

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Vol. 14, No. 6

November - December 2000



Happy Holidays
to all the members and friends of
The Korean War Veterans Association

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, (www.kwva.org) and is published six times per year for members of the Association.

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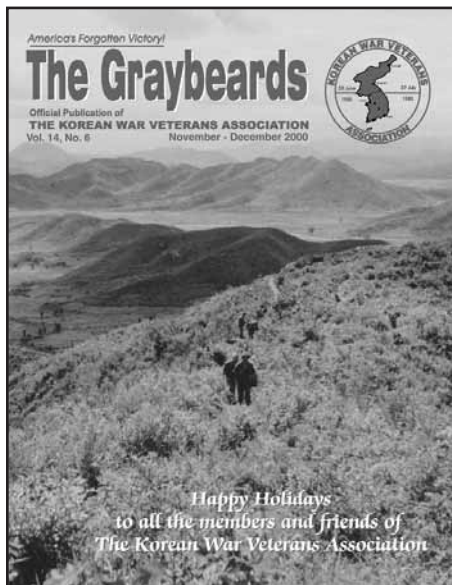
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Liaison for Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corp.: Dick Adams
(See Director)

On the cover...



T-Bone Hill Complex. Photo shown on front cover was taken June 27, 1952. This hill is in the Chorwon area and view is from the enemy's position. This hill is the prominent line of hills in the background across the Yokkok-Chon Valley. The "T" is not clear in the photo, but from the air it would be. The mass is above 500 feet high. It is about 1 to 3 thousand yards from the MLR during this period. Much patrol action was made in this area with many ambushes. This group of hills is called the "Iron Triangle." On the day this photo was taken a Marine P-51 attacked an outpost just to the right and out of view of this photo. It machined gunned and dropped napalm on the men of Company L manning outpost #6. No one was killed, however there were burns and wire cuts. Another mistake called "Friendly Fire." Also shown in photo are men of Company L bringing back some of the burned equipment caused by the napalm. On February 7, 1952, 2nd Platoon, Company L, lost 5 killed and 10 wounded by friendly fire from one of our own 4.2 mortar round. (A short round.) We called this part of the hill "Dark Baldy."

(Thanks Glen Ed White for photo and history.)

The Iron Triangle

Old Baldy was west, southwest of Pork Chop, at the left end of an arc of four,

powerful enemy strong points ringing the outpost on three sides. Proceeding from west to east around the arc, the other enemy strong points were Hasakkol, directly north of The Chop, Pokkae to the northeast, and "T-bone", further to the east, northeast. All four were higher in elevation than Pork Chop's relatively sharp peaked 234-meter summit. From the tops of all four the Chinese could look down on a hill ill-formed for all-around defense and too loosely tied in to the supporting American positions. And from behind the ring of four strong points the Chinese could pound Pork Chop with mortars. Longer ranging artillery multiplied the fury of the shelling and the unpleasant consequences for defenders.

Chronology:

♦ **July 17 – August 4, 1952 Battle for Old Baldy (Hill 266):** 23rd Inf. Regt., (2nd ID) sustains 39 KIA, 234 WIA and 84 MIA by July 21.

♦ **September 18 – 21, 1952 Battle for Old Baldy (Hill 266) Continues:** 38th Inf. Regt, (2nd ID).

♦ **October 14 – 25, 1952 Operation Showdown/Battle of Hill 598 (Sniper Ridge):** 7th Inf. Div. Battles the Chinese near Kumwa, the right leg of the Iron Triangle, and suffers 2,000 casualties.

♦ **December 25, 1952 T-Bone Hill:** 38th Inf. Regt., (2nd ID) repels Chinese forces during and intense battle.

♦ **March 23 – 24, 1953 Old Baldy/Pork Chop Hill Complex:** Held by 31st Inf. Regt (7th ID) 32nd Regt. relieves 31st. Units sustain 300 casualties during a Chinese attack.

♦ **April 16 – 18, 1953 Battle of Pork Chop Hill:** 17th and 31st regiments (7th ID) hit hard and suffer heavy casualties.

♦ **July 6-10, 1953 Battle of Pork Chop Hill:** 7th ID is ordered to evacuate its defensive positions after five days of fighting.

♦ **July 27, 1953 Korean War Ends.**

(The Iron Triangle and most if not all of these hills are on the Northern side of the DMZ. Several can still be seen from the Southern side of the DMZ.)

THIS ISSUE

Features

Shanks Bootees	11
The Battle for Bunker Hill	17
Defense of the Pusan Perimeter	34
The Korean War - Phase III	36
The Hungnam Evacuation	46
Duel Dinghy Dents	66

Departments

President's Message	4
Book Review	6
Listen Up	6
D. C. Affairs	9
Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation	10
Update-Korean War Ex-POW	12
Monuments and Memories	14
Letters	22
Defence POW/MIA Weekly Update	28
Chapter Affairs	38
Looking for...	52
Taps	63
The Poet's Place	64
Reunions	67

News & Notes

U.S. Army Korea Outreach	10
Service Medal awarded sister for brothers sacrifice	13
Proud Korean War Vets Display Tags	18
The Exchange	27
KWVA 50th Commemorative Events	29
Reunions	30
KWVA 50th Commemorative Events	32
Cable TV program showcases veterans	35
Ex-POW awards scholarship from book proceeds	48
Images of Korea	55
Update Korean Revisit	56
Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards	56
Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary	58
Korean War National Museum and Library-Progress Report	59

Korean War Veterans Association Website: www.KWVA.org

President's Message



Harley Coon
President, KWVA

Good, Bad, the Future

The Good:

I am happy to report that KWVA is well respected and a sound financial Veterans Organization. Our membership has grown from about 13,000 when I first took office in July 1998. Today we have 15,500 members. We have increased our membership by 2,500. This is due to the hard work by Jerry Lake and Sam Naomi. These two members have increased our chapters from 160 to 220. These figures come from our membership person Nancy Monson and are within 5% plus or minus.

The membership should be proud of the results of the raffle. A net profit of \$90,000.00. This will help our *Graybeards* continue as the best veteran's magazine published. The membership should take the credit for this, without all their support this would never have happened.

The membership voted to improved the by-laws by cleaning up some gray areas. Clarification of the makeup of the Executive Council was an important move. Section 2 Executive Council now reads (The National Corporation shall have an Executive Council consisting of seventeen (17) members: five officers, President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) together with twelve Directors, four of whom shall be elected annually, prior to the annual meeting. Each Director shall be elected for a 3 year term.

A. Voting All votes of the Executive Council shall by simple majority, unless otherwise stated hereinafter, of a quorum of at least 8 elected members in attendance. Only the elected twelve (12) Directors and the First and Second Vice President have an automatic Council vote. The President has a tie-breaking vote only. Appointed officials of the Executive Council do not have a vote.

The change was that the Past President does not serve on the Executive Council. It

is best to let the incoming President make his own decisions and appointments. I feel that if the incoming president needs advice then he should ask for it. I have been in organizations where the past president interfered with the new president. And as a general rule the Past President has a few loyal board members and sometimes they try to undermine the incoming President.

I know of one veterans organization that is being run by three (3) court appointed persons, by a Judge, and not the membership. With our by-laws we can prevent this from happening. When one takes the oath of office they swear to uphold the by-laws, when they fail to do that, the membership should remove them.

We have had some short comings in the KWVA and have been through some trying times. We weathered the storm and have

Our membership has grown from about 13,000 when I first took office in July 1998. Today we have 15,500 members.

become a stronger organization.

I will guarantee the membership that as long as I am President I will enforce the by-laws in a fair and efficient manner.

There is a change that needs to be in our by-laws that would be fair. The Secretary and Treasurer are appointed officers to the Executive Council and have no vote. I think it would be fair for the Secretary and Treasurer to have a vote on such issues as special meetings, because they are expected

Please turn to **PRESIDENT** on page 10

Project Memorial at Audubon High School



Posing in front of the Medal of Honor Memorial located on the Audubon High School Campus are left to right: Mrs. Burgess, Harley Coon KWVA President, Craig E. Burgess, and Chief Petty Officer Elizabeth McGrath.

America's veterans were in the spotlight in Haddon Heights and Audubon on August 24th. Citations read for Audubon's three Medal of Honor Recipients, Samuel M. Sampler, Nelson

V. Brittin and Edward C. Benfold. The readings were followed by a short presentation by Guest Speaker Mr. Harley J. Coon, current National President of the KWVA.

Military Shop ad 4-color
Film provided
Page 5 – **July/Aug** 2000 issue

Book Review



The Hills Around Us – Korea 1950-1951

By Robert McCune

In early July 1950, I was an 18-year old sergeant, assigned to an Air Force volunteer provisional unit sent to Japan from the Philippines. On September 15, we made an LST beach landing, on the opposite coast from the Marine landing at Inchon. There was one BIG difference - ours was an unopposed landing. We were attached to the 18th Fighter-Bomber Group, a propeller-driven F-51 unit made up of squadrons from the United States, Australia, South Africa, and the Republic of South Korea. The Dog Patch Air Force.

This memoir* is a collection of remembrances of people I met and events I observed, as I made my way up and down that mountainous peninsula on one detached-duty assignment or another, which included service with the No. 2 South African Squadron at the Sinanju airstrip in North Korea. I'd guess that many of you might have served with an Air Force unit in that war yourself, as a combat pilot or as a noncombatant soldier-airman like myself. If you yourself weren't there, but if you had a relative or close friend who was, it might not be all that difficult to imagine that much of what is described in the book could have been experienced and written by that person.

(* Although unpublished, I've proceeded to package it myself).

The book is dedicated to those pilots of the Cheetah and the Taeguk and the Flying Tigers and the other squadrons of the 18th Fighter-Bomber, and to the men young and old - who helped to keep the F-51 Mustangs in the skies. And then, there's the memory of a white-bearded Korean rice farmer and his granddaughter. Their time-out-of-time hospitality brought momentary peacefulness to me, in those seven unforgettable months I served during the war in Korea, Land of The Morning Calm.

Price is \$12 plus \$3.75 S & H. (Costs

Please turn to **BOOKS** on page 49

Listen Up

TO: Members Korean War Veterans Assn., Inc.

SUBJECT: 2001 Election of Directors

Dear Members:

The by-laws of our organization state that a call for nominees for election at the annual reunion be stated in the "Graybeards" each year. This call is for any qualified member who seeks one of the positions available in the 2001 elections to submit their request.

The positions open for this election are four Directors positions for the 2001-2004 three-year term. Those desiring to apply will be required to meet the following requirements as stated in our by-laws.

(Reference: Paragraph C, Section 3, Article III of the bylaws amended July 27, 2000.)

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

1. Requirements:

- a. Must present proof of service by submitting a copy of a DD-214 or other document notarized as a true copy showing eligible service and a statement releasing your document for verification by the Nominating Committee.
- b. Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in the association newsletter.
- c. Must submit a letter with the following:
 - (1). Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
 - (2). A resume of your qualifications for this office stating your experiences that will be of benefit to the association.
 - (3). Your current mailing address, home phone number and KWVA

membership number.

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

- d. A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Executive Council and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.
- e. Your dues must be current through the term of the office you are seeking. You will sign a statement to this effect. Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the association. (Note: If dues are not paid in accordance to this paragraph, candidates will be automatically disqualified with no recourse to run for an office.)
- f. Send the above items by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the Nominating Committee Chairperson to arrive not later than February 15 of the current year.

Applications will be addressed to:

Nominating Committee Co-Chairman
Maurice R "Dick" Wainwright
% Wainwright's, Inc.
2045 E 15th Street
Tucson, AZ 85719-6315

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

The March-April issue of the "Graybeards" will list each certified nominee and the official ballot. Each member in "Good Standing," those whose dues are current when the "Graybeards" is mailed, is eligible to cast their vote by mail. The instructions to cast your vote will be listed on your ballot. It is imperative that you follow the instructions, complete your ballot and mail the ballot so it will arrive to the CPA by July 10, 2001.

Nominees are requested to write to the Nominating Committee for a copy of the checklist and the required statements.



**ANDREW H SCHOLES, CPA
2810 WAYNE AVENUE
DAYTON, OHIO**

To the Board of Trustees
Korean War Veterans Assoc., Inc.
Beavercreek, OH

We have compiled the accompanying statement of assets, liabilities, and fund balances - cash basis of Korean War Veterans Assoc., Inc. (a non-profit organization) as of September 30, 2000 and the related statement of support, revenue, and expenses - cash basis for the nine months then ended, and the accompanying supplementary information - cash basis, which is presented only for supplementary analysis purposes, in accordance with statements on standards for accounting and review services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The financial statements have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

A compilation is limited to presenting in the form of financial statements and supplementary schedules information that is the representation of the organization. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statements and supplementary schedules and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.

The organization has elected to capitalize property and equipment and the recording of depreciation over the estimated useful lives of such assets is a generally accepted modification of the cash basis of accounting.

The organization has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures ordinarily included in the financial statements. If the omitted disclosures were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the organization's financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. Accordingly, these statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

Certified Public Accountant
October 20, 2000

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOC., INC.
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2000**

CURRENT ASSETS		ASSETS
CASH IN BANK-BANK ONE-CKNG	875.36	
CASH-SALOMON-SMITH-BARNEY	1.10	
CASH-BANK ONE-SAVINGS	88,431.01	
CASH-BANK ONE - C.D.	175,000.00	
CASH-BANK ONE - C.D.	175,000.00	
CASH-BANK ONE - C.D.	50,000.00	
CASH-BANK ONE - C.D.	50,000.00	
ACCTS REC - GRAYBEARDS	1,800.00	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		\$541,107.47
FIXED ASSETS		
COMMEMORATIVE ASSETS-WEAPONS	8,050.00	
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		8,050.00
TOTAL ASSETS		\$549,157.47
		=====
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
FUND BALANCES		
GENERAL FUND	276,069.39	
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	104,832.52	
CURRENT EARNINGS	168,255.56	
TOTAL FUND BALANCES		549,157.47
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		\$ 549,157.47
		=====

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOC., INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - CASH BASIS
FOR THE ONE MONTH AND NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2000**

	CURRENT PERIOD		YEAR TO DATE	
	AMOUNT	PERCENT	AMOUNT	PERCENT
INCOME				
DONATION	1,635.80	4.4	2,967.20	0.9
MEMBERSHIPS	21,642.52	58.2	179,051.32	52.0
REUNION	9,182.00	24.7	28,881.00	8.4
MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.0	9,813.33	2.9
INTEREST	1,880.25	5.1	9,316.79	2.7
ADVERTISING	425.70	1.1	8,929.10	2.6
TICKET SALES	3,594.99	9.7	106,242.54	30.9
REFUNDS	(1,155.00)	(3.1)	(1,155.00)	(0.3)
TOTAL INCOME	37,206.26	100.0	344,046.28	100.0
OPERATING EXPENSES				
TELEPHONE	3,311.61	8.9	8,057.62	2.3
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,445.77	3.9	2,736.80	0.8
INSURANCE	0.00	0.0	7,864.00	2.3
TAXES AND LICENSES	0.00	0.0	192.00	0.1
PRINTING	17,908.91	48.1	66,976.21	19.5
ACCOUNTING	980.00	2.6	4,915.84	1.4
MEMBERSHIP	5,192.41	14.0	10,761.39	3.1
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	0.00	0.0	1,600.00	0.5
BOARD MEETINGS	2,000.00	5.4	5,253.94	1.5
REUNION	26,630.42	71.6	31,210.04	9.1
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	128.86	0.3	300.87	0.1
POSTAGE	8,848.99	23.8	24,582.53	7.1
MISCELLANEOUS	270.00	0.7	358.36	0.1
TRAVEL	495.12	1.3	495.12	0.1
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	67,212.09	180.6	165,304.72	48.0
REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	\$(30,005.83)	(80.6)	\$178,741.56	52.0
	=====	=====	=====	=====

KWVA 17th Annual Reunion

The Reunion Co-Chairmen and Committee are pleased to announce the site selected for our 17th Annual Reunion.

After review of several Hotels, their locations, costs, etc the reunion co-chairmen and committee members selected The Crowne Plaza in Crystal City. The address is 1489 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. There were many reasons for choosing this hotel but the most important one was location. It is very near to our National Memorial in D. C., major airports, great shopping and eateries. This and other locations were visited on several dates and we all feel you will be pleased with our selection.

As we move forward in the upcoming weeks we will be publishing more on this location, the activities, registration forms and many other important details. We hope you will start your planning to join your fellow veterans and friends in July 2001 at our 17th Annual Reunion.

Thank You.

Reunion Co-Chairmen and
Committee members.

(See page 2 this issue for names.)

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.

Pieces of History
Film provided
Page 5-Sept/Oct Issue
4-color ad

D.C. Affairs



Blair Cross, National Director for D.C. Affairs

To Fellow Korean War Veterans:

I am very sorry to report that we still do not have the possibility of getting our National Charter by the end of this past session of Congress. I have been in touch with Senator Sarbanes office and Congressman Hoyer, with the assurance that they will reintroduce the Bill into the 107th Congress. This is probably a plus for us as I stated before, Lamar Smith will not be Chairman of the Subcommittee that has been our nemesis. However, as we continue to gain in our support groups I have been in touch with the Black Veterans of America and the N.A.A.C.P. with positive responses from each. I will continue to supply information to each of those organizations and look forward to their approach.

Also at Wright State University in September, President Coon was reassured by Generals Colin Powell and Norman Schwarzkopf that will do all they can to help push the Charter through.

Comrades, I cannot stress enough that we all need to be in touch with our Members of the House and have them sign on as co-sponsors of the Bill. Don't take their word for anything because if their name is not on the enclosed list they have not responded. As of 4 pm November 14th, we have 68 signed on. Even with the new Congress we need to have all the support we can muster. Again I say...don't delay—get on your representative now.

November 14, 2000 Co-sponsors List: (68)

Rep Baker, Richard H.	Rep Filner, Bob	Rep LoBido, Frank A.
Rep Baldacci, John Ellas	Rep Foley, Mark	Rep Lofgron, Zoc
Rep Barrett, Bill	Rep Forbes, Michael P.	Rep Luther, Bill
Rep Barrett, Thomas M.	Rep Fossella, Vito	Rep Maloney, James H.
Rep Berman, Howard L.	Rep Frost, Martin	Rep Mascara, Frank
Rep Bochler, Sherwood L.	Rep Geldenson, Sam	Rep McCollum, Bill
Rep Borski, Robert A.	Rep Gibbons, Jim	Rep McGovern, James P.
Rep Brown, Sherrod	Rep Gillmor, Paul E.	Rep McHugh, John M.
Rep Calvert, Kep	Rep Goode, Virgil H., Jr.	Rep McKinney, Cynthia A.
Rep Cardin, Benjamin L.	Rep Green, Gene	Rep McNulty, Michael R.
Rep Carson, Julia	Rep Green, Mark	Rep Mica, John L.
Rep Clayton, Eva M.	Rep Gutierrez, Luis	Rep Neal, Richard E.
Rep Clement, Bob	Rep Hooley, Darlene	Rep Olver, John W.
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Rep Cummings, Elijah	Rep Kelly, Sue W.	Rep Romero-Barcelo, Carlos
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Rep Danner, Pat	Rep Kind, Ron	Rep Stenholm, Charles W.
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Rep Dingell, John D.	Rep Klink, Ron	Rep Underwood, Robert A.
Rep Ehrlich, Robert L., Jr.	Rep Kucinich, Dennis	Rep Wexler, Robert
Rep Etheridge, Bob	Rep Lantos, Tom	Rep Woolsey, Lynn C.
Rep Ewing, Thomas W.	Rep Levin, Sander M.	Rep Wynn, Albert Russell
Rep Falcomavaega, Eni F. H.	Rep Lipinski, William O.	

National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

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

- ☐ Sample order is 4 dozen @ \$10 plus \$3.00 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$50 plus \$5.00 S/H.

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



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

Golf Shirts, T-Shirts & Sweat Shirts for Sale



Golf Shirts, T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts for Sale

Golf shirts — \$20.00 plus \$3 shipping (White Only)

T-Shirts — \$10.00 plus \$3 shipping (White Only)

Sweat Shirts — \$20 plus \$5 shipping (Lt. Gray)

Patches (of logo above) – \$5.00

Decals (of logo above) – \$3.00

Shipping costs for 2 is \$3.00

Shipping costs above 2 is \$5.00

All sizes are available.

Order from or contact: Sunshine State Chapter, KWVA, P.O. Box 5298, Largo, FL 33779-5298 Telephone: 727-582-9353



Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation



The KWVEGC is now accepting applications for college grants that will become available for the 2001 - 2002 school term. Eligibility for these grants must be consistent with our

bylaws.

Applicants or sponsors have two (2) ways to get applications from the KWVEGC. The first way is "down loading" off the internet. If you have a computer or have accessibility to one, click on www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~natres/KWVEGC.html and you will have the necessary forms in front of you. The second way is to send a

business sized, pre-addressed envelope and stamped with \$.55 postage for each application requested. Mail your request to KWVEGC, 8968 Thomas Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125-7602, and the forms will be sent out by return mail.

Completed applications must be received by 1 May 2001. Any applications received after the 1 May 2001 date, will not be considered for a grant!

If you would like your donation to the KWVEGC to be recorded in the Jan-Feb issue of *The Graybeards*, it must be received by the 29th of December, 2000 and to be deducted as a Charitable Contribution on your Income Tax for the year 2000.

"...for the Children of our Sacrifice..."

U.S. Army Korea Outreach

In last few months, the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii has recovered what are believed to be the remains of 50 U.S. Servicemen who did not return from the Korean War. This year's unparalleled access into the North Korean battlefields, that hold the remains of over 8100 service members, has renewed hope for thousands of families. Since joint recovery operations began in 1994, a total of 92 remains have been repatriated. Five have been positively identified and many others are in the final stages of the forensic identification process.

To facilitate identification of those service members remains the U.S. Army is trying to locate the families of the more than 6,000 unaccounted for soldiers. For more than 40 years, the Army has had little or no contact with many of the families of these service members. We need information such as the name, relationship, address, and telephone number of the Primary Next of Kin (PNOK) of soldiers who did not return from the Korean War. We also seek to locate maternal relatives to provide a mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) family reference sample for filing with the mtDNA database to aid in the identification of remains of soldiers unac-

This year's unparalleled access into the North Korean battlefields, that hold the remains of over 8100 service members, has renewed hope for thousands of families.

counted-for from the war.

Additionally, in an effort to keep families informed on the current accounting effort, the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) sponsors monthly Family Member Updates. Experts present information on investigation and recovery efforts, and on the latest technologies used to identify remains, including mtDNA. Archival research, diplomacy initiatives and other topics are also presented to the families. At the end of the all-day Saturday sessions, families are invited to privately review details of their own cases.

If you are a family member of such a servicemember or you know of someone who is, please contact the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command, Casualty and Memorial Affairs Operations Center at 1-800-892-2490 or tapcper@hoffman.army.mil. Web Site: <http://www.per-scom.army.mil/tagd/cmaoc/rfad.htm>

PRESIDENT from page 4

to attend these meetings.

I received a call from SFC Henry Nix, (our supply Sgt. in Japan.) Henry is helping build a Korean War Memorial in Ozark, AL. In early August 1950 Sgt. Nix was in his fox hole on "C" Ration Hill, west of Mason, S.K. when a North Korean Soldier pointed his "Burp Gun at Henry and said" I am going to kill you American." The N K soldier pulled trigger-hitting Henry in the chest. Henry still carries that bullet in his chest today. SFC Henry received a Purple Heart and Silver Star for his action that night. Henry Nix and I spent 33 months in POW Camps 5 and 4 together. In Japan, seems like when a supply truck came in I always got the duty of helping unload and putting the clothes in the supply room. Whenever I left the supply room I always managed to get extra fatigues and boots. After Sgt. Nix took inventory he always called me back down to return what I took. When we got released he told me that some day I would be behind the supply counter and he would get even. We have been great friends for many years

The Bad:

We have had almost 1,000 members pass away this last two (2) years. Each year we have about 500 members that depart this earth and the number is climbing. Many more of our Korean War vets are becoming disabled and many more are hospitalized. If you know or hear of anyone that is sick or hospitalized please contact our Chaplain.

The Future:

The reunion committee has selected the Crowne Plaza in Crystal City, Arlington, VA. Members of the reunion committee have met with the 50th Commemoration Committee and the 50th Committee is making every effort to help the KWVA have another great convention. I think that because the exposures the KWVA is getting through the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War we will be getting more members. As I said, we will be losing members because of age.

I wish everyone a very Happy Holiday and prosperous New Year. Sylvia and I would like to thank all of you for the cards and well wishes.

Till next time I remain

Harley

(See page 12 for Exec. Committee Meeting.)

Shank's Bootees

By Lt. David Hughes

It was during the dark days of the December retreat when I first saw them. They were hanging from the old muzzle of an old, battered, Springfield rifle - a pair of tiny blue baby bootees. Their pale silk ribbons ended in a neat bow behind the front sight, and each little boot hung down separately, one slightly above the other, swinging silently in the wind. They reminded me of tiny bells, and even though one had a smudge of dirt on its soft surface, and part of the ribbon that touched the barrel had lost color from scorching heat, they seemed to me to be the freshest, cleanest objects in all of drab Korea.

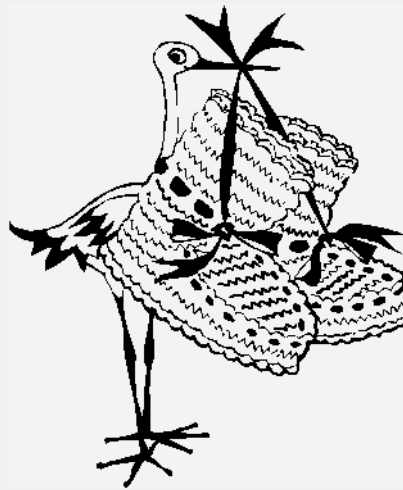
At first the bootees had fixed my attention, but after the surprise of seeing these symbols of home in such an incongruous place had worn off, I let my eyes drift, unobserved, to their owner.

He was a lieutenant, young, I could see, and tired; not so much from the exertion of the trudging march, but with the wear of long days and nights in combat. He was talking to men from his platoon, all of them

together watching the core of a little blaze in their center, and I could tell that he was answering some of their disturbing questions about the war. There was a tone of hopelessness in the men's voices, but the lieutenant sounded cheerful; there was a glint in his eye, and a squint that melted into an easy smile when he spoke.

As my companions moved on, I glanced back briefly to the blue bootees still fresh, still swinging. Often in the next few weeks I saw the lieutenant and his bootees while we moved southward before the Chinese armies. Around the ever-present warming fires I heard the simple story of the officer and his boots.

The lieutenant was named Shank, and he, twenty-two years old, led a rifle platoon. He had come over from Okinawa while the Army was clamped in the vise of the Pusan perimeter, short on manpower. Shank had his baptism of fire on the hills



outside Taegu. His youth and fire helped keep his decimated platoon intact, while the North Koreans frantically tried to crack the American lines. Then came the breakthrough, and Shank's company, rode on the record-breaking tank and truck dash northward. He picked up the Springfield rifle then, and kept it because of its renowned accuracy and apparent immunity to the cold weather. A violent day south of Pyongyang won Shank a Silver Star for gallantry, as he led his flesh-and-blood infantrymen against T-34 tanks and destroyed three of them. The Chinese intervention and beginning of the American retreat brought him up to where I met him, south of Kunu-ri.

The bootees? That was simple. He was an expectant father, and the little boots sent by his young wife in the States reflected his whole optimistic attitude while the battle was the darkest. I also learned that when the baby came it would be announced by a new piece of ribbon on the boots - blue for a boy, pink for a girl.

Then I forgot about him as we prepared to defend Seoul from above the frozen Han River. We were hit hard by the Chinese. They streamed down from the hills and charged the barbed wire. They charged again and again piling up before our smoking guns. The days were but

frantic preparation for the nights. Companies dwindled, and my platoon was almost halved as cold, sickness, and the enemy took their toll. I neared the end of my mental reserves. Names of casualties were rumored, and I heard Shank's among them. I wondered where Shank's bootees were now.

Then the endless night of the retreat from Seoul came. When we got the word my few men were too dulled to show any emotion at the announcement. Most were too miserable to want to retreat again for twenty-five miles, Chinese or no. But we did, and the temperature dropped to 30 degrees below zero as our silent column stumbled along the hard ground. It was the most depressing night I had ever endured - pushed by the uncompromising cold, the pursuing enemy and the chaotic memory of the bloody nights before. I, as a leader, was close to that mental chasm. Only the numbness prevented thinking myself into mute depression.

We plodded across the cracking ice of the Han River at four-thirty in the morning, and marched on south at an ever-slowing pace. Finally the last five mile stretch was ahead. We rested briefly, and as the men dropped to the roadside they fell asleep immediately. I wondered if I could get them going again. Worse yet, I didn't think I could go myself - so tired, numb, and raw was my body.

Then in the black despair of uselessness in a second-page war I looked up as a passing figure brushed against my inert shoe pacs.

There walked young Lieutenant Shank up the Korean road, whistling softly, while every waking eye followed him to see the muzzle of his battered Springfield rifle. Swinging gaily in the first rays of the morning sun were Shank's bootees, and fluttering below them was the brightest, bluest, piece of ribbon I have ever seen.

*Lt David Hughes
Company K, 7th United States Cavalry
Seoul, Korea, December, 1950*

Korean War Ex-POW

Excerpts taken from Korean War Ex-POW
Sept. 2000 Newsletter

Talk about a good time, we had it in Spokane. The entire hotel staff could not have been more accommodating. They were responsive to our every need, and served one of the best banquet meals we have had to date. We sat 313 seated for the banquet, and 375 registered. We all later enjoyed in the hospitality room, four large cakes decorated with the numbers 50 and 25 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the beginning of the War, and the 25th consecutive reunion.

On Saturday, we had our General Meeting, the hat was passed, and a total of \$3965.75 was donated. In the afternoon, Shorty Estabrook conducted his usual great Memorial Service with the support of his wife Marti, George Bingham and Red Sitler. On Saturday evening, we had the banquet, and the meal was one of the best we have had. The Rainbow Fiddlekids, a talented group of fiddlers ranging in age from 4 to 13 provided the entertainment. They were outstanding. We then had the Raffle Drawing and the presentation of the Door Prizes.

The highlight of the evening was the surprise showing of the 24-minute video entitled "Johnson's List". This was the story about Wayne "Johnnie" Johnson and how he managed to compile and conceal a list of over 500 names of our friends who died, or were murdered during captivity. Upon repatriation, Johnnie was able to smuggle his list out thereby allowing final closure for many families. Many of those present had never seen the video, and the banquet hall was a study of respectful attentiveness.

Unknown to Johnnie was that the video had won a very prestigious 1st Place Award in the History Category at the US International Film and Video Festival. Shorty Estabrook arranged the entire detail coast to coast, via telephone and email. Since the presentation of the award was to take place at a swank hotel in downtown Chicago, he contacted me to see if Sandy & I would represent

Johnnie. Sandy was unable to attend so, I asked 1st VP Ray Unger to go with me. We were honored to accept the plaque on behalf of Johnnie. At the conclusion of the video, Shorty, Ray Unger & I presented the plaque to Johnnie amidst a thunderous standing ovation.

Sunday, we had our non-denominational church service. We prayed that everyone would have a safe journey home and, that we would see each other again next year in Louisville, KY.

President Elliott Sortillo

Taps

Joseph E. Amos, Max L. Austin, Roy E. Cline, Wayne C. Cunningham, June Y. Gaskins, Marilyn Hawley, Edwin F. King, Carl McClendon, Jessie C. McRay, Virgil & Jean Rutherford, Stefano "Steve" Salerno, Leslie "Les" White.

Reunion 2001 in Louisville, KY

The Executive West Hotel, 830 Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY Tel out of state: 1-800-626-2708, in KY: 1-800-633-8723 or 502-367-2251 August 5 through August 12, 2001. Room Rate: \$65.00 for 1-4 persons. Children 17 and under stay free in same room with parents. The rate is subject to taxes, which are currently 12.36%. The following items are Complimentary: Ground level parking, 24 hour airport shuttle, RV parking with no hook-ups in the West Parking Lot.

Korean War POW Book

To: All Korean War Ex-POWs, Surviving Spouses and Friends

I hope I have your support in my efforts to publish the book "U.S. POWs in the Korean War: A Study of Their Treatment and Handling by the North Korean Army and the Chinese Communist Forces". I estimate that we now have a little over \$10,500 toward the \$35,000 needed to complete the project, so we have a ways to go. The book would be a great asset to the 50th Year Commemoration of the Korean War. We would like to have the book placed in many libraries across the nation by the end of the first year of this

commemoration. Here is a quick review of what you can expect from your donation:

1. Your Donation is Tax Deductible

2. For the 1st \$500.00 donation you will receive 2 books. For each \$500.00 beyond that you will receive an additional book (\$500 two books; \$1000 three books; \$1500, four books, etc.)

3. We ask that you keep the first book and donate additional ones to libraries of your choice.

Arden A. Rowley, Historian, 1041 E. 9th Drive Mesa, AZ 85204. Tel: 480-964-9444 or e-mail at <rowleyxpow@juno.com>.

Make checks payable to "Korean War ExPow Association" and send to Bill Norwood, Treasurer, 909 Whisperwood Trail, Cleveland, TN 37312.

(Again I wish to remind Arden, when you get close to that last \$1,000 needed to go to press on the POW book please contact me for I want to help get that book printed. I also suggest that all chapters join in with a donation or purchase a book for your chapter and the local library in the name of your chapter and your POW members.—Graybeards Editor.)

Executive Committee Meeting

The Mid Winter Executive Committee meeting will be held on March 23, 24, 25, 2001 in Tuscola, IL. (Home of the Korean War Museum and Library). The Holiday Inn will be the place of the meeting.

The Holiday Inn is located at Intersection of U. S. 36 and Interstate 57. On March 24, 2001 The Meeting will start at 8:30 am- Lunch 12: noon, resume at 1:15 pm and end at 5:30 pm on March 24, 2001. Ken Cook will make arrangements with Holiday Inn. Each member of the Executive committee will be reimbursed for expenses up to \$ 400.00 as approved by the membership on July 26, 2000. The agenda, room rates and other information will follow.

Harley J. Coon, President KWVA

Service Medal awarded sister for brothers sacrifice

A dedication was held at Veterans Memorial Park, Port St. Lucie, FL. Well over 300 citizens attended along with 16 veteran and service organizations. The guest of honor was Mrs. Lucy Smith who was awarded the Korean War Service Medal on behalf of her brother, Marine Corporal Alexander "Sandy" MacMillen, who was KIA in April 1951.



Chapter president Fred Shear reads the eulogy as Mrs. Smith (r), double gold star kin, listens. Photo by Joe Scharge.

In a cruel twist of fate, another brother died as a result of a training accident in Europe shortly after the Korean War truce was signed. Mrs. Smith unveiled the monument with the help of the Chapter officers, President Fred Shear, Wally Marquis and John Holdorf and Kenneth Moldt.



Colors of the participating veterans organizations. Photo by Joe Scharge.

It was interesting to note that one of the guests was a former Army nurse who had tended the guest speaker, local columnist Joe Crankshaw, when he was seriously WIA in North Korea in 1950. Both are chapter members.

(Thank you Fred Shear for photos and letter.)



Monument of the Treasure Coast Chapter #106 on the Veterans Memorial Path.

Photo by Joe Scharge.

Writing Contests with Cash Prizes

Subject: Writing contest of The Navy Chaplain Foundation, Inc.

Will you give us a hand?

The Navy Chaplain Foundation, Inc., is currently sponsoring two writing contests. One deals with stories of a religious or spiritual experience that took place in one of the Sea Services during the Korean War (1950-1953). There are cash prizes for winning entries submitted by the deadline of 15 January 2001.

You are welcome to use either the announcement or the news release in the attachment. You are welcome additionally to contact me at <mailto:rtrower@prodigy.net> or (703) 569-9894. *(I decided to use the News Release as follows. —Editor)*

Rear Admiral Ross H. Trower, Chaplain Corps, USN (Ret.)
15th Chief of Chaplains

The Navy Chaplain Foundation, Inc., announces two contests to tell the story of the religious and spiritual experiences of Sea Services personnel (Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine). Prizes of \$1,000 and \$500 will be awarded to the writers of the best and next best entries in Contest A, which is described as "Historical." Entries must focus on the history of chaplains of the U.S. Navy, serving with a unit of the Sea Services. They may relate to an operation in which a chaplain or Religious Program Specialist (Chaplain's Clerk) figured prominently.

Contest B deals with a religious or spiritual experience that took place in one of the Sea Services during the Korean Conflict (1950-1953) or an event or development that generated from an experience with or by a chaplain during that period. Entries may be based on anecdotes, including those that strike a humorous chord. This contest is designed to gather stories from "the Forgotten War."

Entries in Contest A must be not less than 3,000 words; in Contest B, not less than 1,000 words. Authors may enter one or both contests but not with the same article.

Authors are invited to submit their entries to The Navy Chaplain Foundation, Inc., Post Office Box 7101, Arlington, VA, 22207, postmarked by 15 January 2001. Winners will be notified by 15 March 2001. Entries must be typed or word-processed in hard copy on paper 8 1/2" by 11," double-spaced or on disk or CD-ROM. Authors must identify their entries with name, home address, telephone number, Social Security Number, and indicate the contest being entered. Each author should include a brief description of his or her identity.

All entries become the sole property of The Navy Chaplain Foundation, Inc., and may be published by the Foundation in a suitable medium.

Monuments and Memories

Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

Idaho Remembers

Photo of the Idaho Korean War Memorial taken at a recent commemorative ceremony sponsored by the Boise Korean Community Association. This monument is located in Veterans Memorial Park.

(Thank you Richard L. Hart for the photo and letter. We are proud of all of you for your service and remembering. A great looking memorial.)



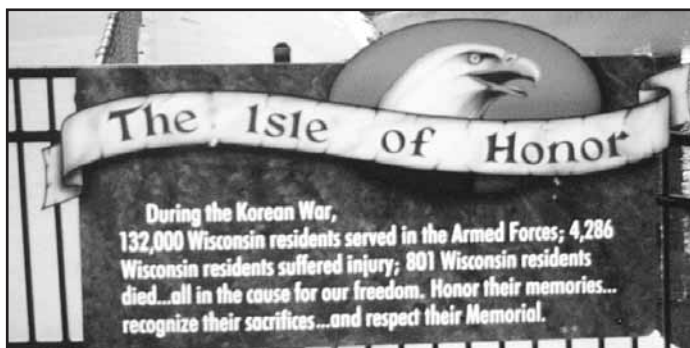
Pennsylvania Remembers



Above, the Korean War Memorial of Lebanon County, PA in Fisher Park. Dedicated June 18, 2000. Veterans shown left to right are Elwood Hainly, Charles Boyer, Carl Weihs, Thomas Shay, Lloyd Palm and Marlin Wolf. Not shown is Robert Geiger and William Faber. All are Memorial Committee members. The back side of this beautiful memorial is shown below.

(Thank you Marlin Wolf for photos and letter. I have shown this memorial in prior issues but not with the committee members. Thanks to all of you for your dedication to our veterans.)

Wisconsin Remembers



Above, Richard Searles of Portage, MI visits beautiful memorial. (There are many parts to this memorial and since I have shown it in past issues I cannot print all 6 photos.—Ed.)Below, sign at walkway entrance to memorial.

(Thank you Richard Searles for photos and letter of a very special memorial.)



Henry C. Waldeck President Cp1. Richard A. Bell Chapter, Inc. KWVA of West Bend, WI. Henry is pointing to the tile (inset) Honor of Cp1. Richard A. Bell on the wall of Honor at the Korean War Memorial of Wisconsin. The Memorial is located in the Village of Plover, WI. at Worzella Pines Park on the island in Lake Pacawa on the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway, U.S Highway 51 Exit 153)

(Thanks Henry for photos.)

In Honor of
CPL. RICHARD A. BELL
HQ. BTRY.
99TH FA. BN.
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION
K.I.A. JULY 24, 1950

Indiana Remembers



Korean Memorial in La Porte, Indiana in Soldiers Memorial Park. Front view on left. Right is back view.

We have a beautiful. Korean Memorial here in La Porte, Indiana in Soldiers Memorial Park.

We are proud of each and every La Porte Veteran and we now have a beautiful “Veterans Walkway of Honor” with all the veterans names and military information engraved in bricks that form this walkway.

It is breathtaking to see this. There is a two hour ceremony held each year to honor these veterans.

Fred Clouse
4241 N. US 35
La Porte. IN 46350
E-mail <fbclo@csinet.net>

(Thank you Fred for photos and letter. The memorial is one to be proud of and all our Korean War Veterans are special people. All our memorials should be added to our web page www.kvva.org so all veterans will know they are not forgotten.)

California Remembers



KWVA Judge Advocate Sherman Pratt with wife Anastasia (center) and high school chum Lawrence Schriver of Lompoc, CA at the newly dedicated Vandenberg Air Force Base Korean War memorial.

**CAMP COOKE CALIFORNIA
1 SEPTEMBER 1950**
THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO THE CITIZEN SOLDIERS OF THE 40th INFANTRY DIVISION, WHO CAME FROM ALL PARTS OF THIS GREAT NATION; THEY FOUGHT WITH GREAT DETERMINATION, COURAGE AND HONOR AGAINST AN AGGRESSOR NATION, DURING THE KOREAN WAR AND TO ALL THOSE CITIZEN SOLDIERS WHO HAVE FOLLOWED AND TO ALL THOSE CITIZEN SOLDIERS WHO HAVE FOLLOWED
DEDICATED 1 SEPTEMBER 2000

Inscription on memorial

The 40th National Guard Division, consisting of mostly Californians, was called to active duty during the Korean War and was stationed and trained at the Army's Camp Cooke, before joining other divisions involved in the Korean War struggle. The monument was dedicated at elaborate ceremonies on September 1, 2000. The event was widely publicized by the area media.

The Vandenberg Base has been, and is, one of the nation's principal missile sites and is located on the California Coast about 50 miles north of Santa Barbara. The base was renamed when taken over by the Air Force following the Korean War. *(Thank you Sherm for photos and data on memorial and its history.)*

Illinois Remembers

On 7/29/00 we dedicated our memorial to Korean War Veterans. That day was the culmination of over three years of dreaming, fund raising, and a lot of hard work.

We raised most of the funds through private donations. Our members, other veteran's organizations, veteran's families, the other KWVA chapters in Illinois and elsewhere and some local businesses contributed over \$15,000. The Imjin Chapter provided seed money to get started. The memorial fund is an account totally separate from our Chapter general fund. Donors were assured that contributions would be used exclusively for the memorial and not the chapter. We've succeeded in accomplishing that end. Each donor received a “Certificate of Appreciation” from us.

The memorial stands in Mel Price Memorial Park in the Village of Swansea Illinois. As you can see from the picture we still need to landscape around it. The park is about 15 miles East of St. Louis, MO

The memorial stands 8'-6" high and weighs over 4,000 pounds. The black portion is polished granite from Africa. The gray base is from Georgia. Emblems of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard are engraved on the base. The concrete viewing area is about 75' long and is flanked by two African granite, benches.

The inscription reads. “IN HONOR OF ALL WHO SERVED DURING THE KOREAN WAR.” We wanted to honor all of us. Casualty figures are included. Underneath the casualty numbers it reads, “FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.” Also included is the



New Korean War Memorial in Swansea, Illinois.

Chapter name and dedication date. We are planning a time capsule. The memorial is backed by the United States, United Nations, Republic of Korea and POW/MIA flags.

At the dedication two U.S. Congressmen and three State Representatives made brief remarks. The Air Force Band Of Mid America provided music, and a USAF chaplain from Scott AFB led our prayers. A local veteran rendered "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes. Imjin Chapter has a current membership of 176.

Our memorial is patterned after the one erected by the Dutch Nelson Chapter in Colorado Springs. Yet it retains it's own uniqueness. The Colorado Springs guys were very generous and cooperative with their assistance. We would be most happy to assist other chapters who may be considering a memorial. Perhaps they could learn from some of our mistakes, or get some helpful hints. Should anyone be visiting our area, they are welcome to contact myself or any other officer. We will be proud to guide them to and met them at the memorial.

Contact Henry Reime 1st VP, Memorial Chairman—Imjin Chapter, 317 Clearwater Drive. Belleville, IL 62220

(Thank you Harry for photo and letter. I hope the memorial shows ok. Quality of scanned photo not that great. We thank your chapter and all your veterans for their dedication.)

Oregon Remembers

The memorial centerpiece is the carnelian granite "Wall of Honor" containing the names of Oregon's 298 Korean War dead. The 14 feet wide brick plaza in front of the wall contains the names of 700 memorial donors who paid \$75 or more to purchase a brick paver. The 12 feet long side wall contains a 30 inch diameter bronze plaque with the KWVA logo purchased through Jim Schaffer, Dept. of Delaware.

The four flags being flown are left to right; the U.S., Republic of Korea (ROK), State of Oregon and POW/MIA. The U.N. flag will be flown later and the POW/MIA flag will be moved beneath the U.S. flag.

A five-foot wide concrete sidewalk leading to the memorial wall contains 50 each carnelian granite tiles that are 10 inches by 10 inches. These tiles are inscribed with names and messages by the donors who paid \$1,000 or more for each tile. Opposite the walk are four eight foot long carnelian granite benches. Each bench has two 4 feet long bench tops inscribed with names and remarks of memorial donors who paid \$10,000 or more for each 4 foot top. The total donations given by the ten individual, corpo-



Oregon's Korean War Memorial. Photos taken by: Clint Hoffman - Oregon Trail, KWVA

rate, and grant agencies to purchase bench tops was \$296,000. Total brick, granite tile bench top donations was \$398,500. Total memorial cost \$450,000.

In the foreground between the two walkways can be seen a short extension of concrete containing a 20 inches by 40 inches carnelian granite "Battle Marker." Twelve such Battle Markers are inscribed with narrative telling the history of the Korean War. A double row of Incense Cedar trees approx 20 feet high can be seen behind the donor benches (right of) and behind the "Wall of Honor". An existing douglas fir tree grove provides the back drop for the memorial

To purchase pavers contact Donald E. Barton, Secretary Oregon Korean War Memorial Fund, 8316 N. Lombard Street, #449 Portland, Oregon 97203

(Thank you Donald for photos and letter. We also thank the Committee, the Veterans and State Officials for all your efforts to remember our war and its veterans.)

Graybeards for Sale

Back issues:

☐ Mar-Apr 1996

☐ Sept-Oct, 1999

☐ Nov-Dec 2000

☐ July-Aug 1999

☐ Sept-Oct 2000

Only 1 each available in back issues, current and last issue can be ordered in multiple quantities.

These issues are limited so get your order in early. \$1 per copy plus \$3.20 postage Make your check to KWVA National and state in message or note on check "For Back Issues." I suggest minimum orders of 7 issues. Mix your issues as you want. Send your orders to Editor. See address on page 2. Response has been very good for back-issue orders and has necessitated revising this message. Please check above listing for availability before ordering.

Submissions to *The Graybeards*

Readers are welcome to submit letters, poems, articles, notes and stories to *The Graybeards*. fSubmissions 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."

When the battle for Bunker Hill started — on Friday, August 15, 1952 — I'd been with Easy Medical Company of the First Medical Battalion, First Marine Division, for about two months. I'd been C.O. for about two weeks. Prior to that I'd been a battalion surgeon for seven months with the Third Battalion of the Fifth Marines.

Easy Med, a tent hospital about three miles behind the Marine Division lines, was located just north of the ImJin River in what was left of Munsan-ni. We were on the far left flank of the United Nations' lines. Only the Korean Marine Corps on the Kimp'o Peninsula lay between us and the Yellow Sea. The "Neutral Corridor" ran from the railhead at Munsan through our lines to Panmunjom. The peace treaty people lived in boxcars at the railhead. Their convoy of jeeps filed by Easy Med almost daily.

My command post was in one of the two Korean houses left intact in Munsan. An hour after dark on August 15th I was sitting with my feet up on the desk my corpsmen had made out of artillery shell packing cases. A *Time* magazine on my lap lay open to an account of the war in Korea. Although I was right in the middle of that war I knew very little about what was really going on. I had to read John Osborne's editorial about the "waiting, fighting 8th Army" in order to comprehend the total picture.

Suddenly I heard the roaring flap of a Bell helicopter settling onto the landing strip about thirty yards from my sliding paper door. Minutes later another roar filled the sky as a second copter sailed overhead, banked and circled, waiting for corpsmen to race up the little hill back of the security Marines' tents to mark the four corners of the second strip with flashlights. Then it too settled in with the distinctive and all too familiar flapping sound.

I resisted the urge to run out and help unload the casualties. There were many eager young Hns who would look askance at their skipper doing their work. But then, over the purring of the two parked whirlybirds I could hear a third copter circling the hospital. Running feet pounded the paths as doctors and corpsmen headed for the triage tent. I grabbed my cap — no helmets back here — and ran after them

The Battle for Bunker Hill

As seen from Easy Med

Trotting down the path from the doctors' tent were Lee Yung-kak and Bill Ogle. I joined them and said, "Looks like no sleep tonight."

"Won't be the first time," Bill said, "but it's been a little dull around here lately."

It was an unfortunate remark and I cringed. I remembered that I'd caught myself thinking the same thing nine months before when I'd first arrived up on the lines. So I bit back the sharp retort that had formed in my mind. Because of his skills in surgery, Ogle hadn't had the customary tour of duty with a front line outfit, which may have caused him to identify a little less with the wounded men.

But for me and the majority of doctors and corpsmen at Easy Med, each wounded Marine was a man who might have been a buddy in the trenches. And who

knew about cold bunkers and dirty fox-holes and fluttering mortars. And about singing bullets and flying steel and white phosphorus. About long convoys and clanking tanks and rumbling trucks. About loneliness and boredom and the infinite patience of the trenches.

Those of us who had been up there shared the knowledge that Death comes to the wary and the unwary alike. That He comes on a long steel bayonet or a flying bullet or multiple fragments from a mortar or grenade or artillery shell. The front-line doctors and corpsmen know these things and do not have to voice them. They know how thin the line is that separates life from death. They know — and look into each other's eyes with mutual respect and admiration. And to hide this emotion from themselves and from each other they laugh and tell sick jokes and cuss and go back to their jobs with wry grins on their faces.

So now I puffed Bill Ogle back as the others went on and said softly, "Knock off that kind of talk, Bill, it doesn't sound too good. I know what you mean, but most of the guys who just came off the lines won't." "Sorry, skipper, I didn't mean it the way it sounded." "I know, Bill. Forget it."

Both patients from the first copter were already in the triage ward, a 16 x 32 squad tent. Their stretchers lay on the double row of foot-high wooden rails that ran the length of the tent on either side. Within a few moments, two more were brought in from the second copter.

Dr. Lou Shirley, a general practitioner from Louisiana, got up off his knees where he'd been working on one of the wounded men. He turned to Bill Ogle. "Belly wound, Bill. Chunk of omentum poking through. Not much loss of blood, though, cause his pressure and pulse are normal. One for you?" Bill nodded. "Yeah, let's go, unless the other one's worse off."

"I don't think so. Looks good. Multiple small shrapnel wounds but nothing important that I can see." Two corpsmen picked up the stretcher and gently lifted it till its short bent-steel legs cleared the rails, then slid it forward, the back man stepping carefully over the rails. They carried him down the long ward and turned left into

By Birney Dibble M.D.

the connecting major operating tent.

I walked over to the other Marine, a giant black man. "Hi, mac," I said with a grin, "how're things going?" "Great, doctor. Got a powerful bellyache though." I knelt down beside him and pulled his dun-garee jacket up and his pants down. Half a dozen ragged holes were scattered over his abdomen and lower chest.

"Tell me where it hurts," I said as I gently prodded the outer edges of his abdomen, then the central area around the navel. He tensed his muscles involuntarily and grunted, "Right there, doctor, real sore right there." "Looks like one of these fragments might've gone into your belly." I looked at his EMT. "Jesse Carter,* eh? Where you from, Jess?" "Chicago, doctor."

"Hey, I know that town real well. Interned at Cook County Hospital." His eyes lit up. "You gotta be a good doctor then!"

"Jess, we may have to take a look inside there later. Right now it doesn't look too bad. We'll keep a close eye on you." I looked up, found HM3 Don Flau standing beside me. "Take Jesse on down to the holding tent. We may have to operate on him later."

A truck rumbled up outside the tent. A few moments later in came eleven walk-ing wounded with bandaged arms, heads

and legs. "O.K., guys," I said, "you can sit down over along the wall. Korbis, go rout out the day crew and then make sure all the doctors are on their way. Dr. Lee, you start at one end and I'll start at the other and we'll get these men triaged."

Even as I spoke, another copter settled onto the strip near my command post and a jeep ambulance squeaked to a halt outside the tent. In a few moments four more stretchers were brought in and laid on the rails. "Lou," I barked, "take a look at those fellows, will you? Let me know if you need any help. I'll try to move these walkers on out as fast as I can."

While I sorted them out, I was able to piece together what had happened up on the line. All the wounded were from the Seventh Marine Regiment, which held an S-shaped, two-mile-long front that included Siberia, Bunker Hill, Reno and Carson. My former regiment, the Fifth

Marines, was on their left flank and the Commonwealth Division on their right. No one knew why the gooks were coming down the road like they wanted those hills very badly. They already had Tae-dok-san, a 775-foot-high hill that dominated the lines in that area.

I continued triaging, sorting the casualties into three groups: those who could be operated on under local anesthesia in the Minor Operating Room, those who need-

ed immediate surgery under general anesthesia in the Major Operating Room, and those who could safely wait for several hours or longer while the more urgent cases were taken care of.

There was a fourth group who could wait, who would wait only for death. There weren't very many, but in every big fire-fight there were badly wounded men who didn't die right away. When there were just a few casualties, heroic measures would be taken and once in a great while one of these "hopeless" cases could be pulled through. But when casualties flooded the hospital and every doctor and anesthetist were needed for urgent cases that had a good chance for survival, it was an accepted maxim that occasionally you literally had to put some unfortunate men aside and let them go.

Nobody talked about those boys. They were usually unconscious or at least deep in shock. They couldn't even say, "Save me." There were no relatives present to plead their cases. The doctor would complete his examination, bow his head in thought — or in prayer — and then make his decision.

I was crouched beside just such a case now. A corpsman. He'd been down on his knees working on a wounded man when a Chinaman with a burp gun came up

Continued on page 60

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

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Letters



A Doctor Remembers

I am a doctor specializing in Emergency Medicine in the Emergency Departments of the only two military Level One trauma centers. They are both in San Antonio, TX and they care for civilian emergencies as well as military personnel. San Antonio has the largest military retiree population in the world living here because of the location of these two large military medical centers.

As a military doctor in training for my specialty, I work long hours and the pay is less than glamorous. One tends to become jaded by the long hours, lack of sleep, food, family contact, and the endless parade of human suffering passing before you.

The arrival of another ambulance does not mean more pay, only more work. Most often it is a victim from a motor vehicle crash. Often it is a person of dubious character who has been shot or stabbed.

With our large military retiree population, it is often a nursing home patient. Even with my enlisted service and minimal combat experience in Panama prior to medical school, I have caught myself groaning when the ambulance brought in yet another sick, elderly person from one of the local retirement centers that cater to military retirees. I had not stopped to think of what citizens of this age group represented.

I saw Saving Private Ryan. I was touched deeply. Not so much by the carnage in the first 30 minutes but by the sacrifices of so many. I was touched most by the scene of the elderly survivor at the graveside asking his wife if he'd been a good man. I realized that I had seen these same men and women coming through my Emergency Dept and had not realized what magnificent sacrifices they had made. The things they did for me and everyone else that has lived on this planet since the end of that conflict are priceless.

Situation permitting I now try to ask my patients about their experiences. They would never bring up the subject without the inquiry. I have been privileged to an amazing array of experiences recounted in the brief minutes allowed in an Emergency Dept encounter. These experiences have revealed the incredible individuals I have had the honor of serving in a medical capacity, many on their last admission to the hospital.

There was a frail, elderly woman who reassured my young enlisted medic trying to start an IV line in her arm. She remained calm and poised despite her illness and the multiple needle-sticks into her fragile veins. She was what we call a "hard stick." As the medic made another attempt I noticed a number tattooed across her forearm. I touched it with one finger and looked into her eyes. She simply said "Auschwitz." Many of later generations would have loudly and openly berated the young medic in his many attempts. How different was the response from this person who'd seen unspeakable suffering.

A long retired Colonel who as a young officer had parachuted from his burning plane over a pacific island held by the Japanese. Now an octogenarian, his head cut in a fall at home where he lived alone. His CT scan and suturing had been delayed until

after midnight by the usual parade of high priority ambulance patients. Still spry for his age, he asked to use the phone to call a taxi to take him home then realized the ambulance had brought him without his wallet. He asked if he could use the phone to make a long distance call to his daughter who lived 70 miles away. With great pride we told him that he could not, as he'd done enough for his country, and the least we could do was get him a taxi home. Even if we had to pay for it ourselves. My only regret was that my shift wouldn't end for several hours, and I couldn't drive him myself.

I was there the night MSG Roy Benavidez came through the Emergency Dept. for the last time. He was very sick. I was not the doctor taking care of him, but I walked to his bedside and took his hand. I said nothing. He was so sick he didn't know I was there. I'd read his Congressional Medal of Honor citation and wanted to shake his hand. He died a few days later.

The gentleman who served with Merrill's Marauders; the survivor of the Baatan Death March; the survivor Omaha Beach; the 101 year old World War I veteran; the former POW held in frozen North Korea; the former Special Forces medic now with non-operable liver cancer; and the former Viet Nam Corps Commander. I remember these citizens. I may still groan when yet another ambulance comes in but now I am much more aware of what an honor it is to serve these particular men and women.

I am angered at the cut backs, implemented and proposed, that will continue to decay their meager retirement benefits. I see the President and Congress who would turn their backs on these individuals who've sacrificed so much to protect our liberty. I see later generations that seems to be totally engrossed in abusing these same liberties won with such sacrifice.

It has become my personal endeavor to make the nurses and young enlisted medics aware of these amazing individuals when I encounter them in our Emergency Dept. Their response to these particular citizens has made me think that perhaps all is not lost in the next generation.

My experiences have solidified my belief that we are losing an incredible generation, and this nation knows not what it is losing. Our un-caring government and ungrateful civilian populace should all take note. We should all remember that we must "Earn this."

CPT Stephen R. Ellison, M.D.
(no address)

Ex-Korean War POW's meet again

A few weeks ago, I received an E mail and it said: "My grandpa thinks he was a POW with you in Korea. Please respond."

I did, and it turned out to be an old buddy I was a POW with and haven't been with or seen for fifty years. He is Robert L. Sharp of the 19 Regt. 24th Inf. Div. I was with the 21 Regt of the 24th Div. We were not captured together, but all of the POWs captured in that area were assembled in a school yard in Teajon, South Korea. There were about 225 POWs at that time. They



Ed Slater on left and Robert Sharp at Andersonville.

started us marching north in spite of all the injuries we had, and marched us to Seoul, South Korea on one rice ball a day and very little water with a promise day after day to get a ride on a train.

We were in Seoul when they made the Inchon invasion. So they got us right back on the road and marched us to Pyongyang, North Korea (the capitol of North Korea). At that time our troops were moving so fast north, that we were only there a couple of days, and they got us up in the middle of the night to a train. The train took us to Sunchan, North Korea where we were taken out of the Railroad tunnel to be fed. So started the Sunchan Tunnel Massacre.

We both survived that after playing dead, and the will of God, and made it back home. We haven't seen each other for about fifty years to the month. It was great to see Bob and meet his family and we had a great visit at Andersville, Georgia. How appropriate. We promised to visit more often.

Ed Slater

Mystery photos

I am enclosing two photos sent to me by the daughter of Phyllis and Russell Hasselbach, Jr., Both were Korean War Veterans. Phyllis was a Navy nurse 1950-1953 and Russell was a Corpsman with two tours FMF (1950-1954). Daughter found slides and had them made into photos with permission to print.



Maybe some reader can identify area. Seems to be two areas, either early Autumn or early Spring. I can make out persons in rice paddies (photo #1) and a village. In photo 2, three GIs with dog and person on road with village in background.

John M. Arcand
5674 Bay Pines Lake Blvd.
St. Petersburg, FL 33708-3526

A letter from down under

Got back from Seoul today, plenty of action there for 2001 /2003, which I am informed by the KVA will be the last sponsored visit. I believe that a party of you "Yanks" will be at the "Kiwi" reunion in Palmerston North next month, will you be there?, if so, hope that you are now able to understand we "Brits" better !!, I will have a group of seventy-five there, to include myself and wifw. My party who attended your Reunion in Washington send their warmest regards and thanks for a great time, and also thanks to you and your lads for a warm reception.

Hopefully to see you in N.Z

In comradeship,

Frank Fallows

Korean 50th Anniversary Medal presented

Nashville, TN. Presentation of the Korean War Medal from left to right; William W. (Bill) Goodman, USMC presenting medal to Patti Johnson RN at the VA Medical center whose



father was in the USAF as a fighter pilot in the Korean War, and Terrie Burns RN at VA Medical Center whose father was a Marine with the First Marine Division in Korea.

The medal was also presented to life member KWVA Sgt. William W. (Bill) Goodman, Combat Photographer With the First Marine Division in Korea January 1951 in Clarksville, TN in July, by Major General Chci, Seng Woo, ROK Army.

Patti Johnson's father was a fighter pilot, Capt. Paul W. Bryce Jr. USAF, Nashville, and had many MiG kills while flying in Korea. He was killed at Edwards AFB while flying a test plane. Terri Burns's father Sgt. William Sharp Tweedy. USMC, Nashville, died of natural causes here in Nashville.

The Navy Museum in D.C.

The Navy Museum opens Korea 1950-53: The Navy in the Forgotten War to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the conflict in Korea. It is the first and only comprehensive exhibit on the Korean War at a national museum. The exhibit occupies a new space in the former David Taylor model basin, which is adjacent to the main Navy Museum building on the historic Washington Navy Yard.

The Navy in the Forgotten War explores the complicated history of the Korean War. Beginning with extensive topographical and chronological information, the exhibition grounds the visitor in the heated political atmosphere that led to U.S. and United Nations involvement in the war.

The exhibit then tells the story of the US Navy's role in Korea from 1950-53 through various themes, including amphibious operations, naval aviation, minesweeping, medical support, and armistice negotiations. The nation's only fully-restored thirty-six foot Landing Craft Vehicle Personnel (LCVP) dominates.

Visitors are able to peer inside and imagine what it might have been like to land at Inchon in such a boat. A piece of Inchon's rocky seawall is on display near the LCVP. A wooden whale boat, like that used by destroyer Douglas H. Fox to weaken North Korean commerce, represents early Navy special operation tactics. A large collection of photographs held by the Naval Historical Center augments the exhibit's rich textual framework, while videos on amphibious operations, Navy medicine, and naval aviation provide moving images of the war.

This exhibit is free and open to the public. Images and further historical information are available upon request. The former David Taylor Model Basin is located in building 70 on the waterfront, adjacent to the main Navy Museum building, in the Washington Navy Yard at 901 M Street, Southeast. For more information, please call 202-433-6897 or e-mail <nhfwny@msn.com>.

Chosin-Hungnam Symposium set for 12 December

U.S. Marine Corps and Navy operations during November and December 1950 in northeastern Korea will be the subject of a symposium sponsored by the Naval Historical Center, Naval Historical Foundation, the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

The symposium, entitled "Attacking in a Different Direction; the Chosin-Hungnam Operations" will be held at the Navy Memorial on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 12, 2000, beginning at 1:00 P.M. Preceded by a wreath-laying ceremony at the Memorial's Lone Sailor statue, the four hour long symposium will feature a mixture of historians and veterans who will provide overviews and details of ground combat, naval gunfire, air operations, logistical and medical support in that pivotal Korean War campaign. The event will focus on the Marines' heroic defense against divisions of Chinese Communist troops while withdrawing from the Chosin Reservoir and the Navy's successful withdrawal of troops and refugees from the North Korean port of Hungnam.

Historians and veterans who have tentatively accepted invitations to speak or participate in panel discussions include Jeffrey Barlow of the Naval Historical Center, Don Chisholm of the Naval War College, Chosin veteran and Marine Corps historian Brigadier General Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret.), and naval aviator and Medal of Honor recipient Captain Thomas J. Hudner, Jr., USN (Ret.). The sponsoring organizations are working with veterans groups to identify other appropriate participants.

There will be a symposium registration fee of \$20 with a \$2 discount offered to members of the sponsoring organizations as well as Korean War veterans. Checks can be made payable to "Naval Historical Foundation" and should be mailed to: Naval Historical Foundation, 1306 Dahlgren Ave. SE, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5055.

The Chosin-Hungnam symposium represents the second in a series of Korean War events to be staged by these officially des-

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ignated Department of Defense Commemorative Community organizations. Naval operations during the first four months of the Korean War will be the subject of a symposium entitled "The Navy in Korea, 1950" to be held at the Navy Memorial on Oct. 31, 2000, beginning at 12:30 PM. Questions about either of the symposiums should be addressed to the Naval Historical Foundation 202-678-4333, <nhfwy@msn.com>.

We remembered

Roland A. Watts Sr. Attended the reunion of the 50th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War. He was honored to have been chosen to sing the National Anthem at the banquet on Saturday night.



Roland and guest speaker Benny Takatsis

He marched in the parade held in the City of Bangor and was proud to call cadence for the group from Ocean State Chapter #1, Pawtucket, Rhode Island. A grand time was had by all that attended.

Theresa Watts
6 West Drive
Rumford, Rhode Island 02916

A devoted returnee of the Korean War

As we focus on commemorating the bravery of the Korean War veterans, and for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, we cannot help but recall those veterans who returned and devoted their lives to revitalizing and nurturing the military concept of brotherhood through associations and reunions as well as providing accurate historical information which proves that "Freedom is not Free." Such a veteran returnee is Bruce Elliott, Secretary-Treasurer of the 2nd Chemical Mortar Battalion, editor and publisher of the battalion's newsletter, "The Red Dragon." He was awarded the Man of the Year Award from the 94th Chemical Mortar Battalion. He was a veteran of 2 wars, (WWII and Korea) served 40 years in the military, taught 20 years as a teacher at the New England College, established the 2nd Chemical Mortar Battalion Association, established a web-site for information needed by the military, researchers, students, artists, writers and the public in general. As a Rotarian he did community service and was true to the motto "Service above self."

Through his consistent and untiring efforts, he established a web site involving the history of some 32 chemical mortar battalions, some of which he helped form. Using his organizational skills and abilities to coordinate teamwork, he caused his association membership to increase to 464, an outstanding number for chemical mortar battalions. Accurate historical accounts of the

battalions caused many to request being included in his web site (www.4point2.com). Included also is the access to additional military information which is enlightening to veterans, to researchers and to the public in general.

In June 2000, Bruce Elliott visited the Memorial Grove at Fort Leonard Wood. As an accomplished photographer, he took pictures of the memorials of some of the battalions listed on his website. The memorials had been at Fort McClellan before they had been relocated at the new site. Listed meticulously and with reverence are the names of the Korean soldiers who died in action or as POW's.

There is no doubt that the unusual increase in membership both on the web and in the association has been due to the dedicated efforts and persistence of returnee, Bruce Elliott, who has thus sustained memories of the Korean War for all generations. He stands an example of many returnees devoted to that cause.

Sent in by Maria Laga

The forgotten from Forgotten War

Ceremonies to honor Puerto Rican veterans for sacrifices made but at no time recognized.

By Steve Chambers, Star- Ledger Staff.

The small coastal town of Toa Baja in Puerto Rico is now home to a sprawling Bacardi Rum distillery, but it had yet to be built in 1950 when Guillermo Alamo was a teenager living there. Faced with the choice of backbreaking labor in the sugar cane fields or the U.S. Army, Alamo signed up and was promptly shipped off to fight in Korea. Alamo, who has lived in Newark since 1956, was followed into the service by three of his brothers, one a Korean War veteran like himself.

Fifty years later, as veterans everywhere celebrate bittersweet anniversaries from a conflict often termed the Forgotten War, Alamo, 68, and other veterans of Puerto Rican descent are having their service recognized for the first time. Two weeks ago, he was one of six veterans honored on the floor of Congress by Rep. Bill Pascrell Jr. (D-8th Dist.), and in September the military will hold a commemorative ceremony for Puerto Rican veterans at Arlington National Cemetery. Some will be featured next month in a Puerto Rican Day parade in Paterson. "It was real good to be recognized," Alamo said. "I have two friends who never came back. Nobody knows our story, but in three years we lost 743 Puerto Ricans in that war."

Many of the Puerto Ricans, some volunteers like Alamo and many draftees, were part of the segregated U.S. Army National Guard's 65th Regimental Combat Team. They called themselves the Borinqueneers, after one of the island's indigenous tribes, and were among the 60,000 Puerto Ricans who fought in Korea. After the war, many went on to distinguished military careers, rising through the ranks as the last vestiges of segregation withered away. But others simply went back to their everyday lives in Puerto Rico or the United States.

Noemi Figueroa Soulet, who has interviewed more than 150 veterans of the 65th for a documentary she is filming, said Puerto Ricans died in greater proportions than the citizens of most states. "Talk about the Forgotten War," she said. "These were the

invisible heroes. So many people are not aware of their tremendous sacrifices.”

Like all Korean War veterans, the Puerto Ricans endured brutal cold and fierce fighting, but as Spanish-speaking soldiers coming from a tropical climate their Korean experience was even more traumatic. “They were treated somewhat like the black soldiers. They had no voice and no one to fight for them,” said Vincent Krepps, a Korean War veteran and the editor of *The Graybeards*, a magazine for veterans.

Puerto Rican Sen. Kenneth McClintock, a staunch advocate of statehood for the island, said he finds it disturbing that 50 years after they served the United States in battle, veterans living on the island still don’t have the right to vote. (That may change in November if a recent federal court decision giving citizens of Puerto Rico a right to cast ballots in the upcoming presidential election is upheld.) “The younger generations forget that while Puerto Ricans are treated unequally in times of peace, we are treated equally in times of war,” McClintock said.

Retired U.S. Army Sgt. Angel Cordero, a junior ROTC instructor at Eastside High School in Paterson, spent several months tracking down Puerto Rican veterans of the Korean War so they could be honored at a banquet in May. Growing up in Puerto Rico, he had seen monuments to the fighters, but he never gave them much thought until he got involved in the organization of Paterson’s Puerto Rican parade. When he was asked to locate the veterans, he became enthralled with their history. “They weren’t prepared for the climate,” he said. “They weren’t prepared for the discrimination or anything else, from the food to the harsh fighting conditions. They were sent right to the front lines.”

Pascrell, whose district’s key city of Paterson is home to at least three Puerto Rican veterans, said he does not believe those sacrifices were recognized. “Most people don’t realize how hard Puerto Ricans fought for this country in Korea and Vietnam,” he said. “My effort was to help ensure that all veterans are recognized.” He read the names of Alamo and three other veterans into the Congressional Record on July 13. The others were Donato Santiago-Molina of Paterson; Asuncion Santiago-Cruz of Philadelphia, and Julio Mercado of West Haverstraw, N.Y. (More New Jersey veterans were discovered after Spanish-language newspapers reported on the ceremony two weeks ago.)

Alamo, a retired transportation supervisor for Prudential, said he saw his first snowfall in Korea, and he remembers vividly the night seven of his comrades died in an ambush. “We fought for almost two years, back and forth over the same hills,” he said. “They’d come in at night and push us back, and we’d push them back during the day with the help of the artillery.”

When Ruben Pabon Jr. of Northvale was drafted, his younger brother volunteered for a second tour of duty. When they reported in New York, officials said they didn’t want to send two brothers to the battlefield, so they flipped a coin. Pabon won the toss and was sent to Germany. His brother, John, went to Korea, where he was reported missing in action. His body was never recovered. For decades, Pabon was haunted by the loss. He carried around a letter his brother had sent home just days before his disappearance. He stopped strangers on the subway if they

looked like John.

Two weeks ago, he piled into a van with a number of other veterans and headed to Washington. Pascrell included Pabon’s brother’s name in his proclamation, and afterward he tearfully hugged the congressman. “It was nice to have someone remember him,” Pabon said. “At least he’s not forgotten forever.”

Korea Remembered

My name is Charles V. Garland (US ARMY 1st Sergeant retired). The following photographs are being submitted, for use in *The Graybeards* magazine. This magazine is in remembrance of the Forgotten Victory known as the Korean War. I am a Korean War Era veteran. I am also a Persian Gulf War Era Veteran.



From the left, Charles M. Garland, my son, a Systems Engineer for the U.S. Air Force, my grandson Michael V. Garland US Navy, his grandfather Charles V. Garland.

I retired from the US Army Reserves in 1994 after the Persian Gulf War. I served with the 313 Comm. Recon Battalion, 82nd Airborne Div. Fort Bragg, N.C. until 1956. This was my first enlistment on active duty. My total years of service in 1994, was 30 yrs. I retired from the Reserve Forces after serving with the 83rd Arcom of Ohio for 22 yrs.



The active duty personnel at the Indianapolis Meps Command, shown with me, are, from left to right 1st Lt. Richard J. Harris, 1st Sgt. Cindy Amacher.

I am a past president of the Western Ohio Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association. As the nation prepares to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, I wanted to submit this article.

I had the privilege on March the 10th, to help swear my grandson, into the US Navy, at Ft. Ben Harrison, Indiana.

I would like to thank these fine soldiers for giving me this opportunity to be a part of this induction ceremony I would also like to thank the recruiting command of Huber Height, Ohio. Sergeant First Class Larry D. Carman (station commander U.S. Army), and Larry Mason, US Navy representative, MM2 (SS), U.S. Navy, and William Fisher AMSI (AW)/NAC (Station Commander U.S. Navy).

I will close with this as we pause to remember those brave young men and women of some 50 yrs ago. Those who gave their all, we must never forget the words as reflected on the Korean War memorial in our Nations Capital "Freedom is not Free".

Respectfully and may God bless

Charles V. Garland

Are you in the photo?



"D" Co. 21st Reg. 24th Div.: (l-r) Thomas Sherry, Smith, "Sandy" White and Black..

Here is an old Polaroid photo I received from Sandford "Sandy" Thatcher taken 1950-1951? I was glad to hear from "Sandy" by phone. It was a surprise. I remember him now by the photo. I did not remember at time of phone call

Left to right in photo is Thomas Sherry, Smith, "Sandy" White and Black. If Smitty or White or Black or anyone else from "D" Co. 21st Reg. 24th Div. recognize any of us, write to me if you wish. So many of "D" Co I never knew if they made it out.

Thomas Sherry
340 US Highway 11
Gouverneur, New York 13642-
Tel: 315-287-0694.

M.A.S.H. photos

The Exchange...



American POW heading toward helicopter.



American POW being carried on stretcher to helicopter.

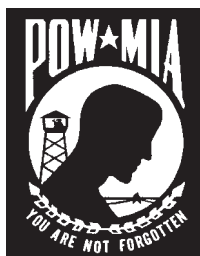


Helicopter loaded and about to take off.

(Veterans: When you send in photos please place your name on back and/or description of photo. Sometimes photos get misplaced and I have problems tying them in with letters or those that sent them. I also may print only a few at one time and need to go back to your letter. Those shown above are a good example of photos I cannot tie with a veteran or letter; thus sometimes description and sender are not credited properly. I thank all of you for sharing your memories. Editor.)

Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

KOREAN WAR/COLD WAR DOCUMENT
FAMILY RESEARCH



October 11, 2000

Remains of 15 U.S. Servicemen Recovered in North Korea

Remains believed to be those of 15 Americans missing in action from the Korean War were repatriated Saturday, Korea time, in a formal turnover in Pyongyang, North Korea.

This is the largest number of remains recovered in one operation since this joint recovery work began in North Korea in 1996.

The remains were flown on a U.S. Air Force aircraft from Pyongyang to Yokota Air Base, Japan, escorted by a uniformed U.S. honor guard. A United Nations Command (UNC) repatriation ceremony was held in Yokota, then the remains were flown to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Following a U.S. Pacific Command ceremony there, they were transferred to the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii (CILHI) for forensic examination and positive identification.

A joint U.S.-North Korean investigation team recovered the remains from former battlefields in the North Korean counties of Unsan and Kujang, approximately 60 miles north of Pyongyang. The 20-person U.S. team is composed primarily of specialists from CILHI.

This recovery operation is the 16th in North Korea since 1996. One more is scheduled for this year, and is set to conclude on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2000. Joint U.S. - North Korean teams have recovered 50 sets of remains so far this year, and 92 since the joint operations began. Five of these have been positively identified.

Of the 88,000 U.S. servicemembers unaccounted-for from all conflicts, more than 8,100 are from the Korean War.

Senior-level Visits to Asia Facilitate Accounting Efforts

A series of recent visits to East Asia by the senior leaders of the Defense

POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) is accelerating efforts to determine the fates of unaccounted-for Americans from our nation's conflicts in that region.

Mr. Robert L. Jones, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, met with senior officials of the governments of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to highlight the commitment of the U.S. government to the mission of the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing from all conflicts. He stressed that the U.S. commitment in Southeast Asia would continue notwithstanding a change in political leadership in the U.S. in January. The officials all assured Mr. Jones that their efforts to assist the United States would continue.

In Laos, he urged approval of an increase in the number of American team members allowed into the country for each Joint Field Activity, as well as approval of emergency medevac flights into Thailand should an American team member be injured. Lao officials were optimistic that these requests could be accommodated.

In Cambodia, he urged officials there to make available more of the leadership from the Khmer Rouge for interviews. The Cambodians responded they would do all they could to continue unilateral actions to produce leads on cases.

In a later trip to northeast Asia, Jones met in China with officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He expressed his pleasure at the initiation of the joint U.S.-P.R.C. Korean War Oral History Program, which began interviewing Chinese veterans of the war. Jones discussed his disappointment in other areas. Discussions also included the Korean War 50th anniversary activities and expressed the hope that the exchanges that will occur during these activities will facilitate the resolution of the fate of Americans unaccounted-for from the Korean War.

During this same trip to Asia, Mr. Jones met with the Deputy Director of the Korean People's Army (KPA) Panmunjom Mission, Sr. Col. Pak Rim Su. Jones pointed out the improving rela-

tions between the United States and North Korea and the successes thus far of the remains recovery operations.

At the end of his visit to North Korea, Jones participated in the repatriation of the remains of nine U.S. servicemen recovered during the third joint U.S.-D.P.R.K. recovery operation of this year.

In the most-recent DPMO trip to North Korea, Mr. J. Alan Liotta, Deputy Director, DPMO, met with Col. Pak who said that North Korean negotiators would attend the 2001 negotiations in December without preconditions. During this trip, the North Koreans permitted Liotta to visit the Chosin Reservoir. Liotta said that his team was the first group of Americans to return to the Chosin Reservoir since 1950.

The full text of trip reports on the visits to these countries may be found on the DPMO web site at www.dtic.mil/dpmo.

Korean War Pow Returnee Debriefings Records Research

DPMO Special Project and Archival Research (SPAR) personnel researched the records of the debriefings of POWs who returned from captivity associated with the Korean War. They conducted this research to help determine the fate of over 8,100 Americans who remain unaccounted-for from that war.

During the war, American POWs suffered horrendous hardships: forced marches hundreds to miles to prison camps, untreated injuries, freezing temperatures, malnourishment, and shooting of prisoners unable to keep up with the marches. Upon repatriation the ex-POWs underwent an initial "tactical intelligence" debriefing, and later a more complete four-phase debriefing. The U.S. Army conducted the latter debriefing, and it covered the topics of military intelligence, collaboration, psychological pressures, and POW/MIA accounting, and these are the records of interest to SPAR researchers.

SPAR personnel located the debriefing records in the Army counterintelligence archives at Ft. Meade, Md. They began reviewing all of the debriefing files and created a computerized data-

Continued on page 48

KWVA 50th Commemorative Events



▲ 50th Anniversary lunch on July 28, 2000. Shown at head table is Gen Paik (left) and Gen. Running. Also shown are KWVA Executive Board members and several members from the reunion committee. Not shown in this photo are members from the 50th DoD Commemoration Commission. They were seated at tables to the left. We had a great Korean meal. This luncheon was held in order to thank Gen. Paik of South Korea for coming to America and to wish him a safe trip home

On July 27, 2000 those that attended the Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns then went to the No Greater Love Memorial Bench erected in memory for those that died in the Korean War and laid flowers for those that gave their all. This session lasted well over an hour. This event occurs every year on July 27. ➤



Harley Coon at Australian National Korean War Memorial in June 2000. ➤



➤ KWVA National Banquet night July 27, 2000. Shown left to right are KWVA President Harley Coon, Mr. Wu, Major Kemp and General Lee (ROK).



▲ Another photo of the Pentagon Korean War Historical Exhibit from Dedication Ceremony (Ribbon Cutting) on July 26, 2000. Keynote Speaker was General Robert W. Sennewald. The exhibit will remain on display through November 11, 2003

➤ Republic of Korea gift honoring Korean War Veterans. The urn is displayed in the Pentagon.

➤ Photo from Camden Yards in Baltimore, MD honoring Maryland and all Korean War Veterans. Jumbo Screen announces this occasion while the Orioles, MD Chapter Color Guard and the Naval Academy Cadet prepares for the Playing/Singing of the National Anthem. (See Maryland Chapter photos in Chapter Affairs in this issue.)



Reunions...

Our last reunion in Sept 2000 held in and around Altamont, NY. The reunion group is Korea Veterans, E Battery, 3rd Bn. Fort Sill Trng Gp. The group picture is of the guys and wives of our attending group at our host's place in rural Altamont taken just before a lamb barbeque.

The horse photo was taken at the horse track north of Albany NY. We purchased a horse blanket to be given to the winner of the 7th race which was dedicated to our reunion group. Never would anyone have bet that our race would have a dead heat I race, so the blanket was put on both horses for a picture. However I don't know which horse ended up with the blanket.

We had a great time, visiting many historic places and reminiscing of our past. This group has a reunion every year in various localities.

Our reunion in 2001 will be held in October in Branson, MO. Contact Arnold (Amy) Anderson, HC 83 Box 116A, Custer, SD 57730 -9708

(Thank you Amy for photos and letter. Did any one win any money that day? A great reunion especially for the winners and the horse has a great blanket.)

E Battery, 3rd Bn., Fort Sill Trng Gp



Horses Faithful Alice/Hawaiian Die at Korean Vet Reunion 2000. Owners: J. L. & V. J. Mattison; Trainer, J. Mattison; Driver, G Mattison.



Posing with horse Faithful Alice are (l- t) Dean Folkes, Herb Black, Jim Minnich, unknown, Don Ottersness, Amy Anderson, Fred Ring, Charlie Schad.

B Co., 120th Engineer (C) Bn.



B Co. photograph taken at the Sept. 2000 45th Inf. Div. reunion.

The B Co., 120th Engineer (C) Bn. (Korea) 2000 reunion was a big success. After 48 years of only occasional interaction with a few B Co. personnel, maximum effort is being made to contact all of our buddies. With an original roster of 190, 132 have been located (86 living and 46 deceased). We had 29 B Co. Korea veterans and their wives from 12 states attending the Sept. 2000 45th Inf. Div. reunion held in Oklahoma City, OK as well as a number of WW2 120th Engineers. We anticipate a much larger attendance in 2001. If you served with these Engineers from 1950 to 1952 please contact Jack Latham, 733 Kiowa Drive West, Lake Kiowa, TX 76240 Tel.: 940-665-3021.

(Thank you Jack for photo and letter. A good looking group of veterans. I am beginning to think only Engineers have reunions.)

14th Combat Engineers Battalion



Shown in photo left to right. Row 1. Bill Roach, Stanley H. Schwartz, Lindy Costantino, Robert J. McDonald. Row 2. Harry L. Rawley, James L. Wasson, George L. Luft Jr., Richard A. Brauer, Charles E. Foster, Roland Patneaude, Roy Graham. Row 3. Bob Troupe, Walter Jordan, William Schnelhnann, Laddie Grimes, Malcolm W. Kelly, Don Ummel, Paul S. Specia. Row 4. Richard J. Sillen, Robert Balcerzak, Samuel J. Chappetta Jr., Ralph V. McKnight, Roger Thompson, William Kennedy, (Hugh) Ray Skinner, Bill Storey.

Members of the Korean War section of the 14th Combat Engineer Bn. gather for a picture at the first reunion of the battalion.

Twenty-six former members of the Battalion and twenty-three spouses attended the meeting in St. Louis, MO on Sept. 8-10. The CO and the CSM of the current 14th, based at Fort Lewis, WA, also attended the reunion and brought old-timers up-to-date on the current mission and training schedule.

Former members of the Bn. from any war and/or time period are welcome to join the 14th Combat Engineer Bn. Assn. Contact Stanley H Schwartz, 313 Hollow Creek Road, Mount Sterling KY, 40353; Tel: 859-498-4567 or e-mail <shs313@mis.net >.

(Thank you Stanley Schwartz for photo and typed letter. A great looking group of veterans. I hope all of you read the Graybeards.)

81st Annual Reunion

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division – U. S. Army

The Korean Veterans Tour to Travis AFB was very interesting. We were the honored guests while the Travis AFB commander cut the ribbon on a special Korean War exhibit at their highly acclaimed air museum. Our division received special recognition in the exhibit. A panel discussion on medical evacuation was offered by several nurses and airmen who served in the Korean War, followed by a nice lunch at the officer's club.

Of special interest on the City Tour was a commemoration for the Korean War veterans held in the Rotunda of the San Francisco City Hall hosted by Llyand Yee, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

We were welcomed by a drum and bugle corps from the San Francisco Jr. ROTC Brigade. The Colors of six Jr. ROTC battalions of the brigade were in position in the rotunda. The 3rd Inf. Div. Color guard led in the distinguished guests and took a position behind the podium. Col. and Mrs. Michael Parker, Div. COS represented the 3rd Inf. Div.

Also honored were Hiriohi and Mrs. Miyamura, CMH, 7th Inf. Regt., Korean War, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cunningham and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Markley retiring and future president of the society.

Following the city hall reception we held a memorial service at the 30th Inf. Regt. Monument at the Presidio. Lunch on the Bay was enjoyed by all. We cruised under the Golden Gate Bridge exactly 50 years and 12 hours after the last ship carrying the division to Japan and Korea passed under the bridge on Sept. 2, 1950.

The Welcome Party, banquet, ladies brunch, Memorial Breakfast and unit dinners were all well attended and enjoyable. We had wonderful support from the 3rd



San Francisco Supervisor Leland Lee hosted a special ceremony for Korean War Vets at City Hall.

Inf. Div. Delegation led by Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Walter Sharp. We are grateful for their participation and support. As reunion Chairman, I thank all who attended. I am especially grateful to the many of OP54 and OP 22 members that worked on various reunion committees.

(Thank you Thomas Chilcott for photos and newsletter. Looks like you had a great reunion. I am sure many KWVA members were there also.)



Task Force Smith Wreath Laying at Tomb of Unknowns on June 28, 2000. Gen Smith in gray suit. (center)

Task Force Smith

Task Force Smith, named after its Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Bradford Smith, was the first United States Army ground unit to be engaged in combat with the North Korean People's Army on 5 July, 1950 three miles north of Osan, Korea. Task Force Smith was composed of 375 men from elements of the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment and 31 personnel from the 1st Medical Company plus 134 men from the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion, 24th Infantry Division.

Although Task Force Smith was severely under-equipped and under-manned, they fought bravely against overwhelming numbers of North Korean infantry reinforced with 33 tanks. The courageous members of Task Force Smith will long be remembered as the free world's initial response to blunt communist aggression in the Republic of Korea.



After wreath laying ceremony everyone went to the ceremony location for a tree planting and a plaque unveiling. Left to right Sgt. Major Jack Tully, General Smith, General Shinseki, General Sullivan, Sec. Caldera, and Former Sgt. Major Critchfield.

U. S. Army Band played Patriotic Music during the tree planting and plaque unveiling.



Tree planting and watering??? Shown left to right Sgt. Major Jack Tully, Former Sgt. Major Critchfield, General Smith, Sec. Caldera, General Shinseki and General Sullivan.

Plaque Unveiling. Left to right Sgt. Major Jack Tully, Former Sgt. Major Critchfield, General Smith, Sec. Caldera, General Shinseki and General Sullivan.



Memorative Events



The Task Force Smith Plaque

At luncheon
Secretary Of
Army Louis
Caldera speaks
to Task Force
Smith Korean
War Veterans



Mrs. Smith (left) talking to current Battalion Commander of the 21st Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.



Gen. Smith is honored by Sgt. Major Tilley, Gen. Lee ROK Army and Gen. Shinseki Chief of Staff USA.



Gen. Lee congratulates Gen. Perry and Gen. Yoon only Korean member of Task Force Smith.



Former Sgt. Major Critchfield greets current Sgt. Major.



Our Task Force Smith Heroes with gift hats from Korea. May God Bless all of you brave veterans that led the way.

Defense of the Pusan Perimeter

September 1950

There were no front lines, such as we used to know, in this war. Batteries must fight as infantry in defense of their guns - must beat off the enemy with rifle, pistol, and grenade - must blast him out of their positions with machine guns, dug in or mounted on the half-track vehicles called "Quad 50's." A black artilleryman summed it up. "Us wears one crossed cannon and one crossed rifle," he said. As always, since the first cannon thundered in battle, it was a point of honor to save the guns, or if lost, to recover them.

Hemmed within the Pusan perimeter, troops of the United Nations fought with their backs to the sea. The situation was desperate that September of 1950. With the North Koreans mounting a powerful assault, and infiltration a constant threat, Btry. XO. and Lt. K. H. Bailey prepared his Battery A, 64th Field Artillery Battalion, for close defense. He grouped his six howitzers as compactly as possible

and around the position set up light and heavy machine guns, along with a Quad armed with four 50-caliber MG's.

On the dark, foggy night of September 3 the enemy fell suddenly upon the battery. The first sergeant challenged three shadowy figures pulling a wheeled machine gun. They dropped into a ditch and opened fire. Flame stabbed through the murk from other quarters. A North Korean cut down two signalers with a burp gun, then tossed a grenade into the telephone dugout. Its explosion killed two of the three occupants. The third, Corporal John M. Pitcher, not seriously wounded, bravely stayed by the switchboard and continued to operate it all night, the two bodies beside him.



Lt. Bailey with his fingers in two holes of his L5 Aircraft from Chinese AK47s.

The enemy began to melt away, leaving twenty-one dead. A tank from 89th Bn., rolling up to the rescue, scourged the retreat. Battery A had lost seven killed and twelve wounded.



Lt. Bailey in Munsan-ni, Jan. 1951 with a 105 Howitzer round of ammo he fired with writing on live shell. "To Wu from Tommye Lou" (his wife) then he pulled the lanyard.

Bullets raked the gun emplacements. Answering fire from the battery's outlying machine guns ceased, as gunners drew back, realizing the position was being overrun. The traversing mechanism of the Quad jammed. Its crew backed the vehicle into a gully. In the dark gun pits cannoneers fought back with side arms. An enemy grenadier crawled close to one section and threw twice. The first missile killed one artilleryman and wounded several others. The second exploded on the ammunition. Powder charges for more than one hundred rounds flamed luridly. The chief of section ordered his men out. They retreated to the gully, joined by two other hard-pressed crews.

In other pits they stood fast. Two howitzers went into action,

sweeping the enemy-held ridge in front, shells bursting at two hundred yards. Officers and noncoms rallied the men in the gully, machine guns covering them as they returned to their posts.

Thanks to Corporal Pitcher, the telephones were still working. The battalion commander, calling in, offered help from other batteries. "A's" asked for fire on the ridge to the fore and got it promptly. A 155 shell landed squarely on the target. Lieutenant Kincheon H. Bailey, Jr., "A's" executive observing, yelled through the fire direction center: "Right 50, drop 50. Fire for effect!" It was close shooting, the rounds falling just in front of the battery's position.

The enemy began to melt away, leaving twenty-one dead. A tank from 89th Bn., rolling up to the rescue, scourged the retreat. Battery A had lost seven killed and twelve wounded. Four of its trucks had been destroyed, but all its howitzers were undamaged. Cpl. John Dodson and Lt. K. H. Bailey survived that battle. To start a reunion of the 64 F.A. Bn, 25 Inf. Div. Call K. H. Bailey, Raleigh, N.C. 919 787 1643. Lt. Bailey and Cpl. John Dodson want to start a reunion. K. H. Bailey, Lt. Col. Retd., Raleigh, N.C. Tel: 919-787-1643

Cable TV program showcases veterans

On 19 April 2000 "Veteran's Viewpoint" a cable access television program studio located in Pemberton Township High School, Pemberton, NJ where high school students are camera operators and director and assistant engineer and televised some parts of Central and Southern New Jersey featured six Korean War combat veterans to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

This program will be televised during the month of June 2000. There were 12 Korean War Veterans present in the studio: Army, Marine Corps and Navy, and all were in Korea for some time during 1950 – 1953. Also present, but not in photo, was L. Boudreau, USAF and was appointed by Pemberton Township as Coordinator and Chair for the 50th Anniversary of Korean War Commemoration Committee, Department of the Army, Office of the Secretary of the Army.

After taping of the program – 2 segments of 30 minutes each – all were "treated" to a special luncheon at American Legion Post 294, Pemberton where each Korean War Veteran related

experiences. "Veteran's Viewpoint," is a TV program for and by Veterans, and representatives of Local, County, State and National agencies involved in assisting veterans, and members of their families in filing for entitlements, obtaining information, etc. and is funded by the Disabled American Veterans of New Jersey.

(Thank you Paul Tuliano for photos and letter. A great "Tell America" program. Paul is a Life Member of KWVA.

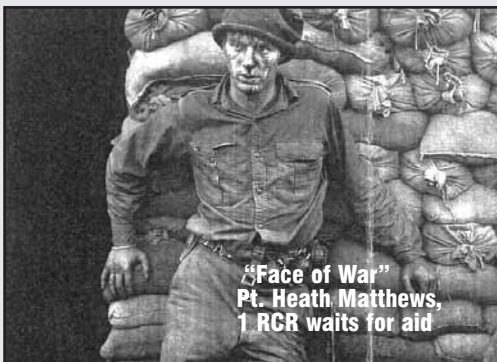
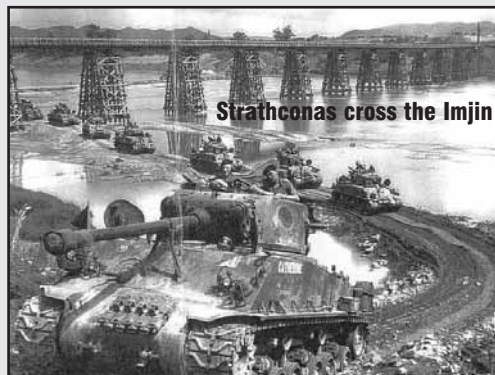
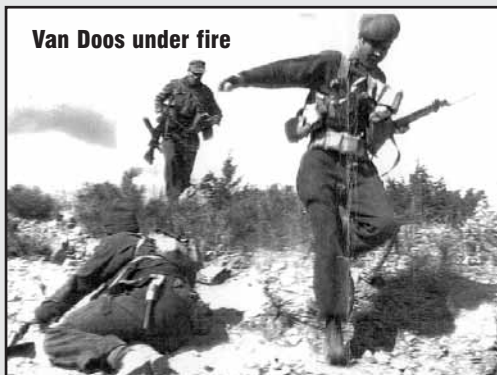


Featured on "Veterans Viewpoint" above (l – r) are John "Bud" Clark, James Major, Joseph Baptista and host William McPeak. Pictured on the right (l – r) are George Ferguson, Robert Yancy, Russell Street, and William McPeak.



Images of Combat...

by Paul J. Tomelin



A Veteran's Prayer
 Dear Lord,
 Help us to remember
 Help us
 Today
 And every day
 Our fallen comrades
 Who sacrificed
 Their lives
 So that we
 Who live on
 May enjoy
 Our rights
 And freedoms
 We thank you
 For your love
 Which you gave
 So freely
 Help us
 Through your love
 To find peace
 Within ourselves
 And all around us
 In memory of
 Our fallen comrades
 Help us to remember
 Help us to remember
 Amen

Paul J Tomelin, BEM CD CAPT (ret) 857 Morrison Ave, Kelowna, BC V1Y 5E6 Tel: 250-762-0967

(Thank you Paul for photos and poem)

Phase 3
4 color
CD provided

Phase 3
4 color
CD provided

The Korean War Veterans Association wishes to extend its sincere gratitude to Soldiers magazine for allowing us to reprint the four Phases of the Korean War published in the May 2000 issue of Soldiers. The remaining phases will follow in later issues.

Chapter Affairs

Nebraska Chapter 1



On May 27 2000 we received our charter from the National KWVA and are still in the process of getting organized. We are now incorporated, working on by-laws and are dedicating a 50th Year memorial through a Korean Full Gospel Church this Veterans Day. Shown in photo are: Back Row (l-r) Dennis L. Pavlik, POW/MIA; Lee Miller, 2nd Vice President; Lyle G. Cave, President; James W. Anderson, Treasurer; Bill Ramsey, 1st Vice President. Kneeling (l-r) John T. Bevins, Judge Advocate; John E Fifer SR, Secretary.

(Thank you James Anderson for photo and letter. We are proud of what all of you are doing in your new chapter. Congratulations to all and we hope to see more photos)

Santa Clara County Chapter of California



Photo shows our new board of directors for fiscal year 2000-2001. Bottom left to right- Buzz Dilling Board member, Lou Horyza President, Walter Schrank, Vice President, Mike Glazzy Treasurer. Top row left to right Dory Hastings Historian, Bob Troupe Secretary, Lis Glazzy Seargent-at-arms and Dinner Coordinator, Joe Velasquez Quartermaster, and Jim Guinn Board member. Our address is 667 Escuela, Pl. Milpitas, CA 95035 Tel: 408-263-8779

(Thank you Lou for photo and letter. We express our congratulations to all of your members and we hope to see more photos of upcoming events)

Central Massachusetts Chapter #36



Central Massachusetts Chapter raffled off an M-1 carbine July 27, 2000. Chapter member Joe Ferraro (front left), the winner, gave the carbine to his grandson, also Joe Ferraro, (front right). Looking on are Chapter members (1. to r.) Gerry Melancon, Joe Bianculli, Charlie Evangeline and Bob Rutter. The proceeds of the raffle went to the Central Massachusetts Korean War Memorial Fund.

(Thank you Robert for photo and letter. You and your chapter are to be commended for your work in fund raising for the memorial.)

Department of New Jersey



Richie Alexander, NJ State Commander and Ken Murray, N.J. Vice Commander, with the Department's Color Guard. These three young ladies attend college and received scholarships from the Union County Chapter. They are KWVA volunteers at the New Jersey Disabled Veterans Home in Edison, N.J. where they entertain the troops on holidays.

(Thank you Richie for photos and letter. You and your veterans are to be commended for your work in erecting the memorial. I did show your memorial in the last issue, so I will not show it again. We are most proud of the three beautiful young ladies for their volunteer work. They are very special.)

KWVA Members and Friends

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

Suncoast Chapter #14 of Florida

The Korean War Veterans Association, Suncoast Chapter, sponsored the First Annual Essay Contest for children in the Middle Schools in Pinellas County.

Members of the chapter addressed several 8th grade classes, showing photographs, maps, and detailing their experiences in Korea. A question and answer period followed and students were asked to write an essay on the topic "Korea: The Forgotten War."

The following students from the St. Petersburg Christian



Clarence Dadswell and Joan M. Arcand President presenting "Tell America" awards.

School were recipients of a savings bond, personal plaque and a small flag:

- 1st PlaceKenny Baker
- 2nd Place.....Bonni Carney
- 3rd PlaceShelley Cabrera

We congratulate all the students who participated for their fine essays. Korean War Veterans Association, Suncoast Chapter meets every third Thursday at VFW Post 4364, 5773 62nd St. North St. Petersburg Florida.

(Thank you Joan for photos and letter. We commend you and your chapter members for a very important program. We especially thank the students for their efforts in helping us to remember the Korean War and its veterans.)

Minnesota Chapter #1

On September 8, 2000 a picnic, sponsored by Minnesota KWVA Chapter #1 was held at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Minneapolis. At this outstanding event 54 men and women from the Minnesota Korean War Veterans Chapter #1 helped to make the day alot brighter for the 40 residents and 6 staff members from the vets home who attended the picnic.

The Chapter #1 families provided an abundance of delicious food and plenty of soft drinks for residents, staff and Chapter #1 workers. Everyone went that extra mile, if they could not attend the picnic, they sent food or gave money to be sure that the picnic would be a fun time for the vets home residents. Everyone from Chapter #1 worked hard serving food, cooking on the grills, getting trays for those who could not go through the line, pushing wheelchairs (that many residents used) and many visited with



Residents and chapter members getting ready to enjoy the fine food.



Our chapter grilling crew in action with some home residents getting fresh air and supervising the job.

the Vets Residents. Thanks to everyone! The picnic was a success and plans are under way for next year. The 2nd Friday in September, 2001, has been reserved for Chapter #1.

(Thank you Floyd R. Jones, Picnic Coordinator, for photos and letter. We wish all of you much success in the years ahead and the best of health for all of you.. Chapter #1 Minnesota Korean War Veterans 3123 Weenonah Pl. Minneapolis, MN 55417. Your work at the home is commendable.)

Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter of Illinois

The Danville, IL Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter of Korean War Veterans Association presented a 50th Year Commemorative Program of the Korean War at the Turtle Run Banquet Hall in Danville IL on September 30, 2000.

Kenneth Cook who is Director of National KWVA and President of the Danville, IL Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter organized the program.

The Guest Speaker was Mr. John Ranum, a veteran of USAF, and a 7 year old orphan in the very early part of the Korean War who lost his father, mother, and newborn brother. He was the only family member available to bury his brother. The US troops adopted him and he came to America and was adopted by the family of his benefactor.

Mr. Scott Baimbridge, of York, England, fought in the Korean War in the Duke of Wellington (West Riders) Regiment. He is shown in several photos accepting several gifts.

Harold Bott was MC, Invocation and Benediction by Jerry Holycross. Posting of the Colors by Chapter Color Guard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Spencer, a moment of silence and then reading of the names of those that lost their life in Korea by Jerry Holycross. Guest Speaker was Ray Nasser. Music by the Sweet Adelines and Silver Nickel Band.

(Thank you John H. Spencer and SFC Milton Crippin for photos and letter. I could not print all for various reasons. Great program for special veterans and their families)



John Spencer (left) presents U.S. Gold Coin, which honors Korean War Veterans, to British Korean War Veteran Scott Baimbridge.



British Korean War Veteran Scott Baimbridge (left), Speaker and Guest of Honor John Ranum, (left center), John Spencer, (right center) and Henry Thornton. (right)



National Director of the National Korean War Veterans Association, Kenneth Cook (left) presents plaque to British Korean War Veteran Scott Baimbridge.

SFC Milton Crippin displays his Purple Heart Award for an article entitled "For Those Who Did Not Return" published in the June-July 1999 issue of Purple Heart Magazine. He was a WW II Veteran (including Utah Beach-D-Day and Battle of the Bulge) where he received two Purple Hearts. He also served in the Korean War where he received a Purple Heart and is a Vietnam War Veteran.



Mountaineer Chapter #146 of Virginia



A number of its members turned out for the Ravenswood, WV Ohio river fest parade and celebration in August. The Auxillary was also in the parade just behind the members of the chapter.

(Thank you Jack Tamplin for the photo and letter. A good looking Color Guard and proud looking chapter members also.)

"Johnnie" Johnson Chapter #115 of Lima, Ohio



Harley Coon, KWVA President swears in the new officers for the Johnnie Johnson Chapter #115, Lima Ohio on July 19, 2000

(Thank you Dillon Staas for photo and e-mail. We wish your chapter much success and thank all your dedicated veterans.)

Mahoning Valley Chapter # 137 of Ohio



Robert M. Brienik, associate member of both the KWVA Chapter #137 and US Marine Corps League Detachment #494 receives the Marine Corps League National Rosan Trophy for volunteer service with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Presenting is James Higgins also a member of the KWVA and the Junior Vice Commandant, US Marine Corps League, Department of Ohio. This was only the second time the Rosan Trophy has awarded in the state of Ohio and the first award in the past 4 years.

(Thank you Richard Koker for photo and letter. Your chapter must be proud of Robert for earning such a special award.)

Chapter 2 Lafayette of Indiana



The Korean War Veterans of Chapter 2 Lafayette were honored May 29 at a band concert at Riehle Plaza. Shown in the picture are: First row: Betty Baker, Pres. Paul Addison, a member of Citizens Band presenting the plaque, Basil Bauch, Fred Priese. Second row: Franklin Litteron, John Rutledge, Don Easterly, and Jim Stoddard.

(Thank you John M. Rutledge for photo and letter)

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



On left Mary Beth Fox, Founder of Salute to Women, Eckerd's 100 Volunteers presents an award to Amelia Carafano Chapter Ladies Auxiliary VAVS representative. Amy was chosen from 90,000 nominees.



Amelia Carafano at National Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC which was part of the award shown above. An all expense paid trip to Washington, DC.

(Thanks Amy for photos and letter. We also congratulate you.)

Chorwon Chapter of New Jersey



Dick Bozzone presents Bergen County, NJ Executive William Schuber with a citation on the occasion of the county honoring 65 men killed during the Korean War. Bozzone originated the idea as part of the 50th observance of the start of the war. William was also the M.C. Over 200 persons and veterans attended the event on June 29.

(Thanks Dick for photo and letter. This was a special event.)

CH Dodd Chapter #1 (#139) EE West of Kentucky



Members of Kentucky Chapter at annual meeting.

C. H. Dodd #139 held their annual meeting at the American Legion Post #113 located on 31 W, Radcliff, Kentucky. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was chaired by Commander Till Lecian. Our turn out was low due to Armored Day being held at nearby Fort Knox. However, we were able to acquire Bruce Fonda and George Larsen, both of Radcliff, Kentucky.

Issues were discussed about KWVA volunteers teaching Korean War history in the high schools. This is a project initiated by Jack Walker of the KWVA out of Antioch, Tennessee. We hope during the three-year commemoration period, that we too, will be able to get approval to proceed with this new concept. All the details were discussed.

(Thank you Till for photos and update on your chapter. Please in next mailing name those in photos and send different ones showing more of your members. I know you are just getting started and this is a good beginning.)

General Walton Harris Walker Chapter of Texas

Officers in our new KWVA Chapter, The General Walton Harris Walker Chapter which will be located in Arlington, Texas that will serve our National and new members in the Dallas and Fort Worth area. Work started to establish their Chapter on September 5, 2000 and by September 18, their petition form was sent in to National Headquarters for the Charter to get their Chapter started.

Please note that from the date September 5 to September 18 is only a 13-day period in which this Chapter was ready to file for their Charter so this should tell everyone something. These Texans are ready to go, I guess their faces in the group picture show more. I said it once and I'll say it again "Had it not been for the interest and pride of our National members down in Texas, this Chapter would have not been established.

My sincere thanks go out to all of you that helped in getting the General Walton Harris Walker Chapter started, and may you never stop growing.



Photo of original meeting of the KWVA Walton Harris Walker Chapter. Shown left to right: Holmes, Predmore (President), Fuoco, Canabiss, Dickerson, Alridge, McSwain, and Kinard.

One of the many letters of thanks to Sam.

Dear Sam;

Thank you for your interest in starting a Korean War Veterans Association Chapter in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, and I think Arlington, Texas is an excellent choice for a location. Your devotion and dedication for this worthy cause will certainly pay off when old veterans of this "Forgotten War" will rekindle past experiences and make new acquaintances with men they shared their lives with 50 years ago as they meet for each meeting.

I will help where I can to get the KWVA organized here in North Texas. Soon I hope to meet with Dick Predmore of Euless to further the cause of this new chapter. Richard called me this morning, and we had a good long visit.

Rev. Louis E. Holmes
(E-31st. Inf. Reg., 7th Div.)
Japan -Korea 1949-1951

(Thank you Sam for photo and many letters. I wish I could print all but the above letter give a good example of the others. Many veterans in the area are interested in starting new chapters. Sam Naomi's address is 202 Washington Street. Tingley, IA 50863 or you can contact Jerry Lake. See address on page 2 of Graybeards. A super job being done by all named.)

Tall Corn Chapter of Iowa



Kenneth Cook (right) and Sam Naomi holding Chapter's Charter.



Chapter Officers (Left to right) Sam Naomi, Chapter President; Leland R. Stalker, 1st Vice-President; Robert M. Sutfin, 2nd Vice- President; Bill Hartsock, Judge Advocate; Laverne Padgett, Secretary/Treasurer; and Gilbert Scribner, Historian.



Part of 142 Tall Corn Chapter members. The chapter was only 6 months old at the time.

(Thank you Sam Naomi for photos and letter. You are doing great job with your chapter and we are proud of you.)

Northwest Alabama Chapter 2



Members of the Northwest Alabama Chapter #2 pose for photo at the Chapter picnic.

Our Northwest Alabama Chapter 2 of KWVA had a picnic in September which was enjoyed by all. We got one good picture showing 22 of those in attendance. We all look forward to getting the Graybeards.

(Thanks Paul E Riley (Korea 7th Inf. Div.) Home phone (256) 767-0673 for photo and e-mail. Congratulations to all.)

GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later then the second week of the first month of that issue. Example: September- October 2000 articles must be received by editor no later then September 14. We print on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have a backlog.— Editor.

Denver 'Queen City' Chapter of Colorado

On 19 July 2000 the Charter was approved and sent to the new chapter in Colorado. The Denver "Queen City" Chapter held its first meeting on August 1st 2000 and the following officers were installed: Kenneth Camell, President; Donald Huner, 1st Vice President; Thaddeus Gembezynski, 2nd Vice President; Calvin Keil, Secretary; Walt Walko, Treasurer; Joseph Brown, Judge Advocate; and Ernest Courtrears, POW/MIA Officer.

The Denver Chapter represents and seeks members from the Denver Metro Area and the Front Range of Northern Colorado. The Chapter meets monthly, first Monday at Furrs Cafeterias, Buckingham Square, corner Mississippi and Havana, Denver, Colorado. Lunch at 1:00 and meeting at 11:30 am.

The President, Kenneth Camell and our chapter extend our sincerest thanks to all the members at large and to Sam Naomi for their help with notices, publicity and organizing this chapter. *(Thank you Kenneth for e-mail on your new chapter. We hope to see some photos soon. The best of luck and good health to all of our Colorado veterans. We also welcome you to your National Association.)*

Cpl Clair Goodblood Chapter #2 of Maine



Elected officers for the year 2000-2001, CPL Clair Goodblood Chapter, KWVA Augusta, Maine. Shown left to right Geoff Ragsdale, President; Ken Cyphers, 2d VP; Phil Tiemann, Secretary; Bill Webber, Treasurer; Marty O'Brien, 1st VP.

(Thank you Marty O'Brien for photo and e-mail. We are proud to have all of you as a part of our National association.)

Continued on page 45

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.

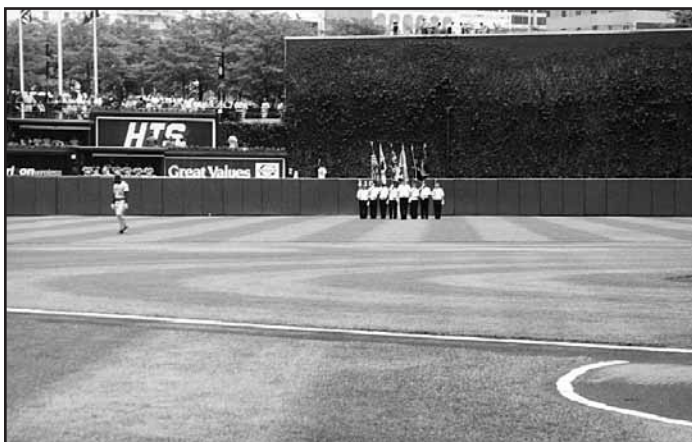
4 Color

“Return to Glory ad”

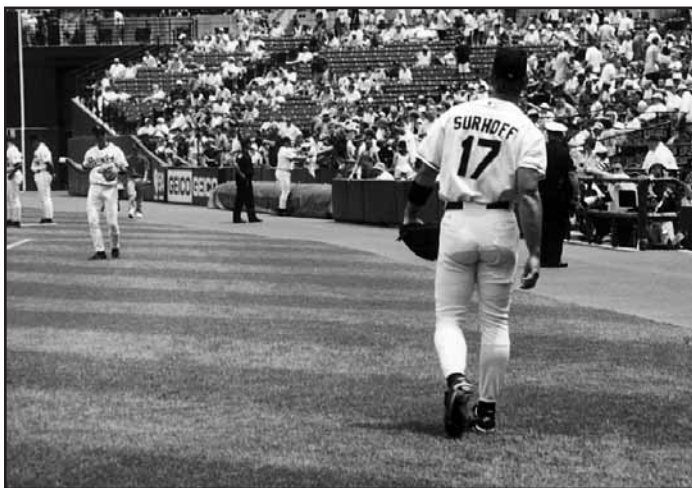
Pickup July/Aug

pg. 44

Maryland Chapter #33



Maryland Chapter, KWVA Color Guard At Camden Yards in Baltimore, MD prior to baseball game for commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.. We thank the Baltimore Orioles and owners for allowing us to present colors, enjoy their suite, the great food and gifts. We love our Orioles and Mr. Angelos. That day was special.



Orioles (former) practicing prior to game.



Maryland Chapter, KWVA Color Guard with Naval Academy Cadet who sang the National Anthem to a roaring ovation afterwards.



Your Graybeards Editor as Guest Speaker at Ft. Meade on September 15, 2000 on National POW/MIA Recognition Day.



Installation Commander Col. Michael J. Stewart views 50th Commemoration Posters set up for the National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Over 12 poster and charts depicting the horrors of the Korean War. All are part of the Chapters "Tell America Program."



Col. Stewart along with some of the guests that included Ex-POWs and Veterans at Club Meade on POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Our MD Chapter celebrated our 10th Anniversary. At right is the beautiful Anniversary cake made by Chapter member Mary Ann Herman (Thanks to all for photos and remembering all of our veterans on these special days.)



Perhaps a short narrative would be appropriate at this time to apprise the reader of the circumstances leading to the events depicted. I was one of those who received a “greeting” from President Roosevelt in 1943, resulting in an Army Basic Training and two years in the South Pacific Theater.

While on occupation duty in Japan, I decided to make the Army my career. 1949 found me on Guam, assigned to the Marbo Command Communication/Intelligence Section. On Sunday afternoon, June 25, 1950 I was summoned to the Com./Cntr. Crypto Room. An encoded message awaited. The decoded text read to the best of my recollection:

“TOP SECRET. HEAVY NORTH KOREAN FORCES INTO SOUTH KOREA THIS DATE. RAPID ADVANCEMENT. PRIORITY ONE ALERT. WAIT. MACARTHUR. CINCFE.”

The ensuing months found me in Japan and Korea where my Unit was integrated into Tenth Corps (X Corps) G2/Communications. After the Inchon/Seoul engagements we were moved around the southern tip of Korea to Wonsan Harbor on the Eastern Coast of North Korea.

The Harbor was inundated with mines and sweeping was in progress. Our ship “yoyo’d” back and forth outside of the Harbor, waiting for the mines to be cleared for our landing. I remember thinking, “My God this is just like waiting to land on Saipan six years ago!”

When we finally landed we found that Bob Hope and his USO Troupe had preceded us by coming northward via roadway that had been cleared by the ROK 3rd and Capital Divisions, who by now were marching miles up the coast clearing roadblocks. That night we loaded on rail flatcars with Corps equipment and ammo by the tons.

October was fast coming to an end and the weather was turning extremely cold. Winter clothing had not been issued yet and fatigues and a field jacket weren’t going to do it. I was wearing my Guam khakis under my fatigues and they really helped. We later learned that ROK forces who had preceded us were still in tattered summer uniforms and worn footwear.

As the train pulled out I vividly recall the sky was filled with stars and the chill stillness, only broken by occasional loco-



Hungnam, North Korea Dec. 1950. Large Building is X Army Hq.

THE HUNGNAM EVACUATION DECEMBER, 1950

BY JOHN M. BORDER, MSG USA RETIRED

motive exhaust, was eerie. My thoughts, as we headed north towards Hamhung, were of home, my wife and the certainty that this “police action” was coming to an end. Home for Christmas! Could it be?

X Corps first located in Hamhung, was where we set up all intelligence and communication functions. As our intelligence gathering groups returned from northern perimeter posts, all indications pointed to the total collapse of the N.K.P.A. All intelligence gathered was immediately forwarded to Tokyo. Things were “lookin’ good.”

Thanksgiving Day dawned clear and cold. The mess tent was emitting some wonderful aromas. It was an excellent meal, even got a cigar, but a meal to this day I have guilt feelings about when I think back on the events soon to come.

On the Sunday following, the Chinese Peoples Army hit our northern forces with 33 Divisions, over 300,000 men! And from a G2 estimate, this was a conservative figure. The face of this was about to change dramatically.

As the days passed and the Intel/Reports drifted in, we could see the inevitable approaching. The X Corps, code name “Jade,” was now faced with the decision of what to do with its three Infantry Divisions: The 1st Marine “Western,” 3rd Infantry “Kaiser” and 7th Infantry “Bayonet.” I recall X Corps Commander Major General Ed Almond, standing in the doorway of the Crypto Room with his Aides, his face told it all. On November 29th Corps Operation Order #8 was issued, stopping all Corps advances and ordering withdrawal of all Corps forces to the Hamhung area. The Blue/White X was courting disaster.

In all of this confusion, we were constantly trying to orient positions on maps and encode same. For instance, we would receive a reference for the Changjin Reservoir and the Pujon Reservoir, which were the Korean names. Then we would receive reports from the Chosin and Fusen Reservoirs, which were the Japanese names for the Changjin and Pujon.

On December 16, 1950, all Corps

On December 24th the last units of the 3rd left Hungnam. The United Nations Forces in Northeast Korea were completely evacuated from Hungnam by 1400 hours on December 24, 1950.

forces in Hamhung were ordered to withdraw to the port city of Hungnam, approximately five miles eastward. Not a big deal, just a short jeep ride through snow, mud and thousands of refugees fleeing North Korea. Needless to say, it was an impossible task to know just who were legitimate folks and who were the enemy.

On December 19th, the Corps Command Post moved into a cave along the Hungnam beach, we remained in the large Corps Headquarters Building to man the Crypto, teletype and radio equipment.

On December 21st, adding to Corps problems, our radio and cable sections were destroyed by fire and most of our communication equipment was ruined. Intelligence reports were rapidly coming in warning of an increased likelihood of a major enemy attack. The harbor was fast filling with ships of all shapes and sizes.

South Korean Units were deporting Hungnam as quickly as they could be shuttled out to waiting ships. The 7th Infantry Division was ordered to proceed to the dock area for loading on transport vessels. General Almond chose the 3rd Infantry Division to be the final defending force for the Hungnam Beachhead.

On December 22nd I climbed the hill behind the Corps Headquarters Building with my pitiful camera, not sure if the roll of film in it was still good. The weather was overcast and a "chilly" 16F. To my immediate front was the harbor. I could see a big two stacker, a troopship I later learned was the "General Mann" that I rode home on after WWII. Small world ain't it?

To the back of me, I could hear and see the flash of Divarty weapons firing and overhead. I could actually see incoming projectiles from the Battleship "Mighty Mo." She was out of sight, just over the horizon, but at night you could see the flash of her "Big Boys" and hear the shells on their way to some Divarty FO's target. I just felt good knowing she was out there doing her part for our boys. God Bless the United States Navy. On, December 23rd the Outpost Line was abandoned and the 3rd Infantry withdrew to it's final defensive parameter.

On December 24th the last units of the 3rd left Hungnam. The United Nations Forces in Northeast Korea were completely evacuated from Hungnam by 1400 hours on December 24, 1950.

Engineers had blown most of the remaining munitions and fuel, what was left was wired to be detonated from far out in the harbor. The resulting explosions were horrendous and the shock waves literally knocked you over if you were standing on a ship's deck watching. What didn't detonate was taken care of by a couple of Destroyers. We didn't leave them much.

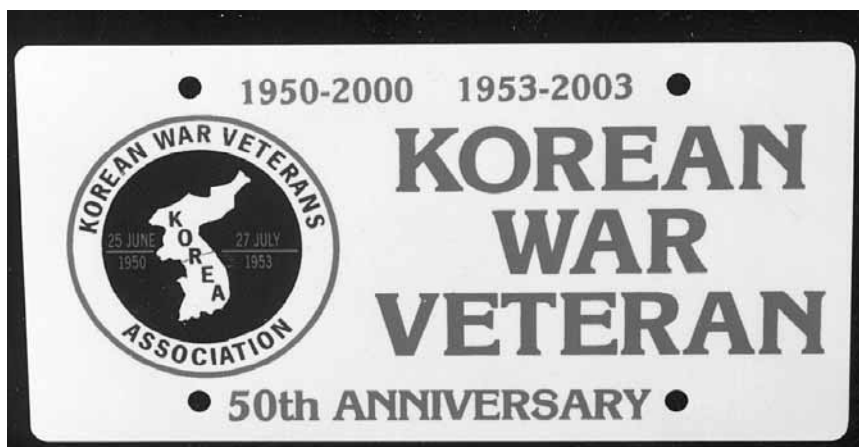
As I wind this down, there is something that I have always wanted to say but have never had the proper setting to do so. Thousands of words have been written of the horrors that befell our troops in the closing weeks of this engagement. What I saw and went through was nothing in comparison to what these brave men endured. May a 76-year old express his heartfelt gratitude, admiration and pride for you who so unselfishly served the X Corps and your nation. I stand back and salute you.

In November of 1997, my wife and I were so fortunate to be asked to make the Revisit Korea journey. As I looked at the skyline of Seoul all I could think of was the last time I had looked upon this city; fire, smoke, blood and rubble. I thought back some 47 years ago to a far distant harbor where so many of us were fortunate enough to be evacuated. I looked upon this beautiful city, such a change, such a proud people. I am grateful for the minute part I may have had in this rebirth.

Truly the "Land of the Morning Calm" has risen from the ashes. Well done, all.

*John M. Border, 5675 N. Feland Ave.
Fresno, CA 93711. Tel: 209-432-5675.*

**50th Anniversary of the Korean War
Commemorative License Plate**



License Plate is in beautiful metallic blue on a white background

\$11.95 includes S & H, allow 3 weeks for Delivery.

Send To: K. V. Quartermaster, 1611 North Michigan Ave., Danville, IL 61834-6239.

"We Called It War"

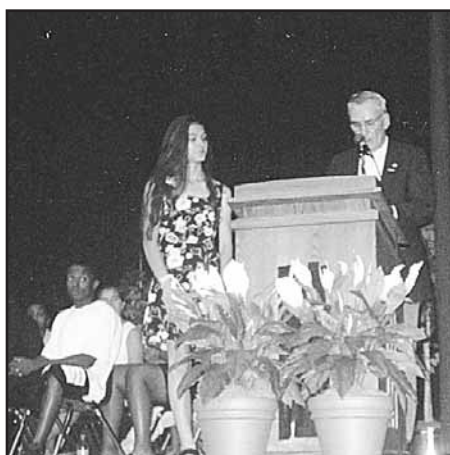
A book about one man's rifle platoon against the Chinese and North Korean Communists in the Korean War. This is a book that tells it like it was on the battlefield of Korea. To order, send \$11.95 plus \$2.50 for S & H to:

Denzil Batson
158 Brooks Street
Republic, MO 65738
You may order by phone at:
417-732-7423 or email at:
BatsonDenz@aol.com

Ex-POW awards scholarship from book proceeds

Bill Allen, Korean Ex-POW and member of the Suncoast Chapter KWVA and his wife Helen awarded Marsida Rajta a graduating senior at Lakewood High School a \$1,000 scholarship from the proceeds of his book "My Old Box Of Memories". This young lady carried a 3.7 point average in school. The remarkable thing is that she has been in the U. S. only two years. She was born in Albania, she also told me that her family came to America for the sole purpose of getting an education for her and her brother. Marsida won another award which would give her one year paid tuition at St. Petersburg Junior College, where she will be enrolled as a freshman.

This was the type of person that we wanted to help. We were not concerned with the top student of the class. I knew they would be well taken care of as far as money. We sought someone who was just a step behind the top of the class and give them that little bump that would get them started. Marsida was that person.



Bill Allen awards Marsida Rajta, a graduating senior at Lakewood High School, a \$1,000 scholarship from the proceeds of his book "My Old Box of Memories."

Bill will begin to raise money through the sale of his book for a student who will qualify for another scholarship. Bill and Helen will select a student and award them with \$1,000. The more money obtained through book sales than the larger the scholarship.

Sweet 16...



I was one of the under-aged kids in the military in the Korean war. I joined the Marine I Corps on August 2, 1950 at age 16. I got to Korea October 1, 1951 and spent 13 months in Rifle Co. C., 1st Bn., 1st Marine Division. It was quite an experience and I loved it. I would do it again if I had to do it all over. I am enclosing a picture of me on line in North Korea 1951. I am holding a captured Russian automatic rifle. William E. Cranston, Sr., 9151 W. Greenway Rd., #234, Peoria, AZ. 85381 Tel: 623-933-3146.

POW/MIA UPDATE from page 28

base consisting of sighting information on American POWs, including many who died while in captivity. Researchers have already reviewed more than 3,300 debriefings, and these records are now being transferred from Ft. Meade to the National Archives. SPAR personnel are determining how to best review the remaining debriefing records to complete this important database.

Meeting of U.S. Commissioners of U.S. - Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs

The U.S. Commissioners of the U.S. - Russia Joint Commission met recently to prepare for an upcoming plenary session of the joint commission. Leaders of family organizations attended this meeting at the invitation of commissioners. Retired Army Maj. Gen. Roland Lajoie, U.S. co-chairman, chaired the meeting.

The joint commission engages in both archival research and field interviews in Russia to determine the fate of unaccounted-for Americans from World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, and the Vietnam War. Its major project at this time is investigating leads on the sightings of U.S. servicemen in the Soviet-era Gulag prison system.

The commission's most notable achievement this past year concerned the discovery of the crash site of a World War II U.S. Navy PV-1 in the Kamchatka Peninsula. A full-scale excavation of this site is planned for next summer.

The next Plenary Session of the U.S. - Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs will be held in Moscow on November 14-15, 2000.

2001 Family Update Schedule

Date	Location:
Jan 20	Las Vegas, NV
Feb 24	San Francisco, CA
Mar 17	San Antonio, TX
Apr 21	Cheyenne, WY
May 19	Atlanta, GA
Aug 18	St. Paul, MN
Sept 15	Providence, RI
Oct 20	Orlando, FL
Nov 17	Little Rock, AR

BOOKS from page 6

\$8.00 to produce each book). In spiral-bound format, some 73 pages. Font is easy-to-read 12-point Brougham. Cover & back are pebble-textured heavy vinyl. You may read excerpts on the Internet, at the Ink People's Arts Online Website: www.inkpeople.org Click on *Robert McCune's Korean War Book* web page. Mail checks to: P.O. Box 569, Trinidad, CA 95570.

(Robert, I did not have time to read your book for this review. Also the book I received did not look like an original for maps and photos were taped on and one was missing. As far as your Ad and the donation, the only thing I found was an order for back issues, thus that is the donation recorded by me. I suggest you resend me the 4 1/2 x 7 ad again. I will run your ad on your word that you paid for the ad. I will run it for 2 issues. I would also like to have the final book as printed for my library which eventually will be turned over to our National Korean War Museum and Library in Tuscola, IL Editor.)



Unforgotten

By Daniel J. Meador

Extract from the novel *Unforgotten* continued from Sept-Oct 2000 Issue.

Suddenly, he thought he heard his name being called, distantly and softly. He stood still. No, he must have imagined it. But then he heard it again, quiet but unmistakable. 'John.' It came from behind in a low, tentative-sounding female voice. 'John Winston.'

He turned around. There, standing a dozen feet away, in the dawning light, was a woman in a sleeveless summer dress. It took him only a second or two to recognize the swept-back auburn hair and well-remembered face.

For several silent moments, he stared at her. Then in a hushed voice he asked, "Henny?"

"Yes. It's Henny." There was that slightly husky Charleston accent he had found so appealing.

He moved toward her, and she came forward to meet him. He took both her hands in his. He saw her eyes searching

his, eyes filled with sadness. Without thinking, he threw his arms around her waist and pulled her against him. Her arms went around his neck, and they hung together for a long moment.

He released her, and she backed up a step. A tear rolled down her cheek, and he brushed it away. "I was here all day yesterday but never saw you. I knew you must be here somewhere, so I came back."

"I almost didn't come at all."

Her lips parted as though to speak, but she hesitated, searching for words. "Do you remember when I saw you last in the hospital?"

"I could hardly forget it."

"Well, telling you not to come to Charleston was very painful. I wish I'd never done it. I did it to make Mania happy and out of a sense of duty. She was so sick. She died last year. I've wanted to see you ever since, but. . ." She broke off and looked away.

He took her hands again. "I'm sorry to hear about your mother." He paused and smiled faintly. "I can't believe this. It's only by chance that I'm here. And here you are! It's got to be a miracle."

She laughed softly. "I've heard that miracles actually do happen."

After a momentary silence, and feeling a bit awkward, he said, "I was just studying the memorial. Come over and look at these statues."

They strolled around the nineteen figures and walked the length of the long black granite wall with its etchings of men and women and equipment.

"Those statues look so real, and the way they're spread out gives a sense of movement," she said. "The wind seems to be whipping around them."

"That's the way it really was."

They strolled up to the apex, toward the single flagpole, where on a low wall appeared the inscription "Freedom is not free." On an opposite wall was inscribed the price:

Killed in Action

U.S.A. – 54,246

U.N. – 27,246

Missing

U.S.A. – 8,177

U.N. – 469,267

Prisoners of War

U.S.A. – 7,140

U.N. – 92,770

Wounded

U.S.A. – 103,284

U.N. – 1,060,453

They studied these numbers for a full minute before either spoke. Then she said, very quietly, "I feel like I'm at my father's grave."

On the granite terrace a little farther on they came to the inscription carved into the flat stone:

**Our nation honors her sons and daughters
who answered the call to defend a land they
never knew and a people they never met
1950 Korea 1953**

"You know," John said slowly as he reread the words, I feel as though I did come to know those people and their land. What it means to say is that we didn't know them before the war."

They walked slowly around the pool of remembrance without talking, taking in the whole setting from different angles. I think it's time for a good breakfast," John said. "What do you say?" She smiled. "Sounds mighty good."

They walked back toward the tent city. Ahead, the tall, peaked shaft of the Washington Monument reflected the first sunlight of the day. As they neared the tents, they caught the music from a memorial service. A female soloist with a voice as powerful as the one at the dedication ceremony was singing "Amazing Grace." They paused to listen. She came to the line he best remembered, belting it out with maximum volume: "Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come. . . ." They stood, hearing the rest of the words: "'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home."

They went into the computer tent, to the batik of computers with the KIA data. John punched in the name of Bruce Waller, and when his name and information flashed tip on the screen he printed it out. He gave the sheet to Henny and stood by quietly while she read it.

They came out and listened again to the memorial service, still under way. Now a choral group was singing the

piece composed especially for the occasion. The massed voices climaxed in the key line, drawing out the words with heightened volume: "Freedom is not! ... freedom is not! ... free!"

Henny folded the computer printout and put it in her pocket book. "Time for breakfast," John said. She nodded, and they turned and walked on toward Constitution Avenue.

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



Epics Retreats

By Stephan Tanner

From 1776 to the Evacuation of Saigon

In between the glorious triumphs and noble catastrophes of military history lies a neglected stepchild: retreat. A despised option for both commanders and troops, a retreat under pressure can nevertheless be a more fascinating event than a battle itself, and provide fully as much drama as a victory.

Epic Retreats spans the modern era—from horses to helicopters—with highly detailed analyses of seven campaigns. With a masterful grasp of his subjects, Stephen Tanner depicts confident armies on the verge of triumph, and then follows their path to the brink of the abyss. As misfortunes unfold, objectives insidiously shift from victory to mere survival. The strong are required to protect the weak, and fighting men are seen to draw upon ever greater resources of courage to withstand factors beyond their immediate control.

This work begins with Washington's darkest hours during the American Revolution. Napoleon's difficulties in Russia are examined, followed by the gallant flight to freedom of the Nez Perce Indians in the American West.

In World War II, the speed and scale of warfare increased dramatically, and the British were barely able to escape from the Continent before an onslaught of German panzers. Two years later, the Germans found themselves in an even more perilous situation deep inside Soviet Russia.

The American Eighth Army was sur-

prised in Korea, its citizen soldiers unable, at first, to cope with a gigantic Chinese offensive. Theirs, in distance, was the longest retreat in American history, but it was of far shorter duration than the retreat that followed in Indochina. In Vietnam, the Americans excruciatingly tried to extricate themselves from a distant war against a diehard foe that they finally lacked will, if not means, to conquer.

Throughout these vividly drawn accounts, Stephen Tanner traces the human dimension of warfare as seen through the prism of strategic adversity. He finds battlefield heroism not the exclusive province of victors, but demonstrated across time and national lines by men who faced the greatest challenges. If retreat is the antithesis of victory, it also indicates a stubborn refusal to surrender.

As demonstrated in these pages, the withdrawal of an army in distress can lead to utter ruin; however, it can also lead to new opportunities and a dramatic reversal of fortune. *Epic Retreats* provides an insightful perspective on military history for specialists and general readers alike.

Stephen Tanner is a New York-based writer who specializes in military history. He has also written *Refuge from the Reich: American Airmen and Switzerland in World War II*, and was the leading contributor to *Great Raids in History: From Drake to Desert One*.

Combined Publishing, 476 W. Elm St., P.O. Box 307, Conshohocken, PA 19428 Tel: 610-828-2595 Fax: 610-828-2603 Orders. 800-418-6065 E-Mail: <combined@combinedpublishing.com> Internet: www.combinedpublishing.com Book price \$25.00

(Another great book for historians and veterans. 53 pages on the epic retreat in Korea and 6 others major retreats throughout the book. Some photos and maps.)



A Return to Glory

By Bill McWilliams

Foreword

The four national military academies, commonly known as West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy, and

the Coast Guard Academy belong to the American people. From the American people, from all walks of life, come the young men and women who in four years at the academies are educated and trained to deliberately high ideals and standards to become professional, career officers in our nation's Armed Forces. In *A Return to Glory: The Untold Story of Honor, Dishonor, and Triumph at the United States Military Academy, 1950-53*, Bill McWilliams brings us an extraordinary period history, and true story, of America's oldest national military academy, its cadets, graduates, and the citizen soldiers and airmen its graduates fought beside and led during the Korean War.

Most books about the Military Academy have been devoted to its founding and earlier eras in its nearly 200 years' existence, histories of the institution over extended periods, biographies of its most famous graduates and West Point's influence in their lives, unusual events, or stories of particular graduation classes in war. *A Return to Glory* is decidedly different. Seven years in research and writing, it is a comprehensive, in-depth, wartime history, written to interest readers of high school through retirement age, especially those unfamiliar with the Academy, its mission, and life in our nation's military services.

The prologue recreates the era of the Korean War and brings us into the story's setting. Then, as we follow the lives of the people who lived the events, the narrative transports us through a wide variety of scenes: from hometowns to West Point; to offices and cadet barracks; to conference rooms and academic classrooms; to football practice fields and stadiums; to the parade ground - the Plain; to military training grounds for future officers; to the Department of the Army at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.; into the White House; through the skies over the continental United States, Korea, the Sea of Japan, the Japanese main island of Honshu; to air and ground battlefields; and back home.

Integrity, truth, honor, ethics, duty, leadership, command, competition, victory and defeat on athletic fields, in the nation's ground and air battles, and in war, are at the heart of the story. These subjects are timeless, for they are, and

will remain, always at the center of education and training for officer candidates and professional officer corps in America's Armed Forces.

In reading of the honor incident of 1951, and its tragic aftermath, we learn for the first time why and how two young men, sophomores at the Academy, courageously accepted the responsibilities and lifelong burdens of exposing organized cheating in academics, an activity which had, for some years, been eroding the foundation on which the Academy education rested. We learn why and how the Academy and the Department of the Army made decisions which later became controversial, in what, to that time, was an event unprecedented in Academy history. As we absorb the impacts of the search for evidence in the undercover investigation, the formal investigations which followed, and later the August 3, 1951 public announcements, we also read for the first time how the Academy sought to avoid a repeat of the incident, while we receive a capsule history of the evolving honor code and honor system, learn the code's and system's purposes, how both were taught and passed from class to class in the Corps of Cadets, and how they were applied in building the foundation expressed in the Academy motto, "Duty, Honor, Country" - the foundation on which the cadets' education rests.

In reading of cadet life during the era, we are taken through the hectic first day at West Point in July of 1951, on through plebe year, and the transition to cadet leaders, then finally commissioned officers. We learn the effects of the war on the Academy and the cadets' training,

while gaining insight to the cadet education: academics, military and leadership training, physical education, athletics, and character development, the moral underpinning of respected, successful leaders.

In reliving the Army football team's precipitous fall and rise from the ashes of the 1951 honor incident, we read a brief history of Academy football; biographical sketches of its most famous architects; the changing nature of the game; and the links between athletics, character, leadership, and a life in service - while being inspired by the Corps of Cadets, their delightful good humor, and their Army teams of 1951-53, in one of the great untold sports stories of the 20th century.

For those who have never fought in war, or witnessed firsthand war's devastation as seen and felt by the junior officer and America's citizen soldiers - the GIs, the stories of Lieutenants David R. Hughes, Richard G. Inman, Richard T. Shea, Jr., and the men they fought beside and led, are powerful examples of the responsibilities they carried in war. The descriptions of battles in which they fought, and men's reactions to war's fury and chaos, are vivid and realistic. Lieutenant Hughes and K Company of the 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, in far North Korea near the Yalu River, and on hills 339 and 347, in the fall of 1950 and '51 - and the men of the 7th Division's 17th and 32d Infantry Regiments on Pork Chop Hill in July of 1953, three weeks before the armistice, give us clear pictures of war fought on the Korean peninsula. The experiences and writings of Lieutenants Shea and

Inman, and the courage and loving devotion of their wives and families, bring balance and poignant reality to lives of service, which tragically, all too often require the ultimate sacrifice.

From Korea, three years after the nation's youngest service, the Air Force, became an independent service, and before the birth of the Air Force Academy in 1954, comes the story of Lieutenant William J. "Pat" Ryan, his family, and the 93rd Bomb Squadron's B-29 missions in May, July and August of 1953. In those missions we see the realities of war fought from the air, and the hazards of missions intended to keep the hard won peace.

A Return to Glory, while telling us of the United States Military Academy at the midpoint of the world's most violent century in history, speaks to us today - and will tomorrow. For in the telling, the work is replete with implied lessons useful in educating the whole person and in developing character and leadership. As the Academy nears its 200th birthday, during the period commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, this book stands as a memorable tribute to those who fought and gave their lives in that conflict, a celebration of all that is good and right about West Point - and all Americans who lend their sons and daughters in defense of our nation, democracy, and free peoples everywhere.

*John A. Wickham, Jr.
General, United States Army (Retired)
Chief of Staff, 1983-87*

(I must say I was totally surprised at the Beauty of the front cover and the quality inside after turning the first page. Beautiful aerial photo of the Academy.

I have started reading this book but I must be honest there are 1,118 pages, many photos and maps that describe several years of the Academy history, the Korean War and the classmates that turned dishonor to "A Return To Glory." I chose to do this short book review after reading a few chapters and scanning the book because the advertisement is in the July-Aug (page 44) issue and will run again in this issue (page 44). In order to be well versed on the Korean War and its veterans, this is a must-read book. The book can be purchased from Warwick House Publishers Tel: 804-846-1200 or Fax: 804-846-0300. See Ad.)

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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.



96th Field Artillery Bn. Assn. is still looking for members that served in Korea from Sept. 1950 - July 1958. We have over 300 members located and our Assn. is active with reunions biannually. For information please contact Arnold Anderson, HC83 Box 116A, Custer, SD 57730. Tel: 605-673-6313



Looking for **sailors whose ship was sunk or damaged** in the Korean War 1950-1953. Purpose – A book of individual or ship stories of that event with photos if possible. Contact Mr. Ron Bennett, 2126 Benson Avenue, Apartment 4D, Brooklyn, NY 11214. Telephone 718-266-7484 or e-mail ronmar@jps.net



I am looking for ways of contacting Korean War Veterans who may have been at the **USO shows during that war**. Contact Scott Gray Dezorzi at e-mail <LSSdi@aol.com>



Looking for Korean War veterans who may have been at the **USO shows that featured Marilyn Monroe**. Looking for documentation regarding her performance. Or if you know someone who may have been at those shows contact Scott Gray Dezorzi at 916- 921-1616 (*corrected number*) <LSSdi@aol.com>.



SSgt. or MSgt. Natzio A. Bonina, 3rd Infantry Division, 15th Regiment, received the Korean Service Medal with 5 Battle Stars, Presidential Unit Citation. Pop was one of the few soldiers I ever met that wore the CIB with 2 stars, even Westmoreland didn’t have that. He also received a Purple Heart (with 4 Oak leaf clusters) and either the Silver and or the Bronze Star with V device, he displayed both, I am just not positive if they both came from Korea. Some one, maybe an Uncle told me once that the Silver Star had been a CMH nomination that was reduced. It was difficult to get Pop to talk much, especially as he got older. He also served in the South Pacific during WWII, but as a USM Gunnery Sgt., on board the U.S.S. Yorktown until the Battle of the Coral Sea, when he received 30 days Survivor leave. The Yorktown of course returned to be sunk at Midway a few weeks

later. Then attached at some point to Colonel Carlson and the “Raiders”, he may have received a Purple Heart in that campaign also. It is my understanding that his records were destroyed in the fire at St. Louis in the late 60’s or early 70’s. The other real sting fact I remember is him speaking of a battle field commission to Lieutenant in Korea. He said that before the paper work had been put through he was wounded in an attack, where he was the sole survivor of a direct mortar hit. His injuries were fairly severe, and included some damage to his ear drums, and he was sent at some point to Tokyo, I assume after a MASH unit stabilized him. As he explained it, the Army position was that to resolve the commission issue, he would have to return to Panmunjum, the front lines, and he told me he felt like he had used another of his 9 lives already, and didn’t want to tempt fate by returning to Korea. Finally he volunteered at 41 years young to go to Vietnam with the M.A.G.G. Unit in 1962 - 63, I think that is where he got the 2nd. CIB star and the 4th Purple Heart. I am very proud of my father’s service record, and would like the details to perpetuate his memory, as he succumbed to cancer May 18, 1988. Contact Robert A. Bonina at e-mail <rbonina@wac.net>



Howard E Kennedy served with Btry A 52 FA 24 Div. Korea, Jan 4, 1956. When I came home I served in a Reserve outfit. I was told in 1960 all records were burned up. I am trying to find my records during Korea. Contact Howard E Kennedy, RR 2 Box 11-1A, Walnut KS 66780 Tel: 316- 354-6495



Looking for information about my uncle **Cpl. Paul Barnett** A/1/5 CO USMC who was killed outside of Seoul in 1950. The details of his death was when his unit was engaged in the hills northwest of Seoul on 27 September. Contact Scott Gibson USMC at e-mail <mailto:gibson@geewiz.net>.



Our unit was in Korea in 1950-1951. **27th Ftr Escort Wing.** (F 84E) I would like to locate anyone from the 27th Air Police that was with us at that time. We were at K2, K14 and K8 as well in Japan. Contact Ronanl A. Dugan at e-mail <rondugan@fix.net>



I am currently searching for the relatives of **Angel Villegas**, who entered the service from Santa Cruz County, Arizona and probably was from that area. I am also searching for the next of kin of Tony Soto, KIA 10/25/51. Tony was from Los Angeles County and must have been from the LA basin. Contact Kevin Wolff, P.O. Box 718, Mancos, Colorado 81328 or e-mail at <wolffcarvers@frontier.net>



Looking to hear from anyone who served with **Sam Jacobellis** in Korea 1952-53 with the 176th AFA Btry. C. Contact Sam Jacobellis, 13 Field Road, Danbury, CT 06811 or e-mail address <samgolf@webtv.net>



Gene Chavanne, 501st Com. Recon Group please e-mail

Steve G. Wessler at <caucus9999@aol.com>. He served in both the 329th and 326th Com Recon Units as well as the 501st Group during the period 1951-1953.

★

My dad Tony Falo is a Korean War vet and is looking for some of his old Air Force buddies. One friend he wants to contact is **Walter Henry Bauer**, Surveyor, 18th Air Force Fighter/Bomber Squadron, 18th (or 78th) Air Installation Organization Stationed at Pusan (Dogpatch) and then Osani. Served between September 1952 and August 1953. Contact Gerald Falo at e-mail jer3ry@aol.com or 900 Cathedral Street #309, Baltimore, MD 21201

★

Looking for anyone who may have known my father **Matthew William Hendle**; T&T 101st Signal Bn.; 9th Corp. APO 264; Fifth Army Area; Served from 10/50 to 3/52. I would like to correspond with anyone that may have known him and find out more about my Father. He passed away on October 31, 1975, when I was 3 years old. A picture would be nice to share if any exist. Contact Matthew W. Hendle at e-mail <Hendle_Matthew@lacoe.edu>

★

Looking for anyone that served in the **6th or 13th Trans Helicopter Co.** in Korea in 1952-1953. Contact Bob Lefkowitz, 1715 Whitehall Dr., Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 33324 Tel: 954-473-5493 or e-mail <lesubo@webtv.net>.

★

Former Marine Jack Carty working with fellow tanker Jerry Ravino on book detailing history of the **Flame Platoon, Hqs Co., 1st Tank Bn.**, 1st Marine Div., Korea, 1950-53. Would like to hear from any former Flamers, particularly those involved in the formation of the Platoon at Camp Pendleton, and veterans of Wolmi-do, Inchon, Seoul, The Chosin and Luke's Castle. My e-mail address is <jkstrws(@snip.net>

★

I am doing research on a story I am writing about the Korean War and my father. I would be interested to talk to anyone who was on Heartbreak Ridge (Hill 931) on the nights of September 4th, 5th, and 6th 1951. I am especially interested in talking to anyone who may have known my Dad, **Pvt. Rayford Finus Lunsford**. He was often known as Arkansas Ray back then. He has since passed away. A black Sergeant saved his life on Sept. 6th, but Dad did not recall his name due to his being severely wounded that day, for which he received a Purple Heart. Anyone knowing or recalling anything about these nights, this man, or this incident. Contact D.R. Lunsford, P.O. Box 7021 Santa Monica, CA 90406-702, E-mail <WildeDoug @ aol.com> Fax 310-398-9953.

★

Looking for any one who might have the address of **Captain Paul J. Wentworth**, Company Commander of the 421st Medical Collecting Company Separate in Korea in 1951-1952. Contact Harry H. Arzouman 26 Mainsail Drive, Corona Del Mar, CA 92625

★

I am interested in the life of my stepfather. **Pieter Brakkee** born on 19-12-1915 in Rotterdam (Holland) He was serving the Dutch KNIL-army in Indonesia in 1938 until 1949. Then he returned to Holland and served in Royal Dutch Army until 1968. In 1976 he married my mother and in 1977 he died. From his stories I know that he spent time in Korea as a soldier, but when read his summary of his time in the Dutch army, there is no mentioning of his being in Korea. In his belongings I found something that suggested that he was member of the International Korea Veterans Association. My mother told me that he revisited Korea with Korea veterans. The Dutch Korea veterans organization told me that he, by there knowledge, never jointed the Dutch army in Korea. Help me to find out if and when he was in Korea and was he ever member of the International Korea Association or did he have international connections regarding Korea. Contact Mr. H. J. van Oosten Zwarteweg 19-4, 8017 AS Zwolle, Netherlands. E-mail: h.vanoosten@worldonline.nl

★

I am webmaster of a site for Korea Era Seabees who served on Guam or Kwajalein islands during the Korean War. It is my belief that most of the Kwajalein service vets are deceased due to fall-out-related disease from the atomic and H-bomb testing in the area in the early to mid 1950s. All **Kwajalein survivors and Guam Seabee vets** check in at MCB10KoreaSeabees.com or contact Bob Markey, Sr. at e-mail addresses <markeysr@bell-south.net>, <bmarkeysr@MCB10KoreaSeabees.com> and <bmarkeysr@WellingtonHomes.bizland.com> or Fax: 561-439-7009 Tel: 561-439-1717

★

Anyone stationed on Cho-do Island, (Ch'o-do) K-54, during 1952 or 1953, especially members of the **607th and 608th AC&W Squadrons**. I have some names and addresses and would like to have some more contacts, and a reunion, if we live long enough. Ed O'Neill, 396 North St, Hyannis, MA 02601. E-mail <oboe@capecod.net>.

★

Looking for **Lester O. Putnam**, Korea Air Material Unit Kunsan & Pusan, April 1951-Oct. 1951 and Max Weissenberg PFC, 24th Inf. Div. attached to Port Battalion, U.S. Army, Kunsan, Korea, April 1951-July 1951. Contact Peter Hopp, (ex Sgt, USAF) Tel: 843-842-9470 or e-mail <nor@hargray.com>.

★

I am very interested in hearing from anyone who served in **Love Co., 9th Inf. Reg., 2nd Inf. Div.** from mid 52 through mid 53, especially my good friends Alan Conn, and Harry "Tony" Pettoni. Contact Gary Cox, 11790 Grant St., Northglenn, CO. 80233 Tel: 303-452-7701 or e-mail <gryclrc@uswest.net>.

★

Trying to locate all Survivors of the **GHQ Raiders** and in particular the GHQ 1st Raider Co. Contact CWO Delmer E. Davis USA,Ret., 8405 Shaver Drive, El Paso, TX 79925. Tel: 915-779-3249 or E-mail <dodavis2@juno.com>.

★

Please advise any information known concerning **Cpl. Richard Bruce Oswald**, Co., B, 9th Inf. Regt., 2nd Inf. Div.,

reported captured by the Chinese Nov. 30, 1950 and dying in a prison camp Jan. 21 or 27, 1951. This information is desired by his close comrades in 1949 and 1950 while assigned to Detachment 4, 3420 ASU, Fort Bragg, North Carolina and his brother Donald Oswald at 6095 E. Cherry Valley Turnpike, Lafayette, NY 13084-9425 or contact John W. Huff, 30 W 305 Claymore Lane, Naperville, IL 60563, Tel: 630-983-6103



I am trying to contact veterans of the **battle of Chipyong-ni**. I am writing a leadership paper using the regimental commander (then Col. Freeman) as my focus. Specifically I am looking for stories that describe his personal intervention, presence, orders or influence and the resulting effect on the battle. Pictures from the actual defensive preparation or the battle would also be helpful. I had the good fortune to lead the officers of the 44th Engineer Battalion which supports 2nd Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division on a staff ride to Chipyong-ni in early Feb of this year. At the battalion S-3, I wanted the young Lt.'s and Cpt.'s to study the terrain and try to understand the battle as it was fought and won. Contact Keith Landry, MAJ, US Army, #3 Mordecai Drive, Watervliet Arsenal, Watervliet, NY 12189-4050 or e-mail <klandry@nycap.rr.com>.



Looking for former members of the **227th AAA Group, HQ Btry** who served in Korea during 1952. Contact William A. Fletcher 2509 Mitchell, Clovis, CA 93611-5935. Tel: 559-297-0645



Did you know **Cpl. Alfred Lopes** of Hq. Btry 15th FA Bn., 2nd Inf. Div. He became a MIA on Feb. 13, 1951 when his outfit got involved in heavy combat as his unit was breaking an opposing forces roadblock in the vicinity of Hoensong, Korea. When his unit arrived in the town of Wonju he was missing. He was believed a POW as stated by returning POW's. If you know of any information regarding his situation please contact 1st Lt. Robert Lopes USMC (Ret.) Tel: 909-245-4808. P.O. Box 1273, Wildomar, CA 92595



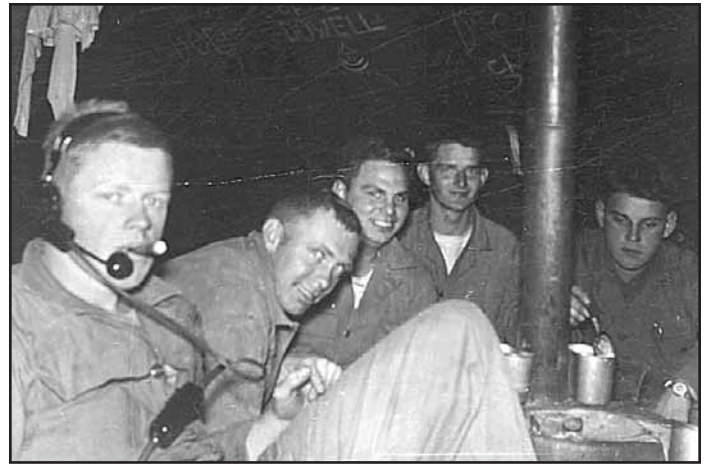
Looking for information on the **pay scales of enlisted personnel** during the years 1950-1953. Also, amount of combat pay. Will pay reasonable price for any expenses incurred. Contact Bruce J. Randall, 12135 Mitchell Ave., Number 349, Los Angeles, CA 90066-4542



My friend **PFC Marshall McCook** was killed in action on July 18, 1953. He was a member of the 279th Inf. Reg. 45th Inf. Div. Co. G. I would like to know how he was killed and where in North Korea. Anyone with information regarding the above contact Richard J. May, 33 Hudson Drive, Hyde Park, New York 12538-2014. Tel: 845-229-2531



I am enclosing a picture taken in Korea with some of my buddies. I would like to know if any one out there could recognize faces and names. If so, I would like to hear from them. We were in the **38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Inf. Div.** 1952-1953.



Members of the 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Inf. Div. 1952-1953.

Contact "Doc" Claude H. Bradley, 1102 Winona SW Roanoke, Virginia 24015-5330



Looking for members of **Provisional Flight E**, a small unit supporting F86F Sabre Jets flying out of Chitose, Hokkaido, Japan during 1952-1953. Contact Wes Jewsbury, 5 Rolling Ridge Road, Millstadt, IL 62260. Tel: 618-476-3660



Soldier aboard *Gen. M.L. Hersey*.

I am looking for this soldier. I took this picture aboard the **troop ship General M.L. Hersey**. We are on our way to the States from Korea. The time was June 1953. I did not learn his name. Contact Charles O. Weeks, 3656 Old Arcata Road, Sp. 21, Eureka, CA 95503-9420. Tel: 707-441-1693



I am looking for anyone who served with me in Korea in 1946 to 1948 in the **35th Trk Company** in Seoul. Also people who served with me in the 7th Reg. 3rd Div. either in A or D Company in 1950-1951. Contact John P. Kiernan, 62 Mc Couns Lane, Oyster Bay, NY 11771-3106



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.

Images of Korea



Good fellowship - Beer ration - June 1952 - Left to right: Lt. Robert Murto, MC, USNR; Lt. Bob Ike; Lt. Bob Frost (Canadian Liaison Officer) from our right flank; Lt. Sam Sanders; Lt. William Latham, MC, USNR; George ? - American Red Cross; Lt. Ed Penick, MC (dental) USNR.



Star of the Sea Orphanage - Inchon - Rare picture of Sister Philomena, known by many Army, Navy and Marines stationed in the Inchon area. Sister Philomena, an Irish nun, ran the orphanage.



Jeep ambulance, March 1952



DMZ east of Panmunjon, Spring 1952



Patio built in ravine just south of Inchon - all the comforts of home - barbecue, coffee table, flowers, white sand from beach in Imjin River - overhead artillery barrages.



3rd Battalion Aid Station, 1st Regt, Chief Burly MC USN (on right) north of Imjin River, Spring 1952



Dr. Bae-Yung-Ho, Korean doctor stationed with us at 3rd Bn., 1st Reg, 1st Marine Div., January - April 1952.

Photos by William E. Latham, MD

Dr. William Latham was a Navy Lt., stationed with the 3rd Bn., 1st Regiment, 1st Marine Division from October 1951 to October 1952, with time in Korea - January 1, 1952 to October 1952.

(Thank you William for photos.)

Update

Korea Revisit

By Warren Wiedhahn Chairman, KWVA Revisit Program,
Pusan - Inchon - Seoul - "Chosin" 1950

Dear fellow veterans:

I have just returned from a very successful 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the "Northern Winter Campaigns" of 1950 in Seoul, Korea. Both the 8th Army in the West and X Corps in the East were remembered and commemorated by both the United States Forces Korea (USFK) and The Republic of Korea (ROK) forces. The US Guest of Honor was General Raymond G. Davis, USMC (Ret) who was awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery in the "Chosin" (Changjin) Reservoir campaign in December, 1950. (General Davis is also the Honorary Life President of KWVA.) Chaplain Walter Hiskett, Chaplain Corps, U.S. Navy (Ret) was another invited guest. Chaplain Hiskett was an enlisted "grunt" during the "Chosin" campaign who, after the war, went on to graduate from college and join the Navy as a Chaplain. His talks were very inspiring when you consider where he came from and what he did in later life.

General Davis and I had an opportunity to personally call on the President of the Korean Veterans Association, General Lee, Sang Hoon, ROKA (Ret), while in Seoul. As you know, this is the association that administers the entire ROK government "Revisit Korea" program. You will be very happy to hear that LTC Lee, Jong Bong, ROKA (Ret), who administers the program for General Lee, has confirmed that the Revisit quotas for 2001 through 2003 will be increased. They will appear in our quota assignments in January or February next year.

Consequently, if you are not already signed up for a future quota you should fill out your application and return it to us as soon as possible. As the administer of the Revisit Quotas for the US Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) our President, Harley Coon, has directed that the quotas be issued on a strict "first come first served" basis. (Registration application found elsewhere in this magazine.)

General Davis and I also met with Dr. Paul T. Chung, President of the Korea Council of the Navy League while in Seoul. This council also sponsors subsidized tours to Korea "regardless of service" and we will explore with them in depth on whether its possible for KWVA to get some of their quotas for our veterans. The object is simple - get as many veterans to Korea as possible during the next three years. Where the quotas come from or who administers them is really of no consequence! You will be advised in this space if we are successful in subsequent issues of The Graybeards Magazine, the Official Publication of The Korean War Veterans Association.

Finally, you will also see elsewhere in the magazine the 2001, 50th Anniversary Commemorative tours sponsored by Military Historical Tours. (MHT) Please be reminded that these are not official "Revisit Korea" tours and may or may not coincide with the KVA sponsored tours. These MHT commemorative tours are set up to coincide with various battles and events as requested by various individuals and/or associations who want to return to Korea during the time that they served "in country"! Since MHT administers both programs - you may, should you choose to do so, transfer your "Revisit" quota deposit to one of these tours. Obviously, there is a difference in cost since they are not subsidized by the Korean

Government. However, many want to travel with their "foxhole" buddies and this is the way to do it. Regardless of which way you travel to Korea - you will be awarded the Ambassador for Peace Medal by KVA Seoul and feasted and honored by the Commanding General, US. Forces Korea.

In conclusion, I want to remind all veterans of the Northern Campaigns of 1950, that General Davis continues to poke, prod, encourage and demand our Right of Return to the northern battle areas where so many of our fallen buddies still lie buried. He is making significant progress and it is beginning to appear that these returns could start as early as next summer. We have started a list of those that have the time, health, desire and resources to accompany us through Beijing, China. Please call MHT at 703-212-0695 if you are interested.

My sincere regards,

Warren H. Wiedhahn

KWVA Revisit coordinator

GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later than the second week of the first month of that issue.

Jan-Feb, 2001	Jan 12	Jul-Aug, 2001	July 14
Mar-Apr, 2001	Mar 9	Sep-Oct, 2001	Sep 12
May-June, 2001	May 12	Nov-Dec, 2001	Nov 9

We print on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have a backlog.— Editor.

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

Banker, C.	Griffith, R.C.
Bergeron, P.	Huff, J.
Brazinski, F.	Marinchek, J.
Cranston, W.	Peters, R.
Crise, J. G.	Rutledge, J.
Easterly, W.	Sanchez, M.
Enos, R.	Short, T.
Gillespie, J.	Slanda, R.
	Sullivan, T.

Vanderhave, N.

Organizations:

Northwest Ohio Chapter
KWVA Chapter #1 of Conn.
USS Essex CV/CVA/CVS-9,
LHD-2 Inc.

In Memory of:

Capt. Frank E. Miller, Jr.
USAF KIA 5-27-53
(By J. G. Crise)

APPLICATION FOR KWVA REVISIT TOURS

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

Please check month and year of desired revisit tour:

Month: ☐ April ☐ June ☐ Sept. ☐ Nov.

Year: ☐ 2001 ☐ 2002 ☐ 2003

VETERAN'S PERSONAL HISTORY (Please print or type)

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

KWVA Membership # _____ Expiration Date: _____

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

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

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: Fax: _____

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

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

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

VETERAN'S MILITARY BIOGRAPHY

Branch of Service: _____ Service Number: _____

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

Unit Assigned: _____ Location of Unit: _____

Rank Achieved in Korea: _____ Highest Rank Achieved: _____

Personal Military Decorations: _____

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

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

I am requesting my name be submitted for a waiver to participate in the 50th Anniversary Revisit Tours in the years 2001-2003.

Veteran's Signature: _____ Date _____

Please complete and mail, with deposit of \$250 per person, (check or money order), made out to Military Historical Tours. (This deposit is fully refundable at anytime and for any reason, since there are more applicants than the limited amount of Revisit space available.) KWVA Revisit Program, c/o Military Historical Tours, Inc., Attn: George Malone, 4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304, 703-212-0695 Fax 703-212-8567.

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

Background

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

KVA Eligibility

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

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

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

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

Privileges Extended Courtesy of KVA

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

B. Tour of Seoul and its vicinity: itinerary

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

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

Miscellaneous

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

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

C. KVA (Seoul) is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of life due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip insurance is available and recommended.

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

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

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

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



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



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

1950 — 1953

2000 — 2003



Planned Events 2000

Date	Event	Location	Lead
Dec	Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir	CP Pendleton, CA	USMC
Tue-Dec 12	Evacuation of Hungnam	Navy Memorial, DC	USN
Planned Events 2001			
Fri-Feb 9	Hill 180 Memorial Ceremony and Wreath Laying	Osan, Korea	USFK
Wed-April 18	UN Participation	Pusan	USFK
Thurs- May 24	Battle of Chipyeong-ni	Philadelphia, PA	National Committee
Sun-May 27	National Memorial Day Concert	Capitol (West Lawn)	MDW
Mon-May 28	Memorial Day Breakfast and Wreath Laying	Wash DC/ANC/KWM	VA
Fri-July 27	Korean War Veterans Memorial Ceremony	Korean War Memorial	KWVA
Sat-Aug 18	Battle of Bloody Ridge	Seoul, Korea	National Committee
Sat-Aug 18	Battle of the Outposts	Korea	USFK
Thurs-Sept 13	Battle of Heartbreak Ridge	Wash DC	National Committee
Thurs-Sept 13	Battle of Heartbreak Ridge	DMZ, Korea	USFK

(As of 12/2/99. To be updated each issue as required)

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library



KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

122 West North Central, P.O. Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953

Ph: (217) 253-5813 ❖ Fax: (217) 253-9421 ❖ E-mail: kwmuseum@advancenet.net

Web-Site: www.theforgottenvictory.org

Progress Report—September 2000

Veterans Video/Oral History of the Korean War

Fellow Veterans:

- ❖ Want to record your military memories on videotape?
- ❖ If we are to truly honor our Korean War veterans, than we should preserve their memories for future generations.
- ❖ We intend to preserve their firsthand accounts so they will not be forgotten and forever lost to time.
- ❖ The passing of the Korean War generation makes it imperative that this be done.

We encourage veterans and family

members to preserve their memories of wartime service on videotape and to compile old letters and other memorabilia. Copies of the tapes and documents would be made available to researchers, students amid community groups at the educational research center for the study of the Korean War - The Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, Tuscola, IL.



Please contact:
The Korean War Veterans
National Museum and
Library

at 1-888-295-7212 or 1-217-253-5813.

Jere Crise
1st Vice-President

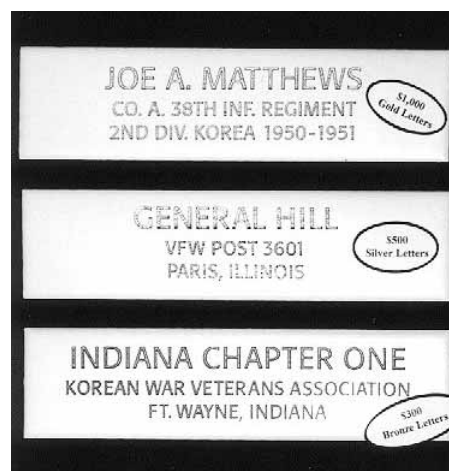
Tiles for the convention center wall of the National Museum are available for purchase in three categories: \$300 - bronze; \$500 - silver tile; \$ 1,000 - gold tile.

CONVENTION CENTER TILE

The trustees of the Korean War Veterans National Museum & Library acquired the first of two 11 acres of land on January 27th. On February 6, some 100 Korean War veterans from six states gathered around the site sign to have their picture taken. Television camera crews and area newspaper reporters swarmed the place, along with local well-wishers, families and friends.

The land is located about 1/4 mile east of the intersection of Interstate 57 and Route 36 in Tuscola.

Proceeds from the sale of tiles go into the building fund to purchase land and construct the national museum. 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.**

behind him and pumped four slugs into his back with one burst. "Buuurrrp" had gone the gun, and the four bullets stitched themselves across the corpsman's back, traveling upward through kidneys, stomach, diaphragm, and into the lungs. The corpsman was unconscious, his pulse uncountable, his blood pressure unmeasurable. I looked up at Don Flau. "D Ward, Don. No surgery contemplated." He understood. His face remained mask-like as he said softly, "Aye, aye, sir."

This is a good place to point out that the number of wounded men who died in Korea after reaching the hands of the medical service was less than 2 1/2 %. In World War II it was 4 %, in World War I, 8 %. The primary reason was helicopter evacuation directly from the battlefield. But there were others: blood, serum, and plasma given early, the plasma often in the field before evacuation; antibiotics; improvement in lifesaving techniques utilized by the corpsmen and doctors; and bringing surgical specialists into the Marine Medical Companies and the Mobile Army Surgical Hospitals close to the front lines.

I moved on down the line of stretchers. Don Flau stayed with me while another corpsman, J. P. Holliday, worked just ahead of us cutting off or unwrapping the bandages so I could inspect the wounds. Another corpsman, Hn Brandt, followed us and rewrapped them to await definitive surgery. Rarely did we do anything to the wounds during this first exam. But we gave blood to those who needed it, started IVs with normal saline if the patient was headed for major surgery, put down nasogastric tubes for belly wounds, gave tetanus toxoid to everyone, and did other necessary procedures to treat shock and ready the men for definitive treatment in the operating tents.

We saw every conceivable type of war wound in the triage ward at Easy Med. Shrapnel and bullets hit randomly, sometimes injuring vital structures and sometimes missing them by fractions of an inch. Here was a man with a broken arm from a rifle bullet; he was sent to the holding ward with his arm splinted to await surgery. The next two cases had multiple shrapnel wounds all over the body, but

We saw every conceivable type of war wound in the triage ward at Easy Med. Shrapnel and bullets hit randomly, sometimes injuring vital structures and sometimes missing them by fractions of an inch.

without major wounds that required general anesthesia; they were sent to the minor surgery tent to await debridement. The next man had the major part of his left thigh torn away by a fragment of an artillery shell; he went to the holding unit to await surgery. The next man had a buttox wound, the frayed handle of a Chinese "potato masher" grenade still sticking out of the jagged hole; he was sent back to minor surgery for its removal.

The hours ticked by rapidly. By 0200 on Saturday the 16th nearly a hundred wounded men had been admitted, and more were on the way. Most of the walking wounded were now waiting outside the admitting and triage tent, having been examined and found not to need urgent surgery.

I went back to the holding ward to check the patients there. Two of those who had been in good shape when I sent them back there were now deteriorating and had to be given immediate priority. Over in D Ward, the corpsman had died moments after I sent him back.

On another ward check about 0400 I stopped again to see Jesse Carter, the Marine with the "powerful bellyache." He was dead. I was shocked, heartsick. I

called over the corpsman in charge of the ward. "When'd you see this guy last, Frank? "Fifteen, twenty minutes ago, doctor." He looked down at Jesse, looked up at me with real pain showing in his weary eyes. "He's dead?" He stopped over and flicked an eyelid. Still unbelieving, he put a hand over Jesse's mouth. "He is, isn't he?"

He put a foot up on the rail and leaned forward on his elbows. "I was just talking to him. He asked when we were gonna get to him. I said real soon now." Frank wiped the back of his blood-smeared hand across his forehead. He needed to talk this out and I let him. "I asked him if he felt worse. He said no. I didn't take his blood pressure. He wasn't sweating or thirsty or cold or anything like he was in shock. God Almighty!" He looked up at me and the agony I read there made me look away. "What happened, Dr. Dibble?" "Look at his conjunctivae, Frank."

Frank pulled down Jesse's lower eyelid and exposed the stark white membrane. "He bled to death, didn't he, doctor? Right here in front of me. God, I'm sorry, doctor!" "Not your fault, Frank. Mine, if anybody's. Must have a small hole in his aorta. Only thing I can think of."

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

Even though I was only four years older than he was, he needed the comfort of a fatherly hand on his shoulder. I reached out to him and did just that. "Come on now, Frank. Let's get back to work." He gripped my arm just above the elbow, smiled weakly with trembling lips and tear blurred eyes, then moved off slowly, shaking his head. I watched as he started preparing another Marine for surgery. He worked slowly at first, then more and more rapidly, and soon was working at top speed again. But I knew he hadn't forgotten what had happened. I never would. I can still picture the entire scene as if it were yesterday:

The body of Jesse Carter lies on the stretcher, about halfway down the ward on the west side of the tent. On his left is a Marine with his left hand mangled by shrapnel. On his right is a Marine clutching a bandage over his right eye. Frank, the corpsman, stares at Jesse, unbelieving. Jesse's face hangs before my mind's eye, his eyes half open, sightless. Dead.

By 0600 the steady flow of wounded men had begun to slow down a little but there was a backlog of almost fifty unoperated cases. Some of the more serious cases, like belly wounds and compound fractures, were waiting too long for surgery. It had long been Medical Battalion policy not to evacuate men parallel to the lines, that is, from one frontline medical company to another.

There were no trained surgeons back at Able Med nor even a major operating setup. So now it seemed to me that there was adequate reason to change the policy. I got on the EE-8 field phone to the C.O. of the First Medical Battalion, Commander Bill Ayres, at Able Med. I could see in my mind's eye the usually jolly, round, Charles Laughton face now blinking the sleep out of his eyes and thinking hard.

"Yeah, all right," he said, finally. I knew he was shouting at the top of his lungs but I had to strain to hear him. The little black phone line strung by the commo people didn't have relays and it was ten miles back to Able. It was good news to me as Ayres shouted, "O.K., Dr. Dibble, we'll take your worst ones out. But not to Dog or Charley Med. I'll send up some Sikorskis and ship 'em to the

Consolation."

The Navy Hospital Ship Consolation lay off Inchon. She rotated with two other U.S. Navy ships, the Repose and the Haven, and with the Jutlandia, a converted Danish cruise ship. "Thanks, skipper," I yelled. Hurriedly I reexamined all the serious patients in the holding ward, working down the line of stretchers perched a foot off the floor on their wooden rails. I marked twelve of the most seriously wounded for "copter evac."

It was obvious that Bill Ayres believed in the maxim that if something is worth doing, it's worth doing now. I had just barely finished when a big Sikorski landed on the strip down by my command post and the corpsmen began loading stretchers into it. It could take six at a time. Shortly afterwards another came in and took the rest of the men I'd tagged.

About 1000 I decided I'd had enough of the triage ward. I'd been in there for almost sixteen hours straight with only short breaks for gulps of coffee. I hadn't slept. No one had. I knew from my experience at Cook County Hospital that I'd be okay until about four or five in the afternoon. Then it would hit me. Hard. At County that was fine. I was never on call two nights in a row and could usually get away from the wards by late afternoon.

I'd have supper, have a beer or a glass of wine, watch some dumb TV show till seven or eight, and collapse.

Now, with no one coming on duty to relieve me, I didn't know what I was going to do if I couldn't get some sleep sometime during the day. I was to find out.

I'd sent Lee Yung-kak and Lou Shirley back to the Minor Surgery tent hours ago and now went back there myself I asked them if they'd like to work Triage for a while and both agreed readily. Then I changed my mind and asked Lee if he'd like to stay in Minor for awhile. He agreed to that, too.

As their C.O. I could've ordered them but there was little of that kind of baloney in the medical corps. Not at our level, anyway, and not with most reserve officers (and we were all reservists at Easy). There was the occasional Regular Navy jerk who was so insecure or gungho that he had to order people around. But usually those guys could also make sure that they didn't end up in Korea. And back in the States you knew you had to put up with a certain amount of military garbage!

While Shirley finished the case he was working on, I walked into the small tent which contained the scrub basins and brushes. I soaped my hands and arms,

The corpsman pulled the dressing off the buttock. I glanced at the wound and was surprised to see a large piece of wood sticking out of it. "My God, man, you still here?" I exclaimed, recognizing the potato-masher handle.

The Graybeards

The Graybeards is the official newsletter of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. It is scheduled to be published six times per year. Views expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the KWVA Executive Board nor does the KWVA Inc. assume any responsibility for errors of omission or commission.

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then scrubbed off the dirt and blood and vornitus that had accumulated in my knuckles and under my fingernails. I'd washed frequently during the past sixteen hours but hadn't had a chance to really scrub.

I stood with my eyes closed, half asleep, hands mechanically working with brush and soap, mind jumping from thought to random thought, a surreal stream of consciousness: wonder when this will let up. No end in sight. Getting pretty tired. Poor Jesse. My fault, I guess. He said I must be a good doctor if I trained at Cook County. Sure. Drop of sweat running down my eyebrow. Hope my mail finds me down here. Should hear from Edna (my wife) soon, see how she likes her new job. (She'd moved back to Springfield, Illinois, to live with her parents. She was making over \$200 in a month, most of which she could save. The Navy was sending most of my monthly pay of \$400 home so we figured we'd build up quite a nest egg by the time I got home.) Should have had Lee go into Triage. He works hard in minor surgery but can't turn out the cases as fast as Lou Shirley. That Lee! Hardest working guy I ever saw. Almost always the first man down when the copters come in. Always the last to leave. Funny how little I know about Lee Yung-kak. The inscrutable oriental. Good man. Has a wife somewhere, Seoul I think, but never asks for special leave. Apparently doesn't go see any of these little sheba-shebas either, who keep working their way up to the lines. (Lee had been with an Army outfit at the Chosin Reservoir, was rescued by the Marines and stayed with them.)

Lou Shirley woke me from my reverie. "O.K., skipper, take over." "Thanks, Lou." I wiped my hands on the green towel hanging from the wooden rack next to the basin and walked back into the Minor tent. Two corpsmen were lifting a Marine up onto the sawhorses. He lay on his belly with a large dressing over his left buttock. I put on my gloves and started drawing up procaine from a bottle held by the corpsman.

The corpsman pulled the dressing off the buttock. I glanced at the wound and was surprised to see a large piece of wood sticking out of it. "My God, man, you still here?" I exclaimed, recognizing the pota-

to-masher handle. "Figured you'd've been done hours ago." "Guess they thought I could wait, doctor."

The corpsman scrubbed around the wound with liquid green soap. I placed sterile towels around the wound and anesthetized the skin and muscles as well as I could. Several times I hit the wood with the needle as I probed deeper and deeper. That's great for sterile technique, I thought. Finally I felt I'd numbed it as much as I could.

I made an elliptical skin incision around the protruding wood and controlled the bleeding. Then I grasped the grenade handle with a heavy Kocher hemostat and puffed. I pulled harder. It started to move slowly, then faster and faster like a champagne cork, and finally slurped out with a gush of blood. The fragment was nearly four inches long and one and a half inches in diameter, and fragmented on the distal end. The flow of blood was profuse and I placed a gauze sponge deep into the wound and held it there firmly with my fingers.

The grenade handle had severed the gluteal artery but with a figure-of-eight stitch I controlled it. Then I debrided the wound of splinters and other debris and packed it open with Vaseline gauze and fluffed gauze. "All done, mac," I said. "Got it sewed up already?"

"Oh, no. We never do that here. We leave it wide open to drain for five to ten days. Then any dirt or other junk we might've missed will work its way out. Prevents infection. Somebody back at Able Med or maybe the hospital ship will close this up when it's ready. Sorry if I hurt you. That thing was really deep. You want it as a souvenir?" He grinned. "Hell, no!" Then he grinned wider. "That hole'll be kinda hard to explain to the boys in the locker room, won't it, doc?" "You can always tell 'em an old witch stuck her broom up your ass." With a mischievous smile, incongruous under the circumstances, he said, "Wish there was a couple young witches around here about now."

I chuckled and went into the scrub tent to wash up. I was dripping with perspiration and when I stripped off my rubber gloves sweat splattered from them. I poured myself a drink from the five gallon jerry can on the ground and gulped it

thirstily. I remembered then that I hadn't eaten yet and realized that I was voraciously hungry. None of the others had eaten either. I walked back into the Minor tent.

"Dr. Lee, why don't you and Ben Flowe go get some chow. When you get back, Lou and I'll go over." I watched Lee for a moment, the small brown hands in the 6 1/2 gloves working carefully in the debridement of a nasty shrapnel wound of the face. The Marine he was working on lay with his eyes closed, but opened them as I came up to the stretcher. He asked, "He doin' a good job, doc?" "The best, mac, the best," I said. The Marine closed his eyes again. Yung shot me a grateful glance. His hands had a very faint tremor now as they laid the Vaseline gauze into the wound. I'd touched a sensitiveness in Lee that I hadn't been aware of. After they'd carried off the patient, I queried, "Things going O.K., Dr. Lee?" "Very fine, Captain. Tak-san number one." He paused for a split second. Then without looking at me he said, "You did a very good thing to me now." "Well, I meant it." And I was glad I'd sent Shirley into triage instead of Lee.

I turned to my next case. The corpsman was scrubbing a Marine's leg which had a dozen or more jagged puncture wounds. "These don't look too bad, mac. Probably keep you out of action a month is all." I talked almost continuously with the Marine as I injected each wound with an ellipse of procaine.

Most of the boys liked to talk. There was a release in talking. Whether they'd been on line a few days or a year, they'd been under constant discipline. Furthermore, the mere fact that they were wounded indicated that they'd just recently been under tension in a life and death situation over which they had had practically no control.

They'd sat in their bunkers waiting for the rounds to fan, or they'd crouched in their foxholes hoping they were concealed from sniper fire, or they were climbing a hill or running a valley, all the time listening for the flutter of a mortar round coming in.

And then they felt the blast as it blew them to the ground. They took stock of themselves and tried to determine the

extent of their injuries. If they could, they crawled or walked to the forward aid station. If they couldn't, they called for a corpsman and were carried out on a stretcher.

I cut ellipses of skin from around the shrapnel wounds, then cut similar ellipses of fat and muscle from around the tracts which led to the metal fragments embedded deeper in the leg. Most of the shrapnel I removed easily, along with bits of cloth, dirt, leaves and other debris blown in by the blast or carried into the wound with the metal.

There were small fragments of metal that I couldn't remove easily so I left them in place. I knew that a few of these would have to be removed at a later date, but most would cause no trouble and it was never worth the time and effort to try to get them all. Debride the wound, stop the bleeding, pack it open, cover it up, ship the patient out. Next man.

Morning eased into afternoon. Saturday night came and we'd been up for thirty-six hours without sleep. Night passed. Sunday morning the 17th came and we'd been up for forty-eight hours without sleep. The wounded kept coming. In trucks and jeep ambulances and helicopters. There was no sign of a letup. Periodically I called Command Ayres and soon a flight of Sikorskis would come in and take off with the backlog of serious unoperated cases and stable post-op belly and chest cases.

...to be continued



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.

Indiana

★ Robert E. Gardner

Minnesota

★ Keith W. Bauman

New York

★ Thomas D. Burns

★ John W. Deasy

Ohio

★ Thomas B. Lang

★ Kenneth R. Miranda

★ Eugene F. Pegish

Virginia

★ Clinton E. Southworth

Quartermaster

Item	Size	Description	Unit Price
1	All Sizes	Ft. Knox Cap (Dress, Overseas)	\$21.85
2	S, L, XL, 2XL 3XL	Baseball Style Blue, Summer (Light) Jackets	\$35.85
		\$38.85
		\$46.00
3	2 Inch	KWVA Patch	\$ 3.50
4	2 3/4 Inch	KWVA Patch	\$ 3.50
5	3 Inch	KWVA Patch.....	\$ 3.75
6	4 Inch	KWVA Patch	\$ 4.00
7	8 Inch	KWVA Patch	\$11.95
8	10 Inch	KWVA Patch	\$ 8.00
9		Korean Flag Patch	\$ 2.95
10		U. N. Patch	\$ 2.95
11		U. S. Flag Patch (Left & Right)	\$ 2.95
12		Korean Vet Patch W / Service Bar, Black	\$ 2.95
13		Life Membership Patch	\$ 2.95
14	4 X 4	KWVA Shield Patch for Blazers	\$ 4.50
15		KWVA Eagle Patch 1950 - 1953	\$ 4.00
16		Eagle Patch 7 Color	\$ 4.00
17		KWVA Window Sticker (Emblem for Car)	\$ 1.50
18		KWVA Cloissante Pin	\$ 2.85
19		Memorial Coins (\$30.00 Ea or 2 for \$50.00)	\$30.00
20	Set of 2	KWVA Collar Emblem Pins	\$ 9.00
21		Baseball Cap, Blue W/ KWVA Patch	\$ 8.00
22		Baseball Cap, Blue No Patch (While They Last)	\$ 5.00
23		Baseball Cap, Black, Korean Veterans W/ 3 Bar	\$ 9.85

Item No.	Description	No.	Size	Price Total
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
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A Soldier Reports to God

The soldier stood and faced his God
Which must always come to pass
He hoped his shoes were shining
Just as brightly as his brass.

"Step forward now, you soldier,
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My Church have you been true?"

The soldier squared his shoulders and
said, "No, Lord, I guess I ain't
Because those of us who carry guns
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays
And at times my talk was tough,
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the streets are awfully rough

But, I never took a penny
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills got just too steep,

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear,
And sometimes, God forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place
Among the people here
They never wanted me around
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand,
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand."

There was a silence all around the throne
Where the saints had often trod
As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God,

"Step forward now you soldier
You've borne your burdens well,
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell."

To all that serve

The Korean War Memorial

We now have been remembered
after all these years,
A war fought in Korea
through mud and blood and tears.

A memorial that's been long over-due
a war remembered by just a few.
It brought suffering, death and pain
battles raged through winter's snow and summer's rain.

As I walked up to the mall
saw images of faces on that wall,
Of those who answered America's call
forgotten heroes who in war stood tall.

Those nineteen silent figures
that I now look upon,
Returning from a night patrol
before the light of dawn.

Our youthfulness now gone
life now has passed us by.
I think about my comrades
who in that war did die.

Peace for them has come at last
forgotten heroes from the past.
Buried in sacred hallowed ground
the bugler now plays taps last sound.

By Cpl. Tom Lyons

Remembering the "Forgotten War"

If you were asked, "What happened June 25, 1950", what would you say?

Do you know what event took place on THIS historic day?

It was the start of the Korean War, the "Forgotten War", as it is referred;

When the Communist North Korean invasion of South Korea occurred.

Our brave soldiers, who were shipped out to defend freedom in this foreign land,

Didn't realize that it would become a three-year stand.

They fought their best and many a supreme sacrifice was made.

How can it be called the "Forgotten War" when a toll like this was paid?

Memories of Osan, Pusan, Inchon, the "death march" and POW camps, haunt veterans who fought in that living hell.

To them it's not a "Forgotten War", for THEY remember it WELL!

Shirley Jones Whanger © 2000
Niece of Thomas Dale Jones
A Battery, 52 FAB, 24th Inf. Div.
POW-died 1-1-51
Hanjung-ni, North Korea

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.

Video ad - 4 color
Film provided
Pg 65 - Sept/Oct issue

DUEL DINGHY DENTS



Life Rafts: Distress & Delights

Fall, 1950

However depressed we seemed to be, as the enemy's noose drew tighter around our base at Taegu, South Korea, during the dark days of summer, 1950, there were still moments of humor ...or pathos, depending upon the point of view, when we could look on the brighter side, and enjoy a few moments of levity, or wonder at the sometimes odd turns of events.

A pair of similar incidents ... occurring around the same time, helps to point out how the 'fickle fingered fates' controlled our daily destinies.

Lieut. Phil Conserva returned from a frontline close-support mission near Kiggye, with a bullet hole through the belly of his F-51 Mustang, indicating passage of a bullet straight up through the bottom of the fuselage below the cockpit, and into the seat pan which held his one-man life raft. Fortunately, the big .50 caliber machine gun slug was almost spent, when it struck the steel C02 cylinder inside his life-raft pack.. it stopped.

Had it not hit the small 3 by 8 inch steel cylinder, it surely would have come up through the seat and killed or seriously wounded Conserva.

He showed the slug and the dented cylinder to all, and we figured he was one lucky individual!

Two days after Conserva's episode with the bullet thru the life raft, Captain Frank Buzze, our Maintenance Officer, came back from another close-support

mission with a similar hole through the underside of the fuselage, into his cockpit and up through the seat.

However, Buzze's bullet had come up through the left side of the seat, instead of the right, as it had in Conserva's. In Buzze's case, the life raft had been placed in the seat backwards, with the steel cylinder on the opposite side from where it would normally be positioned...

But once again, the bullet had hit the steel compressed air cylinder and stopped!

Phil Conserva survived 100 combat missions in Korea, only to be killed in an aircraft accident three years later while flying F-84 jets in England.

Frank Buzze went on to complete a long and successful Air Force career, retiring as a Colonel in Florida.

Accidental airborne inflation of seat-pack life rafts was an infrequent, but ever-present, potentially serious hazard, because the rapidly-inflating rubber raft on which the pilot was tightly strapped in place by his seatbelt, could quickly expand between his legs to press forward against the airplane's control stick with sufficient force to overpower most pilots' resistance. Instant deflation of the expanding raft was mandatory to prevent airborne catastrophe, because the rapidly-swelling rubber doughnut would inevitably force the control stick forward, forcing the nose down ... into an uncontrollable dive.

To prevent such a situation, most pilots would carry open short-bladed knives, or a sharpened nail, readily available in the shoulder pocket of their Flight Jackets to quickly puncture the monstrous demons. Our airplanes were ultimately equipped with a sharpened nail taped to the top of the instrument cowling ...within immediate reach for just such an emergency.

I experienced an accidental inflation of a life raft but once, ...while flying at 5000 feet seventy miles inside North Korea, it suddenly began to inflate and, as predicted, the monstrous rubber tube forced it's way forward between my legs to press against the control column, forcing the nose down. A very unpleasant sensation!

I quickly rolled the Mustang into a vertical bank so that the unwanted control forces would result in an uncomfortable, high 'G', outside turn, to prevent it's pushing me into the much more dangerous, uncontrollable dive... and simultaneously grabbed the sharpened nail from atop the instrument panel cowling, and with several quick stabbing strokes was able to puncture the big tube, but not without several anxious seconds of wondering whether the air pressure would come into, or go out of the raft at the faster rate.

The emergency was over within two minutes, as the raft quickly deflated. It took much, much longer for my adrenal flow to settle back to normal!

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman, Lt Col, USAF, Ret
"...one of those OLD, Bold Fighter Pilots..."

Next Issue: **Inter-Service Appreciation.**
Wounded Army Captain thanks the 12th pilots.

Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

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

Action Book

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Reunions

April 2001

67th Tac Recon Wing, April 26-29 at Air Force Museum, Wright- Patterson AFB, Ohio. Contact Linda Irvine, 4005 S lone St., Kennewick, WA 99337. Tel: 509-582-9304 or Joseph L. Krakovsky, 18227 W Valley Drive, Wildwood, IL 60030. Tel: 847-223-2907.

The **73rd Tank Bn. and 73rd Armor**, former and present will be held at Branson, Missouri on the 26th-29th April. Contact Curtis J. Banker, 44 Westcott Rd., Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940 Tel: 518-643-2302.

May 2001

USS Washburn (AKA-108), May 1-4 in Atlantic City, NJ. Contact F.J. Red Volz, 510 Luther Dr., Shrewsbury, PA 17361. Tel: 717-235-0705, E-mail redvoltz@aol.com or lchiakasan@aol.com

GHQ Raiders, Korean War 1950-51, May 14-16 in Colorado Springs, CO. Contact Delmer E. Davis, 8405 Shaver Drive, El Paso, TX 79925 Tel: 915-779-3249, E-mail dodavis2@juno.com

1st Battalion, 7th Marines Korea 1950-1953 will hold its 5th reunion in Branson, Missouri on May 17-20. Contact Ray Leffler, 411 Bluegrass Drive, Raymore, MO 64083-8406; Tel 816-331-3338 or e-mail: RLeff102338@aol.com

June 2001

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. At Norfolk, VA June 7-10. Contact Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040. Tel: 516-747-7426.

July 2001

91st MP Bn. July 27-29 at Birch Run, MI. Contact Manual Sanchez, 4160 Burnham St., Saginaw, MI 48603. Tel: 517-793-4277

The **Department of Arizona, KWVA** is planning a Reunion of all Veterans of the Korean War era from the State of Arizona and surrounding states for the 27-29 July for Phoenix, AZ. Contact Department Commander, Wes Stapleton, 6725 W. Missouri Ave. Glendale, AZ. Tel: 623- 846-5118, e-mail-WesStap546@Juno.com.

August 2001

USS Bon Homme Richard (CV/CVA-31 Ships Company and Air Groups & USS Bon Homme Richard (LHD-6), Aug 10-12 to be held in Spokane, Washington. Contact Ralph Pound, PO Box 1531, 410 Clark Street, Tupelo, MS 38802 Tel Work: 662-

842- 0572, Tel Home: 662-842-8247

September 2001

USS Essex CV, CVA, CVS-9, LHD-2 INC., Sept. 10-16 at Holiday Inn, Atlanta Airport North, 1380 Virginia Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30344 Reservation: 1-800-HOLIDAY - mention Essex Group Frank R O'Connor froabo@aog.com or froabo2@juno.com, Vice Chairman/Membership/Publicity Secretary - C. Leonard Schlamp clschlamp@juno.com

USS General A. E. Anderson (AP/TAP-111) Association, Sept. 21-24 at Doubletree Hotel in Albuquerque, NM. Contact Gene Hamelman, PO Box 550743, Dallas, TX 75355-0743 Tel: 214-341-4196, Fax: 214-341-8796. E-mail hamelman@swbell.net

October 2001

M51st Signal Battalion, Sept. 11-13 at Utica, New York. Korean Vets and all former members are welcome. Contact Glenn Carpenter, 810 Glyncrest Dr. Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895. Tel: (419) 738-3369, E-Mail (ICORP@bright.net).

17 F.A. Bn., 75 F.A. Bn., 145 F.A. Bn., 96 F.A. Bn., 159 F.A. Bn., 176 F.A. Bn., 204 F.A. Bn., 632 F.A. Bn., 937 F.A. Bn. Korea 1950-1954, October 13-17, in Albuquerque, N.M. Contact Corps Artillery Reunion Alliance Nick Vanderhave 1333 Littleton Rd., Morris Plains, N.J. 07950 Tel: 973-538-7189. E-Mail vanderhave@usa.net

I&R Platoon, Hq. & Hq. Co. 31 st Inf, Regt., 7th Div. We are having our 4th reunion on Sept. 21-22 at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, VA. Contact: Don Zierk, 6 Weiss Place, Palm Coast, FL 32164-7873. Tel: 904-445-1603

Seeking all men who were in **Hq. Det., 1st Cav. Div., Camp Drake from Sept. 1949 to July 1950**. Also those who were in Korea Hq. Det. from July 1950 through Sept. 1951 for a reunion around Sept. 2001. Location: southwestern Illinois, near St. Louis. E-mail: skronen266@aol.com or call John Kronenberger (618) 277-2311. Date still open. Some contacted already. Reply if interested.

USS Francis Marion APA-LPA 249, October 18-21 in San Antonio, TX. Tel: 781-665-9222, E-mail: tinman6l@juno.com Mailing Address: USS Francis Marion APA-LPA 249 c/o Bob Martin 16 Staples St. Melrose, MA 02176

(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)

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I REMEMBER THE COLD

It was a Sunday in 1950, the 25th. of June.
“Pack your gear men, you will all be there soon.”
North Korea has invaded the South we are told.
I forget names and places but never the cold.

“Where the hell is Korea, I hear Daly shout?”
“Don’t give it a thought, we will make it a rout.”
It was not that easy, we were soon to behold
But most of all, I remember the cold.

I recall waiting to go up Old Baldy and Pork Chop Hill
Odd names for places where men will soon die and kill.
G.I.’s all brave and bold, some young and some old
But most of all, I remember the cold.

Digging foxholes in ground made frozen
By the winds howling down from the Chosin
Memories of the Bugle, just before the attack
Can we hold the hill or will they push us back?

My fingers are stiff and my feet are like ice
How many of us soon will pay the supreme price?
Still we dig in, determined to hold
But most of all, I remember the cold.

Fear sets in, “please God, don’t let me panic!”
I share the foxhole with a guy braver than I.
His rifle poised, grenades at the ready.
He knows I am scared, “Ease up John, we ain’t gonna die.”

He has a smile on his face, almost comic I swear
As if he were saying “Come up if you dare.”
I now know we’ll be among the brave and the bold.
But most of all, I remember the cold.

The bugle blares, it means they are coming.
Flares light the sky, we see the enemy swarm.
They are soldiers like us, both brave and bold .
But most of all, I remember the cold.

Machine guns rattle, shells burst down below.
It seems nothing can stop the enemies flight.
The dead pile up but still they keep coming.
Then ranks thinned out and low on ammo.
The foe falls back into the night

It is silent now, the battle is over, but nothing is free.
The price is six KIA’s. We won but there is no glee.
The hill we were on, we have managed to hold
But most of all, I remember the cold.

Dawn breaks clear over the mountains of Korea.
Four of our wounded leave with a wave and “I’ll see ya”
We are now minus ten of the bravest and bold.
But most of all, I remember the cold.

Snow starts to fall and the sky is gray
Not a good sign, means no air cover today
Get ammo and chow and put on your pack
That hill out in front is today’s point of attack.

I ponder the question with great distraction
“What the hell Truman means by Police Action.”
Amid all this misery, death and bloody gore
I have to believe this is really war.

I envision the Turk the Brit and the Belgian
The Canadians and their daily ration of Gin.
The United Nations all under one mold.
But most of all, I remember the cold.

The weather is changing, we see signs of spring
The rain is torrential, no flowers, just mud.
Knee deep in rice paddys that are ageless and old.
But still I mostly remember the cold.

My years almost up now and I’ll be home soon
New faces each day to fill up the platoon.
“Hey short timer, keep your ass way down low.”
You don’t need no more medals, just be ready to go.

The day I am leaving I have mixed emotions
No more foxholes, mud and cold “C” rations.
Hand shakes, back slappin and “stay in touch I am told.”
But Dear God most of all, I remember the cold.

I peer out my window and see the snow fall
I see determined, staunch warriors standing tall.
We fought and won battles in God awful places
What troubles me now is I can’t put names to faces.

Charlie “The Hawk” from Fall River, Mass.
The guy from Ohio, got a “Dear John” from his Lass.
That big Dude from Texas, who said “Howdy,” never hello
Claimed his ancestors fought at the Alamo.

Our hair has turned gray now, our pace not so fast
But it does not diminish our glorious past.
Time is the artist that has drawn our faces old
But most of all I remember the cold.

A poem by John Lennox, S/Sgt Able Battery
10th F.A. Third Infantry. Division. 1950-1951.

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