honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War Veterans. Their heroism in a struggle against aggression warrants an unrelenting effort on the part of the Department of Defense to find and report the truth about No Gun Ri.

If you have any questions, please call our toll free number. On behalf of the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Army, I would like to thank you for your assistance.

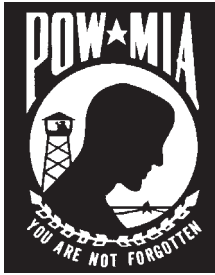
Sincerely,

Patrick T. Henry  
Assistant Secretary of the Army  
(Manpower and Reserve Affairs)



# Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

Korean War/Cold War Document Family Research



November 24, 1999

## Remains Servicemen Returned to U.S.

Remains believed to be those of 11 unaccounted-for American servicemen from two wars arrived at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, last week.

Two sets of remains from Laos and six from Vietnam were returned to U.S. possession during ceremonies earlier in the week in Vientiane and Hanoi, respectively. Those eight, plus three others repatriated from North Korea, arrived on a U. S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III. Their arrival at Hickam AFB begins the identification phase at the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory-Hawaii

The eight sets of remains from Laos and Vietnam were recovered by military and civilian members of Joint Task Force-Full Accounting and the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory-Hawaii during three separate search and recovery missions held from August to November. The three sets of remains from North Korea were recovered in October and November by a team from the U.S. Army's CILHI.

Joint U.S./North Korean efforts to recover more than 8,200 unaccounted-for Americans from the Korean War began in 1996. To date, three servicemen from that effort have been identified and returned home to their families, with many others currently in the identification phase.

More information about the U.S. government's worldwide mission to account for its missing servicemen can be found on the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Affairs office website at [www.dtic.mil/dpmo](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo).

## Moscow Plenary Meeting Concludes

The 16th plenary session of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs was held recently in Moscow. After a year during which the commis-

sion's work was complicated by political-military developments, there was optimism that its humanitarian work in search of information on missing American and Russian servicemen would be revitalized.

The U. S. co-chairman of the commission is retired Maj. Gen. Roland Lajoie. He met for the first time in this position in plenary session with the Russian co-chairman, Gen. -Maj. Vladimir Antonovich Zolotarev, and with the other commissioners.

Information of value to the commission is gained primarily through archival research and interviews of veterans, government officials and other knowledgeable Russian and American citizens. During this plenary session, specific proposals for expanded archival access and interviews were discussed in the commission's four working groups: Vietnam War; Korean War; Cold War; and WW II.

Highlights of the sessions included conversations with former KGB directors Semichastniy and Kryuchkov, and a meeting with Gen.-Col. Manilov of the general staff which touched on improved access to relevant Korean War documents at the Central Archives of the Ministry of Defense at Podolsk as a first step to broadening our overall archival research.

The U. S. side also presented a comprehensive briefing on U. S. POWs in Vietnam. A. Denis Clift, the U.S. co-chairman of the Cold War working group, accepted a request for information on Soviet servicemen who served in Afghanistan. The Russian side provided a very positive update on the research in the Central Navy archives in Gatchina regarding several Cold War incidents.

The Korean War working group developed a plan of action for authenticating reports that have come to the commission's attention about the presence of American servicemen said to have been observed in Soviet camps or other detention facilities. The chairman of the WWII working group provided his counterparts documents relating to Soviet air losses over Yugoslavia during WW II.

Both the U. S. and Russian sides renewed their commitment to continue cooperative efforts in search of informa-

tion to clarify the circumstances of loss and to establish the fates of missing servicemen of both sides.

## Researchers Find POW/MIA Data at Records Center

Staff members from DPMO and CILHI conducted research last week at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis to review selected Korean War files which may add details about the status of servicemen missing from that war

Prior to the trip, DPMO compiled a list of several hundred Korean War personnel who remain unaccounted-for. The NPRC retrieved 235 personnel files although many files were destroyed in the 1973 fire. The team copied data related to losses from each of the four services. The data found includes: report of death memoranda on U.S. Army personnel who were killed in action or who died while prisoners of war. These were among the approximately 1,200 such memoranda copied during the last three research trips to St. Louis. The memoranda contain statements of individuals who witnessed the deaths of specific individuals. Some contain specific burial locations. The records also contain circumstances of loss and investigations of loss incidents, some of which number 60 pages in length. Copies were provided to CILHI and the data will also be disseminated to the next-of-kin through the service casualty offices.

Since the NPRC files records requests with the records, the researchers were also able to recover addresses of nearly 100 next-of-kin. The addresses are being provided to the services to assist in their outreach effort to Korean War families.

The team located data on four members of the crew of the USS Brush, who were lost when the ship hit a mine. Their remains were recovered shortly after the incident but they were carried as MIA on the PMKOR. Navy Casualty will remove those names from the PMKOR.

Also found was information on three U.S. Navy personnel lost on Dec. 30, 1946 in an aircraft supporting Adm. Byrd's Antarctic expedition. Their remains were buried in snow at a location specified on their certificates of death.

The team continued its review of U.S. Army morning reports for Nov.-Dec. 1950. To date, 45 reels of microfilm have been reviewed, with each reel containing hundreds of reports. These reports provide an accurate accounting of servicemen who were listed either as MIA or KIA in major engagements during that period.

The morning report data will be analyzed to provide more precise unit data, date of loss, and status for specific individuals listed on PMKOR. Some of this data has already been forwarded to the next-of-kin. Thus far, the focus of the morning report research has been on the 1st Cavalry Division and the 7th Infantry Division for November and December 1950. Other units' morning reports will be reviewed on future trips to the NPRC.

*November 30, 1999*

### **Archival Research Leads to PMKOR Updates**

During a trip to the National Personnel Records Center, DPMO researchers found documentation that led to the removal of six Navy personnel from PMKOR, the database which lists MIA servicemen from the Korean War.

The Navy casualty office recently contacted the next-of-kin of a seaman listed on PMKOR. He related that the seaman's remains had been recovered and interred in the U.S. shortly after the loss incident in September 1950.

The Navy asked DPMO to obtain copies of the deck logs for the USS Brush from the National Archives at College Park, Md. A DPMO researcher found the deck logs and a statement that two sets of remains had been recovered. (A total of nine seamen were listed on PMKOR from the USS Brush loss incident).

After the Navy casualty office requested the personnel records for the two seamen whose remains had been recovered, they found documentation indicating that the remains of other personnel may have been recovered. Two weeks ago, DPMO researchers reviewed the personnel records of an additional four seamen and found documentation which indicated that all four sets of remains had been recovered from the USS Brush loss incident and repatriated to the U.S.

### **Belarus Official Presents Pow Materials**

Two DPMO staff members from the Joint Commission Support Directorate met recently in New York with Gen. Lt Nikolai I. Cherginets, Chairman of the Committee for International Affairs and National Security, Belarus Parliament. The general passed copies of POW-related materials brought from Minsk for JCSD analysis. Cherginets expressed the Belarus government's desire to continue working closely with the U.S. on POW/MIA matters. Belarus has been supportive of our POW/MIA accounting mission, and has assisted in arranging a number of important interviews with Belarus veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars.

*December 13, 1999*

### **Alaska Peak Named in Honor of POWs, MIAs**

Mount POW/MIA is now a reality in Alaska, thanks to a unanimous decision by the U.S. Boards on Geographic Names. The Board, voted on October 21 to name a 4,314 foot peak "Mount POW/MIA" approved the proposal forwarded by the Chair of the Alaska Historical Commission., Lt. Governor Fan Ulmer.

"I applaud the actions of the Board on Geographic Names and the Alaska Historical Commission in naming this peak in honor of our veterans," said Interior Secretary Babbitt. "I am proud to be a part of a well-deserved recognition and unique reminder of those courageous men and women that answered our nation's call."

Vietnam veteran John Morrissey of Patterson, New York proposed the name. Morrissey, who had previously lived and worked in Alaska, had been searching for a suitable monument to honor approximately 800,000 Americans who served as Prisoners of War or remain listed as Missing in Action. In June 1999, he planted a flag atop the unnamed peak, approximately six miles southeast of Wasilla, Alaska. It is in direct view from Wasilla's "Veteran's Wall of Honor," a local, popular roadside memorial.

In Alaska, the Historical Commission has designation over geographic names within the state. "Even though we officially adopted the mountain as Mount

POW/MIA, it was not an official U.S. name until it was accepted by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names," explained Lt. Gov. Ulmer. "I am very pleased the federal government has agreed to recognize this special peak as Mount POW/MIA. It gives special meaning to veterans." Said Ulmer.

Governor Knowles, a Vietnam Army veteran, said "It's a fitting tribute to POWs and MIAs. We must never forget them and this peak will be a permanent reminder to us. My thanks to the many veterans and veterans groups in Alaska and around the country who supported this idea."

The peak, in Chugach State Park, is at 61 degrees 26 minutes 47 seconds north latitude and 149 degrees 11 minutes 47 seconds west longitude.

*December 17, 1999*

### **North Korean Talks End Without Agreement**

U.S. and North Korean negotiators ended talks in Berlin late Friday, Dec. 17, 1999 without reaching agreement on joint recoveries of the remains of American servicemen missing in action from the Korean War.

The three days of negotiations were to establish a schedule of operations in North Korea for the coming year. U.S. teams have conducted remains recovery operations in North Korea each year since 1996. In these four years, 42 sets of remains believed to be American soldiers were recovered over 12 operations. Three of the soldiers have been identified and returned to their families for burial with full military honors. The U.S. teams, led by the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii conducted recovery operations in several battlefield areas of North Korea, including Unsan county and the Chong Chon River, each approximately 60 miles north of Pyongyang.

The negotiators discussed ways to continue cooperation on remains recovery operations, but failed to reach an overall agreement as the North Korean side sought to link an extensive humanitarian aid program to the remains recovery operations. The sides set no date for future discussions, but the United States will continue efforts to conclude an agreement consistent with past arrangements.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by President Harley Coon. President Coon welcomed everyone. Colors were posted by the Gulf Coast Chapter Color guard. The National Anthem was sang by Mary Fenton. The pledge was led by Ed Fenton.

**Roll call:**

President Harley Coon  
1st Vice President Ed L. Magill  
2nd Vice President Ken Cook  
Past President Nick Pappas  
Director Ted Truesdale  
Director Jack Edwards  
Director Ed Grygier  
Director Bill Van Ort  
Director C.J. Rittenhouse  
Director Richard Danielson  
Director John Settle  
Director Dorothy Schilling  
Excused were:  
Director Don Barton  
Director Bob Morga  
Director Tom Clawson

Arriving late was Director Rusty Tramonte  
Invocation by Director Jack Edwards

Rules of the meeting were read. Motion to accept meeting rules by Director Jack Edwards seconded by Director Dot Schilling The motion carried.

Tom Gregory was introduced as the National treasurer. All present were ask to introduced themselves.

A motion was made by Director Ed Magill and seconded by Director Dot Schilling to pay for expenses for Korean visitors. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Ed Grygier and seconded by Director Ken Cook to accept minutes of last meeting. The motion carried. President Coon appointed Howard Camp as temporary secretary. Appointment approved.

The meeting was turned over to Director Jack Edwards for discussion on by-laws. Director Edwards was informed a National Charter was applied for, it was approved by Senate in September as reported by Norm Reiner. Jack Edwards asked for five minutes recess. After the recess a motion was made by Director Ken Cook and seconded by Ed. Grygier to table changes in by-laws until July 2000. Discussion. Board did not want to interfere with National Charter. The motion carried

A motion was made by Director Skip Rittenhouse and seconded by Jack Edwards to discuss Past President voting. Discussion by Director Dot Schelling, Director Skip Rittenhouse and 1st Vice President Ed Magill about by-laws.

A motion was made by Director Ken Cook and seconded by Ed Grygier that in accordance with the by-laws the past President has no vote.

The vote was by secret ballot with six yes and six no votes tie broke by President Coon. The motion carried. Membership report given by Director Ken Cook.

A motion was made by Director Jack Edwards and seconded by Director Rusty Tramonte to

accept membership report. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Richard Danielson and seconded by 1st Vice President Ed Magill to send copies of membership report to executive committee on June 30 and Dec. 31 and publish in the Graybeards. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Ed Grygier and seconded by Director Ted Truesdale to accept Quartermaster report. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Jack Edwards and seconded by 2nd Vice President Ken Cook to accept J. Norm Reiner's Washington D. C. report. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Bill Van Ort and seconded by Director Jack Edwards to call for election, for the office of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and 4 Directors terms to begin July 27, 2000. The motion carried.

*Meeting recessed for lunch.*

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by President Coon.

A motion was made by Director Dot Schilling and seconded by Director Ed Grygier to accept Scholarship Report of Director Bill Van Ort The motion carried.

The Treasurer report was presented by Finance chairman Dorothy Schilling.

A motion to accept finance report by 2nd Vice President Ken Cook seconded by Ed Gryger. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Dot Schilling and seconded by Director Bill Van Ort to accept Andrew Schultz as CPA. The motion carried.

The Finance Committee recommended that there must be two signatures for approval of payment of bills. That there must be two signatures on each check. The Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, the 1st Vice president or the President be authorized signatures. Each month, the treasurer will furnish the chairman of finance committee a print out of the check register and a finance report. There will be a finance report in the Graybeards at the end of each quarter.

A motion was made to accept recommendation of finance committee. The voting was as follows: 1st Vice President Ed Magill-yes 2nd Vice President Ken Cook-yes, Director Rusty Tramonte- no, Director Ted Trousdale-yes. Director Jack Edwards-yes, Director Ed Grygier-yes, Director Bill Van Ort-yes, Director C.J.Rittenhouse-abstained, Director Richard Danielson-yes, Director John Settle-yes, Director Dot Schilling-yes, The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Dot Schilling and seconded by 2nd Vice President Ken Cook to pay the balance of \$25,505 to the education scholarship fund that KVV'VA that is due.. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Dot Schilling and seconded by Director Jack Edwards to sell Quartermaster supplies to 2nd Vice President Ken Cook.. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Bill Van Ort and seconded by Director Ed Grygier to continue to give free advertising space in Graybeards

to the National Korean War Museum. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Rusty Tramonte and seconded by Director Ed Grygier to bring recommendation before membership to buy a brick for \$300.00 for museum. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Dot Schilling and seconded by Ed Grygier to utilize funds from the raffle of weapons as funding for the Graybeards and operational expenses for the year 2000-2003 Commemoration. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Jack Edwards and seconded by Director Bill Van Ort to proceed with raffle. The motion carried.

A motion made by Director Ed Grygier and seconded by Director Jack Edwards to proceed forward selling advertisement in the 50th Commemoration Convention Program. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director John Settle and seconded by 1st Vice President Ed Magill to order plaques for six people for their work in getting the Korean Service Medal. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Bill Van Ort and seconded by Director Jack Edwards to present to the membership a recommendation that each board member be allotted \$400.00 each to help defray expense for Reunion and Meeting. The funds would come from interest earned on investments. The motion carried

A motion was made by 2nd Vice President Ken Cook and seconded by 1st Vice President Ed Magill adjourned. the Meeting.

National Assistant Chaplain Howard Camp gave closing, prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm  
9/13/99 9:30 am

Meeting convened 2nd Vice President Ken Cook to head Nominating Committee discussion about Proxy ballots in voting. Much discussion about voting. 824 votes turned in. Copied voted — 259 other 11. It could change the outcome of election. We may have a challenge. When Vince Krepps printed ballots in July, it said that they could be copied. The by-laws say ballot cannot be copied. And no proxy votes.

A motion to up hold the Election by-laws by 2nd Vice President Ken Cook second by Director Jack Edwards. The motion carried

The next meeting date has not been decided upon. A VAVS report from Norman Kantor was distributed. Report was accepted.

National Treasure Tom Gregory thanked the Board and Finance Committee for their cooperation. National Assistant Chaplain Howard Camp gave closing, prayer.

Meeting adjourned

*NOTICE: Any corrections needed for the above minutes will be reviewed at the Executive Council Meeting to be held on March 25, 2000 at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, VA.*



Hat ad-1  
pg 27

Hat ad-2  
Pg 28

Hat ad-3  
Pg 29



# Chapter Affairs

## Greater Cleveland Chapter of Ohio



Holding KWVA Banner, from left to right, are Mrs. Kathryn Becks and Mrs. Patty O'Hara. Standing in front of his color guard is, President Joseph F. Shearer. The color guard from (l) to (r) Arthur Becks, Bill Stacey, Bob Lahman, Charles Keller, Frank Aleksandrowicz, Rev Irvin Sharp, Sgt At Arms. Robert O'Hara, Frank Zoretich, Joe Farris and Vice President Paul Romonovich. Not in the picture but also at the parade were, Mrs. Patty Romonovich, Mrs. Helen Keller, Mrs. Fran Lahman and Mrs. Barbara Farris

The KWVA Greater Cleveland Chapter was well represented in the 1999 Corn Fest Parade. The 50th Anniversary Flag was presented in this parade and 500 pins were passed out along the parade route. Some people were pretty upset that we ran out of pins. We made a lot of people aware of the Korean War and most were surprised to know that 50 years has gone by. A lot of young people never even knew about the Korean War. Where have we been?

*(Thank you for photo and letter about an event held in Ohio. Those shown and named above told America.)*

## Missouri Chapter #1

Our Tell America Program is still very active. Our chapter has made presentations to 8,860 student since the beginning of Tell America in 1995. Middle School teachers who work with advanced students, usually 7th or 8th graders have recently approached us. The last school attended was probably the most attentive we have ever visited. They were 7th grade students and very interested in our story.

There is also a program in St. Louis County called SCOPE which is an alternative school providing educational opportunities for students that have been suspended from school for various reasons. Instead of roaming the streets or being home without supervision, these students attend classes without being in the normal environment at school. Therefore they miss sports and social activities, but are still getting their education. This program has helped many troubled students turn themselves around.

Until recently, we were approaching only high school junior and seniors. We have found these other groups are receptive to our program. Possibly other chapters throughout the country

may consider taking their programs into these additional situations.

*(Thanks Dwight Henderson for keeping us informed of your great program.)*

## Lopes/Ferris Chapter of Massachusetts



Attending the SAnnual Scholarship Supper, from left to right, National Director Rusty Tramonte; Jack Dowd, President of the Massachusetts Memorial Chapter, Boston; President Hank Carver, Lopes/Ferris Chapter and John E. Woelfel, 1st Vice President, Mass Memorial, Boston.

The Lopes/Ferris Chapter KWVA, Marshfield, MA, held its Annual Scholarship Benefit Turkey and Ham Supper recently, which was a tremendous success. We will be able to give another scholarship to a worthy student again this year.

*(Thank you Hank for photo. A great event given by special people who care.)*

## KWVA Chapter #142 of Maryland



Members shown left to right are: Robert Miles, Robert Cannon, Charles Kopelman, Robert Candill, James Patterson, Charles Wisner, Creed Parker and past national officer James Martin. Our chapter is now over 2 years old with over 145 members.

*(Thank you Charles for photo and update. Super progress.)*

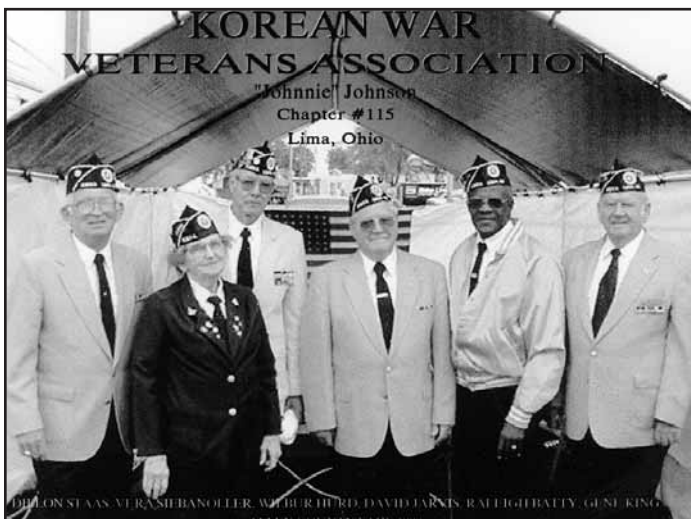
## "Johnnie" Johnson Chapter #115 of Lima, Ohio



The Officers of the Lima Ohio "Johnnie" Johnson Chapter #115 being sworn in above are (l. to r). Taylor Hale and Howard Kohler (Trustees), Bill Chidester (Sgt. at Arms), Walter Huffer (Treasurer), Wilbur Hurd (Secretary), Bob Stratton (Trustee), David Jarvis (2nd Vice President), Stanley Hill (Assistant Chaplain).

"The Lima Ohio "Johnnie" Johnson Chapter #115 KWVA held their election of officers in July. They were sworn in by KWVA National President Harley Coon shown in picture at right. Next to flag is ex-POW George Bingham, who was in POW camp same time as Mr. Coon. "Johnnie" Johnson, also a former POW, was present. George Bingham has his left hand on the American Flag with President Gene King's left hand on George's right shoulder, and each officer doing the same in a traditional "solidarity" ceremony.

*(Thank you Wilbur Hurd for photo and chapter update.)*



The members of "Johnnie" Johnson Chapter #115 pictured are (from left to right) Dillon Staas, Newsletter Editor; Vera Siebanoller, Historian; Wilbur Hurd, Secretary; Davis Jarvis, 2nd VP; Raleigh Batty and Gene King, Chapter President at ribbon cutting ceremony at the opening of the Allen County Fair. Our chapter was chosen to lead off the annual fair parade this year.

*(Thanks, Dillon for the photo and letter. Another super event.)*

**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.

## Central Florida Chapter #153



Pictured are ladies from various KWVA Auxiliary Chapters in Florida who attended the Ladies Luncheon at the 15th Annual KWVA National Reunion in Mobile Alabama, on Sept. 14th. The Ladies of the KWVA Auxiliaries say the reunion was a rousing success and we hope to attend many more.

*(Thank you Helen Saccente (back row, far right) for photo and your views on the reunion. We are proud of your contributions to our chapters and national.)*

## Central Jersey Chapter # 148

Elected to office at the July 1st meeting were:

President .....B Erwin Hampson;  
Vice President ..... B John O'Boyle and  
Re-Elected Secretary-Treasurer .....B Arnold Wolfson  
New Address for Chapter # 148

Korean War Veterans Ass'n  
Central Jersey Chapter 148  
P.O. Box 125  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816-0125

*(Thank you Erwin for the update. Please send this information to Nancy Monson per her message on page 5 of November-December issue of the Graybeards. We expect to reprint new lists and also place in the Graybeards. We need all chapters and departments to respond to this request.)*



## Nassau County Chapter #58 of New York



From left to right, Al Ratner, Lou Valeo and Irwin Braun at Chaminade High School.

Chaminade High School  
Mineola, New York 11501-2307

Dear Mr. Braun and Associates,

Once again you and your associates came to Chaminade and treated us to an outstanding lecture on the nature of the Korean War. Over one hundred members of the Social Studies Club were present for your excellent first account of one of our forgotten wars. Needless to say you performed an important service to our students.

I am sure that you were able to judge the level of our appreciation by the interest of the students during your presentation and by their many questions after the formal part of our program.

Thank you once again for a most informative afternoon. Enclosed please find several pictures from this current lecture.

God bless you, your associates, and your work.

Respectfully yours,

Brother Lawrence Syriac, S.M.  
Chairman, Social Studies

*(Thank you Al Ratner, Lou Valeo, and Irwin Braun for your special service for Korean War Veterans in remembering our deeds.)*

## Eagle Chapter of New York



The Korean War Veterans, Eagle Chapter, of Rockland County, held their yearly dinner-dance on Veterans Day November 11th, at the Comfort Inn in Nanuet, N.Y. We had a great turnout! The music by Do-Wop was fantastic. A good time was had by all. Keep this date in mind for next year!!

*(Thank you Rocky Marcarelli for photo of a super event. )*

## Indiana Chapter 2



At the July 24, 1999 remembrance of the armistice ending the Korean War: Front row, left to right: Marilyn Wagner, Fred Priest, Ed Cavanaugh, President Betty Baker. Back row, left to right: State Department President Franklin Littleton, John Rutledge, Loran McMaster, Don Easterly and unknown Korean Veteran.

*(Thank you John for the photo and remembering our war.)*

## Cpl. Kivlehan Chapter #66 of NY



At the Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter, KWVA Memorial on Staten Island are combat veterans of the Korean War who were interviewed for appearances on the History Channel's "Fire and Ice" which was shown in September 1999. They are (left to right) 2nd VP Joseph Pirrello, Frank Fonseca, Danny Di Tonno, Cono Lombardi, Trustee Bernie Hoganson, Albert Fowler, President Joseph Calabria, 1st VP Jordan Czerniawski, John Calvo, Pat Scarpato, Yale Rossett, Bernie Iamm Matteo, John Battaglia and Paul Martin.

Korean War Veterans along with veterans from all wars march in Veterans Day Parade in New York City. A ceremony was held at the Soldier's Monument in Madison Square Park which was attended by many dignitaries including Mayor Guiliani. Next year this parade will march up Fifth Avenue and will be dedicated to Korean War Veterans and the 50 Year Anniversary of the Korean War.

Members of the Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter, were interviewed for appearances on the History Channel's "Fire and Ice" which was shown in September 1999. Although eighteen members of the chapter were interviewed and related their experiences in Korea, only 6 appeared on the TV show. National President Harley Coon and past editor Sherman Pratt appeared





Veterans Day Parade in New York City

and contributed much to enlighten viewers of the severity and tactics of the war.

*(Thank you Bernie for photos and super veterans involved in special events.)*

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



From the Pfc. Stanley A. Gogoj Chapter #38 of Pennsylvania (left to right) are: Edward Corbeil, John Barlas, John Rdesinski, John Plenskojski, President, Frank A. Chivaroli and John Mitchell, Jr. Commander, Honor Guard.

Pfc. Stanley A. Gogoj, was the first man from Philadelphia and possibly Pennsylvania reported killed in action during the Korean War. Pfc. Stanley A. Gogoj, was killed in Korea on June 30, 1950. We named our Korean War Veterans Chapter Association in honor of him. Chapter was founded on June 9, 1991. I also believe we were the first Korean War Veterans Association Inc. Chapter granted a Charter.

*(Thank you John for photo and history.)*

## Indiana Chapter 1

Chapter 1, Fort Wayne, Indiana has been able to make presentations to over 1,355 students, teachers and guests during the last semester of school ending in June, 1999

We have already had requests to return this year from the same schools and have sent notices to other school systems in

the area to let them know we have this program.

It is our hope that this next year we will be able to pass the record we have set this year.

James R. Snyder

*(Thank you James for the report of special veterans doing an important task. Keep up your efforts. It is special when you are asked back to educate more students.)*



Carolyn and Ray Bahler of Indiana Chapter 1. See Sept-Oct 1999 issue of proud vets display tags on page 30.

*(Thank you Ray & Carolyn for photo)*

## Lake County Chapter #169 of Florida



Gold Star Widow Carol Becker, member and Historian of Lake County, FL Chapter # 169 stands next to the Chapter banner she designed and made. Her needlework skills has resulted in Chapter members referring to her as their Betsy Ross. Joseph Madeline, Chapter President invites Gold Star Mothers and Gold Star Widows of the Korean War to become members.

*(Thank you Joseph Turner for the photo and the story of a special lady who would not let us forget her hero and also supports the most important duty we all have to remember those that did not come home. We are all proud of you Carol.)*

On October 9, 1999, at the Grand Island, FL. home of Paul Russell a flag pole was dedicated in memory of his brother Eugene Russell killed in action in Korea. Paul is a member of Lake County Chapter # 169, KWVA. 1st Lt. Eugene Russell, United States Marine Corps, was killed in action in 1953 on Pork Chop Hill. At the time his brother Paul was serving with 49th Artillery Headquarters Battery, United States Army, ten miles away. Paul remembers at the time of the battle seeing for miles, jeeps carrying bodies of GI's draped in white. No doubt Lt. Russell was one of them. The 48 star flag raised at the ceremony was the one presented to the fallen hero's mother at his burial. Harold Sievers, Lake County Chapter's Chaplain opened and closed the program with a prayer. The Chapter's Color Guard consisting of Charles Rogers, Isiah Hatcher and G. Brooks Guseman under the direction of Peter Fagnoli made its first public appearance. Jonnie Hale, Vice Mayor of the City of

Eustis, whose brother served in Korea, and many residents of the community turned out to pay tribute to a man they never met but who gave his life to assure their freedom. Local Veteran groups were present - Guy Misuraca, Lady Lake American Legion Post #347 sounded taps. Jim Dudeney, Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #8087, Eustis attended along with members of the Post's Honor and Color Guards. Janet Parham, President of Lake County Waves Unit 74 was also present with a contingent from her organization.

*(Another event of remembering by those great veterans and friends from Florida. All of you are special.)*

## South Dade Chapter #110 of Florida



Admiring the "Remember" poster, from left to right, are shown Warren Zundell, M.D., former Chapter President and current 2nd V.P., John Urlich, Jr., Chapter 1st V.P. and Ainslee Ferdie, Esq., Chapter President-elect for 2000.

Mr. Ferdie is a past National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.



The poster depicts World War 2, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Gulf War.

On November 10, 1999 our chapter presented to the City of Coral Gables War Memorial Youth Center a "Remember" Poster. The presentation ceremony was attended by over 30 invited guests including three City Commissioners, the Chief of Police, and the President of the Center Association.

*(Thank you Warren Zundell, M.D. for photo and letter. A super way to have our young remember the deeds of our Armed Forces past and present.)*

### 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 and please no newspaper clippings. —Editor

## Pfc. Joseph R. Ouellette Chapter of Massachusetts



Front row, left to right Teacher Martha Picanso, KWVA chairman Ed Fonseca, Teacher Elizabeth Freeman, State Rep. Thomas Golden, KWVA Mass. VP John Woelfel. Back row, left to right KWVA Mass. President John Dowd, Board Directors Ouellette Chapter John Babcock and John Cull.

Joseph R. Ouellette Chapter 1999 Tell America Program took sixty high school Juniors from Lowell High School to Boston for a private tour Of the USS Constitution and The Holocaust Memorial topped off by a program at the Massachusetts Korean War Memorial, at which the Massachusetts KWVA presented each student with an American Flag.

The program then moved to the Massachusetts State House where the two teachers who assisted the Greater Lowell Chapter in this program, was presented with a Certificate of Appreiation from The Massachusetts State Senate and The House of Representatives by Lowell's State Rep. Thomas Golden for their continuing hard work in Greater Lowell's Tell America Program. In appreciation of their taking part in the program, the students purchased a memorial brick at the monument in memory of the veterans from Lowell who paid the supreme price.

*(Thanks Ed Fonseca for the photo and update of your Tell America Program. A great program and special people giving support. Super school, students, teachers, State Government and last but not least your committee and veterans.)*

### KWVA Members and Friends

Visit the KWVA web site at: [HTTP://www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org) and add your chapter and memorials. Also sign our guest book by adding a message.

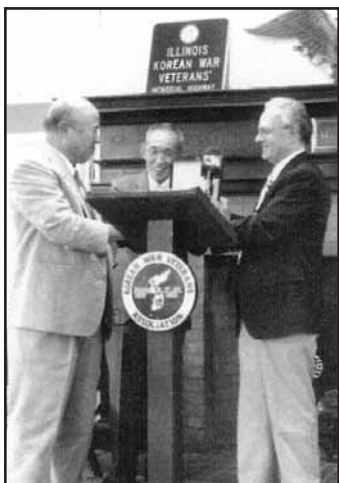


## Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter #21 of Illinois

Hershall E. Lee Korean War Veteran, Representatives William B. Black and Dale Righter, along with Kenneth B. Cook, President of the "Robert E. Wurtsbaugh Chapter" of the Korean War Veterans Association, received "Plaque of Appreciation" for their work on the Illinois Korean War Veterans' Memorial Highway, Sunday August 29th at 1:00 P.M. at the War Museum in Danville.

There are over 30 signs in 17 locations along the Illinois Korean War Veterans' Memorial Highway.

*(Thank you Hershall for photos and letter. Maybe you can tell us in Maryland and other States how we can get this done.)*



Clockwise from top right: (1) From left are Robert E. Jones Mayor of Danville, William B. Black State Representative and Hershall E. Lee, Founder IKWVA. (2) Ceremonial Cake. (3) Hershall Lee showing Plaque of Appreciation. (4) From left, Yang Ho Song, Jae Won Lee and Hershall Lee. (5) Displaying plaques (l to r) Hershall Lee, Jae Won Lee, Dale Righter, Bill Black, Yang Ho Song and Ken Cook.

## Proud Korean War Vets Display Tags



William Murphy



H. G. Rezac



Brenda Vollet



Philip E. Coolidge



Fred Shear



Jim Anderson



Richard Fischbach



Robert V. Bonaiuto



## Charles I. Gilliland Chapter # 22 of Arkansas



Shown seated left to right are Thomas Garrett, Fran O'Brian, Agnes Cramlett. Standing left to right are Dennis Holm, Leland Truax, Sam Harrell, Jimmie Jones, Dean Lindemann, Joe O'Halloran, Jessie Milford, Harlan Bain, George Pastore, Wilmer Edwards, Gene Knotts and Charles Thom.

Chapter veterans joined their buddies on Veterans Day to remember those they served with, veterans from all wars and especially those that did not come home.

*(Thanks Jessie Milford for photo and I believe this is the first one that I can recall coming from this chapter. Please send in more. You have a great looking group and we want to hear more from our Mountain Home, Arkansas veterans. God Bless all of you heroes.)*

## Greater Cincinnati Chapter #121 of Ohio



Kim Hwal Ran and KWVA National President Harley Coon standing in the back row on left following picnic held in September.

The Greater Cincinnati Chapter 121 held a picnic in September with our Honored Korean guest, National president and members.

*(Thank you Bob McGeorge for photo and letter. The KWVA Chapters and our KWVA National Association value our Korean friends here in America and in Korea. They do so much to support us and they will never forget the sacrifices of many almost 50 years ago.)*

## Yongdung-Po Chapter 114 of Pennsylvania

On November 5, 1999, Korean War Veterans Association, YongDung Po Chapter 114, participated in the 4th Annual Veterans Day Parade at Coatesville VA Hospital at Coatesville, PA. These following photos give you a sample of the events and those involved.



Holding Flag: Gordon Johnson; Holding Banner: (from left) Founder/Past President Andy Lynch; Sgt-at-Arms Eddie Paypaycik; Trustee Louis Shapiro; Bill Thompson; (rear) Secretary Joe Trucks; President Tom McMennamon; Chuck Hazdon.



End of Parade photo. Joe Trucks; Luke Marsden; Chuck Hazdon; "Uncle Sam" Eddie Paypaycik; Bill Meredith, Gordon Johnson, rear-Bill Thompson.



The Ancient Clydesdale Breed Warhorse after pulling a large Coach in the Parade and Andy Lynch his temporary handler. Amazingly, I told him to smile and he immediately looked into the camera.





Official Yongdung Po Chapter 114, "Fall-out Wagon" driven by Sam Simon.



Coatesville Medical Center Veterans Administration Float.

*(Thank you Andy Lynch for the super photos and also giving typed print attached to the rear of photos depicting who, what and where for each. This series of photos tells the event very well. This is a great example for other chapters to follow when sending future groups of photos. Please read the reason why we are now able to print more photos on this page or at another location in the Chapter Affairs section. Editor.)*

## The Sam Dong Boys Town



Another group from Sam Dong Boys Town that hopefully have now found homes and a bright future.. See cover story on page 3.

## Massachusetts presented with Korean War Flag



National Director "Rusty" Tramonte addresses the Massachusetts State House.

At the Hall of Flags, Rusty presented Korean War Flag to Governor Cellucci. Those in attendance were State Senators, Representatives, and Chapters. Also in attendance was the Council General of South Korea, Yang Lee and many Korean/Americans from New England Communities. The preparation for this event was made by Past President and Memorial Chairman of the Massachusetts Memorial Chapter and President Lou Stefano. *(Thank you Rusty for photo and letter.)*

### "Keep The Memory Alive"

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# Congressman Ehrlich replaces stolen Medal of Honor

By Vincent A. Krepps

News From the Office of Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Second Congressional District of Maryland,  
315 Cannon House Office Building,  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Washington, D.C.** - On December 2, Congressman Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. presented the Congressional Medal of Honor in Sergeant Donn Porter's memory to his alma mater, Saint James School near Hagerstown, MD.

In attendance was Admiral James Holloway, U.S.N. Ret., former Chief of Naval Operations, Students of St. James School in Hagerstown at the Chapel at Saint James School. 17641 College Road, St. James, MD (near Hagerstown)

Congressman Ehrlich stated, "It is a tremendous honor to have the opportunity to remember a Maryland hero, Sergeant Donn Porter, by presenting his alma mater with his Congressional Medal of Honor."

Originally, Sergeant Porter was awarded the nation's highest decoration posthumously for his "incredible display of valor" in Korea during September, 1952. While under intense fire, the young sergeant killed six enemy soldiers in bayonet fighting and forced his opponents to flee before being killed. Porter's "gallant self-sacrifice and consummate devotion to duty" saved his comrades.

Subsequently, Porter's mother, Mrs. Edith Shaner of Ruxton, MD, donated the Medal of Honor to St. James School for display. Unfortunately, the award was stolen, and initial efforts by the family and school to replace it were unsuccessful.

Congressman Ehrlich stated, "My staff and I finally secured this medal after months of work and a lot of bureaucracy! This medal ceremony will be a proud moment for us all."

By recognizing these and many other brave men and women, we pay tribute to all who died and those in our Armed Forces who are carrying forward the spirit of courage and patriotism.

This ceremony will be an inspiration to the students of Saint James School and an example of honor and courage by a true hero. Today, we live in freedom and prosperity because of these Americans."



U.S. Rep Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and Adm. James L. Holloway III. Photo: RIC DUGAN / staff photographer

*The following article was in The Morning Herald Hagerstown, MD Friday December 3, 1999*

## The Return of Valor

### Stolen Medal of Honor replaced at St. James School

By DAN KULIN / Staff Writer

ST. JAMES - The nation's highest military decoration, a Medal of Honor, was handed over to St. James School on Thursday, replacing a medal that was stolen from the school about 20 years ago.

The original medal had been awarded, posthumously, to Donn Porter, a 1949 Saint James School graduate who was an Army sergeant during the Korean War.

Porter, of Ruxton, Md., was awarded the medal for his actions on Sept. 7, 1952, when two enemy platoons attacked an outpost under his command. Porter repelled two enemy attacks on his position that day. In the second attack, Porter "jumped from his position with bayonet fixed and, meeting the onslaught and in close combat, killed six hostile soldiers and routed the attack," according to the citation. Porter was killed by an artillery burst while returning to his outpost. In 1953, Congress awarded the medal to Porter and Porter's family donated it to the school. Then around 1982 the medal was stolen, said school headmaster Father Stuart Dunnan.

The replacement medal was acquired with the help of U.S. Rep. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr., R-Md. John Worthington, a 1969 Saint James School graduate and friend and constituent of Ehrlich's, asked the congressman to help get the replacement medal.

Ehrlich put a staff member on the task. Eventually, Ehrlich met with a general, who he pulled from a Capitol Hill office party, and the general was able to help.

Ehrlich presented the medal to the school Thursday afternoon during a ceremony in the school chapel. The ceremony was attended by Saint James students and some alumni, including about a dozen of Porter's classmates.

Tim Grier, who graduated with Porter, said it was good the school was getting a replacement medal. "It's very good for the young boys to have something to look up to. He was a genuine hero," said Grier, of Annapolis.

Another of Porter's classmates, Robin Glattly, of Rockville, Md., said, "It brings back memories of a wonderful person." Porter was captain of the school football and basketball teams and was popular, Glattly said. "When you read the account (of his fighting in the war) it didn't surprise any of us," Glattly said.

### Donn F. Porter

Love sent Sgt. Donn F. Porter to Korea. The twenty-one-year-old from Ruxton, Maryland, was madly in love with a girl from home and longed to return to her. Since he'd enlisted in the army in February 1951, Porter had written his girl just about every day. Even while attending airborne and ranger school after basic training, Porter kept up a steady stream of letters to her. Whenever he could he called her, planning for their wedding as soon after his discharge as possible.

In November 1951 Porter reported to the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team, then in garrison in Japan. Porter was well liked by the members of his platoon. They knew him as a tall and slender youngster, quiet, and very loyal. One former platoon mate said, "You couldn't ask for a better friend." He spent a good deal of his off-duty time helping Porter shop for fine Japanese porcelain and dishes to send back to his girl.

Normally, Porter would have spent eighteen months in Japan, the standard tour of duty, before rotating back to the States. In Korea, however, a GI with a front line outfit could complete a tour of duty in as little as nine months. Porter



decided to expedite his return to Maryland. Just after 1952 began he volunteered to go to Korea as an infantry replacement. He figured with his airborne and ranger training he'd have no trouble surviving nine months. He was almost right.

September was Porter's seventh month in Korea. In just sixty days he'd be on his way home. But first his company had to pull a tour on outpost duty. Beginning on September 1, Company G went on the line. Each night a squad of men manned the various listening posts established in front of the MLR. On September 6, Porter's squad, consisting of just three other men, made its way down the rocky hillside to its assigned LP. The men they were relieving were happy to see them arrive. For the last several nights the North Koreans had been probing the American lines. Their forays meant sleepless nights and frazzled nerves.

Porter kept his men busy until nightfall preparing firing positions and setting up fields of fire. When night came he set up the watch schedule: two men awake at all times, two-hour shifts. Porter would be on the first watch, from 8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

During Porter's watch all was quiet. He woke his relief, Cpl. Raymond Schwab, at 10:00 P.M., then crawled into the sandbagged bunker for a few hours sleep.

The first mortar shell hit the LP a few hours later. Porter instantly awoke. He crawled out of the sleeping bunker and into the fighting trench. Up and down the ridge enemy mortar shells burst in a near continuous roar. Schwab saw the first wave of attackers. He announced their presence by firing off a clip from his M-1. It was 12:15 A.M.

Under extremely heavy pressure from the attacking NKPA, the four GIs took up fighting positions in the LP's two bunkers. Through the bunker's firing ports Porter poured a steady barrage of rifle fire into the attacking North Koreans. His bunker mate, Corporal Schwab, estimated Porter's deadly accurate fire accounted for twelve to fifteen of the enemy.

The resolute determination of the four GIs drove off the attacking North Koreans. As they regrouped out of range, their supporting artillery and mortars

**Like a madman, the tall lanky soldier jabbed his bayoneted rifle into one enemy chest after the other. His attack was so furious and so close-in the enemy troops never had a chance to react. In less than a minute all six North Koreans lay dead of stab wounds**

renewed the bombardment. One shell landed directly on the bunker containing Cpl. Paul Matichek and Pfc. Jerry Bachelor, killing them instantly.

Minutes after their two companions died, Porter and Schwab saw the North Koreans coming back. "Let's get 'em," Porter said.

Together the two young soldiers took up firing positions outside the bunker. Their combined rifle fire slowed the attackers but did not stop them. A pair of North Koreans snuck up on the intrepid pair. Unseen, they opened fire. Both Porter and Schwab recoiled from the impact of the bullets. Recovering first, Porter cut down the attackers.

Below their firing position Porter spotted six North Korean soldiers advancing toward them in the dark. Determined to prevent the enemy from getting any closer, Porter shouted to Schwab, "Cover me!" as he scrambled out of the trench.

In the flashes of exploding mortar shells Schwab saw Porter wade into the enemy. Lunging, thrusting, stabbing, Porter slashed his way through the six North Koreans. Like a madman, the tall lanky soldier jabbed his bayoneted rifle into one enemy chest after the other. His attack was so furious and so close-in the enemy troops never had a chance to react. In less than a minute all six North Koreans lay dead of stab wounds.

Gasping heavily from the exertion of his attack, Porter turned to return to the trench but never made it. An enemy shell went off at his feet, killing him instantly.

After Porter's valiant singlehanded

charge, the North Koreans broke off their attack. Corporal Schwab was convinced it was Porter's bayonet attack that drove them off.

At first light a relief force reached Schwab. All he could do was talk about the gallant actions of Sergeant Porter. Based on his testimony, Porter was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on August 5, 1953.

For the rest of September the Communist forces maintained the pressure on the U.N. lines. Night after night Chinese and North Korean soldiers clashed with U.N. forces. Serious attacks were launched against Outpost Kelly in the U.S. 3d Infantry Division's zone along the Imjin River, against White Horse Hill northwest of Chorwon in the ROK 9th Infantry Division's zone, and at Jackson Heights northeast of White Horse Hill where the U.S. 7th Infantry Division held the MLR.

The U.N. forces won some of these fights, lost others. But, as the Korean War approached the start of its third winter, there was still no significant change in the frontline positions.

*(Thank you U.S. Rep. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., St. James School, The Morning Herald and all that remembered this great hero of the Korean War. The Maryland Chapter Korean War Veterans Association is hoping to get approval to have a section of Route 43 named Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway. We need the support of our Federal and State Officials to get this long overlooked honor done for the 528 KIAs in Maryland and those veterans still alive.)*

### Graybeards for Sale

#### Back issues:

- ☐ Mar-Apr, 1996
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# Beyond the Call of Duty

By Robert Harper

**H**is picture would never be featured on a recruiting poster. Lt William Trinen always looked as though he had dressed in total darkness and put on somebody else's uniform by mistake. Nothing seemed to fit. During World War II Bill had served with 66th Tank Regiment, 2nd 'Hell-on-Wheels' Armored Division. The 66th did not hand out any points for neatness. They did award Purple Hearts and bestowed medals for valor. Bill had some of both.

A few days before the attack to break out of the Pusan Perimeter I saw Bill's jeep drive into my platoon area; he had come to show me some pictures of his family he had received that morning. He did not get out of the jeep and walk back to where my tanks were parked. That was unusual. I had not yet learned about his bleeding ulcer, and how weak he had become from the loss of blood. He and the other members of his tank crew were trying to keep that a secret from the company commander, who would have ordered a medical evacuation. Later I would learn that sometimes he was so weak a crew member helped him climb onto the tank and into his commander's position in the turret. Bill wanted to wait until after the attack to seek medical help.

Shortly after Bill arrived, a young lieutenant from one of the regimental tank companies drove up. He had tracked Bill to my area to hear his comments about tank warfare. The lieutenant's uncle had served with Bill in the 66th. The lieutenant was not sure that he could hold up under the stress of battle. He said,

"Sometimes I do not feel

**After almost an hour the lieutenant asked the question that is seldom asked by tankers because the answer is too gruesome to think about. "What if my tank is engulfed in flames?"**

very brave." Lt Trinen told him the troops would accept some caution and reasonable fear in a leader. But they instinctively mistrust a rash commander, filled with a mindless thirst for glory, because they know he will eventually get them killed. Bill suggested to the lieutenant that he act just a little brave now and then. "If you act kind of brave often enough it finally ceases to be an act and becomes a habit."

After almost an hour the lieutenant asked the question that is seldom asked by tankers because the answer is too gruesome to think about. "What if my tank is engulfed in flames?" Bill was silent for a few seconds. He began by reminding the lieutenant that he would be going into battle with explosive ammunition stored all around him; even the deck where he stood inside the turret was a cover for ammo storage. The gasoline tanks are only a few feet away. Bill seemed undecided about continuing the discussion. After a long pause he said, "If an anti-tank round hits the gas tank you will not have time to think." There was a change in his tone of voice; now, he was relating a personal experience and the lieutenant could search for the lesson on his own.

Lt Trinen told him that if his tank burst into flames he would bolt out of the tank and his instinct for self-preservation would cause him to run away. Then he would spend many sleepless nights haunted by guilt and shame convinced that he, not the enemy, was responsible for the deaths of his men. Some of them will be mortally wounded by the enemy round;

others scream and beg for help. "You will hear those screams for the rest of your life."

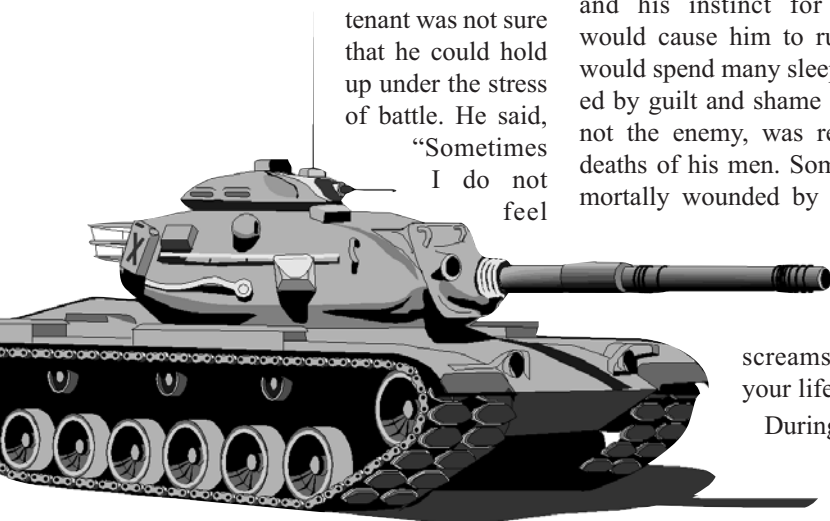
During the attack on 16 September, C Company, 72nd

Tank Battalion, supported 23rd Infantry Regiment. The plan was for my platoon to attack down the road and exploit any breakthrough. Bill's tanks were to follow us across the line of departure, then when the terrain permitted, his platoon would deploy in line on our flank, and become the primary base of fire to support the infantry assault.

Early that morning when we were approaching the line of departure I saw Bill's tanks parked just off the road; he was not in the turret of his command tank. I saw him down beside his tank lying on an army blanket spread on the ground. I stopped the column and walked over to check on him. His face was so drawn and pale I asked if he had been wounded. He said, "No. My ulcer is acting up." Then he began to discuss the coming attack. I encouraged him to seek medical help and told him I could work with his platoon sergeant. He said, "No. I have to go; my men need me." That was true. The whole truth was that all of us needed him. I could have contacted the company commander by radio. I did not. I wanted him to be on my flank directing fire as we advanced toward that heavily fortified enemy line.

We battled the North Koreans all day. Just before dark they fled from their positions and we raced to the Naktong River. After dark the company commander told me that Bill had been killed. He was walking in front of his tank guiding it through difficult terrain to a position that would allow his gunner to fire into the enemy's flank. A North Korean soldier jumped up in front of him and fired a burst from his burp gun. The stream of bullets knocked Bill off his feet and cut him almost in half. He died where he fell. The enemy soldier lived only a few seconds longer.

I was deeply saddened by his death. I felt I was to blame—just as Bill had predicted the lieutenant would feel guilty for the deaths of his men. With time, I real-



ized that I would have lost him, regardless of what I did that morning. If I had called the company commander, the medics would have pulled him away from his troops just when they most needed his combat leadership. Bill would have considered the call an unpardonable act of personal betrayal; that would have destroyed our friendship. But there was still the reality that when I saw him lying ill on a blanket beside his tank, he was so pale and his voice was so weak I asked if he had been wounded; I did nothing.

The only memory I had to ease my sense of loss were his words to the lieutenant he had spoken with a few days before. Clearly, Bill had considered the risk, and had accepted the hard fact that death is an occupational hazard in a combat unit. As the lieutenant was preparing to drive away Bill said, "Pretend that you are unafraid. If your luck runs out, die without screaming."

Those of us who knew Bill during the last few weeks of his life watched the growing bonds of confidence and respect he was developing for the members of his platoon, and they for him; he probably inspired that same high esprit de corps in every unit he had commanded. Good combat leaders have that gift. Until the day of his death I did not suspect the true strength of his devotion to the welfare of the men entrusted to him. I came to understand why an uncle would want his nephew to talk with Bill before his first combat experience. And eventually I understood the irresistible call of duty that sent him into battle on that fateful day.

### "The Graybeards" is growing

Do to your generous donations sent in for: Extra copies of *Graybeards*, Reunions, Looking For, Raffles, etc. and great management of your dues in many ways including investments bringing in more interest by the Officers and Board members, we are increasing your *Graybeards* to 72 pages. About 3 years ago we could only print 48 pages and were not sure if we could print the next issue. We will be printing more of Chapter events and also showing more photos. We thank our super members. KWVA Inc.

## Korean War Veterans Association — Financial Status

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY CASH BASIS  
FOR THE ONE MONTH AND TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

	COURRRENT PERIOD		YEAR TO DATE	
	AMOUNT	PERCENT	AMOUNT	PERCENT
<b>INCOME</b>				
DONATION	919.90	2.4	5,786.40	2.3
MEMBERSHIPS	10,269.72	26.3	162,164.05	63.1
MEMBERSHIPS - LIFE	5,205.00	13.3	46,205.00	18.0
MISCELLANEOUS	18,259.67	46.8	24,687.03	9.6
INTEREST	3,783.83	9.7	10,876.13	4.2
ADVERTISING	515.00	1.3	4,669.00	1.8
SUBSCRIPTIONS	65.20	0.2	2,553.42	1.0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>39,018.32</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>256,941.03</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
TELEPHONE	1,302.85	3.3	7,659.86	3.0
OFFICE SUPPLIES	578.86	1.5	3,186.50	1.2
INSURANCE	0.00	0.0	7,580.00	3.0
TAXES AND LICENSES	0.00	0.0	8.00	0.0
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	0.00	0.0	264.94	0.1
PRINTING	36,887.18	94.5	80,275.84	31.2
ACCOUNTING	500.00	1.3	15,995.60	6.2
MEMBERSHIP	2,715.14	7.0	9,234.16	3.6
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	0.00	0.0	200.00	0.1
BEQUEATHS	225.00	0.6	350.00	0.1
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	352.42	0.9	1,309.00	0.5
POSTAGE	2,032.30	5.2	31,682.80	12.3
MISCELLANEOUS	(98.00)	(0.3)	512.66	0.2
REUNION	0.00	0.0	2,602.25	1.0
LABOR	0.00	0.0	6,552.00	2.6
REVISIT GIFTS	0.00	0.0	93.08	0.0
TRAVEL	0.00	0.0	393.95	0.2
ELECTIONS	0.00	0.0	1,800.00	0.7
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>44,495.75</b>	<b>114.0</b>	<b>169,700.64</b>	<b>66.0</b>
<b>REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$(5,477.43)</u></b>	<b><u>(14.0)</u></b>	<b><u>\$87,240.39</u></b>	<b><u>34.0</u></b>
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
CASH IN BANK - 1ST UNION - CKNG		47.01		
CASH - SALMON- SMITH - BARNEY		362,993.90		
ACCTS REC - OTHER		<u>75.00</u>		
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>			\$ 363,115.91	
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
COMMEMORATION ASSETS - WEAPONS		8,050.00		
COMMEMORATIVE ASSETS - GRANITE		1,140.00		
COMMEMORATIVE ASSETS-COINS		<u>8,596.00</u>		
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>			17,786.00	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>				<b><u>\$380,901.91</u></b>

See Accountants' Compilation Report

### The Graybeards

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# Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation



By Bill Van Ort, KWVEGC  
and National Director, KWVA

The KWVEGC is now accepting applications for college grants that will become available for the 2000-2001 school term. Eligibility for these grants must be consistent with our bylaws.

Applicants or sponsors have two (2) ways to receive application forms. The first (1) way is to "down load" off of the Internet. If you have a computer or have accessibility to one, click on to [www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~natres/KWVEGC.html](http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~natres/KWVEGC.html) and the forms are in front of you. (Almost all colleges require that a student must have a Laptop Computer to enroll.) The second (2) way is to send a business size, pre addressed envelope and stamped with \$0.55 postage for each application. Mail to KWVEGC, 8968 Thomas Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125-7602 and the application forms will be returned by U.S. Mail.

Completed application forms must **be received by 1 May 2000** to be considered for a grant. Applications mailed after that date will not be considered.

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 is the final list of donors to the KWVEGC for 1999. This list also includes donations of products. Those with asteriks (\*) indicate donations made since the last list that was printed in "The Graybeards."

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Honor Chairs within the Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation provide an opportunity for individuals, Chapters and Corporations to honor Korean Veterans, both men and women, who served our country. All proceeds received will be used to support candidates on a yearly bases. For further information, please contact Lt. Col. Hansel C. Hall, USAF (ret), Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer at 612-332-2685 or Director, Richard L. "Dick" Adams at 209-864-3196 before sending a tax-deductable contribution of \$1000.00 or more.

# MY YEAR IN HELL

**A**s you read this story you might think I kept a diary of what happened to me in Korea. The fact is when I was in Korea I had no idea of what day it was nor did I know where I was at. We knew what was happening in our immediate area but had no idea what was going on around us, even with those units on our flanks. When the ROKs (Republic of Korea) were attached to us we had to be especially alert because they would bug out at any time and leave us high and dry. When I came home from Korea I went to work, just like every other soldier in Korea and never looked back. In 1988, 37 years later I was notified of a How Company reunion in Springfield, IL. Mary Ann & I went to that reunion and had the best time. Big Ed Baugher wasn't there but Don Shelstad was, these were two of my closest friends in Korea. We talked about old times for three days and at the end of the reunion I felt like I had just came home from Korea. At this reunion I learned about the 2nd Division year books. In these books you can follow your units almost daily trek as to where you were. These books is where I received most of the information concerning times

**BY RON "VIC" MOSSING**

**In July of 1950 North Korea decided they wanted South Korea and good old Harry and a bunch of other UN people decided they didn't want them to have it.**

and places but the personal experiences are all mine. Someone at the reunion had an old address for Big Ed. I took the address and at the time he was drafted he lived in a little town in Northern Missouri, I called the information for that town and asked for Ed but there was no Ed Baugher, however, the operator said there were other Baughers listed, there was a Robert Baugher, I called him and he was Big Ed's brother and of course I got Ed's address and phone number in Wichita.

In January 1949 I joined the Army simply because there was nothing else going on. I liked the Army and served about a year when the Army decided it had too many soldiers and sent me home. I had enlisted for 21 months, served 12 and was to spend the rest in inactive reserve.

In July of 1950 North Korea decided they wanted South Korea and good old Harry and a bunch of other UN people decided they didn't want them to have it. So, they called back Ron and a lot of other boys to fight a war for them. In October I was recalled and sent to Camp Campbell, Kentucky for a refresher course before being sent to Korea. The deal was that any boys being recalled were to serve only a year portal to portal (home to home). The first time I was in the Army I did my boot at Fort Knox, Kentucky and was then sent to Ft. Lewis Washington and was a rifleman in the 2nd Division, 38th Regt, 3rd Battalion, Item Company.

After about a month at Campbell we were loaded on a train for Ft. Lewis again. While in Campbell, which was the home of the 101st Airborne, members of the 101st came to the barracks and talked to us about joining the 101st, telling us that by the time we were through training it would be at least six weeks before we would head for Korea. A friend who I met at Campbell and I decided we would join them but we had until the following Monday to decide, on the Saturday before the Monday the 101st had a Regimental jump right over the base and I seen about

5 guys come all the way, I of course on Monday refused to join but this other kid did.

Shortly we were put on the train for Ft. Lewis, Washington. This train had to be a holding train because to go to Ft. Lewis, Washington we went south to Texas, west to New Mexico and then north to Washington. We were on the train for at least two weeks. We were almost immediately loaded on the boat (The Phoenix) and headed for Camp Drake in Japan. The trip was really quite fun, a lot of guys got sea sick but I never did. We received a paper when we crossed the International Date Line and over all I didn't mind the ride at all, there was a bunch of us that played Hearts every day making the time go fast.

**U**pon landing at Japan we were outfitted with clothing for our little jaunt into Korea. I was given some wool clothes and told to put them on. It wasn't long before I was scratching like crazy, not knowing what was going on I went to the Doctor and was told I had the Crabs, what in the world is the Crabs, turns out they are a lot like lice. I was given some blue ointment and returned to the barracks. I wasn't in the barracks very long when a big truck pulled up in front and came into the barracks and fumigated it, I was so embarrassed, all the guys knew what was going on and tried to find out who had the Crabs, they never did though.

It wasn't long before we loaded boats for Korea. It didn't take very long to reach Korea. This was about the first part of December and we were put ashore at Inchon, this is where the Marines and the 7th Army Division made a landing that changed the war into our favor. We were off loaded onto LSD's and upon landing on Korean soil I looked up and there was that boy from Campbell that had joined the 101st. Upon completion of training they had flown them to Korea and they jumped in, he had been there over a week already.

Continued on page 62

# “Korean War For Freedom”

Remarks made at The Korea Society Commemorative Gala June 25, 1999 at George Washington University featuring Seoul's Metropolitan Dance Team.

Distinguished guests, fellow Korean War veterans, ladies and gentlemen:

I want to thank the members of the Korea Society for arranging this wonderful commemorative event to begin to put the Korean War into a clearer perspective for the American people.

I am honored by the opportunity to speak to you tonight on behalf of the thousands of men and women from 20 nations who beginning on this date 49 years ago, joined with their comrades from South Korea and the United States in fighting and winning the United Nation's historic first battle to stop and rollback totalitarian communist aggression against a free and democratic people.

I have long been puzzled why historians, writers and the national media have given such an inordinate amount of extensive attention to the unsuccessful effort to save South Vietnam from a communist attack from the North; while consistently forgetting our successful effort to save South Korea from attack by communist North Korea.

The hard, bloody 37 months of fighting in Korea has largely been ignored and it has unjustly been labeled “The Forgotten War.”

Well I'm here tonight to tell you that it has never been forgotten by those of us who served there. American presence in Korea didn't begin with the war. United States troops first entered Korea on September 3, 1945 to enforce Japanese surrender and meet advancing Soviet troops at the 38th Parallel. Today, nearly 54 years later, 37,000 U.S. soldiers remain near that same Parallel where the Korean War began on this date in 1950 and ended on July 27, 1953.

I remember what that geographic map line actually looks like on the ground. Because during the bitter cold winter of 1946 - shortly after my 17th birthday - I served as an infantry buck

**“The Korean War was a clean-cut victory for the United States and the United Nations. It stopped a major communist lunge southward, and may well have saved Japan from being engulfed.” And it made possible today's modern South Korea.**

*Oxford History of the American People*

private rifleman on the 38th Parallel at the Korean town of Kaesong. And for the next two years I spent my days and nights pulling outpost guard and patrol duties along that dividing line between North and South Korea, sometimes exchanging fire with Russians and North Koreans. And ironically, later during the war, it was in that same rugged area that I climbed out of a sandbag bunker and left Korea in 1952.

The last prewar U.S. occupation division was withdrawn to Japan in 1949. My enlistment was up and I returned to the states to enter college under the GI Bill. Like other World War II veterans, upon discharge, I was assigned to the Army's inactive reserve list. Few of us expected to ever have to serve again.

Imagine my shock, when in July 1950 shortly after President Truman unilaterally ordered U.S. forces back into South Korea to meet the surprise North Korean attack, I was recalled to active duty. So instead of finishing my summer college course and enrolling for the fall semester, I like thousands of other hastily recalled Army Marine, Air Force and Navy reservists got out the old, stored-away uniform, said my good-byes, and headed back to camp and the troop ships waiting in California. No one went to Canada.

America's citizen soldiers would fight the Korean War. This sudden involuntary recall of thousands of civilian inactive military reservists -most of whom were decorated World War II veterans only four short years away from long dangerous service in that war and just getting education, jobs and families started - is perhaps one of the most poignant untold stories of the Korean War. With little or no refresher military training, many were rushed pell-mell into battle as individual replacements to depleted American units desperately

fighting for their lives in the Pusan Perimeter. They called themselves “retreads”. And they went on to storm ashore at Inchon, defeated the North Korean Army, then with South Korean and UN Allies fighting off the sudden attack of overwhelming Chinese forces in the subzero weather in North Korea, shoot the MiGs out of MiG Alley, save the Hungnam beachhead, and ultimately preserve South Korea's freedom in the battles of the “Iron Triangle,” on “Heartbreak Ridge” and “Pork Chop Hill”. Sadly, a great many of these brave citizen soldiers did not survive their second war. Freedom had a high cost in lives.

They, and thousands of hurriedly called-up and hastily trained teenage draftees and National Guardsmen, along with young UN soldiers, became part of the 54,246 killed, 103,284 wounded and 8,177 still missing in action from three years of bloody fighting. And for those of us that did survive, it was return home after another year or two away at war, store away the uniform, and once more start looking for a job, or to get back into school to start over trying - as some had been since 1946 - to get lives and new families together. No official welcomes. No parades. America took little notice of our going or our return. The war was quickly forgotten by all but ourselves, and our families.

As the years have passed I, and I'm sure many of my comrades, have often wondered just what did our service and sacrifice achieve? Perhaps Samuel Eliot Morrison best summed up the outcome of the Korean War in this passage from the 1965 edition of the Oxford History of the American People: “The Korean War was a clean-cut victory for the United States and the United Nations. It stopped a major communist lunge southward, and may well have saved Japan from being engulfed.” And it



made possible today's modern South Korea.

So, tonight on behalf of all my aging veteran comrades here from the United States, South Korea and 20 other nations, I ask that you remember the sacrifice of the many young lives and so much of our youth that was given to save South Korea from communist tyranny.

It is my hope that on the brink of a new century and the 50th anniversary of the United Nation's first victory in defense of democratic freedom, that my fellow Americans will finally remember the sacrifices made and recognize what we did not as "The Forgotten War". But rather as a vitally, necessary "Korean War For Freedom" to defend and preserve for South Korea and the world community, the democratic freedoms that we as a nation hold so dear.

Thank you,  
Ed King,  
Life member KWVA

*(It was your editors privilege to attend this function and hear Ed's stirring remarks. Ed. King just retired from the U.S. Senate. Thank you Ed for your kind remarks about our association and the Graybeards.)*

## 11th Engineers Reunion



The 11th Engineers: (front row) John Latham, Fred Boelsche, Charles Scott, William Van Ort, Carl Baswell, Ernest Reeves, Edward Robillard, Albert Marin, David Galka. (2nd Row) Jim Loose, Joseph Clem, Delmar Thornton, Jimmy Bell, Harry Heiney, Richard Fischl, Ernest Seymour, Edwin Breed, Edward McEniry, Dennis Canant. Back Row Leonard Pavell, Mayford. Myers, Allan Eubank, Melvin Fiegen, Leslie Davis, Leon Bowen, William Butchart, Fred Boehle, Russell Meredith, Dominick Mazza

**T**he outbreak of the Korean War found the 11th Engineers in Japan. The 11th was the first complete TO&E unit to deploy to Korea in July 1950. At various times during 1950/53, the unit was committed as Infantry. Between 1950 and 1953, the 11th Engineers supported various divisions, the 24th, 25th, 2nd, 7th and the 1st Marine

Division. It also supported the 27th British Brigade and the British Commonwealth Brigade. The 11th continued to serve in Korea until 1971. The 11th earned 10 Battle Stars and was awarded two Meritorious Unit Commendations for the periods 1950/51 and 1953/54.

*(Thank you Fred Boelsche for photo.)*

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## The Real Forgotten War

The guns of war are silent now  
 Yet I can hear them still,  
 I see the faces of the dead  
 I guess I always will.  
 They say that time will ease the pain  
 Can make a man forget  
 Though almost fifty years have passed  
 I see the carnage yet!  
 Korea was so long ago  
 Or was it yesterday?  
 I hear the screams, in torturous dreams  
 O let me wake I pray.  
 The awful sounds of exploding rounds  
 Still ring within my ears  
 So many dead and dying  
 Yet there's no time for tears.  
 Positions that are overrun  
 With fighting hand to hand  
 How many did I kill dear God?  
 I pray you'll understand.  
 At last the fight is over  
 The endless night is through  
 We won our fight for Boomerang  
 But those who lived were few.  
 So when it's time to judge us Lord  
 And weigh just what we're worth  
 So many died, so few remember  
 We served our hell on earth!

Sfc Bob Barfield  
 Co. F 7th Inf. Regt..3rd Div

## WHY DIDN'T I WAIT TO BE DRAFTED

Why didn't I wait to be drafted  
 And be led to the train by a band  
 And put in a claim for exemption,  
 Oh! Why did I hold up my hand!  
 Why didn't I wall for the banquet  
 Why didn't I wait to be cheered  
 For the drafted men get the credit  
 While I only Volunteered.  
 And nobody gave me a banquet  
 And nobody said a kind word.  
 The grind of the wheels of the engine  
 Was the only goodbye I head.  
 Then off to the camp I was hustled  
 To be trained for the next half year  
 and then in the shuffle forgotten,  
 I was only a volunteer,  
 And maybe some day in the future.  
 When my little boy sits on my knee  
 And asked what I did in the conflict  
 and his little eyes took up to me,  
 I will have to look back as I am blushing  
 to the eyes that so trustingly peer  
 and tell him I missed being drafted,  
 I was only a volunteer.

Given to Ray T. Smith, Jr. in 1942 by father

## Who is a combat veteran?

A young man who leaves his wife, mother or girlfriend behind.  
 A young man who is will willing to put his life on the line for a country that he does not know and for people he has never met.  
 A young man who sees his buddy getting shot and cries, wondering whether he may be the next to go.  
 Then he comes home. Although he may have been wounded or a POW, back home no one acknowledges his heroism. No one seems to care.  
 He is the man, when watching a parade, who cries when the American flag passes by. He knows that freedom is not free.  
 He is the man that cries at night when he sees his buddy getting shot again and again.  
 That is who a combat vet is.  
 Do you know who he is? Ask your grandfather. It could be him.  
 By John Valerio, Korean War Veteran, L Co. 23rd Reg. 2nd Div. MP

## A LETTER HOME

"Dear Mom and Dad, the war is done  
 My task is through,  
 And, Mom, there is something  
 I must ask of you.

I have a friend, O such a friend,  
 He has no home you see,  
 And so, Mom, I would really like to  
 Bring him home with me."

"Dear Son, we don't mind  
 If someone comes home with you.  
 I am sure he could stay  
 Perhaps a week or two."

"Dear Mom and Dad, there is  
 Something you must know.  
 Now please don't be alarmed.  
 My friend in battle was recently shot  
 And now he has no arm."

"Dear Son, do not be afraid  
 To bring him home with you  
 Perhaps he could stay a day or two."

"Dear Mom and Dad, but Mom, he is  
 Not just a friend.  
 He is like a brother, too.  
 That is why I want him home with us,  
 And like a son to you.  
 Before you give your answer, Mom,  
 I really don't want to beg,  
 But my friend in battle was recently wounded,  
 And also lost his leg."

"Dear Son, it hurts me so much to say,  
 The answer must be no.  
 For Dad and I have no time for a boy  
 Who is crippled so."

So months went by and a letter came,  
 It said their Son had died.  
 When they read the cause of death,  
 The shock was suicide.  
 Days later when the casket came,  
 Draped in the Nation's flag,  
 They saw their Son lying there  
 . . . without an arm  
 . . . and without a leg.

Author unknown

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.





Word War I gave us *All Quiet on the Western Front*, *Over There* and Hemingway. The Second World War gave us a thousand movies, some memorable songs, 'Mister Roberts', 'The Naked and the Dead', and 'From Here to Eternity'. Vietnam has been a cottage industry of film, books and endless debate. Those of us who fought in Korea didn't have a song, not even a protest song. We had no Bob Dylan. There were a few movies, a few good books and "M\*A\*S\*H\*" which is why Americans who went to Korea a half century ago deserve a book like 'Korean Vignettes', *Faces of War*. A forgotten war? Not when we are reminded of those young men who fought there. We might as well forget the young men we ourselves were and the young men we left behind.

James Brady

Plt Ldr Co XO & Bn S-2 USMC  
Korea 1951-52

Mr. Brady is a feature correspondent for *Parade Magazine* and author of *The Coldest War*.



Freedom is never free. Always, there is a price to be paid. This book remembers those men who paid their dues of citizenship as they fought and died in the frigid mountains of Korea. In this era of peace, Americans are secure in their heritage. Yet, let them not forget those others, those "Faces of War," who paid freedom's price in that battle hell known as the Korean War.

Dr. Morton I. Silver Lt USNR  
HQ 5th Marine Regiment  
Korea 1950-51



In these pages American fighting men tell in their own blunt and graphic language just how it was to fight the Chinese and North Korean enemy. Here assembled are 201 personal stories of US soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. Together these add up to a memorable saga of brave fighting men.

David B. Richardson  
Foreign Correspondent  
*Time & US News & World Report* 1945-81  
*S/Sgt Yank Magazine & Merrill's Marauders*, WW II



This book makes very powerful reading. It pioneers a new and significant development in military writing, and dramatically illuminates the typical American who really fights our wars. The field of military history is dominated by the generals and the captains. The guy who needs the guts is the GI Joe who fought it out in a lonely foxhole. It is his bayonet that marks the US boundary. This book salutes him as America's best.

William J. McCaffrey  
Lt General USA Ret  
Deputy Chief of Staff X Corps  
1950 CO 31st Infantry Regiment  
1951-52 7th Division  
Korea 1951-52

*(I have another 20 more highly recommended reviews from military men, authors, newspapers, Historians, etc. that I can not print so I picked the above because I felt they were more known to the average Korean War Veteran. I will add a few comments of my own. This is my kind of book. Full of photos, maps, history and most of all written by those that experienced these events. The 201 stories are the ones that are the most memorial in their minds. Many of you out there were in these battles and they will jog your memory and fill in the gaps of forgotten events. We would have been proud to print any one of these stories in The Graybeards. A great history of our war:— Editor.)*



## Unforgotten

*By Daniel J. Meador*

Extract from the novel *Unforgotten* continued from September-October 1999 Issue.

One by one he entered the names of his fellow lieutenants in Baker Company, no word of whom he had ever received after that catastrophic night on Hill 274. Malcolm Mason of Terre Haute, Indiana, the company exec; Alex Puccini of Milwaukee, commanding First Platoon; Chris Ridley of San Jose, California, commanding Third Platoon; Mike Forney, the forward observer, from Bowling Green, Kentucky. The machine reported no information on any of them.

He then moved over to the computers containing the MIAs. He entered each of

the names again. Mason, Pucinsky, and Ridley were all reported to be missing in action, as of 25 November 1950. He saw no way they could still be alive. He could think of only two possibilities. Either they died on 274 or they were taken prisoner by the Chinese and died in their hands.

Mike Forney's absence from both the KIA and MIA data meant that he must have survived the war. John wondered how he got out of that hellish night. Where was he now? He could well have died of natural causes since then, as had a host of men who'd returned from the war. Indeed, as he reflected on the crowd here today, he realized that the ranks of the veterans were inevitably thinning, time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all its sons away.

He typed in the name of Capt. Howell Grimes, the Baker Company commander from Amarillo, Texas, whom he had last seen on the chaotic withdrawal south of Kunu-ri. Not finding him among the missing, he went back to the KIA computers and typed in the name. It was immediately projected on the screen, showing him to have been killed in action on 21 March 1951. He shook his head over the irony of Grimes' having survived the collapse of the army along the Chongchon only to die in the victorious advance back north. He was left with the depressing thought that he alone of the officers in Baker Company was still alive, with the possible exception of Forney.

He wandered along the lines of tents, threading his way through the heavily perspiring crowd, steadily growing in size. He had now removed his tie completely and rolled up his sleeves, hoping not to become a customer of the first-aid tent he was passing, already busy with cases of heat exhaustion. He took another bottle of water and continued sipping.

He passed the food tents, emitting a variety of aromas, including the unmistakable smell of kimchi. He went into a tent that seemed to be serving a mixture of Korean and Chinese food. He ordered an egg roll and an oversized cup of lemonade. It was too hot to be hungry.

Among the sea of crowded tables he found an empty chair away from the sunniest area and sat down. The tent's sides were rolled up, permitting a hint of a breeze to

pass through, or at least to reduce the stifling atmosphere generated by the throng of overheated humans. Band music wafted in over the crowd noises, alternating between American and melancholy Korean pieces. He finished the egg roll and sat sipping the lemonade, cooling down slightly. With the oppressive heat and the absence of anyone he knew—indeed, all those he remembered well were gone—he wished he had stuck by his inclination and not come.

Four men all well over sixty and two women sat at the next table, laughing and occasionally calling to others at nearby tables. From what he overheard, he surmised they were all from Arizona. One of the men rose, signaling a passerby. “Come over and meet these folks,” he called out loudly. John paid little attention until he heard the introducer say, “This is Gene Tompkins from Phoenix.”

It took a few seconds for the name to register. Could this be Capt. Eugene Tompkins? He studied the man carefully. He was bald, with deep-set dark eyes and a gaunt face. He looked ten years older than Tompkins should have been. John would swear he had never seen the man before, but he had to find out.

He got up and edged over to their table. “Excuse me,” he said, looking at the gaunt face, “I couldn’t help overhearing the name Gene Tompkins.” “That’s right.” “Were you by any chance the supply officer of the Second Battalion at Kunu-ri in November ‘50?” “I sure was. Who are you?” “John Winston, second lieutenant, commanding Second Platoon, Baker Company.”

.....To be continued as space permits.

*(“Unforgotten” can be obtained from local bookstores or by calling Pelican Publishing Co. at (800) 843-1724 with a credit card number.)*



## “Hello American Veterans”

Here are 14 patriotic songs that are dedicated to America and to the American Veterans who have served in the armed forces for the cause of peace, freedom & justice for all. Wendell Austin is a professional B.M.I. Songwriter, publisher & recording artist, licensed worldwide by Broadcast Music, Inc.

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5. *God Help Us*
6. *Danny Boy*
7. *Just Before The Dawn*
8. *You Gotta Love This Country*
9. *Ballad Of The Green Beret*
10. *Marine Hymn*
11. *U.S. Air Force March*
12. *Anchors Aweigh*
13. *The Caissons Keep Rolling Along*
14. *Semper Paratus*

My offer to KWVA was to be brought before the KWVA Board at the National annual meeting, on Sept 13, 1999. For me money is *not* the motivator. I want every veteran to have these recordings. I want their loved ones to have them. I want every person who wants one to have them. I want especially the younger generations of today and tomorrow, to have them. They must realize the huge price that American veterans pay for the peace & freedom so many enjoy. Any association including the KWVA that takes on the task of selling the CD’s and tapes will get \$4.00 from each CD, and \$3.00 from each tape they sell. Also any local chapter will get \$1.00/sale no matter who sells the recordings, as long as they remain active in helping sell the recordings.

*(Wendell Austin has waited a long time for anyone to step forward. Contact Wendell at Peace & Freedom Music, RR 1 Box 294A, Winn, Maine 04495. Tel: 207-736-2225. I have many reviews from Government officials, Radio stations, Veteran Assns., Producers, Recording artists, etc. that highly recommend this CD as I do. The CD price is \$14.00 & tape is \$10.00. Call now.)*



## White Tigers – My Secret War in North Korea

*By Col. Ben S. Malcom, USA (Ret.)  
with Ron Martz*

I am a lifetime member of the Korean War Veterans Association and I need your help to tell my story to the other Korean war veterans. I was a member of a Top Secret Special Forces operation that took place deep behind the lines in North Korea during that war.

My book “White Tigers – My Secret War in North Korea” was published by Brasseys Inc. This is the untold story of a small group of dedicated Special Forces soldiers sent deep into North Korea in

January 1951 thru 1953 to organize and run North Korean Guerrilla forces. I was responsible for a 600 man North Guerrilla unit and was 150 miles behind the lines in North Korea. I was the only American with that unit and was in North Korea for 12 months. When the war ended in 1953 we had more than 22,000 guerrillas organized into 21 units fighting behind the lines in North Korea. The Department of the Army decided that this story needed to be told so it downgraded the operation in 1990 to unclassified. I have the first book out on this subject. The original hard-back copies sold out quickly (\$26.95) and has now been reprinted in a paper-back edition (full size) that is available from Bradford-Brasseys Inc., Herndon VA for \$16.95 plus shipping. Call 1-800-775-2518.

I was one of over 20 Korean veterans that was interviewed by The History Channel and my Special Forces operation will be included in that film. Lou Reeder Productions made this film for the History Channel. I have spoken to over 60 Civic Clubs and Military organizations during the past 18 months, so if anyone needs a speaker please keep me in mind. Col. Ben S. Malcom, (Ret.), 200 Old Mill Ct., Fayetteville, GA 30214 Tel: 770-460-8312

Review – “A remarkable story.” - Army

One of the most fascinating and heretofore untold stories of the Korean War is that of the special operations of the United Nations Partisan Infantry Korea (UNPIK). Operating from a clandestine camp, U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Ben Malcom coordinated the intelligence activities of eleven partisan battalions, including one known as the White Tigers. With Malcom’s experiences as its focus, White Tigers examines all aspects of guerrilla activities in Korea. Malcom’s first-hand insight combined with previously classified details makes a unique and important contribution to the exciting history of special operations.

*(Another book on my list to read. A story about our war that I and most veterans knew nothing about. Many great photos.)*

**Note from the Editor.** 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.

# Looking for...



## TELL US ABOUT YOUR PLANS

There are many fine **veterans organizations** that are working on reunions and group trips to attend the commemoration events that will be held in Korea. Though we cannot organize reunions or group trips ourselves, we can help spread the word about your plans. Please let us know the "who, what, when, where" on your reunion or group trip and we can list the basics on our web site. Please provide a point of contact for the event, so that other veterans know who to contact. If your veterans group has a section on a web site involving a reunion or group trip, you can provide that information also.

Since we are a government agency, we cannot recommend any commercial agencies, so we cannot list "Mary's Military Tours of Korea, Incorporated," etc. Please email the information to: <kw50ann@usfk.korea.army.mil.> Our regular mailing address is: 50th AKWC, PSC 303 Box 90, APO AP 96204.



Looking for anyone who served with the **936th Field Artillery Battalion**, from 1 September 1950 to 1 February 1952, at Camp Carson, Colorado and Korea. Please contact John D. Swaim, 2319 Sweetbriar Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72703. E-mail: <MajorJDS@aol.com.>



Looking for members of **C Battery, 8th Artillery Bn.**, Camp Carson, Colorado, Korea 1950-1951. Contact Mr. Allen M. Smith, 3338 Dupont Avenue, North Minneapolis, MN. 55412-2512. Tel: 612-529-4567.



Looking for **survivors of Tiger Death March**, wherein, my brother Allan F. Kivlehan, Hq & Hq Co. 3rd Battalion, 34th Inf. Reg., 24th Inf. Div. He was captured 7-19-50, at the fall of Taegon. We have nothing of my brothers but old letters. No one who saw him die. Contact sister Doris Heaney, 40 Dogwood Drive, Spring Lake, NJ 07762, Work 973-645-3042.



I would like information on the **25th Inf. Div., 27th Inf. Regt, B Co.** I would also like a B Co. roster for 1952. Contact Jack Chambers, in Illinois Tel: 217-356-1480.



Looking for information. My husband, **S/Sgt. Val D. Christensen** from Richfield, Utah. Killed in action on Hill 200 (Northwest of Yenchon, East side of Injin River, 70 miles above Seoul, Korea) on October 25, 1951. Silver Star, Purple Heart, U.S. Cav. Div., 5th Regt, 2nd Bn. Co. F. Contact Mrs. Dorothy L. Christensen, c/o Stanford, 63510 Highway 25 North, Smithville, MS. 38870.



Looking forward to hearing from anyone of the **3rd Bn., 27th Wolfhound Inf. Regt., 25th Div.** that was stationed on the POW camp on Kojedo Island on Feb. 22, 1952 and also was in Prison Compound 62 during the so called Riot or anyone that knows anything of what really happened during that time or why? I was a member of M Co. Contact Russell Buechler, 917 Hillcrest

Drive, Columbia, IL 62236-1925.



I was squad leader on this one-half track. It would be interesting to know about or hear from these other guys. My mother made knit caps for us! Christmas 1951, Korea, **24th Inf. Div. 26th AAA, B 142.**

Members of the 24th Inf. Div. 26th AAA, B 142. at Camp Irwin, Ca. 1953: (left to right) Larry Schilders, Don Gamoff, Don (?).



Stocking caps for Christmas, Korea, 1951. From the left are Lyle Walters, Marvin Reed, Lew Wright, Paul Barr, and Hap Hopkins (?).



Contact Marvin Reed, 2900 Right Hand Canyon Road, Palomino Valley, NV. 89510-9300. Tel: 702-475-0290



Looking for members of **Rodger James Rodeo** on Okinawa in February to May 1954. We were under Brig. Gen. U.S.A. Charles V. Bromley and Major Sammie H. Morrison U.S.A. My Command officer was Commander W. I. Darnell, U.S. Naval Air Facility, NAHA, Okinawa May 1954. I was injured and need help with the VA. Contact John Carter, Rt. 1, Box 79M, Morris, GA 31767-5477. Tel: 912-732-5477



Looking for information on **Pvt. Robert Shoemaker Thorpe, Jr.**, Lincoln Park, NJ. MIA 12-02-1950 Contact Lee Goldfarb, 18 Bunker Road, E. Hanover, NJ 07936. Tel: 973-887-4322, E-mail <gdkeyt@gte.com>



Looking for a medic by the name of **Fuller** from Maine. Was in F Co., 15th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Div. in 1952. Was in Jackson Heights Nov. 20, 1952, Was captured for short time. Contact Eugene B. Mowrer, 120 Summit Hill Dr., Paradise, Pa. 17562-9718. Tel: 717-687-8158





I have been desperately trying to contact **Master Sergeant Edsel Shelton**, USAF, 3640th Medical Group, Laredo Air Force Base, Laredo, Texas, Years 1952, 1953, 1954. His home area may have been Mid-West Oklahoma etc. Contact Robert D. Dougherty, 36 Belmont Street, Waymart, PA 18472-9201.



I am trying to locate members of my **OCS Class, #61**, The Engineer OCS at Ft. Belvoir, Va. We graduated 1 Dec 53. I have located all but four, who are listed below with their 1953 home of record. Carl G. Johnson, Cleveland, OH, Harold F. (Frank) Sutton, Cincinnati, OH, John P. (Pat) Ward, Springfield, IL, and Henry T. (Taylor) White, Arlington, VA or Baltimore, MD. Contact Jack Waite, 12 Dunbarton Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 Tel: 856-424-9484.



My name is Jim (Doc) Wagner. I was a Navy Corpsman with the **1st Armored Amphibian Bn.**, FMP Korea. We were stationed at Kimpo Peninsula. I am trying to locate any members of the unit. Contact Jim Wagner, 515 E. 4th Street, Mitchell, South Dakota 57301-2705 or E-mail <Swiftbrd@Santel.net>.



I would like to locate either the families of these 10 men killed in action or anyone who knows them or is connected with the **82nd F.A. Bn.** Pfc. Donald Ashley, Pfc. Donald E. Cozad, Pfc. Robert T. Gould, Cpl. Raymond McMahon, 1st Lt. Earl Seat, Cpl. Jessie Bone, Pfc. Robert J. Fralick, Cpl. Gilbert W. McKenna, Pfc. Cone E. Shipley and Cpl. Carlos N. Salizar. All died in 1950 or early in 1951. Contact Tom F. Cacciola, 25 Skyline Drive, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632-1815 Tel: 201-567-7279.



ROK Sgt. Choi, Dae Yul

Enclosed is my picture taken in my military service days of Korean War in 1951 so that perhaps the **American Army Lieutenant and the black sergeant** I am looking for may happen to see it and say "Oh, here's the one I have been looking for." I am sure if both or either one were alive, they must have been hoping to see me again.

I was a Korean soldier in the midst of Korean War in 1950 to 1953. One day I was patrolling with my fellow soldier, Kim, on a hill covered with snow. We happened to scent a

smell of blood and slowly we approached to the site. Surprisingly we found two Americans, one lieutenant and the other a black sergeant lying side by side. We touched them but there was no movement, and we checked their weak pulse. The lieutenant's thigh was a bloody mess. He got shot through the thigh. The black sergeant was not wounded but was unconscious of us. I think he was totally exhausted carrying the officer to the site. They must have been starved.

I tore my field jacket and tied up the wound for the first aid. We carried them down the hill on our backs to an empty house of a village. We boiled water and poured warm water in their mouths while rubbing their bodies. Soon they opened their eyes. The lieutenant asked for more water, but we didn't give him more because we knew we can't. But the sergeant drank much water and became almost normal. We carried the officer to the road. There was an American army jeep coming toward us and seeing us stopped in front of us and picked them up. We were about to say "goodbye" but the lieutenant insistently wanted me to go with him.

I was sergeant and my fellow soldier was private. I told him to go back to the unit and report this story. Our unit was 3rd platoon, 11th Co., 3rd Bn., 19th Regt., 6th ROK Div. I followed him to an American Army airfield where they took us in a cargo plane. I knew it was a cargo plane because there was no seats for passengers. The plane took us to an American Army Evacuation Hospital. I am not sure but location was near somewhere around Daejon City, I suppose. I stayed there in the hospital with him a week but I could not stay there any longer because I knew that I would be a deserter if over a week.

I can never forget my life in the hospital because the food was so delicious and I could sleep on the bed, all of which I had never eaten or slept before. When we parted, he gave me a memo of his name, address, and so on and I gave him my name and address in Chinese character. He also gave me his gold-plate watch he had been wearing. Since I could not speak English, we only could communicate with gesture and feelings. However, unfortunately I lost his memo in the battlefield.

But I am sure that the American Army history in Korea War should be able to identify what airfield, what evacuation and also who the lieutenant and black sergeant were because the hospital must have the records of the officer.

Now I would like to repeat this story in different angle so that it could help find them. The location of the hill was somewhere between the areas of Iljookmyon and Kwang-Joo in Pyongi-Do, from about 20 to 30 miles South-East of Seoul. The time was the "January 4th Retreat" by the Chinese Army participation to Korean War. My memory is not clear but I suppose the Division Mark was "horse head". But I cannot say it was for sure.

I sincerely hope that this story be published in your Graybeards. This story is true and correct. I shall never forget your kindness for the rest of my life. The following is the address and name, same as the one I gave to the lieutenant. I hope that if he still has the address and name, he can identify comparing with it. Thanks, Choi, Dae Yul, 74 – Dong 104 ho, Siyong Apt, Sinchon- Dong, Songpa-Ku, Seoul, South Korea.

*(Thank you Choi for the letter. Although I could not print your address in Korean, I expect someone will contact you by the address above or the Graybeards editor and we can pass it on another way. Your photo and story should be enough to get some feedback.)*



I am looking for **Red Adams**, the Mess Sergeant for the 388th Chemical Smoke and Generator Co. or anyone that remembers that I had Yellow Jaundice in Korea. Contact Stanley E. Gade,

3103 Hillcrest Ave., Alton, IL 62002-1934.



I would like to hear from anyone who served with **34th Ord. Depot**, attached to 10th Corps from July 1, 1950 - Aug or Sept 1952. I can be reached at the following address and phone number. Jay Flowers, 7213 Harney Rd., Tampa, FL 33617 Tel: 813-988-7757.



Looking for Army Nurse who may remember that on 23 April 51 in the **4th Field Hospital in Taegu** she had a date with a French Sergeant, but she could not make it as that evening wounded Marines were brought in by busloads and she had to stay in Surgery. I remember she mentioned having been in Burma in WWII. I would like to find out if we missed a life full of happiness. Contact LTC Serge Bererd, 5 rue de Provence, 86000 Poitiers, France, Tel. 33549477345.



Looking for information on my uncle **Cpl. James T. Mainhart** (Tom as he was called.) He was in the 7th Inf. Div., 31st Inf. Rgt., I Co., as a cook. He was killed in action at the Chosin Reservoir on Nov. 30, 1950 and is listed as unaccountable. I am doing this for my Dad who is veteran of WWII and Korea and we would like to know if there is anyone who knew him or what happened to him. I have been in contact with many of the veterans of the 31st and I Co., but not much luck as of yet. I did talk to one who said he remembered him but wasn't sure what happened to him. I also have gained a great admiration for these men and what they had been thru. When I started this search about 6 months ago I little realized the responses I would get and the help they offered me. I have received E-mails, and letters from as far away as Hawaii. Phone calls from Colorado, N. Carolina Mass. and more. Each one took time to tell me their accounts and some gave me places and lists of names of veterans and organizations that might be able to help me. If I never find anyone who knew him or what happened to him I at least have gotten to know some of the finest and most honorable people in this country. Contact Thomas E Mainhart 475 Portman Rd., Butler, PA. 16002 or e-mail <mainharts@aol.com>.



Looking for any survivors of a C-54 airplane crash on Sept. 26, 1950. My name is **Pfc. Albert (Al) L. Smith**, and I was with the Eighth Motor Vehicle Squadron at Itsuke AFB in Fukuoka, Japan. I was being flown in a C-54 transport plane from Ashea, Japan to Korea (destination unknown). The plane crashed at around 3:00 am, about 5-10 miles in the ocean outside Ashea. There were 51 aboard, including 2 nurses and crew. The remainder of the passengers were airmen being sent to Korea. The pilot, a nurse, and approximately 23 others were killed. After three hours in the water, a Japanese fishing boat picked us up. There were five of us that helped load the rest in ambulances. I saw a friend in the raft on which I was hanging. I cannot remember names, and am looking for any survivors, or anyone who knows about the crash. My DD214 Form for the first 3-1/2 years of my services was lost by myself, and the government had a fire destroying their copy. This DD214 contained the record of my being in the crash, along with medical information. It is imperative

that I obtain this information as it relates to a claim with the VA. Contact Al Smith, 4030 Willamette Ave. SE Albany, OR 97321. Tel: 541-924-9851, or e-mail at <Loral@proaxis.com>.



Looking for: **Hanna, Carl G., Lt. Roberts, Kelley, Charles M.**, or anyone that served in Korea with the 58th Engineers Treadway Bridge or Float Bridge Co. Please contact Carl L. Welker at 4951 Wise Ave. St. Louis, MO 63110 Tel: 314-531-9128 or e-mail, at <welkers@swbell.net>



I served with **B Btry, 8th Field Art. Bn., 25th Inf. Div.** in Korea. I would like to contact anyone I may have served with during this time. Contact Vernie Jervis, 2835 S. Wagner Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 481093-9747 or e-mail at <jervl956@aol.com>.



Looking for **John W. Hill**. We were with the 1st FAOB in Korea during 1951-1952. He was from the Nashville area. He was last stationed in Fort Sill. Contact: Calvin Hibbs, 11 Ridge Ave, Mozart, Wheeling, WV 26003 Tel: 304-233-3735 or e-mail <Glory413@aol.com>.



I served in **49th Field Artillery Bn.** Service Battery of the 7th Inf. Div. from Aug 1950 to Nov 1952. I would like to hear from anyone who served with me. Contact Wi Jo Kang, 5980 Farthing Dr. Colorado Springs, Co. 80906. Tel: 719-576-3261 or e-mail. <wjckang@aol.com>.



Looking for those who served in **I Co., 3rd Bn., 7th Inf. Regt, 3rd Inf. Div.**, in Korea 1951-52. Jim McDonough (then 1st Sgt), Larry Hawley (Plt Sgt) George Whittaker (Radioman 3rd Plt), Especially looking for George Neff, Dave Tyson, Sheridan, Blasingame (then Lt.). Contact Paul Tardiff, 15209 Leeward Dr., B-4, Corpus Christi, TX 78418, Tel: 361-949-2924 or e-mail <sgtmaj9@bangornews.infi.Net>.



Is There anyone left out there from the **16th Recon, 1st Cav** who were replacements like I who stayed with the 45th Div. I had a soldier die in my arms and I would like to get in touch with his family. I believe his name was Peterson. He was 22 and had 2 children and was from Minnesota. If any one knows a family by that name that lost a loved one on Old Baldy around 10-1-51, please let me know and I will let the remaining family know he died thinking of them and died peacefully. Contact H.D. Buelow, 1615-15th Ave S.E., # 1278, St. Cloud, MN. 56304.



Through the years I always resented the snubbing by the media of our **Navy's action in Korea**, so I took up the gauntlet and am putting together a list of U.S. ships sunk or damaged during the Korean War [1950-53.] Many, many, never knew about these losses. As of now, my records show 6 ships sunk and approximately 73 ships hit by enemy fire or damaged by mines. I'm beginning to get info in response to my ads that I have placed in military magazines. It's building every day with individual stories and photo copies of ships damaged or sunk.

Now I'm asking you if you have stories or photos of damage

done to your ship, please send copies to me. I will be putting this information on display at the NY and NJ. Bull Sessions held by the Tin Can Sailors and also at the reunions of my ships. Many of my shipmates go to reunions of other ships that they served on and they should be able to pass this information on as well. Contact Ron Bennett, 2126 Benson Ave. Apt 4D, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11214 Tel: 718—266-7484 or E-mail <ronmar@jps.net>.

#### NAVY MEN IN KOREA

1950-1953

Hail to the crews who sailed their  
ships, so far away  
To battles wide they sailed  
their ships, in harms way  
We paid our price with death  
and scars  
We earned some ribbons  
and battle stars  
Ignored by the press, welcomed home  
with nary a fuss  
What a shame that no one spoke  
kindly of us  
Damned be to all that shunned us  
Our ships were there

*By Ron Bennett*

*(Dear readers and veterans: 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. Please attempt to type your letters, if not take the time to print or write clearly. Editor)*

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## Seoul Mates Return to Korea

Two Paramus New Jersey residents returned to Korea last month, almost 50 years after their military service to receive medals from a grateful Korean Government.

Doris and John Fisher both served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War; Doris as a nurse at the 11th Evacuation Hospital in Wonju, Korea and John as an Artillery Officer with the Third Infantry Division. However they received much more than medals; the appreciation of the South Korean people. Wherever they went, they were thanked by the Korean people for giving them their freedom and prosperity.

The South Korean Government has a standing invitation for all veterans of the Korean War to come to Korea as their guests. The veterans must pay for their transportation to Korea, but all other expenses are paid for by the Korean Government. There were also veterans in this group from Greece, the Philippines, Australia, Thailand and Ethiopia. All were presented with the Ambassadors Freedom Medal.

Other special presentations were also made to the Fishers. They were married at the 11th Evacuation Hospital in Wonju in June of 1953 and also because Doris is one of the few female war veterans to have returned to Korea. They received the Korean War Veterans Medal from the Korean Ministry of National Defense, presented by Major Lee Kum Sik of the Korean Army. They were also presented with watches engraved with the signature of the President of South Korea at a reception for the veterans which was attended by the President of South Korea.

They also made a special visit to Wonju to visit the previous site of the 11th Evacuation Hospital which has now been replaced by a newer Korean Army Hospital. They were greeted by the Mayor of Wonju and his staff, received a gift of a ceremonial tea service and then had lunch with the mayor. After that they were escorted about the Korean Army Hospital by the acting commandant of the hospital.

When the Fishers left Korea in 1953 after the war had ended, they were not cer-



Mr. & Mrs. Fisher heading for honeymoon in Japan..

tain of what they had accomplished. Each had completed their military service and wanted to get back home. When they left Korea, the cities were in rubble, orphans and refugees were everywhere; but when they saw the modern cities, the freedom of the people and especially the happy, healthy children, they knew it was all worth the effort.

The following articles were printed in South Korean newspapers with these bold headlines:

**SPECIAL WEDDING CEREMONY DURING  
THE KOREAN WAR 46 YEARS AGO.**

**"THE KNOT TIED ON THE BATTLE-FIELD  
WILL BE FOREVER"**

**THE FISHERS, RETIRED ARMY OFFICERS,  
COME BACK TO SEOUL.**

Korea is a unforgettable place it made us love each other even more under the enemy fire" As Korean war veterans, the Fishers were invited by the Korean Veterans Association to attend the 49th anniversary celebrations.

Both of them were first lieutenants. John Fisher (71) and Doris Fisher (73) were married on June 8th, 1953 during the fierce battle over territory between North and South. But it was just before the cease-fire. At the time, 25-year-old young man, John served as an observation officer in Kimwha area and Doris looked after the injured as a nurse at the 11th Evacuation Hospital in Wonju.

With distant cannons booming, they were married in uniform at the hospital chapel. Mrs Fisher said "We had the mar-

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riage certificate stamped with Pusan Mayor's official seal" I think the urgent situation that we couldn't be assured of our survival made us bind firmly." John explained. "Of course, we knew we would be separated after our marriage, but we wish to be married while we were alive." He said he proposed to her -first. They went to Mi. Who-ji in Japan on their honeymoon for one week and they returned to their units as soon as they came back.

John from New Jersey and Doris from Virginia met in Arkansas while they were stationed. They fell in love and were engaged. She left for Korea to take orders from US government four months later, however, they were getting out of mind of each other. Three months later he was also sent to Korea and they could meet again. His job was to inform our fire unit of enemy's position using the spy planes. "I used to send my love by mail or official phone call daily and go to Wonju on my day off once a month." he recollected. "Our love across the battle-ground might be the first reason we have been able to keep our happy marriage without any problem." he explained.

This is their first time to Wonju since the Korean War. "We're very impressed by the development of Korea." they admired.

"I didn't know Wonju developed such as I see." Mr. John Fisher and Doris got married on June, 8, 1953. At that time



Mr. & Mrs. Fisher with Mayor of Wonju, Han Sang Cheol.

North and South Koreans were exchanging fierce fire. Twenty five year-old John was in service as an official of 10th artillery. 10th artillery was exchanging fire with Chinese troops at Kimwha region, Doris was in nursing service on 11th evacuation hospital. They married at a church located at 11th evacuation hospital wearing army costume.

First time, they met at army base in Arkansas. They began to love. They had engaged on June, 1952. Four months after, Doris was transferred to Korea and 3 months after John also was transferred to Korea.

They decided having a wedding ceremony when they were alive. They have been having a happy life because they married at combat field.

Mr and Mrs Fisher met Han Sang Cheol, the mayor of Wonju, and presented 18 pictures which taken during war time.

*(Thank you for great photos and story. I could not print the Korean text. Had enough problems with Y2K)*

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# Taps

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

## Arizona

★ Wilber L. Meier

## California

★ Armand M. Vaquer  
★ Robert S. Zimmerschied

## Connecticut

★ William Hawks

## Delaware

★ Lester C. Ehrick

## Florida

★ Kenneth Robertson  
★ Willis G. Strawn

## Illinois

★ Raymond E. Mills (Ex-POW)

## Indiana

★ John J. Berles

## Maine

★ Herbert Edward Buck, Sr.

## Maryland

★ Wilmer C. Rippeon, Jr.

## Massachusetts

★ Henry Carver  
★ Frank T. Kowalczyk, Sr.

## Missouri

★ Carl G. Alford  
★ Robert L. Hoffman  
★ Russell E. Vickery

## Ohio

★ John M. Hillshoff  
★ Anthony Sarracco

## Oklahoma

★ Col. John D. Hill (Ex-POW)  
★ Edwin E. Trexler

## Pennsylvania

★ John J. Rock

## Rhode Island

★ Donald Winkle

## South Carolina

★ John Henning Blakely

## Texas

★ Al Mestan

## Virginia

★ Thomas George

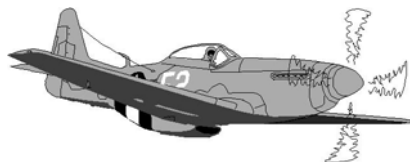
## West Virginia

★ Charles J. Wolfe (Ex-POW)

## Wisconsin

★ Gerald L. Burkel

# PARA-PANTS



## *Captain Mau's Flying Trousers* *Fall 1950*

**U**nsung Heroes of the Korean Air WarWe had no facilities for cleaning our aircraft at our dusty Taegu airstrip, and our Mustangs rapidly accumulated a grimy coating of oil and dust which was not only unsightly, but increased drag friction to slow us down and, if uncorrected, would ultimately work its way into the control surfaces to cause undue wear. When they became too dirty, and we could afford the time to keep them down for a half day, we would occasionally fly them across the Sea of Japan to Itazuke, AFB Japan, to give both the airplane and the pilot a chance for a welcome hot bath and, for the pilot, a good meal at their Officer's Club.

One morning, after flying a successful pre-dawn combat mission on the roads along the East coast, Captain Jerry Mau and I took a pair of our F-51s over to Itazuke for a quick scrubdown. Since we would be "dining" in the Officer's Club while our ships were being 'bathed', we took along suntan uniforms to change from our grubby flying suits and, because the Mustang had no space provided for luggage, we would simply hang our uniforms on hangers, place them against the back of the seat, and sit on them.

After enjoying a good shower at the Itazuke Transient Officer's Quarters and a meal at the Club ... we arranged to purchase a few cases of canned beer to take back to Taegu for use at our primitive "Club" tent.

**He wasn't worried, he said, because he didn't intend to drop all that beer, under any circumstances ... even if we were jumped by enemy aircraft.**

The Itazuke maintenance officer had obligingly furnished us a couple of old expendable 'drop-tanks' to hang under the wings, for our use to carry the precious canned-liquid cargo back to our base in Korea. In place of the small, round fuel filler hole, he had cut an eight-inch square access panel in its place, with the top held in place by a couple of bent baling wire hinges and a bent wire fastener ... a completely adequate arrangement for carrying canned beer...

Jerry Mau insisted on carrying both cargo tanks back on his ship ... he said he didn't trust me with all that beer

"...I might accidentally drop the tanks, or have them knocked off when I made my usual hard landing at Taegu. "

After we had loaded all of the beer cans into the modified fuel tanks, Jerry then neatly folded his suntan uniforms and tucked them into the right wing tank on top of the beer cans rather than the back of his seat, before he closed and wired the loose-fitting, makeshift cover panel shut.

When he told me that his wallet was in his trousers pocket, I asked if he wasn't

afraid he might lose it if he had to drop the tanks.

He wasn't worried, he said, because he didn't intend to drop all that beer, under any circumstances ... even if we were jumped by enemy aircraft.

About half an hour after take-off, outbound from Itazuke, while flying Jerry's right wing ... midway across the Sea of Japan ...just before reaching Tsushima Island, I noticed a bit of tan cloth flapping in the slipstream from the top of his right wing tank. I called to bring it to his attention, but, although he was a little concerned about tearing the cloth, there was really nothing he could do about it at the time.

As we drilled onward at ten thousand feet, the patch of cloth became bigger and bigger until, finally, one whole leg of Mau's trousers had been sucked out through the quarter-inch gap of the cover, out into the 250 miles-perhour slipstream.

By that time he finally realized what was happening ... and what was about to happen. Mau was beside himself. We were fifty miles over the Sea of Japan, with no place to land before the trousers would be pulled entirely out.

There was nothing he could do but watch in dismay, as the slipstream sucked the trousers out, inch by inch, until they stuck, momentarily when the pocket holding the wallet... with three hundred dollars in good American greenbacks inside, wedged against the tank's loosely-wired access panel.

We had slowed our airspeed to 150 mph, hoping the slower speed and the jammed wallet might hold until we arrived over Pusan, where we might land and save it.

But no such luck! I watched Jerry and the tank cover from close formation as the flapping pant legs finally pulled the valuable \$300 wallet ... loose to flutter silently into the sea ten thousand feet below.

But the beer was safe, and well-chilled from the flight across the Sea of Japan. At Taegu we drank a sudsy toast to Jerry Mau's expensive trousers and their dramatic fall into the Yellow Sea!

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

Next Issue: Courage, Valor, Heroism  
(Major Lou Seville and Lt. Don Bolt)

**Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War**

*by*

**Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,**

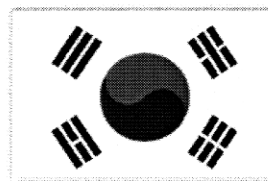
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## 50th Anniversary of the Korean War 1950 - 1953



### -Korean War Veterans Revisit Programs-

► Choose a package program which interests you most and best fits your vacation schedule.

- Commencement of Hostilities**

(June 23 – June 30)

Attend the Seoul ceremonies on June 25 commemorating the beginning of the War.

- Task Force Smith**

(July 3 – July 10)

This was the first contact between the U.S. Army and Northern forces. Visit the Task Force Smith site near Suwon/Osan.

- Breakout of Pusan Perimeter**

(September 10 – September 17)

Many U.S. Army Veterans will remember when U.N. troops desperately hung on to the Pusan Perimeter. Re-enactment of the Naktong River Crossing by U.S. and Korean Army troops.

- Inchon Landing**

(September 13 – September 20)

Re-enactment of the landing by U.S. and Korean amphibious forces.

- Chosin Reservoir**

(November 9 – November 16)

Particularly of interest to U.S. Marine Vets who will remember this terrible winter ordeal, when thinly spread Marines were suddenly attacked by a huge Chinese force.

### ► Sample ( 8D 7N )

DAY	CITY	SCHEDULE
1	U.S. Cities	Departure
2	Seoul	Arrival and City Tour Welcome Ceremony
3	Inchon	50 <sup>th</sup> Ceremony
4	DMZ	Visit the Battlefield Korean War Museum Visit a Military Unit. DMZ
5	Pusan	UN Cemetery Visit an industrial Compound
6	Kyongju	Kyongju Tour
7	Yongin Seoul	Korea Folk Village Farewell Party
8	Seoul	Shopping Departure

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# A Corpsman, a Brother, a Hero



## Joe Keenan, U.S. Navy

*After receiving the message below and prior messages, I wanted to go to the ceremony and also write the story when and if the medal was awarded. Like most things today they get put aside to be done later. Sometimes later has a price. My cost is to apologize to the family and hope they and others who are waiting on my actions will accept the apologies and understand.—Ed.*

Dear Mr. Krepps:

With pride, the Keenan Family is pleased to announce that our brother, HM3, Joseph F. Keenan, USN, will be posthumously awarded the "NAVY CROSS", May 14th, 1999. The award will be presented by the Commandant of The Marine Corps at ceremonies in Washington. Joseph was killed in action, March 26-27, 1953 while serving with Fox 2/5 during the battle for Reno Hill, Korea. A six month investigation by Historian's HMCS(FMF) Mark T. Hacala and Dr. David R. Klubes of the Bureau Of Naval Medicine determined that Joe was wounded on at least four occasions over a period of three to four hours, each time returning to his charges.

Michael P. Keenan, Sr.

*Prior to this message I was given many documents by Michael showing his and other efforts to correct this oversight. I cannot print all but what I print, you will see how revered Joe was to those who*

The Navy Cross was the next highest medal so Michael accepted it for Joe last May in a garden ceremony at the Marine barracks in Washington. The President's Own band played and for an afternoon Joe Keenan was bright again before his brother's eyes.

*knew him.*

For decades, Michael Keenan lobbied for a medal or a monument to his brother, Joe, who died in Korea saving wounded Marines in March 1953. Veterans from Joe's unit swore that he had been nominated for the Congressional Medal of Honor, but no records could be found. Then, in June 1998, a Navy Chief from the Medical Corps got into a hotel elevator with some Korean War veterans and struck up a conversation. The Medical Corps was 100 years old, the chief told the vets, that the brass wanted to play up its heroic past. Why just that day the chief had been talking about a navy corpsman named Joseph Keenan who'd been killed in Korea under extraordinary conditions.

"Joe Keenan!" cried one of the vets. "Why, his brother Michael is staying in this hotel."

A new investigation by navy historian Mark Hacala showed that Joe had been nominated for the Medal of Honor, but the paperwork was lost and impossible to recreate. The Navy Cross was the next highest medal so Michael accepted it for Joe last May in a garden ceremony at the



Hospital Corpsman Third Class Joseph F. Keenan, U.S. Navy.

Marine barracks in Washington. The President's Own band played and for an afternoon Joe Keenan was bright again before his brother's eyes.

♦

*Transcription of letter dated Feb 25, 1953 from Joseph F. Keenan*

Dear Mother and Dad,

Sorry I haven't written and I am asking you to forgive me for my last letter, it was in anger and I didn't mean the harsh words I said. We arrived in Korea Friday the 13th, and it's a good thing I'm not superstitious.

I went to confession and communion the night we left for the front. We were lucky and stayed here at Batt. Aid Station 2000 yards behind the main line of resistance for a week or more. Fox Company puffed a daylight raid on a Goonie hill, it was a slaughter, compared to what results were expected. Sixty wounded and six killed, some may die from wounds later on but that's what our log reads this morning. Many boys will awake tomorrow with either both arms or legs missing. And one will never see again. I saw some pretty awful sights today and expect to see many more, I hope not, but there's no getting away from it, this is a real war here and not just a police action. It is terrible over here and it's going to take a lot of doing and much praying to end the spilling of blood here.

Everything that happens here usually happens at night and it's rough on the nerves. Once every two weeks they pull a daylight raid to get "Luke the Gook" worried. The hill had one thousand rounds of bombs and heavy artillery shells and mortar and rockets dropped on it for eight minutes before zero hour, yet when the Marines got close to the top, Goonies were all over the place, some just stayed in their holes and just threw grenade after grenade over the top without hardly showing themselves at all.

They asked for a volunteer Corpsman to go up to evac. some patients, I said I'd go but didn't realize what I said till after I was in

the halftrack, then I got scared. I went up but when I got there it was too late so I came back to the aid station. I loaded eight or nine cases on the "copters" bay, they sure are life saving machines.

Well that's it for now. I'll write again as soon as possible.

Your son, Joe  
P. S. Say hello to the kids for me.

WESTERN UNION

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WASH DC

MR AND MRS THOMAS FRANCIS KEENAN  
43 MATHER ST  
DORCHESTER MASS

IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET THAT I OFFICIALLY REPORT THE DEATH OF YOUR SON JOSEPH FRANCIS KEENAN HOSPITAL CORPSMAN THIRD CLASS US NAVY WHICH OCCURRED ON 26 MARCH 1953 AS A RESULT OF ACTION IN THE KOREAN AREA. WHEN FURTHER DETAILS INCLUDED INFORMATION AS TO THE DISPOSITION OF THE REMAINS ARE RECEIVED YOU WILL BE INFORMED. YOUR SON DIED WHILE SERVING HIS COUNTRY AND I EXTEND TO YOU MY SINCEREST SYMPATHY IN YOUR GREAT LOSS.

VICE ADMIRAL J L HOLLOWAY JR  
CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

*Letter to the family from Pfc. Floyd W. Caton F/2/5*

March 27, 1953

Dear Mrs. Keenan,

Just a few lines to let you know I was on the raid last night when Joe got hit, he never got hit bad so don't worry about Joe. He got hit in the wrist and also got a little sand in his eyes but not enough to hurt them. He was with our fire team when it happened. So believe me Mrs. Keenan when I tell you Joe will be alright. When we were out there Joe was doing a wonderful job taking care of the wounded and when the corpsman came over to take care of Joe when he got hit Joe said to go help the other guys who need care more than I do.

Mrs. Keenan I haven't known Joe too long but in my book he's tops, he's one of the finest guys I've ever met.

Well there isn't much more I can tell about Joe. But Mrs. Keenan don't worry about Joe he will be just fine in a couple of days. I will close for now.

A very dear friend of Joe's.  
Floyd W. Caton

*Letter to the family from Pvt. Dan Holl F/2/5*

March 27, 1953

Dear Mrs. Keenan,

This is just a short note to let you know about your son Joe. He got hit slightly in the arm by a mortar last night while on a raid with our company. He was with my firing team when we started the attack on the hill [Reno] and during most of the raid. He done the job of a platoon of men before he got hit and quite a while after. He also refused medical aid from anyone

until he was sure everyone else was properly cared for. Your son is and will always be one of the most well liked guys in our company. I became good friends with him shortly after he arrived in Fox Co. We seen him leave the hill and I also checked in the aid station to see if he was all right. He got quite a bit of dust in his eyes but it didn't bother his vision after they were cleaned.

Joe's friend,  
Dan Holl

Joe is in fine hands and there are no serious wounds.

**THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000**

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the NAVY CROSS posthumously to

**HOSPITAL CORPSMAN THIRD CLASS  
JOSEPH F. KEENAN  
UNITED STATES NAVY**

for service as set forth in the following  
CITATION:

For extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy while assigned as a Hospital Corpsman for Company F, Second Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division serving in the Republic of Korea on 26 and 27 March 1953. On the evening of 26 March, 3,500 enemy soldiers attacked 120 Marines at three small outposts forward of the Marines, main line of resistance. Petty Officer Keenan's company moved forward to repel the enemy when they were pinned down by murderous artillery and mortar fire. While moving to treat one of the numerous casualties, he was struck by shrapnel in the hand. Petty Officer Keenan waived off medical attention from another hospital corpsman, directing that assistance to his wounded Marines, when he was struck a second time in the head. Despite the serious nature of his wounds, he returned to the fight immediately after basic treatment and a resupply of medical items. Moving through the open terrain to treat the wounded, Petty Officer Keenan was partially blinded by dirt from one of the many nearby explosions. Although his sight was impaired, he found and assisted two hospital corpsmen in caring for bleeding Marines in an open position. Having helped the casualties there, Petty Officer Keenan struck out to find other wounded despite his own pain and the constant threat of deadly shellfire. Petty Officer Keenan then proceeded to collect and treat six casualties in a gulley that afforded scant cover. When two Marines saw his wounds and his dangerous situation, he defiantly refused their pleas to seek treatment and safety for himself. Holding his duty to his patients paramount, he remained with his downed comrades. Later in the fight, Petty Officer Keenan was struck by shrapnel as he continued his ministrations of mercy, gallantly sacrificing his life for his Marines and for his Country. Petty Officer Keenan's courage, drive, and unselfish dedication to duty reflected great credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

For the President,  
Secretary of the Navy  
John H. Dalton





The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Charles C. Krulak presenting the "Navy Cross" posthumously awarded to their brother, to the Keenan brothers: (l - r) Ralph, James, Michael, Richard and Paul Keenan.

#### WESTERN UNION

MR THOMAS F KEENAN  
43 MATHER ST DORCHESTER MASS

ANOTHER REPORT RECEIVED FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE FIRST DIVISION STATES THAT YOUR SON MADE THE REQUEST THAT PFC CATON AM PVT HOLL WRITE TO YOU IN CASE OF INJURY. PRIOR TO BEING KILLED IN ACTION ON 26 MARCH 1953 YOUR SON HAD BEEN TREATED FOR TEMPORARY BLINDNESS DUE TO SAND IN THE EYES CAUSED BY EXPLODING SHELL. UPON TREATMENT HE WAS RETURNED TO FULL DUTY. THE LETTER[S] TO YOU BY PFC CATON AND PVT HOLL [WERE] WRITTEN AT THIS TIME. AGAIN MY SINCEREST SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO YOU.

VICE ADMIRAL J L HOLLOWAY JR  
CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
WASHINGTON DC

*Transcript of letter from WM. E. Beaven  
Ltjg MC USNR*

4/12/53

Dear Mr. Keenan,

This is simply a note to express my own deepest sympathy concerning the loss of your son who was under my command and direct supervision at the time of his death on Vegas.

As Bn. Surgeon, I got to know your son very personally and I can honestly say he was one of the most courageous and professionally capable corpsman that we had on the line. The amount of work he accomplished on his last night was an inspiration to every officer and man that came under his responsibility.

If there is anything that we can do in anyway, we will be more than glad to help out.

Sincerely,  
Wm. E. Beaven LTjg MC USNR

#### 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

## Obtain a Korean War Veterans Memorial Granite Wall Memento....

The memento is an authentic piece of the "Academy Black" granite, quaried in California and fabricated in Minnesota, used to create the mural wall of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

Each piece is numbered with a brass plate and includes a certificate of authenticity. This beautiful commemorative is a tribute to you, as a Veteran, who fought in the Korean War.

Available as a 3 1/4" x 6" x 1 1/4" free-standing piece for \$19.95 or as a wall plaque recessed into a 7" x 9" x 1" oak frame for \$31.95 (add \$3.95S&H).

Order from KWVA  
Commemorative, 1975 West County Rd B-2 Ste 1, St. Paul, MN 55113. State and local taxes apply.

Call toll free (800) 732-2611 for further information or see order form in previous issues of "The Graybeards."

#### 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."

# Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library — Progress Report

## Museum Update - February 1, 2000



Wednesday,  
January 12, 2000  
was a very memorable day for the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library.

1. Treasurer, Merle Sims and I were able to make the last payment to the Tuscola National Bank for our eleven acres of land. At the January meeting the Board of Trustees approved this final payment. They also approved the purchase of the second eleven acres in late January.

2. Congressman Tom Ewing of the 15th Congressional District that represents Tuscola, IL called a Press Conference at our office. He announced that the Chairman of Veterans Affairs and the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee are his Co-sponsors. We are very pleased to have his support. He hopes that his efforts will start more interest in the Korean War and ultimately

help our museum. Four television stations and several newspaper reporters attended the press conference and also interviewed Congressman Ewing.

3. I am pleased to announce that our year-end financial reports have been completed and they show that we are in good shape. We will have these audited and made public. The Building Fund has provided enough income to complete the land acquisition and the related expenses and the operating fund is also in the black, however, we are limited in funds for advertising. I would again like to state that our Officers and Board of Trustees pay their own expenses for travel, meals, gas etc. I want to thank them for their dedication and willingness to absorb these expenses. I want to compliment the Board of Trustees and all persons that have been involved in creating our Wall of Honor and Wall of Remembrance tiles. This tile program has provided much of the building fund money that enabled us to acquire this building site.

There are several projects that are being discussed at the time. 2nd Vice President

William O'Brien and his committee are investigating various Fund Raising alternatives. Trustee and Building Chairman, Jere Crise and his committee are reviewing our needs for the building and exhibits. The Board of Trustee approved the contract with a local architect to prepare a site plan and related plans. These should be completed by March. Also we are looking at grants that may be available.

What can you do? Join Us!!! Until we break ground you can still become a Charter Member of the Museum and Library. We, of course will accept memberships after that time also. If you are not able to join us as a member, you may support us with a gift to the General Operating Fund or the Building Fund. Also please contact your Congressional and Senatorial representative and ask them to support the H Res. 320. They can contract Congressman Tom Ewing for information on the resolution.

Robert Kenney, President

E-mail: [kwmuseum@advancenet.net](mailto:kwmuseum@advancenet.net)  
Web Site: [www.theforgottenvictory.org](http://www.theforgottenvictory.org)

## 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, PO Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953 USA.**

Once we landed at Inchon we walked into Seoul (capital of South Korea). In Seoul I was assigned to G (George) Company, 38th Regiment, 2nd Division. I couldn't believe it because the first time I was in service I was in I (Item) Company, 38th Regiment, 2nd Division. At this time the 2nd Division was up north and had gotten the hell kicked out of them at a pass called Kunu-ri, this was the entrance of the Chinese into the Korean War. This attack to the rear by the 2nd Division occurred between the 28th and 30th of November. The 2nd Division lost 25% of their men and 90% of their equipment, tanks, guns, rations, ammo Etc. The 2nd Division was ordered to fall back on Wonju, a town straight east of Seoul. All the reinforcements left Seoul and started for Wonju, walking of course. Somewhere along the way I got transferred into "HOW" Company and into the 81 Mortar Platoon.

The 2nd Division was made up of 3 Regiments. The 23rd, 9th & 38th Regiments. Each Regiment had about 2500 men. Each Regiment was made up of 3 Battalions, 1st, 2nd, 3rd with each Battalion having 4 Companies, each Company having 4 platoons. A platoon was comprised of about forty men. The 1st Battalion had Able, Baker, Charlie & Dog Companies, 2nd Battalion had Easy, Fox, George & How Companies, 3rd Battalion had Item, King, Love & Mike Companies. The first 3 Companies mentioned of each Battalion were Rifle Companies and the 4th, Dog, How & Mike were Heavy Weapons Companies. Each Heavy Weapon Company was made up of a Machine Gun Platoon, 81 Mortar Platoon, 75 MM Recoilless Rifle Platoon and the Headquarters Platoon. These Heavy Weapons platoons supported one of its Battalions rifle companies when so ordered and if in a defensive position supported the whole Battalion.

At this time I was a lowly ammo and 81 mortar tube carrier. I was assigned to the 81 mortars and everyone was an ammo carrier. We had sleeveless vest type carriers with 2 pockets in front and 2 pockets in back, each pocket held an 81 mortar shell. The 81 mortar consisted of a base plate, tube, bipod and sights. The pla-

toon consisted of two sections, each section had two squads and each squad had their own mortar. A squad consisted of 8-10 men. We not only carried our ammo and a part of the mortar we also had to carry our weapons. Most of us didn't carry an M1 rifle. We carried a 30 caliber semi-automatic carbine, we had two banana clips that held 20 rounds each and taped together for ease of using, we also were issued a 45 and a holster, we also carried bandoliers or extra shells in our holster belt.

Now I want you to know I was scared to death and I wasn't alone. In this march not one of us had ever seen combat and no body had the slightest idea of what to expect, many thoughts went through my head as I walked from Seoul to Wonju. We arrived in Wonju about the 10th of December. About this time the 2nd Division which had just run the gauntlet through Kunu-ri started to arrive. My fears really escalated when I saw what a mess these people were in. Luckily after the whole Division arrived we were ordered into reserve to await more reinforcements, guns, ammo and training. During this period a Battalion of Dutch was attached to our Regiment. It was during this time that I first met Big Ed Baugher. We were in the same squad and pup tented together. Ed was drafted and arrived in Korea just as Kunu-ri was happening and was taken along with other men up to Kunu-ri to see if they could help. Big Ed would turn out to be my best friend in Korea and one of my best after Korea. The Division spent the next few days getting re-equipped and in training.

## **WONJU I & II**

About the 20th of December we moved back up on the line. The 38th Regiment was given the task of defending Wonju. By New Years day we had moved north to Hoengson, about 30 miles north of Wonju, walked of course. The temperature at this time was 20 below zero. January 5th we were ordered back to Wonju. Returned to Wonju and proceeded to get ready to defend the town, was ordered to withdraw slightly. On January 7th all hell broke loose, this was my first encounter with immediate combat. The prior 15 days we

were exposed to combat but not immediate combat in that we were not looking the Gooks right in the eyes. The North Koreans had broken through the front lines and were about to overrun the 81st Mortar platoon. I can remember laying in a rice paddy, it was dark but there was a moon and I could see a little bit. I heard a rifle fire and one of our people holler "Medic!" this happened two or three times, when I looked up on the roof of a building I could see what looked like a person, shortly I saw a flash and another person hollered. I knew the person on the roof was a Gook sniper and I knew I should bring him down but I just couldn't do it. About that time another shot and another soldier hollered, I stood up and turned my Carbine on the Gook and he rolled off the roof. I couldn't believe I had shot a man, but I justified it at the time and did numerous times after that, it was them or me. Shortly after this our Platoon Leader hollered get those guns and get out of here. I jumped up, grabbed my mortar tube and beat feet out of there. This was the action that I was awarded the Bronze Star for. I didn't think I was the only one that jumped up and grabbed their part of a mortar and got out of there but I was one of three that was awarded the Bronze Star for this. You can see what little you have to do to get a Bronze Star. Never in my life did I think that a little Bronze Star would create such a commotion back home.

A large part of the time I was in Korea my Dad was sick in bed with what was at the time an unknown sickness, it is what we know today as congestive heart failure. Unbeknown to me the Army sent a news release to the Metamora Record (local newspaper) concerning my Bronze Star and also a release to Mom And Dad. I first heard from Mom saying that Dad was very disturbed about the chances I was taking not knowing that if I thought I was taking a chance I would have stopped all by myself. Soon I heard from Dad and in no uncertain terms he told me to knock it off, because of this I subsequently refused another Bronze Star and a Silver Star. I will talk about them when the time comes.

The fighting for Wonju continued for



two weeks and about Jan. 22 we retook Wonju. The beginning of February we moved up to Hoengson again. We no more than arrived at Hoengson when we were ordered into Division Reserve at Wonju. About the middle of February we were back on the front lines, seems the Gooks were going to have another go for Wonju. On the night of February 14th we were hit very hard. By February 16th the Gooks had enough and pulled back

After this we moved Northeast into the mountains, many nights in the mountains it was 30 below zero and it was tough for our supplies to keep up with us. The 38th Regiment had really been clobbered at Wonju and we were put into reserve for training, replacements and equipment. March 10th found us back on line. We moved to take a pass at Yudong-ni. The 3rd Battalion was to lead and us right behind.

This attack failed and the next morning it was the 3rd Battalion and the 2nd Battalion side by side through the pass. By nightfall we were in Yodung-ni. The end of March the 23rd and the 9th Regiments went into reserve and we stayed on line. The next month was spent on trying to find the Gooks and training. April 25th we moved up to the "Cairo" line. At this time we the 2nd Battalion was sent way out front of everyone and formed a patrol base from which to hunt for Gooks and to act as an alert for the rest of the Division.

I have told you the make-up of a Battalion, that is 3 Rifle Companies and 1 Heavy Weapons Company. Normally 1 or more Rifle Companies were on line and the 81st Mortars were immediately behind them on the back side of the hill, supporting them. The Mortars being on the down side of the hill could not see what to shoot at and that's why the need for Forward Observers (FO). We would have an FO and a Radioman with every Company or part of Company on line.

The procedure was to first become a radioman and accompany the FO. The FO directed the fire of the Mortars on the enemy and the Radioman relayed the FO's directions back to another Radioman at the Mortars, because of casualties and rotation there was quite a turnover of people in the Korean War. The Radioman was to be the successor to the FO. At this time

**Actually the way they were stopped was that the killed and wounded were piled so high on the barbed wire that others couldn't get over the top of them.**

I was to become a radioman but within a few weeks I became a Forward Observer.

I actually liked being on FO, it was probably safer being with the Rifle company on line than being with the Mortar Platoon. Because the Mortars were behind the Riflemen we got teased a lot for having a plush job but in reality it was as dangerous or more so because once the Gooks had penetrated the Rifle Companies lines the first thing they looked for was the Mortars. I also believe that we always had Gooks at our rear pretending to be South Koreans and when a battle started they would get together and attack from the rear. Before long I was one of the FO's, I believe Big Ed was also an FO at this time. We would go with the Rifle Companies for about 4 days and rotate back to the Platoon for 4 days.

### **BATTLE OF THE SOYANG RIVER OR THE MAY MASSACRE**

The early part of May the absent Chinese Army who got the hell kicked out of them in the last six weeks was no where to be found, but soon they were discovered to be massing right in front of the 2nd Division. Coming up "The Battle of the Soyang River" better known to us as the "May Massacre."

We, the 2nd Battalion had been out front for over a month and early May we withdrew and became part of the division reserve. By the middle of May a tremendous number of Chinese were in front of us. About this time we were returned to the Regiment. By the 16th of May the 2nd Battalion was way out front of the division again. The 3rd Battalion was about 1500 yards to our rear. It turned out there was 12 Divisions of Chinese in front of us. We were 1500 yards in front of everybody but the Chinese bypassed us and hit the 3rd Battalion first. It wasn't long before they found us and I never seen anything like it. The night of the 16th I was on FO, I don't remember which Company

but when the Gooks attacked the flares went off lighting up the skies like daylight, whistles blew, bugles blew and when I looked down the hill and into the valley I swear to God there was nothing but Chinks for as far as you could see, they were so close to each other you couldn't even see the ground.

It reminded me of the fighting in the Civil War, where in attack everyone walked standing straight up, shoulder to shoulder, row by row. With myself and my radioman there were other FO's, there was an Artillery FO and an Airforce FO. Of course it being dark the Airforce FO couldn't be any help but the Artillery FO and myself called in fire and as fast as they could fire, the rounds came in, it didn't seem to phase them a bit. I still believe they were all drugged up. That was one long night, we knew we were completely surrounded because the whole 2nd Division was getting clobbered behind us so we really had no place to go. Actually the way they were stopped was that the killed and wounded were piled so high on the barbed wire that others couldn't get over the top of them. On the 18th of May we were air dropped food and ammunition to replenish what we had used.

The night of the 18th of May we were over run and Uncas Bill Hardin was killed. Bill was a very good friend of all of us. Actually he was wounded while with us and was taken to the Medic tent, the Chinks over run the Medics tent and killed Bill while he was laying on a table. It was early morning when we got over run and very dark, I was with the Platoon and not on FO. I was in my foxhole and heard all the firing and knew exactly what it was. I stayed in my foxhole, pulled the pin on a grenade and when they got close to me I was going to lay the Grenade on the ground outside my foxhole. Instead they ran through the Platoon firing like crazy and then they were gone.

Here I am with a live grenade in my hand and no pin, I couldn't throw it

because I didn't know where our people were and the fear of the noise bringing the Chinks back on us. I tried to find the pin in the bottom of my foxhole but no luck.

Our platoon leader at that time was LT. Sherman Endsley, a big man and a gutsy man. When it started to get daylight we knew we had to make a decision as to how to get out of there, we knew we were behind enemy lines by this time. There was only about eight of us left, Lt. Endsley wanted to go one way and a number of us wanted to go another. They wouldn't let me throw that stupid grenade so I continued to carry it. Anyway Lt. Endsley let whoever wanted to go with him go with him and whoever wanted to go a different way go their own way. Shelstad, Butcher, Foster, myself and a couple other guys decided to make this end run, we figured our lines couldn't be far, probably just over the next ridge, anyway we all left, hopefully to meet back at the Company.

The route we took was right over the hills and all the time we were passing this

I looked up and walking the ridge line was a Company of Chinese, probably about 150 of them, they were less than 100 yards away.

grenade back and forth. We were going up the side of this hill when someone hollered "Down!" Of course we all hit the dirt. I looked up and walking the ridge line was a Company of Chinese, probably about 150 of them, they were less than 100 yards away. We laid there for what seemed to be a long time, finally we continued up the hill and on the top we walked right into a Chinese straggler. He was as scared as we were. It was really funny because we surprised him as much as he surprised us, his eyes were as big as saucers and I'm sure ours were too, he looked at us, we looked at him. I'm sure he knew he didn't have a chance if he tried to get his weapon off his shoulder and we sure didn't want to shoot him and bring his Company down on us. It seemed like

an eternity but I believe it was only seconds when he turned and walked toward his unit and we continued down the other side of the hill. I bet he kept up with his Company after that.

We traveled about another mile towards our lines and when we saw our people I finally threw that grenade and don't you know that stupid thing didn't go off.

We walked into our lines and asked where the Company CP was, we talked to the Company Commander and told him a Company of Chinks was coming down the ridge line right for him, he thanked us and we were on our way to find our own outfit.

...to be continued

## Chaplain's Corner

*Rev. Irvin L. Sharp*

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

As we go forward into the new millennium and new year, we have so much for which to be thankful. The increase in our membership, the stabilizing of our financial condition and the faith of our members that we will grow stronger together.

I received a wonderful letter from Anthony Malvaso of Rochester, New York, who served with the 9th Infantry Regiment, D Company, the same time that I also served. Thank you Tony for renewing so many memories.

We implore blessings for good health and happiness for all our associates and your families.

**Notes on a Beloved Hymn:**

### "How Great Thou Art"

This hymn, composed originally in Sweden by Carl Boberg (1857-1940), somehow traveled to Russia and became a favorite among villagers in the Ukraine. There the English missionary, Stuart Hine, heard it often in the 1930s. In 1948 he wrote down both words and music from memory, translated the words and published the result.

#### Thought for this Month

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee; he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. *Psalms 55:22*

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Largo, FL 33779-5298  
Telephone: 727-582-9353

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Pg 65



# Reunions

## March 2000

**4.2/7 Marines, 1st Marine Div.** - Korea 1950 (Chosin Few) March 23-27 will hold a reunion at the Quality Inn, Branson, MO. Contact John M. Settle, 2236 Goshen Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN. 46808, tel: 219-484-3339 or Rob Hawkins, 6003 Willow Oaks Drive, Richmond, VA. 23225-2426, tel: 804-231-2279.

## April 2000

**7th annual POW/MIA week** April 4-12 in Honolulu, HI at Outrigger West on Kuhio Ave. For hotel reservations contact Outrigger West 1-800-325-7171 or fax 1-800-663-5779. POW special rate of \$72.00 plus room tax. Contact Nick Nishimoto, 2344 Ahakuka Pl., Pearl City, HI. 96782. Tel: (808) 455-5088 for details.

**73rd Tank Bn. and 73rd Armor** reunion April 6-9 at the Holliday Inn North, Columbus/Ft. Benning, GA. Contact Curtis J. Banker 44 Westcott Road, Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940. tel: 518-643-2302

**USS Ault DD698** April 7 & 8 in Lancaster, PA. This will be the first reunion of the ship including Korea Era vets. Anyone who served aboard her is welcome regardless of the period served. Contact Roger L. Davis at 740-756-4103.

**Western States Coalition of Korean War Veterans** April 26-30 in San Luis, Obispo, CA. Contact Pete Muller. Tel: 925-254-0512, Fax: 915-253-0418, E-mail: <ecmuller@earthlink.net>

**6166th Air Wea. Recon. Flt./11th TRS/12th TRS**, Korea, 1950-54, Mobile, AL, Apr. 27-30, Contacts: Dave Lehtonen, 988 Spanish Wells Dr., Melbourne, FL 32935, tel. (407) 254-6736, e-mail: delehtonen@ibm.net or Dave Gibbs, 4004 Sherlock Court, Raleigh, NC 27613, tel. (919) 781-2920.

## May 2000

**U.S. Navy Crusier Sailors Assn.:** May 3-7 at Henry VIII Hotel and Conference Center in St. Louis, MO Contact Bob Tallman, 6484 SW Burlingame Pl., Portland, OR 97201, Tel (503) 246-7550, fax: 503-246-8976, e-mail: bobtall@juno.com or Carl T. Hartzell, 33 Redbay Ct. W., Homosassa, FL. 34446, Tel. (352) 382-1238, email: chartzell@xtalwind.net

**578TH Engineer Combat Bn., Co. "C" & 40th Div.,** May 8-11 on Monkey Island in Northeast OK. Contact John and Mardell Short, Tel: 918-257-5015. Fax 918-257-5052. E-mail jshort@galstar.com.

## June 2000

**Korean War Marines** June 1-4 at Sioux City Convention Center in Sioux City, Iowa. Contact Glen or Christina Callaghan, 112 N 8th Street, Mapleton, Iowa 51034 Tel: 712-882-1824

**AP Transport Group** - USS Generals Mitchell - AP114; Randall - AP115; Gordon - AP117; Richardson - AP118; Weigel - AP119; Hodges - AP144; Breckinridge - AP176 and USS Admirals Benson - AP120; Capps - AP121; Eberle - AP123; Hughes - AP124 and Mayo - AP125. Includes Coast Guard, Navy and Marines. Milwaukee, WI area June 1-4. Contact Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040-2339. Tel: 516-747-7426.

**USS General Harry Taylor - AP145** June 1-4 at Olympia Resort and in Oconomowoc, WI. Contact Jim Bonnot, Jr., 312 Bellwood Ave., Pigeon Forge, TN 37863. Tel: 423-429-5698.

**USS Admiral W. S. Benson AP-120**, June 1-4 at Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc, WI. Marines Welcome. Contact N. Erickson, 1298

29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402. Tel: 319-363-8087

**2d Marine Div.,** June 1-4 at Ramada Inn in Newburgh, NY. Newburgh is the home to MAG49 Det B; MALS and VMGR 452 and the crossroads of the beautiful Hudson Valley and West Point. Contact Lu Caldara, Chairman; PO Box 505, White Plains, NY 10602; 914-941-2118; E-mail: LLCI@westchester.gov.com

**USS Haven AH-12** June 7-10 at Lodge of the Ozarks, Branson, MO. Contact Clyde Landis, 1409 Coronado, Ponca City, OK 74604 or E-mail

USShavenren@aol.com

**USS Noble APA-218** June 15-17 in Denver, CO. Contact Bill Murphy, 98 W Albion Street, Holley, NY 14470-1062. Tel: 716-638-6060.

**USS Warrick AKA89.** June 18 - 21 in New Orleans, LA. Contact Loy W. Smith, 4349 Albury Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713. Tel: 310- 425-0236.

**5th R.C.T. Association** Annual Reunion, June 20-25 at Drawbridge Estates, Covington, KY (just south of Cincinnati, OH). Contact Dick Lewis, Assn Scy-Tres (Toll Free) 1-888-221-8418.

**KWVA State of Missouri**, 4th annual reunion June 22 & 23 at the Settle Inn, Branson, MO. Contact Neil D. Hurley, 177 Sassafras Ct., Hollister, Mo. 65672 Tel/Fax: 417-335-5871

**USS Forrest B. Royal DD 872** 5th reunion June 22-25 at Arlington, VA. Contact Ron Larson, 1240 Franklin St., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494. Tel: 715-423-8905.

**728th MP Bn.** Korea. June 22-24 in Tuscola, IL contact Don Parido, 308 N White Street, Leroy, IL 61752. Tel: 309-962-7037.

**Canada KWV** June 23-25, in Ottawa, Canada at Crowne Plaza Hotel and Convention Centre. This will be the site of the Reunion, General Meeting and banquet. Located at 101 Lyon Street, Ottawa, 237-3600 or call toll free 1-800-567-3600. Contact C. I. Bordeleau, President National Capital Unit No. 7, 2-889 Bermuda Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1K-0V8. Tel: 613-745-2190, Fax: 613-745-2708.

## August 2000

**USS Cascade AD-16**, AUGUST 6-13 in Richmond, VA at Holiday Inn Select. Contact Lyle "Preacher" Burchette, PO Box 566, Hollister, MO 65673 Tel: 417-334-5627 or Bob Croghan, 7827 Cassia Ct., St. Louis, MO 63123. Tel: 314-849-3340 (Messages)

**4.2mm Mortar Co. 35th Regt. 25th Inf. Div.** Korea, August 17-20 at the Key Bridge Marriott in Arlington, VA. Contact Jerry Guinn, 3651- 7 1/2 St., East Moline, IL 61244-3514. Tel: 309-755-5929 or E-mail <Fourduce@webtv.net >

**25th Military Police Co.** August 18 & 19 at Grand Resort Hotel in Piegion Forge, TN. Tel 1-800-362-1188. Contact Dave Wilson, Box 427, Brook, IN 47922. Tel: 219-275-5881 or Ken Mulkey, Box 6, North Tazewell, VA 24630. Tel: 540-988-2137

**Corps Artillery Reunion Alliance**, I Corps, IX Corps, X Corps Korea 1950-1954, 1st FA Ob. Bn., 2nd Chem. Mtr. Bn., 17th FA Bn., 75th FA Bn., 88th Hvy Mtr Bn., 92nd FA Bn., 96th FA Bn., 145th FA Bn., 159th FA Bn., 176th FA Bn., 187th FA Bn., 196th FA Bn., 204th FA Bn., 213th FA Bn., 300 FA Bn., 555th FA Bn., 623rd FA Bn., 780th FA Bn., 936th FA Bn., 937th FA Bn., 955th FA Bn., 984th FA B., 987th FA Bn., 999th FA Bn. will hold 2000 reunion in Salt Lake City, Utah Aug. 31 to Sept 4. Contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Rd., Morris Plains, NJ 07950. Tel: 973-538-7189.

## September 2000

**MCB#4 SEABEES**, all eras Sept. 1-3 at Nashville Airport Marriott, 600 Marriott Dr., Nashville, TN 37214-5010. Contact Phil Murphy, 4 Whitehart Blvd., Danville, New York 14437. Tel: 716-335-8938.

**USS Buck (DD-761)** Assn. in Branson Mo., Sept. 9-12. Contact John B. Connolly Tel: 501-922-3969 or E-mail at <joncon@ipa.net> or Fax: 501-922-9631

**USS Bayfield APA-33**, Sept. 10-14 at Imperial Palace Hotel in Las Vegas, NV. Contact John Shultz, Boulder City, NV. Tel: 702-293-1449 or Art Nelson Las Vegas, NV. at E-mail <artbets@cs.com>

**630th Eng. Light Equipment Co.,** Korea 1950-54, Sept. 11-15 in Branson. MO. Contact Marvin Hobbs P.O. Box 7 Cabool, MO. 65689. Tel: 417-962-3013

**51st Signal Bn.,** Sept. 12-14 at Tobyhanna, PA. Korean Vets and all former

members welcome. Contact Glenn Carpenter, 810 Glyncrest Dr. Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895. Tel (419) 738-3369, E-Mail ICORP@bright.net

**USS Algol AKA-54**, Sept. 13-16 in San Antonio, TX. Contact Tony Soria, 2045 Avalon Dr., Merced, CA. 95340. Tel: 209-722-6005 or Art Nelson at E-mail <artbets@cs.com> Tel: 702-638-1195

**Osaka Army Hospital**, 1950-1953. Former personnel and patients, Sept 13-17, at Marriott Courtyard, Santa Fe, NM. Contact Wilson A. Heefner, M.D., 7205 Park Woods Drive, Stockton, CA 95207-1409. Tel: 209- 951-4748.

The US Army will officially commemorate the veterans, family members and those who lost loved ones who served in the **65th Infantry Regiment** during the Korean War. This event is planned for Wednesday, Sept. 20, 1:00 p.m. at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington D.C. Point of Contact is SMSgt Calvin Springfield at 703- 602-6828.

**45TH Inf. Div. Assn.** (Thunderbirds) Sept. 21-24 in Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Raul Trevino, 1918 Leander, San Antonio, TX 78251-2954. Tel: 210-681-9134.

**USS Davison, DD618/DMS37**, in service 1942 to 1949, will hold her annual reunion September 26 thru 30, 2000 at the Historic Menger Hotel in Downtown San Antonio, Texas. All past crew members and family are welcome. Contact Earl J. Lee, 2169 West Dr., El Cajon, CA 92021. Tel: 619-444-5384 or E-mail <dms37@sprintmail.com>.

**568th Ordnance H.M. Co.** Korea, 1950-53, 50th reunion at the Nashville, TN Marriott Airport Hotel, Sept. 28 to Oct. 1, Contact Herb Peppers, 612 Weatherbeaten Place, Hermitage, TN 37076-1342. Tel: 615-883-1417.

**USS Oglethorpe AKA100** will take place on Sept. 28 to Oct. 1 in Charlestown, SC. Contact Ron Williamson, 639 Oxford St., Belvidere, NJ 07823. Tel: 908-475-4435 or E-mail <misty1@epix.net>.

## October 2000

**8221st F.A. Topo & Met Det. Assn.**, Oct. 4-7 in San Antonio, Texas. Contact Lester Ludwig, 3214 W. Woodlawn Ave., San Antonio, TX 78228. Tel/Fax: 210-433-5973.

Reunion/Beach Bash for veterans of the **UN Partisan Forces, Korea** (8240 AU and associated units) at Panama City Beach Florida. October 18-22. Sponsored by Florida Chapter XXI, Special Forces Association. Contact Bob Dewey, PO Box 581, Fountain, FL 32438.

**1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion** Assn's 20th annual reunion will be held Oct. 13-15 in Fayetteville, NC. At that time, the Assn will also commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. If you served with the battalion in Korea, please join us in our celebration and time for remembrance. Contact Warren R Rehfeldt, 509 Mary Knoll Lane, Watertown, WI 53098, Tel: 920-262-2955, E-mail <jarwrr@execpc.com>.

Seeking Personnel from the **67th Tac Recon Wing** for a possible reunion. Contact Joseph L. Krakovsky, 18227 W. Valley Drive, Wildwood, IL 60030, 847/223-2907.

*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*

# REVISIT KOREA IN 2000

## Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemoration

Fare \$ 850.00 plus Tax (from West Coast) Includes:

- ❖ Round Trip Airfare
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- ❖ Tour of Special Sights

### Tour Dates

- ☐ 22 - 27 June      ☐ 2 - 7 July      ☐ 9 - 14 September  
☐ 13 - 17 Sept      ☐ 25 - 30 September      ☐ 7 - 12 November

**Eligibility:** Korean War Veterans and their spouses, sons, daughters, grandchildren.

Register early to secure your space on first-come, first-serve basis.

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737 N. Michigan Ave, # 910, Chicago, IL 60611  
Phone (312) 981-1717 - Fax (312) 981-1721

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Pg 68



# Update Korea Revisit

By Warren Wiedhahn  
Chairman, KWVA Revisit  
Pusan - Inchon - Seoul - "Chosin" 1950

Dear fellow veterans,

We have been waiting for KVA Seoul to send us our 2000 Revisit quotas, but as this issue of Graybeards goes to bed, they have not yet arrived. Just as soon as we get them, those on the 2000 quota lists will receive a personal letter from us. Please, be patient.

This we do know:

- ☒ Year 2000 quotas are closed out.
- ☒ The April 2000 "Revisit" was rescheduled to October. (All April registrants were notified)

KVA Seoul has informed us that there will be "Revisits" in 2001, 2002 and 2003, but the quotas will be small.

Elsewhere in The Graybeards are the jointly approved Korea 2000 50th Anniversary commemoration plans. If you and/or your unit desire to return to Korea during any of these six events, please call or write Military Historical Tours in Alexandria, VA at 800-722-9501. If you call, please ask for George Malone or Bill Alli. Many of you know George, since he has led numerous Revisit Korea Tours in the past four years. Bill is a Korean War veteran (1951-52), and a member of KWVA. He returned to Korea for an orientation and familiarization visit last November.

In conclusion, all Korean War veterans can return together with their families and friends to Korea! Your heroic deeds will be commemorated during the anniversary years and all at Military Historical Tours look forward to helping make this possible!

## KWVA Members and Friends

Visit the KWVA web site at: [HTTP://www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)  
and add your chapter and memorials. Also sign our  
guest book by adding a message.

## Korea — "Forgotten No More"

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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.

Medals of America ad

Ad – Korea/Australian  
Commemorative Event  
Year 2000  
Page 70



# 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: 703-604-0831 Fax: 703-604-0833.

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.**



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



Event	Place	ODV	Date ((2000))
Hill 180 Memorial Ceremony & Wreath Laying	Osan, Korea	USFK	Fri Feb 4
National Memorial Day Concert	Capitol (West Lawn)	Nat'l Committee	Sun May 29
Memorial Day Breakfast and Wreath Laying	Wash DC/ANC/KWM	MDW	Mon May 30
Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemoration	Conference Ctr, Univ of Pittsburgh	Univ of Pittsburgh	Fri-Sat June 23-24
Hostilities Commence: National Commemoration	Wash, DC	Nat'l Committee	Sun June 25
Hostilities Commence: Inte'l Commemoration	Seoul, South Korea	USFK	Sun June 25
Korean Service Women's Commemorative Event	Wash, DC/ANC	Women's Memorial	Sun June 25
Korean War Documentary Film – <i>Fire and Ice</i>	The History Channel		Sun June 25
Dedication of Korean War Memorial	Columbia, SC	State of SC	Sun June 25
Task Force Smith	ANC	Suwon, South KoreaK	Wed June 28
Task Force Smith	Suwon, South Korea	USFK	Wed July 5
Korean War Veterans Memorial Ceremony	Korean War Memorial	KWVA	Thu July 27
40th ID Korean War Memorial Dedication	Vandenberg AFB, CA	CANG	Fri Sep 1
Breakout of Pusan Perimeter*	Taegu, South Korea	USFK	Wed Sep 13
Historical Symposium/Marshal Found'n & VMI	VMI	VMI	Wed-Fri Sep 13-15
Defense and Breakout of Pusan Perimeter	Norfolk	City of Norfolk	Fri-Sun Sep 15-17
Inchon Landing	Inchon	USFK	Fri Sep 15
Veterans Day Breakfast and Wreath Laying	ANC	VA	Sat Nov 11
Nations Parade	NYC	NYC	Sat Nov 11
Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir	US TBD	Nat'l Committee	Mon Nov 27
Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir	DMZ	USFK	Mon Nov 27
Hungnam Redeployment and Evacuation	Navy Memorial, DC	Nat'l Committee	Tue Dec 12
Evacuation of Hungnam	Pusan	USFK	Tue Dec 12

(See KWVA Web Page <[www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)> and linked 50th Commemoration Web Page for updates)



# A Song of Thanks to the American Korean War Veterans



For our peace and freedom  
54,000 soldiers sacrificed it all...  
We salute and cry in our hearts for you  
Brave soldiers, 54,000 strong...  
For peace and freedom  
You gave your sweat and your blood...  
Because of your bravery and sacrifice  
We are not Enslaved...  
54,000 dead soldiers,  
You taught us the cost  
For liberty to shine throughout the world.  
Brave soldiers rest well...  
In the autumn skies of Washington,  
We see your monument gleaming afar...  
We will never forget the price you paid  
For our peace and freedom.

자유와 평화 위해  
제물 되신 오만 사천의 전우들이시여,  
여기 이백만 우리 동포 대신해서  
엄숙히 머리숙여 오열 하나이다.  
오만 사천의 전우들이시요  
역전의 용사들이시요.  
자유와 평화 위해  
피와 땀과 아우성 속에서  
늑늑히 가신 님들의 헌신이 있었기에  
우리 여기 자유 누리나이다.  
오만 사천의 전우들이시여,  
자유와 평화의 고귀한뜻이  
우리의 숙원 조국 통일의 빛이되어  
찬란히 비추어 주시리라.  
노병 흥망 성쇠 와싱턴의 가을처럼  
깊어가노니  
이 생명 끝까지 님들의 뜻 널리 전하리라.  
고히 잠드소서. 편히 잠드소서.

Myong Choi Lee, Korean War Veterans Association, Korean Advisor to the President



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