

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

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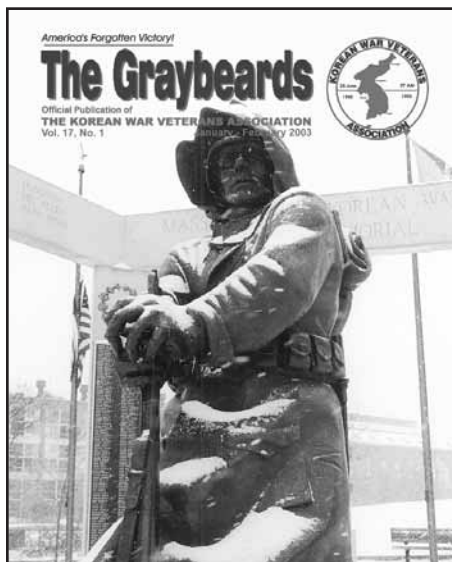
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On the cover...



MASSACHUSETTS KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL BOSTON NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK SHIPYARD PARK, CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Description: The Centerpiece of the memorial is a 9 foot bronze statue of a U.S. Infantryman in winter combat gear standing on an 18 inch high piece of Korean granite donated by the Korean Government. The granite piece has been inscribed with the names of seven Medal Of Honor recipients from Massachusetts. The soldier is looking at the listings of major battles and stands guard over the "honor roll" of our KIA's and MIA's.

The outside perimeter has a "Memorial Brick Walkway" beginning at the entrance and proceeding up to and around the Memorial to the Ceremonial Plaza. There,

four flagpoles display the flags of the United States, Korea, United Nations and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Meditation Benches are positioned around the Memorial. An audio system integrated into the memorial plays taped narratives relating to the Korean War and other historic sites in and around the Navy Yard.

Fact Sheet: Shape: hexagonal, Diameter: 44 feet, Height: 14 feet overall, five 2 foot high lintels on six 12 foot high columns, Composition: gray (Barre, Vermont) granite, Inscriptions: Center Interior Lintel: Massachusetts Korean War Veterans Memorial, Other Interior Lintels: Major Battles of the Korean War, Exterior Faces Of Lintels: Great Seal of Commonwealth of Mass, Great Seal of U.S. Of America, Interior Faces Of Columns: Names of KIA/MIA on Bronze Plaques.

(I do not recall who sent in the front cover photo but the history and other documents were sent to me by Michael P. Keenan, Sr. Please put a name on the back of your photos when you send them in. I usually throw away envelopes. Michael we did the story on "Red" in the last issue. I plan on printing much of what was sent to me in another issue.

Thank you for the enlarged photo of the one we used in the last issue but I can only print the same memorial on the front cover one time. I may use it when I print some of the other text. I would also hope someone from Mass. will order extra copies and mail one to Mrs. Mason. See page 31 Nov-Dec issue. Thanks to all for photos and text.—Editor)

Where The Sentry Stands

I love this place where the sentry stands
Watching over our comrades at rest.

Its a place of honor for gallant souls
Who once were our nations best.

They didn't come home like most of us
To warm welcomes and a loving embrace.

Only tears of grief and pain were there
And some words at their burial place.

I love this place where the sentry stands
With its columns and benches and plaques.

How fortunate we are to have such a place

To pay tribute ... to pray ... and think back.

I love this place where the sentry stands
With flags flying in the ocean breeze.

Its a peaceful place where flowers grow
And bay waters flow back to the seas.

I come here often, up the red brick path
To pause and reflect for a time
As I turn back the clock, and touch the name
Of the comrade I left behind.

By Leonard Buckland

Written in August 1993 after the memorial was dedicated and was on display in the Massachusetts State House.

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President's Message



Dr. William Shadish

Harley Coon
President, KWVA

As I write this message on November 27, 2002 I think back 52 years ago the day many of us were captured. December 1, 1950 the Chinese had closed the escape routes from the Kunu-ri area. Dr. Shadish without fear of his life stayed to care for the wounded from the 2nd Inf. Div. that were trapped. Bill Crawford (now deceased) told me that the Chinese threatened to shoot the doctor if he continued to care for the wounded. Dr. Shadish ignored their warning.

After reaching Camp # 5, Dr. Shadish continued helping the sick and wounded. There was no medication only verbal advice. At one point Dr. Shadish placed maggots on a wounded soldiers gangrene arm, two weeks later the wound had almost healed. I first met Dr. Shadish in March of 1951. Another soldier and I were sick with Yellow Jaundice and a few other diseases, Dr. Shadish told both of us not to work and to rest as much as possible. I took his advice over the objection of the Chinese; the other soldier went on a work detail and that night he died. If Dr. Shadish would not have continued his helping, many other soldiers would not have survived.

A black Soldier (John King deceased) from the 2nd Inf. Div. stole some sugar from the Chinese and with the risk of his life gave me some sugar water which helped me get well. The Chinese "Brain Washing" concept was designed to divide and conquer.

They segregated the Officers, and the Non-Com's from the enlisted men and the Black and White soldiers. Their methods didn't work.

On November 7, 2002 The State of Ohio inducted 21 new members into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. Bonnie

Rost (Inducted in class of 2002) and myself (inducted in class of 1994) (see picture) were invited to attend this year. Bonnie served as a Navy Nurse during the Korean War. That is the highest honor a Veteran can get in Ohio. The first class consisted of the 6 presidents from Ohio along with the Medal of Honor recipients and all the astronauts.

We are in the process of making plans for the 50th anniversary of the signing of the armistice. There are many events planned. The *Graybeards* will have the registration forms in the March/April issue. All information for the KWVA reunion will be in the March-April issue of *Graybeards*.

The raffle is in progress and the money generated from this will be used to defray some of the membership cost of the reunion in July 2003.

Tom Gregory and Howard Camp is handling the raffle. There is a membership drive contest going on at present.

If any chapter needs \$100.00 to get members please contact National Treasurer Mr. Thomas Gregory.

I will be on the road again after the first of the year representing the KWVA. On January 18th, I will be in Tampa,

We are in the process of making plans for the 50th anniversary of the signing of the armistice. There are many events planned. The *Graybeards* will have the registration forms in the March/April issue.

FL., then on the 24th of January, I will be in Arlington with the reunion committee making plans for the 50th Commemoration. April 9th, I will be speaking at the Punch Bowl in Hawaii. May 26, 2003, I will be in Bertrand, NE to attend the dedication of the Veterans Memorial Monument. On June 8, I will be in Mansfield, OH for the Miss Ohio parade. July 20, 2003, you will find me Toledo, OH for the 50th Commemoration.

I want to thank all the people that sent Holiday greeting cards.

Until next time I remain

Harley



Bonnie Rost, Navy Nurse during the Korean War, and I on November 7, 2002 at the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. We are both inductees.

Military Shop - 4 color

Korean War Veterans Association ♦ ♦ 19th Annual Reunion July 24 through July 28

*T*he Reunion Committee are pleased to announce the site selected for our 19th Annual Reunion.

After review of several hotels, their locations, costs, etc the reunion committee members selected The DoubleTree Hotel in Crystal City. The address is 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202. 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 and we all feel you

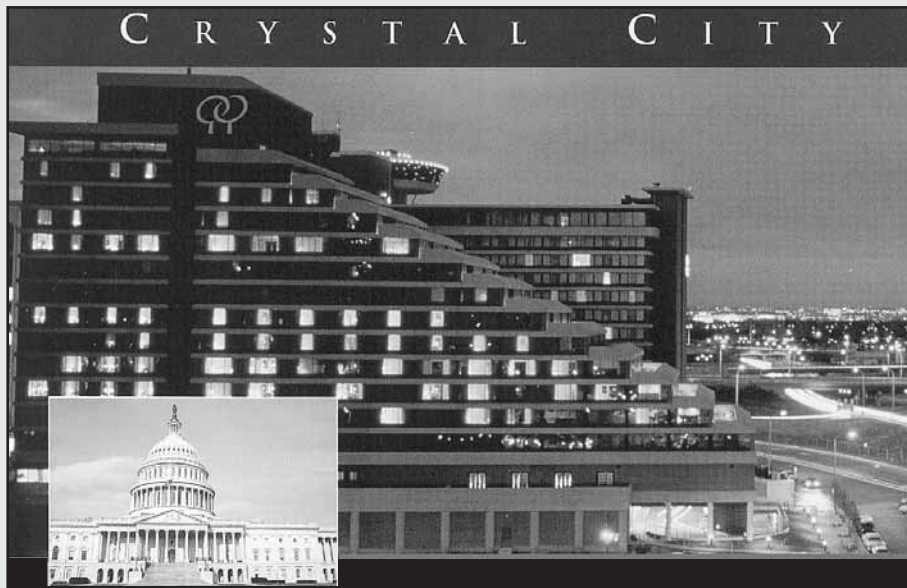
will be pleased with our selection.

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 2003 at our 19th Annual Reunion. We expect all will be in the March-April issue of *The Graybeards*.

Thank You.

Reunion Committee Members

DOUBLETREE HOTEL



The DoubleTree Crystal City boasts 630 rooms, including 152 spacious suites, many offering breathtaking views of D.C., as well as private balconies and spas. Every room features ample amenities including two-line phones with data port, cable TV with movie-viewing options, video check-out, free USA Today newspaper, in-suite coffee maker and more.

Windows over Washington. The Skydome Lounge is the area's only revolving rooftop restaurant. Breakfast and lunch buffets, as well as carryout are offered each day in our Lobby Café. Lobby Bar with big-screen TV.

The Doubletree Crystal City puts you on the doorstep of the world's most important city. Just across the Potomac from Washington, D.C., the Doubletree Crystal City offers incredible convenience and exemplary service for much less than

you would expect to pay just a few miles to the north. Their free shuttle will whisk you quickly to the neighboring Pentagon, Crystal City offices, Ronald Reagan National Airport or the nearby Metro. Whether by Metro or shuttle, you're just minutes from the White House and Congress and all the monuments and museums of the Mall in between. Nearby is the Kennedy Center and Washington's lively theater district. Georgetown's famed shopping, dining and nightlife are equally accessible.

At Doubletree Crystal City, you're close to everything except a high price.



Doubletree Hotel ❖ ❖ Crystal City Arlington, VA ❖ 703-416-4100

The Doubletree Hotel Crystal City-National Airport is located at 300 Army/Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202. The hotel is ideally situated in the Crystal City corridor just minutes from the nation's capital.

§ Hotel vans will shuttle you to the nearby Pentagon City Fashion Mall or nearest Metro stop. The Metro provides transportation into the city to visit any of Washington's many world-famous museums and monuments. If you are driving, please contact the hotel directly for directions.

§ The Doubletree offers 630 deluxe guest rooms. Each guest room features cable TV, Spectravision, and Spectradyn (in-room check out.) They offer same-day valet service and a fully equipped health club. Treat yourself to a swim in the enclosed rooftop pool and then the sauna. The hotel's gift shop is located in the lobby. Best of all, Doubletree's famous homemade chocolate chip cookies will be waiting for you the night you arrive!

§ Handicapped accessible and non-smoking rooms are subject to availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your reservation. Parking is available in the hotel's garage for the current fee of \$5 per day. Check-in time is 3pm, and check-out is 12noon.

§ The Café, serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the charming atmosphere of an outdoor bistro.

§ Window's Over Washington Restaurant, serves dinner only,

Friday and Saturday. Continental and New American cuisine plus a spectacular view.

§ Skydome, a revolving rooftop lounge, well known as one of the city's most popular nightspots.

§ The Lobby Bar, which serves drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Room service is available.

§ The Doubletree Hotel provides free shuttle to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport. Call the hotel from the courtesy phone in the Baggage Claim area for service. No advance reservations. You may want to consider other transportation services, as space is always limited on complimentary services.

§ The hotel provides a RV parking lot behind the hotel, which is currently \$9 per day. For full hookup service, the Pohick Bay Park on the Potomac River is the closest park to the hotel. Call (703) 339-6104 for information, reservations, and directions.

§ Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheel chairs by the day and week. Please call their toll free number at (888) 441-7575 for details. All prices quoted include delivery fees.

KWVA National has reserved 200 rooms for national members only by the earliest date of reservation.

Room rate is \$89 + tax and the cutoff date for this special rate is June 23, 2003

CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HOTEL

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION – HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

NAME _____

SHARING ROOM W/ _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

TEL. NUMBER (____) _____ ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEP. DATE _____

No. of rooms _____ No. of people in room _____ ☐ Handicap access ☐ Smoking ☐ Non-smoking

☐ King Bed ☐ 2 Beds If room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned.

Rate: \$89 +tax (currently 9.75%) for 1-2 people in room (\$20/night for extra person(s) in room (max 4 in room).

Cutoff Date: 6/23/03. Reservations received after this date will be processed on space & rate availability.

Cancellation Policy: Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled by 4pm (EST) on your arrival day. Adjustments to departure date after check-in, resulting in a shortened length of stay, will result in a \$50 fee.

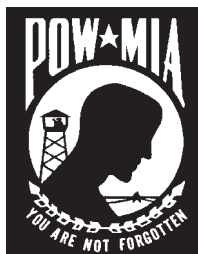
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Mail to: Doubletree Hotel, ATTN: Reservations, 300 Army Navy Dr., Arlington VA 22202

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Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

KOREAN WAR/COLD
WAR DOCUMENT
FAMILY RESEARCH

**No Current Updates
at the Time of This
Printing**

2003 Family & Veteran Update Schedule

Jan 18.....San Francisco, CA
Feb 22Birmingham, AL

Mar 22Houston, TX
Apr 26Detroit, MI
Jun 18-21Washington, DC*
July 25-26Washington, DC**
Aug 23Seattle, WA
Sept 20St. Louis, MO
Oct 18Jacksonville, FL
Nov 22Phoenix, AZ

*Annual Southeast Asia Government Briefing

**Annual Korea/Cold War Government Briefing



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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. Example: Mar-Apr 2003 articles must be received by editor no later than March 10. We print on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have a backlog.— Editor.

Book Review



Normandy: The Search for Sidney

By Thomas J. Bates / Eric Lummis

Introduction

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT HISTORY IS SOMETHING that never happened, written by a man who was not there. Much military history is a reconstruction of past events inscribed with the advantage of hindsight and a wealth of information not available to the combatants. It often presents a summation of events, a wrap-up encapsulating the major conclusions. Absent is the noise and tension of battle and the pervasive stench of death. History may tally up the final score but seldom does it communicate to a reader what war was actually like.

OVERLORD, the Allied invasion of Normandy, was the largest amphibious operation in the history of warfare. It proved to be the beginning of the end of World War II. However, the outcome of the battles in June, July and August 1944 was never certain. A proven and resolute German army was brilliantly commanded by experienced generals who tried desperately to drive the invaders back into the sea. The fate of western civilization hung in the balance. For many anxious weeks two results were possible: an Allied victory that would liberate Europe, or an Allied defeat that could have lost the war.

The first part of this book is the account of a search, four decades after the event, for an obscure battle site hidden in the Normandy bocage. What was sought was the exact place where Corporal Sidney Bates, almost alone, repulsed a force of fanatical panzer-grenadiers thereby preventing the overrunning and destruction of his unit, the 1st Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment. For his courage and self sacrifice — he shortly thereafter died of his wounds — Basher Bates was posthumously awarded his sovereign's highest decoration for valour, the Victoria Cross.

It is worth noting that during World War II no other British or Commonwealth regiment was honoured with as many Victoria Crosses as the Royal Norfolk

Continued on page 54

Americans Join Turks in Wreath-Laying

By William Alli

Some 50 years after the baptism of fire and blood for Americans and Turks in the Korean War, the veterans of both nations stood together to lay a wreath at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Ankara, Turkey. The ceremony on 29 October 2002 seemed to transcend differences of language and culture, and even the passing of time. "I hope more Americans will come here to see that our alliance is still strong, after all these years," said one U.S. veteran.

Along with the Turkish veterans there, were widows of Turkish veterans. Both the males and the females wore the same impressive military head-gear - the "kalpak," first worn by the soldiers that won Turkey's War of Independence (1919-22).

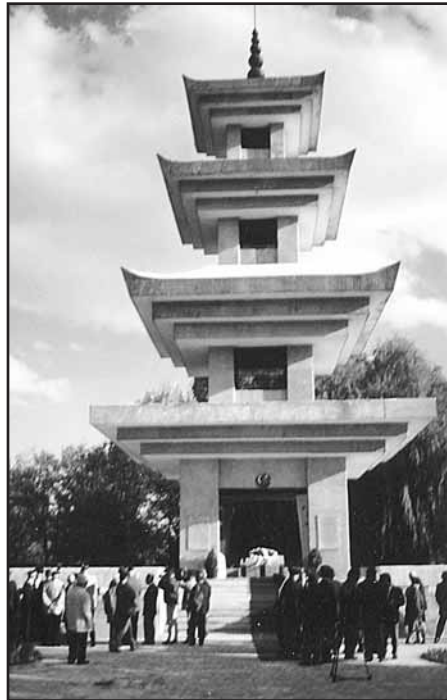
The memorial in Ankara - called "The Garden of Korea" (Kore Bahcesi in Turkish) - occupies about two acres in the center of the city. The monument in this "Garden" is a four-story edifice of yellowish stone, a gift of the Korean Government to the people of the Turkish Republic. Its oriental style is dignified and solemn-looking, perfect for a monument to the war fought in Korea.

The sarcophagus on the monument's first floor represents the grave of a Turkish soldier fallen in Korea. We must remind ourselves that Muslim tradition requires burial soon after death, and that the Turkish GIs (Memetics as Turks call them) lie in the UN Cemetery in Pusan, South Korea.

The ceremony was deeply moving - a reminder of the painful sacrifices of both nations in Korea. But these sacrifices were also part of the foundation on which America and Turkey forged a strong alliance that helped to win the Cold War, and still serves well the needs of both countries.

Vets Praise Tour of Turkey

"We were treated as VIPs in Turkey; it was the tour of a lifetime for a Korean War vet," said a veteran, just back from the recent U.S. Veterans Friendship Tour of Turkey. And that was the feeling among the 14 Korean War vets, eight wives, and two Vietnam veterans who took the 13-day tour, October 27 through November 8, 2002.



The Korean War Veterans Monument in Ankara, Turkey.

The trips sponsor, the American and Turkish Veterans Association (ATVA), had advertised that it was possible to "show support for the War Against Terrorism, and to commemorate the Korean War, while doing some fabulous touring." While this turned out to be true, nobody could have foreseen the excitement, downright fun, and even emotional experiences.

Arriving in Turkey and Meeting Hakim

We landed on a sunny afternoon October 28 at Ankara's airport. Waiting for us were: the tour guide (Ihsan Aykol), Colonel Martin Rollinson from the U.S. Embassy, a group of Turkish veterans, and a lot of TV and newspaper reporters. But most touching was the presence of "Hakim."

"Hakim" was referred to in a book as a Turkish POW in Korea who had saved

the life of an American POW in the same prison camp. The book, *Turkish Reflections*, by Mary Lee Settle, quoted the American as telling her: "When I was so sick I thought I was going to die, Hakim brought me soup, and sat with me, and pulled me through it."

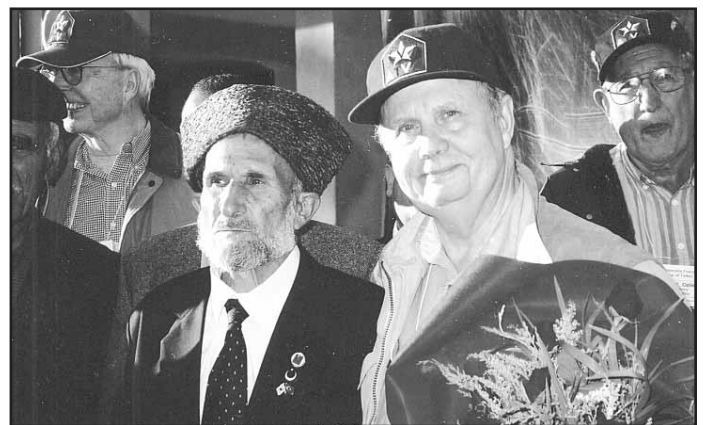
As ATVA Tour Coordinator, I stood next to Hakim and expressed the gratitude of American veterans for the participation of Turkish soldiers during the war, and especially their help in POW prison camps. The scene was emotional and the Turkish reporters picked up on it right away. The reporters got their interviews, took photos and videos.

At our hotel, we finished our dinner, unpacked, and then drifted off to sleep, unaware how intensively the Turkish General Staff had been working with Col. Rollinson to provide us with hospitality. The next day would be the beginning of some very special activities.

October 29: The Republic Day Parade

By 10:00 a.m., we were seated in the VIP section of the Hippodrome Stadium to view the official Republic Day parade, in honor of the 79th anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Turkey. Elsewhere in the section were the military attaches of the foreign embassies, along with other special guests of the Turkish Government.

Jack Murray, President of KWVA Chapter 100 in Northern Virginia, found that a former neighbor of his from



Ankara airport: Hakim (front center), Bill Alli (with bouquet of flowers). In back, left - Jack Murry on left and Carl Collier.

Arlington, USAF Col. Denny Danielson, was sitting nearby, among other military attaches. The Colonel is the chief of the U.S. Embassy's Defense Attache staff.

Before the parade got started, we were entertained by soldiers, dressed in traditional native costume, who performed a ritual sword dance on the grounds near us. They were graceful in their movements, circling and doing mock sword fighting with curved swords.

The parade field was about half-a-mile long. Visible at one end, and behind the stands opposite us were huge portraits of the Father of the Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. October 29 is really a celebration of his leadership, which revolutionized Turkey and laid the basis for a modern democracy.

The parade included Company-size units of Turkish soldiers wearing the uniforms of various wars - including the Korean War. Other groups were wearing the garb of the War of Independence (1919-22), World War One (1914-18), the Balkan Wars (1912-13), the Crimean War (1854-56), and other conflicts. Some units even included cavalry and horse-drawn artillery.

The final group, in 16th century uniforms, were the Yeniceri ("Janissaries") in the famous Mehter band - the ancestor of European military bands. The Yeniceri uniform has a tall headpiece, made like the sleeve of a robe, similar to one thought to have been part of the clothing worn by the Prophet Muhammed. A big hit with the audience was a horse-mounted musician, beating on kettle drums attached to each side of this horse.

Lots of tanks passed in review - modernized M-60s, British-made Chieftains, and German-made Leopards. Joe Pirello of Staten Island NY, a KWVA Director and a former tanker with the 25th Infantry Division in Korea, expressed his surprise at the good condition of the vehicles; none of the tanks had a smokey exhaust!

The spectators were thrilled as Turkey's Special Forces parachuted from helicopters and glided down to the parade field. They carried fluttering Turkish flags and, in the final display, a large picture of Atatürk.

Soldiers and sailors, and police and other security forces paraded by. They even had their female units - a testament to the freedom and equality which Atatürk's reforms

brought to the women of Turkey.

The finale began with massed helicopters flying over. They were followed by jet fighters with red and white smoke trails performing thrilling - and dangerous - aerial acrobatics, to the delight of the spectators.

And then the parade was over. Our next stop would be the Headquarters of the Turkish vets, to share comradery with our allies from the Korean War.

Meeting the Turkish Veterans Association

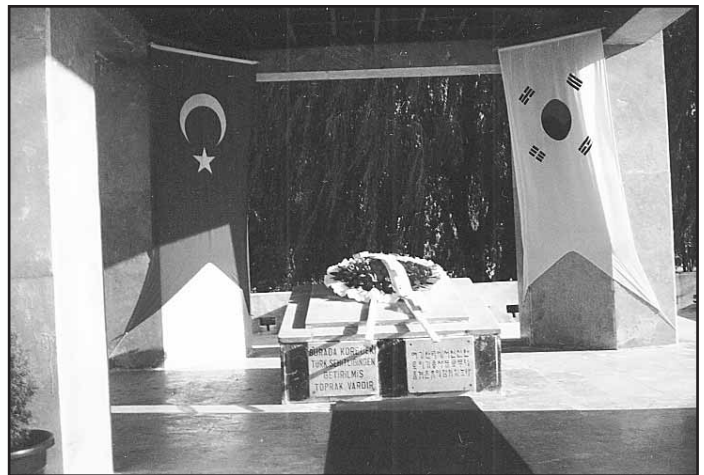
In their office suite our Turkish vets gave us red, white, and blue lapel ribbons, indicating that we were American veterans. They also gave us tie clasps bearing the Association's logo. Speakers for both groups of veterans talked about their experiences and gave interviews to reporters.

I presented to Hakim, and to the Association President, Col. (Ret) M. Gultekin Alpugan, a photo of the Washington DC Korean War Veterans Memorial. Along with it I presented a copy of the poem, in both English and Turkish, which is set into a bronze plaque in the Turkish section of the United Nations Cemetery in Pusan Korea. The Republic of Turkey had the highest per capita losses of the UN national units in the War.

We were lunch guests at the nearby "Army House," which is like a combined officer's and NCO club. At a long table we dined and conversed with our hosts. I sat next to a veteran who was an officer with the Turkish Brigade. He later became the founder and director of an airborne infantry jump school - Turkey's first.

He also told me that he was very sad, because his wife had died about a year earlier. He said "you cannot believe how sad I am since she died." I offered my condolences to him and he thanked me.

On my other side sat the U.S. Army Attache, Col. Martin Rollinson with his wife. They mentioned how much they liked being stationed in Ankara. I told them how



Wreath laid by U.S. and Turkish Veterans at the Monument.

much we appreciated all the work that the Colonel and his staff had done for our visit.

Many Americans do not realize how much effort Embassy personnel expend dealing with visitors from the U.S., usually Members of Congress and the DOD, and sometimes private industry. The Colonel accompanied us all around Ankara and helped as a translator many times.

In Cappadocia a few days later, I received a phone call from the U.S. Ambassador. He apologized for having been unable to meet with us in Ankara. I told him how much we appreciated all that was being done for us, and that all of us recognize that being Ambassador during these times of growing tension with Iraq could mean that we might not get to meet. I also asked him to tell all the Embassy staff that we appreciate their service for America and the contribution they are making toward keeping strong our strategic relationship with Turkey.

John Sinnicki of Annandale VA, who served with the First Marine Division at Chosin, was especially aware of the support we were getting from the U.S. Embassy. After finishing his military service, John had gone on to a career as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer and served in a number of our embassies. John spent many days doing what the Colonel was doing. After his return, he e-mailed his thanks to Col. Rollinson.

Visiting the "Garden of Korea"

As lunch ended, we headed for the wreath laying at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Later we joined the thousands of people who were making the yearly pilgrimage to the tomb of the man who had

saved their country from destruction, and had led them into the modern world - Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.

Anit Kabir - Shrine to the Father of the Turkish Republic

America owes an awful lot to its veterans; we got our independence as a nation, under the leadership of General George Washington. Ensuing years witnessed more Americans who, after serving in the military, contributed to our nation's growth and progress; some even became President.

In Turkey, one man's contributions to his country, first as a soldier and later a statesman, has made him like our Washington, Jackson, Lincoln, Roosevelt (Franklin D.), and Eisenhower - all rolled into one. He is Ataturk.

On October 29, 2002 - the 79th anniversary of the birth of the Turkish Republic - we 24 Americans were heading to his mausoleum - Anit Kabir. We would put flowers in front of his sarcophagus, because we wanted to show that Americans can treasure the sacrifices of our Turkish allies and respect the leader in whose name the Turkish people gave their sons, to join those of America and other countries in defending Korea from Communist tyranny.

Anit Kabir is atop a hill near the center of Ankara. There we began to walk among thousands of men, women and children, past the white marble, Hittite-style lions and along the wide pedestrian thoroughfare that leads to the large plaza in front of his marble stone mausoleum.

We stepped carefully, looking down at the flagstones that pave the approach; they were placed with gaps between them - a symbolic reminder of the great ordeal that the Turkish people underwent early in the 20th century. War had consumed their land and foreign invaders sought to snuff out their national existence. Only a heroic leader could save them. The leader was Ataturk, and the struggle, from 1919 to 1922, is appropriately called "War of Independence."

At the end of the long approach we no longer had to look down; the pavement was solid, without gaps; we were entering the large plaza. Now we could look up and see the mausoleum with its wide steps and tall columns. We had arrived at his shrine.

We climbed the steps, passing the platform displaying his words: "Sovereignty

belongs, unconditionally, to the people!" We entered the tomb and then, in groups of three or four, we walked up to his sarcophagus. Each American placed a red carnation in front of his sarcophagus; the veterans saluted. Then we filed out of the tomb. On the rest of our tour we would learn more about this great man, and come to understand why his spirit lives on in the hearts and minds of his people.

The Military Academy

On October 30 we visited the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. This is a world-class museum which every tourist should see. Later, we were guests of Turkey's military academy.

The Superintendent, Maj. Gen. Hulusi Akar, presided over a briefing session in his command center. Then his assistants showed us the classrooms, library, computer labs, and other facilities.

Several countries have sent their cadets to study at the academy. A Korean exchange cadet was introduced to us and talked to the three Korean-Americans who were in our group - Hosurl Park, Paul Kim, and Yong Kouh, veterans of the South Korean Armed Forces during the War. Park and Kim are active in the Baltimore Chapter of the KWVA.

After lunch in the cadets' dining room, the General and his staff invited us to coffee in a smaller parlor. We had a chance to chat and I presented to him, on behalf of ATVA, the same gifts as I had given to the Turkish

vets association; a copy of the DC monument photo and the poem from the UN Cemetery. He, in turn, presented us with a special plaque to commemorate our visit.

Across a Rural Landscape and Westward to Gallipoli

We left Ankara for Cappadocia, arriving at sunset. The next day we toured this fantastic volcanic landscape. Large tufa stone pinnacles, 10-12 stories tall, had been carved out, providing apartments for early settlers, hundreds of years ago. We explored underground cities, where homes and churches had been hollowed out. Nearby we visited a rug factory and a small ceramics factory.

The next morning we headed west on the highway that follows the route of the ancient Silk Road. Centuries earlier, merchants had taken European goods to China and the Far East, returning with silks, ceramics, and spices.

Along the way, there were inns for travelers. These had protective walls, stables for animals, and mosques. We visited the "Inn of the Sultan," built in the 13th century by the great Seljuk ruler, Alaettin Keykubat.

In Konya we were hosted by the local chapter of the Turkish veterans association. They provided us a tasty lunch, and we exchanged presents. We thanked them, especially the local business man who had paid for our meal, and after a few short speeches, took group photos.

They gave each of us a wall plaque



Tour group, with guide, in front of Celsius Library in Ephesus.

showing the figure of the 13th Century Islamic mystic and leading figure of Sufism, Mevlana Celalettin Rumi. Rumi. He founded a religious order, which seeks a mystic union with God, through song and dance. The group, referred to as "whirling dervishes," preached tolerance among all religions, forgiveness, and enlightenment.

Late that night, we reached Pamukkale, meaning "cotton castle" in English. The local mineral springs have produced white mineral deposits that look like hillsides of terraced rice paddies. They also look like the ramparts of castles.

The next day, we toured Ephesus, where St. Paul once preached, and almost got killed by followers of the local deity. The city was the largest Roman city of Asia Minor, and had libraries, public lavatories, and other amenities.

Nearby, we visited the shrine where Jesus's mother is believed to have spent her final days. St. John is thought to have brought her here from Palestine, after Jesus was executed by the Romans. John Delaney of Wheaton MD, who served with the 1st Marine Division, said that he and some other veterans came away with a strange feeling, one of having been in a holy place.

Near this shrine we were met by the local chapter of the Turkish veterans association. We hosted them for lunch, and gave them a few items as souvenirs. Then we took group photos.

We spent two-days in Turkey's third largest city, Izmir. On the heights overlooking the city and its large harbor, we visited the citadel. In the evening we strolled along the waterfront.

Facing the harbor is the Konak plaza, which has two statues that tell some of Izmir's early 20th century history. One depicts the first Turkish citizen killed by Greek soldiers, who had invaded Turkey in 1919.

The other statue reflects the situation in 1922, when the Greek army was occupying large areas of western Turkey and Turkish armies were battling them. The statue is of Atatürk, mounted on a horse, facing the shoreline. On the front of the pedestal are words from his general order to launch the final offensive: "Turkish Armies: Your first objective is the Mediterranean Sea. Forward!"

As the Greek army retreated, they destroying Turkish villages and massacred the inhabitants. By the time the invaders were forced out, the future safety of minorities in both countries could not be assured. The League of Nations supervised an exchange of populations. The Greeks in Turkey was exchanged for the Turks in Greece.

In one of the formerly Greek inhabited mountain villages, whose place was taken by Turks from a village in Greece. Carl and Chris Collier of Aberdeen, MD were charmed by this lovely and quaint layout, excellent food and picturesque tiled roofs. They found the villagers friendly and were fascinated to learn about the earlier exchange of populations. (Carl served in an Army artillery unit in Korea).

Traveling north along the Aegean coast and stopped at Troy. Several layers of Troy have been excavated but it is not clear which one Homer wrote about.

As to the famous wooden horse, we were not disappointed. There it was - at least three stories high. It had been recreated for tourists. We climbed up the stairway, into the belly of the beast, and tried to imagine what the hidden Greek warriors must have felt as they quietly waited for the unsuspecting Trojans to haul the structure through the gate and behind the city's walls. Windows have been cut into the sides of the horse and we could see in the distance the Aegean.

That night we stayed in Canakkale, the city on the Asian side of the Dardanelles. It had been bombarded by Allied warships in 1915, part of the naval attack that started the Gallipoli campaign.

At our hotel, we were greeted by the local chapter of the Turkish vets association. Also, we were given flowers by a group of elementary school children, who sang for us a song about a Turkish soldier leaving for the Gallipoli battle and feeling sadness along with his patriotic duty.

Later that evening some of us strolled along the dock, and

looked across toward the Gallipoli peninsula on the European shore. The next day we would be over there, walking on one of history's great battlefields.

Gallipoli

As our ferry boat approached shore, we saw a sign, on a wide, cleared hillside. White boulders had been used to form the huge figure of a Turkish soldier with his rifle and bayonet. The huge letters beside it said: "Traveler, halt! This ground that you, unknowingly, tread upon is where an epoch is buried. Lean forward and listen; this quiet mound is where the heart of a motherland beats."

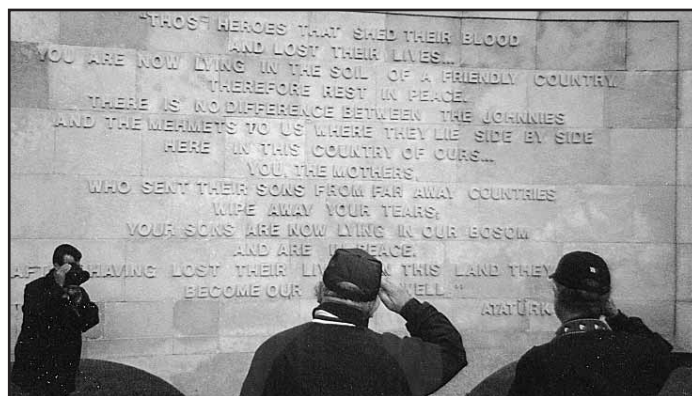
But what does that mean?

The Gallipoli (Gelibolu in Turkish) campaign has enormous significance to Turkey's history. Its significance for world history is less clear, but its potential was nearly impossible to overestimate. Shortly, we would roam that 1915 battlefield and try to comprehend the great clash of naval and land forces. We would pay our respects to those buried there - the sons of Turkey, Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, and France.

Winston Churchill, Lord of the Admiralty, conceived the military operation. Allied forces would quickly seize the Dardanelles and race north to capture the Ottoman capital, Constantinople. That would knock the Ottoman Empire out of the war, and give the Allies a sea route to supply the Russians, who were at war with Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Since the Turkish Army was considered to be quite inferior to those of the Allies, Allied success was taken for granted.

Our bus left the dock and followed a

Continued on page 50



Gallipoli: Saluting in front of wall of "Atatürk's Golden Words." Right to left: John Delaney, John Sinnicki, newspaper photographer.

Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

Connecticut Remembers



The Korean War monument in Vernon, CT is located in Central Park and was dedicated on June 16, 2002.

The inscription on the monument is as follows: "Dedicated to the citizens of Vernon who served in the Korean War and to the one who gave his life Albert Ellsworth Boothroyd, CPL US Army. In honor of all those from Vernon who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States." The driving force behind this project came from Ross Dent and Bradford Keune, both Vietnam Veterans. Enough funds from private donations were raised to make this monument possible. Ceremony participants included the KWVA, CT Chapter One, the family of Cpl Albert Ellsworth Boothroyd and many spectators who later stayed for the Flag Day parade. Charles Boothroyd, brother of Albert, was presented with Albert's medals: Prisoner of War, Army Good Conduct, UN Korean Service and National Defense Service Medals.

(Thank you Linda Ann (Boothroyd) Lazaroff, (niece of Albert Ellsworth Boothroyd) for photo and letter.)

Massachusetts Remembers

Charlestown

Gold Star Families Memorial Bench dedicated on Memorial Day May 27, 2002 at the Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, Massachusetts next to the Massachusetts Korean War Memorial in the shadow of the United States oldest commissioned navy vessel the USS CONSTITUTION - "Old Ironsides"

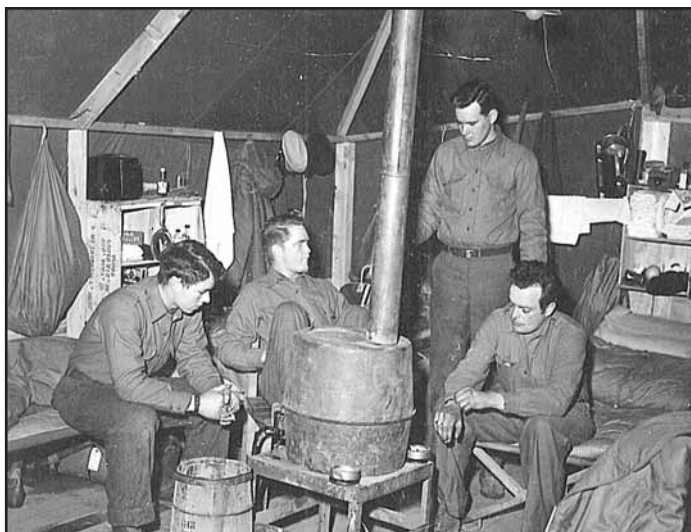
This granite bench is dedicated in memory of/in honor of all family members who have ever lost a loved one in the service of, or due to disabilities received during his/her military service for America. Symbolically, it is also fitting that it is here in Massachusetts for this is the state where America's Gold Star Families first came into existence during the battles of



Gold Star Families Memorial Bench.



Massachusetts KWVA Honor Guard at 9-11 observance.



Tom Hurley (standing) who served on USS Philippine Sea and USS Valley Forge 1948-1953.

Lexington and Concord at the beginning of the American Revolution. It is somewhat ironic that it is the veterans of the Korean War Veterans Association, "the Forgotten War" who offered to host the placement of this memorial for the "Forgotten Families." They have been and continue to be most generous to us and we are very grateful to each and every one. Without these

men and women encouraging us this project could not have come to fruition. Not one penny of the funds raised came from government sources but rather every bit of it was raised by Massachusetts Gold Star Wives, their children, grandchildren, family members and friends. Although the widows were the driving force behind the monument, it is meant to be inclusive of all family members of all our wars. The bench was designed by in consultation with members of the Greater Boston Chapter of Virginia Hurley, President, Gold Star Wives of America Inc.

(Thank you Virginia Hurley for photos and letter.)

Hyannis



Dick Bozzone, past commander of Chorwon Chapter, KWVA of NJ recently visited the Cape Cod and Islands Korean War Memorial next to the JFK Monument at Hyannis. Bozzone is shown in front of the memorial dedicated to those who died and served during the "Forgotten war."

Quincy



Quincy Korean War Memorial engraved of those who gave their lives in a war "no longer forgotten" in 23-karat gold leaf are 38 Quincy men. Dedicated beside Veterans Memorial Stadium in 1996

(Thank you John Mahoney for photos and letter.)



Shown at rear of Quincy Memorial are John W. "Butch" Mahoney and Joan sister of KIA (1950) Bernard MacDougall whose name is etched in gold on the Memorial.

New York Remembers



Front (left) and rear of Veterans Memorial in the Town of North East, Village of Millerton, NY.

The monument was dedicated in 1987 to the veterans of all wars. Each side has the war listed and the veterans names are inscribed in the stones leading to the memorial. There are 51 Korean War Veterans listed. The population of the community is 2500.

(Thank you Roger E. Bradley for photos and letter.)

Illinois Remembers

Eastern Illinois University



ABOVE: Eastern Illinois University War Memorials shown behind gate and near building.

RIGHT: Korean War Memorial.

(Thank you Hershall Lee for photos and letter. Tell them it was a war not a conflict.)



Waukegan

RIGHT: KWVA member John Robinson was responsible for getting a Korean War Memorial drive put at Glen Flora Avenue. The stretch spans the entire length of Glen Flora from Sheridan to McAree Road (2) miles

BELOW: 50th Anniversary display of the Korean War. Corner of Sheridan Road and Glen Flora Ave. in Waukegan, IL on the grounds of Victory Hospital back of display is the WWI War Memorial Wall.

(Thank you John Robinson for photo and letter.)



Virginia Remembers



Here is the list of war deaths from Wise County Virginia and a plaque of Lt. Daniel Webster Dotson of Powdr, VA. You can only see a portion of it. List of combat deaths, WWI 42, WWII 253, Korea 38, Vietnam 33 and Dotson, the survivor of the Bataan Death march.

He received the Distinguished Service Cross in 1951 for gallantry, the Purple Heart with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Combat Infantry Badge with a Star and many other awards and citations. Lt. Dodson was the most decorated soldier from Wise County and second most decorated soldier from the State of Virginia of the Korean War.

(Thank you Howard Viking for photo and letter).

California Remembers



While driving down Highway 5 south of Stockton, California, I noticed a sign by the Santa Nella exit, indicating a Korean War Memorial. We turned off and took a picture. I was with the 29th Inf. on Okinawa when the war started, and went to Korea in July 1950. I was a member of C Co. until Sept 1950, when we were re-designated as L Co., 35th Inf.

(Thank you David M. Williams for photos and letter.)

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NATIONAL XMAS REUNION 8-11 DEC, 2003

Veterans History Project Keeps War Memories Alive

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample, USA American Forces Press Service

There are over 19 million veterans living in the U.S. today. With each is a personal story of battles fought, victories and defeats. Each story, though sometimes heartbreaking, is full of love, dedication and patriotism.

That's how Peter Bartis describes his work with the Veterans History Project. The grassroots effort that began two years ago – and has now caught fire – is hoping to keep those memories alive.

Bartis, a senior program officer for the project, said that each day some 1,500 U.S. veterans die – and with them a treasured part of the nation's past. "These are some of the most amazing stories; when you put them all together you get a story of the nation," he said.

Over the past year alone, the project's staff of 16 has already collected more than 14,000 items, such as letters and other memoirs, and video and audiotape interviews.

"We're all just blown away by these stories," he said. "The information has been very rich, it's been emotional, and it's very heartening to listen to the stories, to learn how and why they (veterans) joined, their war-time experience."

With the idea that future generations could learn from the histories of the nation's veterans, the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, began the effort to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of American war veterans – men, women, civilians who served in World

Wars I and II, and the Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars. The center needs contributions of civilian volunteers, support staff, and war industry workers also.

Bartis said the amount of regular mail and the number of e-mails and phone calls vary from day to day, "but the response to this project has been enormous." "We get to know a lot of these people personally. That's the fun part," he said. Aside from the thousands of items received from everyday Americans each year, Bartis said the project has gained tremendous support from the corporate community as well.

The Veterans History Project's official Web site lists more than 50 national partners and support organizations from every state. The military services contribute through offices such as the Army's U.S. Center of Military History and the Naval and Marine Corps Historical centers, as well as DoD's official committee commemorating the 50th Korean War anniversary. Major national veterans associations are well-represented also.

"This is not our project or the library's project. This is the nation's project," Bartis said. "We want people of all walks of life to feel ownership of this project." To learn more about the Veterans History Project visit www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/

The Veterans History Project, an initiative of the Library of Congress's American Folklife Center, is calling on our veterans and many others that contributed in some way during times of conflict to record their personal stories and experiences for long-

term preservation in the Library of Congress and other trusted repositories. The effort covers World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf wars and includes all participants in those wars – men and women, civilian and military. It documents the contributions of civilian volunteers, support staff, and war industry workers as well as the experiences of military personnel from all ranks and all branches of service – the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy, as well as the U.S. Coast Guard and Merchant Marine.

After 48 Years, Korea Cease-Fire Service is Finally Recognized

After 48 years of service in the Republic of Korea, U.S. Armed Forces will finally receive the service medal recognition they earned and deserve for their historically dangerous and hostile duty. Approximately 40,000 troops have served on the peninsula each year since 1954. On 2 DEC 2002, President Bush signed the National Defense Authorization for year 2003 that included the KOREA DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL to be awarded to all armed forces members who served from 28 July 1954 to a date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense. The House and Senate passed the bill in November. This will affect many thousands of former and current servicemen and women. Korea service is the only U.S. military deployment standing the line face-to-face with an enemy without a service medal award.

Representative Elton Gallegly (R-CA 23) was the first Member of Congress to create legislation for the service medal on May 22, 2001. His bill had 243 bipartisan cosponsors that included a

majority of members on the House Armed Services Committee. A companion bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) on June 7, 2001 with 63 bipartisan cosponsors that also included a majority on the Senate Armed Services Committee.

There has never been a surrender or formal truce agreement officially ending the Korean War in spite of 48 years of negotiation. Only a fragile cease-fire agreement is in place and technically, the countries remain at a state-of-war. Since cease-fire service began in 1954 there have been over 40,400 breaches to the cease-fire agreement by North Korean Forces. At least 1,200 U.S. personnel have died, hundreds wounded, and 87 captured and held prisoner. There are more than 2,300 Republic of Korea casualties.

In August 1999 the Korea Defense Veterans of America, headquartered in Dunellen, NJ, initiated the project to bring

Continued on page 64

The Cribben Twins

A flip of a coin changed their fate.

The twins were only 17 years old when they joined the Marine Corps in January, 1952. The choice put in front of the two tough kids from the South side of Chicago, was reform school or the military. They jumped at the chance to fight. The twins remembered when they were 11 years old and put on a train to San Diego that the returning war heros from WWII riding with them was a very impressive sight. Besides, now they could get shoes and new clothes. Things they had very little of growing up.

After training at Camp Matthews, Camp Pendleton and cold weather training in Hastings, Nebraska, the new Marines were put on a troop ship for Inchon.

The men from Howe Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines were fighting men. It was no surprise they would soon find the front. It was in March of 1953, when "H-3-5" was on the MLR protecting the forward outposts of Reno, Carson and Vegas.

As identical twins with more than a little "attitude", a commanding officer never really knew which Cribben he was going to get. Any assignment from above was met with a secret coin flip between Jimmy and Buddy. A simple change of shirts and tags, and one became the other. It was one of these coin flips that forever changed the life of my Father.

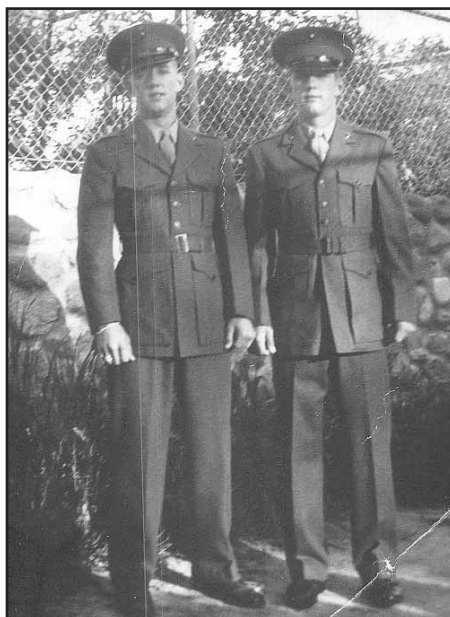
Never wanting to send the twins on patrol or outpost together, the word came that one Cribben had to go out to Vegas. It was left for the twins to pick which one. After another Marine flipped the coin to decide, my Uncle Jimmy was last seen by my Dad heading down the trail through the layered paddies that turned and went up to Vegas, over 1500 yards away.

In what has become a well documented battle of exceptional ferocity, where Medals of Honor were earned and untold stories of heroism are whispered by Grandfathers to curious family members that try to understand why Dad would awake in such a fright or could not watch MASH on TV when it seemed so funny to the rest of us. My Uncle and 40 other men were the first to hear the trumpets and see

the flares.

At 7:00PM on the evening of March 26th, they came. Thousands of Chinese regulars. One wave after another. Chinese in the rear not needing to bring a weapon because it was more efficient to use the weapon of their fallen comrade as they passed by the hundreds of Chinese being mowed down by the machine gun fire directed towards them. The MLR also was under intense artillery fire. My Dad was now an assistant BAR man and he fought through the night knowing that there were too many Chinese between

One thing that always remained for Buddy was the pain of not knowing the fate of his brother.



Walter "Buddy" Cribben on left and brother Jimmy on right.

them and the outpost. Where was Jimmy and could it be possible that he made it?

For the next three days, the hill passed hands several times. All but about 6 of the original 40 Marines and one Medical Corpsman were either missing or dead. Jimmy had not been found.

During the fighting on the 27th, in an attempt to move forward, alone, beyond the main line, my Dad had a mortar shell land very near him in the paddy in which he was crawling. The shell sunk deeply into the mud but a small piece of shrapnel found it's way into his left hand. For the moment, he would be evacuated to the field hospital.

While he was being stitched up and readied for return to the front, the doctors came to know his situation and felt he needed to stay for a day or two and get his emotions in check. It was during this time that he would wait for the dead and wounded coming back to see if his brother was among them. He soon found himself kneeling beside the body bags, unzipping each and hoping yet fearing he would see his own face looking back at him. Instead seeing the horrors of what war can do to the human body. Unable to determine if the remains were even human much less his brother.

My Dad did return to the fight. Madder than ever. He would volunteer not just to go out on patrol, but to be point man. To his recollection, he made 40 or more such excursions. I met a Marine who was with my Dad on many of these patrols. On one such occasion, the two of them captured two North Korean soldiers and "interrogated" them regarding my Uncle. I can not blame my Father for his rage. When you are in such an unreal environment, sanity is ill defined.

Just before Armistice, the Commanding Officer found that it would be only right to let my Dad go home. He was Honorably Discharged soon thereafter. His last memory of Korea was watching the peninsula disappear quietly while standing on the back of his transport ship to the States. He doubted that he would ever see his brother again.

When he returned to San Diego, my Dad looked up his high school sweetheart, Mary Lou. He found such comfort with her. She was pretty, from an old San

Diego family and they really were in love. It was because of her that he was able to move on with his life. They married and had three sons. Life seemed to be worth living after all.

One thing that always remained for Buddy was the pain of not knowing the fate of his brother. For many years, a report that Jimmy had been seen alive and in good health but held in captivity kept the pain fresh. An alcoholic Mother and a Father who had his own demons, did not provide any help. The twins were always hard fighting, hard drinking boys. Now it seemed the drink would get hold of Buddy. It seemed that the happier the time of year, the angrier Buddy became. It was not for many years that I came to understand my Dad's agony.

In 1969, my Dad collapsed at his job. He was incoherent and sweating profusely. Anyone who saw the movie "Cuckoo's Nest" with Jack Nicholson can get a glimpse of what my Dad was about to go through. In 1969, a very acceptable treatment for nervousness and depression was Electro-Shock Therapy. My Dad suffered a series of what is now commonly considered barbaric treatment. When discharged two years later, my Dad was sufficiently numb from Thorazine, Librium and 12 other "medications" that he would be considered cured. Not for thirty more years would they use the term: PTSD. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Through the years my Dad had several careers. Always moving straight to the top and then somehow, sabotaging himself for failure. Years later we understood the guilt my Dad felt from "winning" the coin flip that led to the loss of his brother. He beat himself up mentally every day for many years. Never allowing himself to feel too good.

In 1990, my Dad moved to Arizona. He felt that a change would help him. We packed him on a Greyhound bus and wished him luck. All he had was one suitcase and \$300.00 when he arrived in Phoenix. After several stints at car sales, my Dad found himself suffering. He was arrested for being drunk in public. Later, he would be remanded to a half-way house. There were 6 men to a room. All with similar problems. My Dad's depression increased. One day, he met someone that would change his life.

A social worker at the halfway house suggested that as a Vet, he should contact the VA in Phoenix because of an excellent program they had to help men in his situation. Having never wanted anything from the military, he had not used any Vet benefits. He decided that he was no longer able to live this way and took her advice. Upon arriving at the VA, he was put through the routine examinations. He was given new glasses, new dentures and a complete psychological profile. The doctors told him that he was classically PTSD and if he would be willing, he could enter a one year program they said would be his best hope for survival.

The PTSD program at the VA consisted of a dozen or so men from various wars. Some had physical disabilities including loss of limbs from combat. Some had no outward signs of disabilities yet all were injured. Upon completion, my Dad, who seemed so strong, intelligent, friendly and physically healthy, was the only Vet to receive 100% disability from his group. Clearly, this was not some "anxiety" that he would have to manage as the doctors said in 1969. My Dad was injured twice in Korea. Once in the hand. Once in the head.

The successful completion of the program resulted in his receiving his disability and social security when he was 58. The back pay of twelve months enabled him to rent a nice apartment in Payson. A beautiful, wooded area in the mountains of Arizona. Here he found peace and quiet without the pressure of finding sustenance. He still suffered as there is no cure for PTSD. Only understanding. He would shut himself from the outside world for days or weeks and then emerge, seemingly happy and content. Always waiting for the trigger that would launch another round of depression.

On Halloween night, 1997, I was at work when I received a phone call from the Gas and Electric Company. The hospital had used them to track me down. I was to fly immediately to my Dad's bedside. An Aortic aneurysm had burst in my Father's chest. He was in a coma and I was told to prepare for the worst. Out of 100 such incidents, less than 5 would survive. Days passed and then weeks. The sound of the ventilator that entered the trachea and of the inflatable mattress that

would roll his body side to side were the only sounds. The knowing looks from the ICU nurses and the fact they would let you stay when all other visitors were made to go home, made you understand the grave situation we faced.

One day, after praying again for my Dad's suffering to stop, I asked my Dad aloud if he wanted to make it. Quietly, I saw his lips move and his eyes tear up. He nodded yes. He was waking up! After 4 weeks in a coma and 8 weeks in ICU, we moved my Dad to a facility that taught him how to breathe again. They said he would be on dialysis for the rest of his life. They did not know his will. Two months later, I moved my Dad back to San Diego to be near us for his recuperation.

By the next spring we planted flowers, shopped for antiques and enjoyed each others company very much. He came to know his Grandsons better, healed strained relations and for the first time in his life, seemed to be enjoying it.

Our Christmas party of 1998 turned out to be very special. My Dad paid a surprise visit and for the first time in over twenty five years, saw my mother again. My Dad was still rather fragile but you could see how happy he was. Not that there would be a renewed relationship, but simply that a relationship that had been built of real love was confirmed. Uncles and Aunts were able to make peace with him having a better understanding of the man.

Two days later, my Dad was suffering from shoulder pain. This had gone on for some time but suddenly became acute. We took him to the hospital where he was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. We were told we had less than one year to be together. My Father's unusual reaction of his impending death was something to behold. His acceptance and lack of fear was inspiring. Three weeks later, with his three sons at his bedside, my Father took his last breath.

The funeral was planned to the last detail. The two flag presentations, the two 21 gun salutes and the playing of Amazing Grace, twice, allowed our family to finally rest in peace. Knowing that Jimmy and Buddy were together again. The two names on the headstone confirming this.

Through my joining the Coalition of Families, the work with the DPMO and other research, I have met many wonderful people that are still committed to bring my Uncle home. I understand that of the over 800 personnel at the Punchbowl in Hawaii, 20-25 may be from the area of our battles. I will not rest until we bring my Uncle home. My only hope is that he did not suffer.

Only the editor of this magazine can have a full understanding of the life my father had to live. I was honored to meet Mr. Vincent Krepps at the POW/MIA update in Washington DC. I will treasure that meeting.

I share this story so that another son or daughter might take a moment and reflect on the life their Dad or Brother or Uncle lived. To remember the "Forgotten War" is to honor them and appreciate them. I will never forget.

Jeff Cribben

A Proud Marine's Son.

(Thank you Jeff. Some people just do not know how these things changes our life and personality. Some just think we are uncaring and cold hearted. Its just that nothing can replace our loss.)



If you have the similar paintings to above, collected in Korea in 50s and 60s, and other Korean paintings, please contact Woo Park.
e-mail : whizcorp@korea.com
tel : +82 11 710 6240
fax : +82 2 738 4188
mail : KPO Box 3, Seoul, Korea

The Greatest Untold Story of the Korean War

By George F. Drake, Ph.D

The lives of over 10,000 Korean children were saved by American Armed Forces during the Korean War, claims George F. Drake, Ph.D., and a Korean War Veteran.

"The compassionate, humanitarian aid the American Armed Forces rendered the Children of Korea during the war is the largest untold story of that war," claims Drake. He says in addition to saving so many lives the GIs helped support over 50,000 children in hundreds of orphanages all over the country. They also donated over two million dollars for orphanage aid during the war years from a wage of less than one hundred dollars a month. Every where one turned one found an orphanage begun or supported by military units.

The GI involvement with the children had the full support of the folks back home. Throughout American cities and towns there were campaigns for aid for the orphans often held in response to a letter from a home-town boy asking for donations for the children his unit was helping. Material aid sent to the troops to help the children amounted to well over one thousand tons of packages of toys, new and used clothes, tools, medicines, food and school supplies from family, friends, neighbors, former classmates and co-workers.

At web site, www.koreanchildren.org, is being developed to document this story of love and compassion in the middle of a terrible war. This extensive web site now contains hundreds of stories of the American servicemen and women and the children of Korea during the war years and immediately following. Some of the stories are real "weepers", says Drake who was in the US Army stationed in Korea in 1952 and 1953. During his spare time he served as corresponding secretary of his company's orphanage committee. Some of the most dramatic stories of how the US Armed Forces saved the lives of the children can be found in the "Saving Lives" section of the "Memories" area on the web site. Drake is continuing his search for material to document this aspect of the Korean War to ensure that it

is not forgotten by history.

For more information contact George F. Drake, Ph.D., Telephone: 360-734-9757 or e-mail: gdrake@koreanchildren.org. Address: 1421 Cornwall Ave. #B, Bellingham, WA 98225.

The stories:

As one village after another crumbled as Korea's million civilians perished as blood of men from nearly a score of nations was spilled, crying children peeked from the wreckage and cried more when they saw a cold and foreign, a destroyed world without love.



In the retreat we had picked up hundreds of babies—some of them sitting beside their dead parents, others just lost and huddled in the doorways of bombed buildings or sleeping on piles of rubble.



Children of all ages, cut off from parents and relatives, formed into gangs for mutual help, begging and stealing. Mothers unable to feed their children abandoned them at sentry Posts. Boys and girls lived in ditches, caves, and streets of cities in unbelievable poverty. Many had shrapnel in their bodies. All had diseases and parasites. The American serviceman, faced with this tragedy of war, could not wait for official channels and agencies which were already strained to the breaking point. Unit after unit in Korea sponsored orphanages, gathered up the children, getting Koreans to run them, providing clothing, food and supplies.



It's estimated that possibly one-third of the children under the age of two will die this winter (1950-51) unless immediate steps are taken to prevent this catastrophe.... Earlier this week 40 infant babies died of starvation at a Buddhist orphanage not more than five minutes from where I write.



(The serviceman's) "help meant the difference between life and death for thousands of Korean children."

We found a little boy, ragged and dirty.

He could not speak except for some guttural noises and utterances. We took him into our quarters to bathe him and care for him.



Air Force Nurse Mary Wilfong showed signs of weeping. "Taking care of the wounded isn't a pleasant job always," she said, "but it never hit me like this. Those kids were so helpless and so pitiful."



The men "serving on the carrier USS Kearsarge ... decided that the children they wanted to help would be those who had had it roughest. So they picked out an orphanage set up in an old Buddhist retreat near Seoul, a place where soldiers brought kids abandoned along the battle line."



Whenever I picked up one of their news-sheets in the field (anything from a blurry mimeographed regimental bulletin to a printed division weekly), I ran across accounts of clothing drives, fund-raising campaigns, building projects and Christmas parties for Korean kids.



The children sang several songs The first number they did was "Old Black Joe." If you recall the lines of the last stanza, the words go, "I hear their gentle voices calling "Old Black Joe." The youngsters didn't sing it that way. They sang it, "I hear their gentle voices calling GI Joe."

On this basis, orphanages had sprung up all over Korea. Through GI generosity, tens of thousands of war-made orphans, from whose lives love and security had vanished, found new homes and new affection.



It is safe to estimate that a total of \$2 million [US dollars] has actually gone to Korean orphanages in cash and material in the form of voluntary troop contributions.



It is impossible to measure statistically the affection poured out by men in Korea towards the wonderful Korean children. At every orphanage, a little Kim Sung Hi or Lee Myung Hung knew a "Mack" or a

"Mike" or a Chaplain Somebody whom they ran to greet as their friends, lifelong friends.... But even holding a child in his arms a child, who may never have known his parents, was a two-way street of sharing that undoubtedly has greater significance than numbers can show.



As of 1 June 1954 there were 429 approved orphanages and 50,936 children in the approved orphanages of Korea. July statistics... showed that there were increases in the number of children in orphanages that averaged about 1,000 children per month.



In 1953 Army personnel [not including Air Force or Navy] gave a total of 481 Christmas parties. Korean attendance (mostly orphans and schoolchildren) amounted to 181,292. Gifts amounted to \$496,117.23 or almost \$1,000 per party.



In 1950, it wasn't a question of what to give, but to give something. GIs gave candy and canned food to the forsaken children they encountered on their marches. It is a fact that for a time this was practically all the outside support the children then had.



My attention was turned to a tragic group of refugees, more than 2,000 homeless children. They were living on the outskirts of Pusan on the North Slope of the mountain.... These tiny innocents had their own special benefactors grimy, dog-tired American soldiers. Using their entrenching tools, the GIs had dug foxholes on the mountainside for these homeless Korean kids. At night the little ones would slide into foxholes — each big enough for just one child — and cover themselves with a piece of cardboard made from a US Army C-Ration carton. As long as I live I shall never forget mornings on that Pusan mountainside when those of us caring for the children would call to them to wake up. As we passed each covered foxhole, up would pop the cardboard lid and then [out would come] the dirty but smiling face of one of the Korean children, ready to begin another day.



You should have seen the kid.... He

had on a ragged sort of loincloth and an old shirt. And nothing else, with that icy wind blowing. He looked like a little old man who hadn't ever washed; the only clean parts of him were the streaks on his cheeks where he'd been crying. He stood there a second, with everybody watching him and not quite knowing what to do. Then Big Sam jerked off his flight jacket and rushed up the ramp. He wrapped the jacket around the boy and picked him up like he was a billion dollars worth of diamonds or something. The kid didn't do a thing, even with Big Sam hugging him. He didn't smile, or cry or move; just let himself get picked up like he was half-dead.



Long after the war is over, Koreans—both North and South—will still talk of the marine American fathers and what they did for the children. They will remember it after the graves are green and forgotten, and it will be retold from father to son. 'Did I ever tell you, son,' the old man will say, 'how the good marines from America took care of your grandfather when he was three years old?'



American Soldiers serving in Korea have been warned not to become too attached to unofficially adopted Korean children.



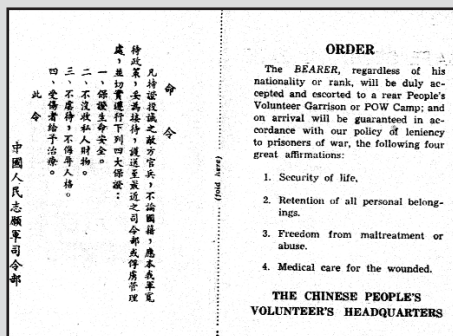
Discovery of a stranded two-year old, orphaned Korean child and the subsequent care tendered the infant gave the battle hardened men of Company D, 15th Regiment, a brief relief from the duties of war. Later when the child was well enough to be moved he was sent to an orphanage. When a plea was put out for the orphanage... funds from the 15th Regiment amounted to \$7,818.



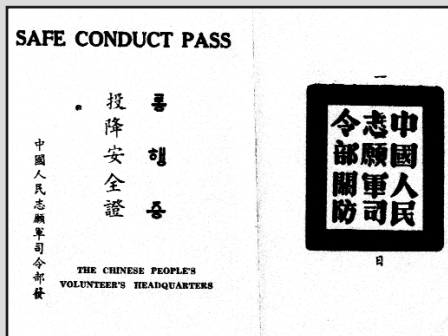
When Capt. Ethelyn Hughes, Army nurse,... first found her, dirty, sick, and alone on the streets of Seoul, Barbara impressed her as 'the most pitiful little soul in all of Korea'... Her parents apparently dead, Barbara's ills were many. Maggots had collected in a flesh wound around a compound fractured leg. They had also infested her ears and nose. She suffered from malnutrition and later

Continued in page 56

Images of Korea



Safe Conduct Pass (The Chinese People's Volunteer's Headquarters) Found on Patrol - Chorwon Area.



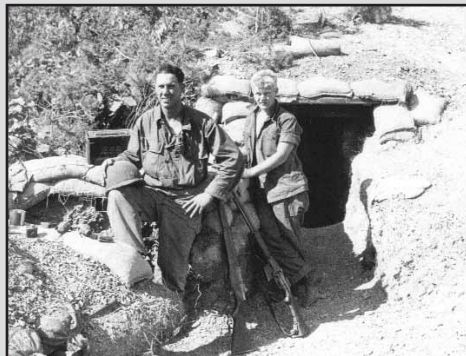
Back or Inside of Safe Conduct Pass.



Korea Spring 1952 - One of the shell blast-ed hills we occupied a short time.



Fighting at night leaves daytime visitation. Sgt. Richard Bohrman (left) received a well deserved Silver Star for action on June 10, 1952.



All quiet on the West/Central Front PFC G. Ed. White left and Cpl. Bill Driver on line facing T-Bone Hill.



A Real Persuader! PFC. G. Ed White and 8inch gun on "Firing Range" Drop it on 'em Harry! - Spring 1952.



Chow Time in the Trenches. "L" Company at rear of hill - M.L.R. facing T-Bone Complex.



"L" Company on Patrol - September 1952.



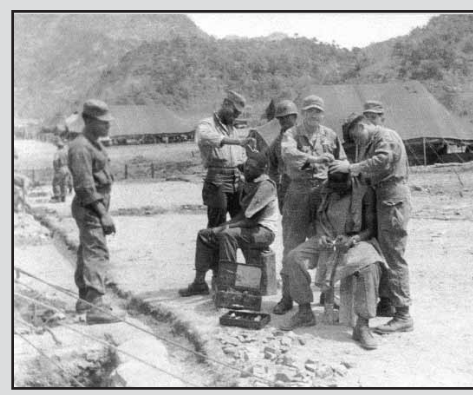
"L" Company crossing the Soyang River on Pontoon Bridge, Spring 1952.



Ready for action?-"L" Company, March 1952



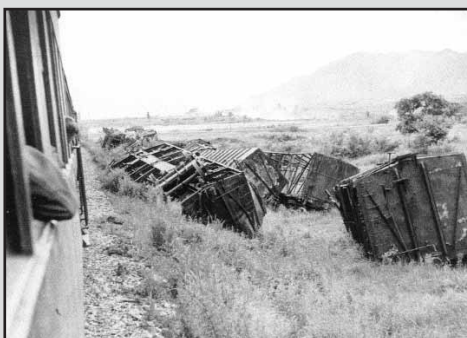
A Hot Game Going! Squad Tent, August 1952



Open-Air - G. I. Haircuts @ no cost too!, Spring 1952.



Home Bound - At Last! Aboard the Gen. W.H. Gordon , November 1952.



Train View of Train Demise! - Victim of Good 'Ol U.S. Air Attack, July 1951.



Main Street - Seoul, Korea, April 1952, front of main railroad train station.



Capitol City - Seoul, Korea, April 1952.



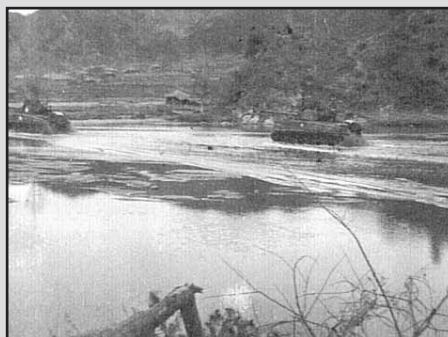
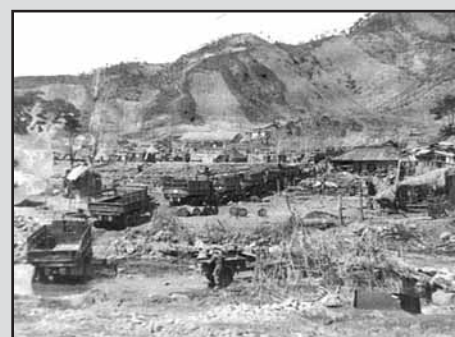
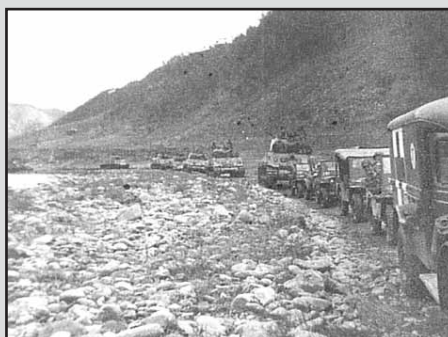
Good 'ol Rotation Office - R&R and Home Sweet Home, October 1952.



Gateway to Home - 369th Repl. Co. Depot - Self Explanatory October 1952.



Back in Reserve - But hungry for action. "L" Company, March 1952.



Korea 1952, 224 Inf. Reg. , Near Hagamnyong.

Photos by William H. Mutart, 24701 Wood Saint Clair Shores, Mi. 48080-1043

Photos By:

Glenn Ed White
1005 Chase Way
Benton, Louisiana 71006.
Tel: 318-965-0258

Images of Korea

Photos by:

Till Lecian
691 South 44th St. Apt 1
Louisville, KY 40211-3230



S/Sgt. Till Lecian firing a Recoilless rifle on Sandbag Castle, Winter of 1952-1953.



S/Sgt. Till Lecian and Squad Leader off line down from Sandbag.



Members of E/Co. cleaning weapons, We were a Heavy Weapons Platoon.



CPL. Deemers at his mortar position dug in on Sandbag. He was a native Canadian who served with us. He was awarded the Purple Heart.



Fire Base Rabbit down at the MLR Sandbag.



E Co. Rifle Platoon Guys



Cpr. Jose Quidnes mortar man for E/Co. dug in on Sandbag. Home State California.



S/Sgt. Till Lecian (right) passing on CIB's to Squad down off Sandbag.



Kumhwa 1951 - A meeting of brothers in Korea. Robert H. Jenkins on right and brother Herman Jenkins.
Photo from Robert H. Jenkins

A quick bath in the Imjin River during the fall offensive October, 1951. On the left, Ed Hinderer - on the right, Ron Hansen - Co. M, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division.

Photo from Edward F. Hinderer, 188 Jerrold Ave., Shoreview, MN 55126



Ammo Shortage in Korea

By Richard M. Thomas

1 April '53

Dearest Peggy,

We had considerable excitement here today. Secretary of the Army Stevens came to inspect the ammo situation. He was accompanied by Generals Mark Clark, Taylor, Kendal, Waters and several others.

To give you an idea of how much rank there was here, there were a total of 19 stars and eagles were as common as sparrows. A major was just a peon in this group. Reporters were plentiful, as were photographers. Movies were filmed, no doubt for the newsreels.

A conference was held in front of the Depot Office -you may get to see our company in the movies. I'm sure you'll read about Stevens' visit at least. After the conference they rode out to the storage ammo areas and that was the last we saw of them.

Stevens had journeyed to Korea to investigate a reported ammunition shortage. Not knowing anything about a shortage, the G.I.'s in our company thought it odd that he chose to inspect a relatively small forward ammo supply depot.

We thought it might explain why for several weeks, before Stevens' arrival, we had received an extraordinary supply of artillery ammunition. Additional sites had been required to stack pyramids of 105mm and 155mm artillery rounds, on hillsides at the perimeter of our compound.

Research of newspaper and magazine articles from that time revealed a major "stateside" controversy including an investigation by the Senate Armed Services Committee headed by Senator Margaret Chase Smith. Upon retiring in March '53, former Eighth Army Commander, General Van Fleet insisted that his forces had lacked an adequate supply of ammunition. "There has been a serious shortage of ammunition ever since I have been in Korea. There has been a serious shortage at times. There is today a serious shortage of some types of ammunition. (Time: March 16, '53). Army Chief of Staff General. "Lightnin Joe" Collins implied that Van Fleet like most combat commanders had an insatiable appetite for ammunition. In '52 Eighth Army fired an average of 62,616 rounds of mortar and artillery ammo a day — nearly 10 times that of the enemy. (Time: March 23, '53).

Eisenhower Finds Shell. Supply Good. Denies ammo had anything to do with withdrawal from Old Baldy, Bunker Hill. (New York Times, March 23, '53).

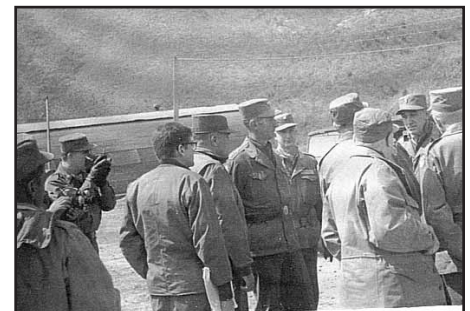
Ammunition Ship to Korea Diverted Since Shells Exceed Storage Space. (New York Times, March 26, '53).

Testifying before Senate Armed Services Committee, Van Fleet insisted that shortages of ammunition — especially mortar and 155mm howitzer shells — had made it impossible to "plan adequate defensive fire... to kept the enemy from launching an attack. (Time, April 13, '53).

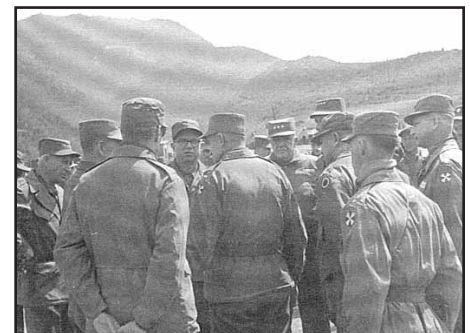
"Colossal . . . terrifying , incomprehensible.. ridiculous", said Senator Harry Byrd during Senate Armed Services hearing on ammo shortage, "record shows clearly that there were shortages in Korea." (Time, April 20, '53).

Stevens declares Korea shell stock is in "Good Shape" more than 90 days 60mm and 4.2 inch mortar shells, 78 days 81mm mortar shells, 72 days 105mm howitzer shells He arrived at the front shortly after the sharp fighting for the hill known as Old Baldy. Lt. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor told the Secretary he himself had never seen such a concentration of artillery. His resources convinced him, Mr. Stevens said that there had been shortages of ammo in the past. (New York Times, April 11, '53).

Whatever the truth of the situation, the 630th's additional ammo supply was soon needed to repulse the major Chinese spring and summer offensive launched before the July 27 Armistice.



Gen. Clark, others- Lt. Dabby" far right



Sec. Stevens facing with officers



Stevens (center) arriving at; 630th Ord. Ammo Co.



Col. Masters, Gen. Mark Clark, Gen. Taylor, Gen. ?



Stevens left in jeep. Company Commander LT. "Dabby" Daboroski (sic ?) behind driver.



Korean War Veterans open exhibit in Honolulu

With “To forget would be a dishonor, to remember would be everlasting,” as their motto, Japanese American Korean War Veterans gathered in large numbers in Honolulu in September to hold a memorial service for the killed-in-action and missing in action from their “Forgotten War” and to open a special exhibit at the Japanese Cultural Center. The events also paid tribute to the next of kin.

A morning memorial service was held at the Hawaiian State Capital grounds at the uniquely designed Hawaii Korean War Memorial. Featured speaker was Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura, who gave a moving speech in remembering and honoring his comrades who gave their young lives for their country.

Governor Benjamin J. Cayetano declared the day “Japanese American Korean War Veterans Day. Distinguished guests from the military, elected officials, the Republic of Korea diplomatic corps and the Hawaiian National Guard added dignity to the occasion.

The following day, the veterans officially opened a special exhibit of Korean War memorabilia, including a moving display, “The Gallery of Honor,” in which photos (where available) and names of the 247 KIAs and MIAs with their brief biographies were shown. The exhibit includes an overall history of the Korean War, with maps and artifacts dramatically displayed. The exhibit was a labor of love and long, dedicated hours, co-chaired by Paul T. Ono and Frank Takeyama and their crew.

Touching narratives of the KIAs and MIAs included that of Patrick Hamada, Jr., of Hawaii, who was only 17 when he enlisted. He was killed on “Old Baldy” in August, 1951. His older brother gave his life previously during World War II.

Rodney Hamaguchi of Hawaii was the first Japanese American killed in the Korean War. He was killed on July 5, 1950, 10 days after the start of the war.

Roy Shirahama from California, one of the “Chosin Few,” lay wounded on the side of the road. None of the retreating Caucasian comrades stopped to help him. Finally, Lawrence Nihei of Hawaii, put him in an ambulance to safety. A few days later, Nihei was killed.

Then there were the Miyashiro brothers of Kauai – Daniel, Tomoyoshi and Yaichi. When two of the brothers were killed, Yaichi was pulled out of the front lines in accordance with a U.S. Army policy based on compassionate action.

Another park of the display paid homage to 15 Japanese Americans who were awarded the second highest medal for gallantry, the Distinguished Service Cross. There is some discussion for a campaign to upgrade some of the DSCs to the Medal of Honor, since during those times, race was still an issue in the awarding of medals.

Featured speaker at the reception was Gen. David A. Bramlett, U.S. Army (Ret.) and former chief of staff. The emotional climax came with the reading of each name from a replica of the JAKWV’s memorial in the Veterans’ Court of the

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center in Los Angeles. As each name was called, surviving family members offered a flower.

A more relaxed and fun part of the reunion were a luau, trips to Pearl Harbor, the Punch Bowl and the Polynesian Cultural Center. Many veterans took the cruise aboard the “Vision of the Seas,” making port calls to Maui, Kauai, the Big Island and on to Ensenada, Mexico.

Veteran Stanley Kanzaki recalled a poem by an English soldier, killed in World War I, “In Flanders Fields.”

*If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Field.* “

A forgotten Hero remembered

This past summer, while on vacation through Yellowstone Park and continuing along and spent the night in Cody, WY. The next morning while preparing to pack up and leave our motel, this Oriental man approached my car, noting that my license plate shows I was in the Korean War. He talked to me and shook hands and then gave me a small box that was wrapped up. He told me to open it and he seemed to be very pleased with it. There inside was a little figurine of a small figure doing Kung Fu with the Korean Flag on it. He said it was a gift and that he appreciated the help we gave them during the Korean War. While I was turning in the motel key, I met up with him again in the office, with another Korean man and their family. The man that gave me the box, said to the other man, that I was in the Korean War. At that time they shook hands again and bowed to me and then saluted me, shook my hand again and said “Thank you.”

They were with their families and they were on their way to Yellowstone Park. I felt very proud about this whole experience. I just wanted to pass this story on to you and maybe someone else might feel proud they were there, just by reading of my experience.

I can type

“The life expectancy of a machine gunner in combat is 7 minutes” said the Drill Sgt. during my basic training. So when they sent me to Korea during the war, I tried to remain just an ordinary rifleman, figuring the smaller the job, the less target you were for elimination. After 3 months of front line duty, a request was made in our company for a typist. The present Company Clerk was being rotated home and they needed a replacement. Well out of 200 men, it seemed that I was the only one who could type. This certainly was a favorable job, because a company clerk stayed with the 1st Sgt. of the company a short distance behind the front line. One night there was a “RED ALERT” which means that the Chinese has broken through our lines. “Let’s go Corporal” the 1st Sgt. said. We started running to the rear. I thought, great, we were going back to Battalion

headquarters. But what a shock it was when we stopped at a locked hut which when opened contained a 30 caliber water-cooled machine gun. It seems that when a breakthrough occurs, the 1st Sgt. becomes the machine gunner and the company clerk his assistant in order to protect our withdrawing troops. Seemed someone forgot to mention that little detail when I volunteered for the job. Bob Snider (S/Sgt) 2nd Infantry Division

.....

Why "Imjin" Chapter

Some time back when our Chapter was being organized the time came to give it a name. Mr. Ed Musser suggested the "Imjin Chapter". The members liked it and voted to name it after this important river in Korea.

The Imjin River is not extremely long when you compare it to other well known rivers. It is a tidal river, meaning the tides have a strong effect on it and also it is the second widest river in all of Korea. The banks are steep on the north side making it a very treacherous river to cross.

All of the bridges were destroyed in the fighting and many of the Army Engineers' steel replacements were washed away in spring floods. At least four other rivers flow from the large mountains in the east and add to the volume of water and fast current of this usually placid stream.

Some of the fiercest and most important battles were fought over this river. In order to move north against the enemy you had to make a crossing of this dangerous river.

The Gloucesters from England with a Belgium Battalion fought a 72-hour battle with the Chinese Communist 63rd Army. The enemy forces were decimated at a loss of several thousand allied troops. The ratio of enemy to the defenders was 10 to 1. From then on they were called "The Glorious Gloucesters" for they stopped the 1951 Spring offensive by the Chinese and three of their divisions were down to 50%. Also the 1st Cav., 2nd Inf., 3rd Inf. Divs. with the 187 Airborne, 5th R.C.T. and Marines were all involved in fighting at, or near, this river.

The 27th Commonwealth Brigade ran out of hand grenades and threw cans of cheese at the Chinese so the enemy would keep their heads down and not be able to fire their weapons.

The Freedom Gate Bridge north of Panmunjom is very important to the POW's when they were released at the end of the fighting.

Mr. Musser was instrumental in naming our Chapter and we owe him a debt of thanks for suggesting a proud, historical name. "The Imjin Chanter". Thank you. Ed Musser.

.....

A Special Honor Guard

Randolph County Honor Guard of North Carolina

James Allred of Franklinville, NC is a Korean War Veteran and a member of the Korean War Veterans Association. He served a total of 32 years in the U. S. Army and Army Reserve and joined the Randolph County Honor Guard shortly after it was formed in 1992. He is currently Commander of the Honor Guard where he has served in this capacity for a combined total of five years.

The Honor Guard provides military funerals for veterans at



Commander Allred with seven members presenting the 21 gun salute at a funeral.

the request of their family. The service includes the twenty-one gun salute, folding of the U. S. Flag, playing taps, and presenting the flag to the spouse or designated family member. This service is provided free of charge but donations are accepted.

Forty-eight dedicated members (consisting of veterans from all branches of the U. S. Military)

have presented military honors at funerals of 1200 veterans. In 2001, the group participated in 162 funerals. On occasion, we have done two and three funerals in one day. The rate of veteran deaths in our area seems to be increasing about 10% each year.

In addition to military funerals, the Honor Guard also participates in other patriotic events such as the color guard in parades on Memorial Day and Veterans Day as well as give tribute to veterans at the Memorial Wall located in front of the local County Courthouse. Numerous programs are also presented to schools and churches in the area. A few of the Honor Guard members go to the Veterans Hospital one Sunday each month and roll the patients in their wheel chairs to church services.

Each member of the Guard receives three hours credit for each funeral and other military functions in which they participate and receive pins for 100, 200, 300, 500, 750, and 1000 hours of service. After they reach 1000 hours, they are presented with a certificate. This is administered through the Veterans Administration in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Members of the Honor Guard and their families enjoy an annual picnic. In December they have a Christmas party and are treated to a steak dinner after which they are presented with volunteer service pins.

.....

Medic's Remembered by all

I wish to commend an old Korean war vet., Boyed H. Burnley for his poem "The Combat Medic", found on page 51 in the Sept-Oct 2002 issue of the Graybeards. In my 25 years of Army service, Boyed's poem is the most complete description of a combat medic's performance of duty in action I have ever seen. Just reading the poem recounted several personal experiences during my Korean tour (Sept. 1950 – Sept. 1951) as a Platoon Sergeant of an Inf. Co. on Oct. 3, 1950, when our medic was killed trying to give first aid to a wounded member the entire platoon lost morale.

Three weeks later, when J. R. Howard, a replacement medic arrived, morale was restored. A medic to a combat unit is a necessity and considered truly an "angel". Boris R. Spiroff.

Luxembourg Korean War veteran honored

Although the Korean War ended almost 50 years ago, it is never too late to recognize valor! Such was the case on February 6, 2002, when retired Sergeant-Major Raymond Beringer (ex-Luxembourg army) who as a young volunteer of the Luxembourg United Nations Detachment, participated in the Korean conflict in 1953. As a machine gunner he distinguished himself during a night time attack by Chinese troops on April



7/8, 1953 near Chatkol, where the Belgian/Luxembourg troops held a defensive position next to a Greek detachment. To have a better field of fire for his .30 cal Browning M1917A1 machine gun, (then) Corporal Beringer had left the protective structure of his gun emplacement to relocate the weapon on top of the bunker. During that fatal night, he was able to deliver devastating fire on the enemy, repelling several waves of attacks. His single-handed and selfless action regardless of danger greatly contributed to preventing his unit being surrounded and cut off.

For this heroic action, Cpl. Beringer was recommended in 1953 for a high-ranking American decoration (his unit was then integrated into the 7th U.S. Regiment; 3rd Infantry Division), but the paperwork was lost after the war and the decoration never awarded.

Thanks to tireless efforts by Luxembourg, Belgian and American authorities, the case was resubmitted, and the award "Bronze star with "V" (for valor) was recently authorized.

During an elaborate military ceremony at Diekirch army barracks, where young Luxembourg army recruits swore their oath after completing their basic training and where decorations were presented to returning Luxembourg KFOR troops, Major-General Buford C. Blount, commander of the 3rd U.S. Division (mczd.) – who had specifically come from the U.S. for this true highlight occasion – presented Raymond Beringer with the award and thanked him on the part of the United States armed forces for his action beyond the call of duty during the Korean War.

General Blount and Sgt. Major Beringer also visited the National Museum of Military History in Diekirch which has a section on Luxembourg's UN contingents in the Korean War.

General Blount and Sgt. Major Beringer also visited the National Museum of Military History in Diekirch which has a section on Luxembourg's UN contingents in the Korean War.

New Documentary Film Unveiled in Branson

Filmmaker John Gilbert's film about the Korean War, "Korea: We Called it War" was recently screened in Branson, Missouri and in Toledo, Ohio. Based on the book, "We Called it War" by Denzil Batson, John's film tells the story of the front-line infantryman in Korea. Through interviews and archival combat footage as well as stills John's film documents the war



Front Row (L to R) Loren Renz, Gene Stewart, Robert Larsen, Ron Stewart, George Pilkington. Back Row (L to R) Frank Arnall, Denzil Batson, Robert Hunter, Bob Pyeatt, Jake Behringer, Richard Uhl and Filmmaker, John Gilbert.

that has been called the 'Forgotten War.

John started planning the film in April of 2000 after he read Denzil's book given to him by his father Gordon Gilbert. Gordon is a Korean War Veteran and served in the heavy mortar company of the 3rd division 7th regiment and was in action with Denzil in the war. After growing up hearing stories about the war John became motivated to make a film from Denzil's book. This began a process that has taken over two years of research, filming and editing to become a completed film. Denzil and fellow Veterans, Loren Renz, George Pilkington, Ron Stewart, Gene Stewart, Frank Arnall, Jake Behringer, Bob Pyeatt, and Robert Larsen all took part in the filming as well as Denzil's wife Eva. The film runs 50 minutes long and also includes original 8mm footage from George Pilkington's camera while he was in Korea.

John is currently screening the film for various KWVA chapters around the country. For current schedule of screenings log onto www.wecalleditwar.com

A Bradley County, TN Patriotic Veteran of the year



William K. "Bill" Norwood

William K. "Bill" Norwood has been named Bradley County, Tennessee's, Patriotic Veteran of the year.

Norwood is the founder of The Korean War Ex-POW Association, which began with only 12 members and now has more than 2,000 members.

Norwood has long been active in promoting patriotism, respect for the American flag and the value of freedom. He has made numerous appearances at schools and social events to talk about patriotism, especially to young children.

He is also active in veterans affairs by assisting veterans in their efforts to receive medical care and other benefits, for which they are entitled. He has been invited as guest speaker at various patriotic events across the nation, and was invited to participate

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in the wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown at Arlington, VA.

(Sent in by Donald Deuny - Ex-POW)

Stalag 65 (Korea) (See book review in the July-Aug issue)

Any Chapter ordering books with a minimum of 10 books will send the addresses and \$5.00 per book to me (\$2.50 book cost + \$2.50 shipping/handling, within USA). Then the book will be sent to the individual address from Dallas by me. The Chapter can charge any price for the book, but the minimum (recommended) is the normal price for veterans \$9.95 (including shipping/handling); this means the chapter will have \$4.50/book they sell. I am donating all the profit out of the book sale to the chapters who wish to handle in a minimum quantity. Contact Jay Zo at e-mail <jtzo@hotmail.com>

Friends meet again



ABOVE: Cpl. Speas and Cpl. Bobeck – Korea 1954.

RIGHT: Herb Bobeck and Mell Spells – Wisconsin, 1998



Mel Speas from North Carolina and Herb Bobeck from Wisconsin served together in 1953/54 in the 74th Engineer Combat Bn. in Korea. Even though they have kept in touch by correspondence, they had not seen each other in 44 years. Recently while on vacation, Mel and Herb met again in Madison, Wisconsin and had a wonderful time sharing memories of their military experiences.

Medic Aids Dying Brother

The September-October issue of the Graybeards article “Medic Aids Dying Brother” brought back memories of my time in Korea. I went overseas with two sets of brothers. We were all with the First Cavalry Division. One of the brothers, Bob

Davies was with me in I company 8th Regiment for a short time and then transferred to the Artillery to be with his brother Dick. The other brothers, twins Clynton and Clayton Arrowwood were in another Company. Clayton was killed and his brother came home with his body. Clynton was wounded and I was also wounded. I believe the Davies brothers returned home without being hurt. I did not stay in the Army. I retired after a career with the Los Angeles Fire Department. James R. Haw

Chaplain Kapaun Story

Dear Editor Krepps: Just a moment of your very busy schedule to say a sincere thank you for the very touching article, “The Ordeal of Chaplain Kapaun”. My old eyes of 72 years were far from dry as I read the story of a God fearing man. What a great honor to have you fill the position as editor of a great magazine, Graybeards! Briefly I served with the 3rd I.D. March-December 1951 and met my eldest brother in the Chorwon area July of that year. He was with the 5th RCT. In the fall of 1952 I signed waivers to return to Korea and the 3rd waiver was approved by 1st Army and on Christmas Eve 1952, I occupied a fox hole with Co. B 461st Inf. Bn. and met up with my kid brother in the Kumhwa area. He was with Fox Co. 9th Inf. Regt. 2nd I. D. That was April 1953. God’s love and our mothers’ prayers brought all three of us safely home and we are all still in very good health. Leo E. Kibble



Kimche Lady – Papasan – Mamasan – Holy Man

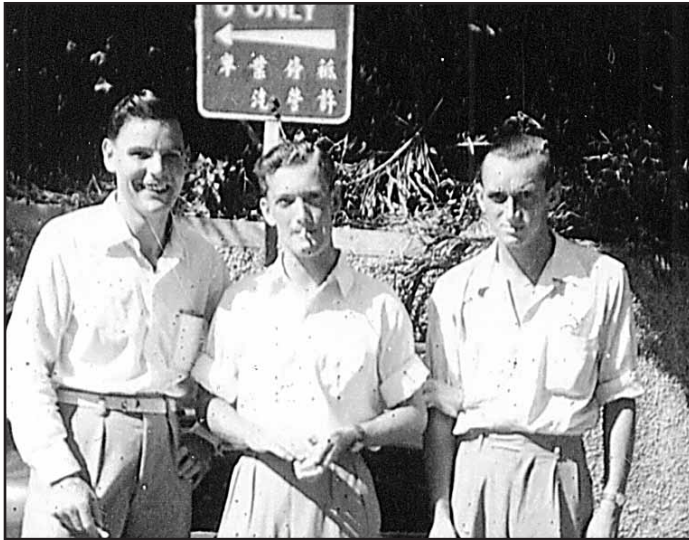
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Friends for Life.....



The two photos above are of the three shipmates as young lads in 1953 and the other taken in April 2002. They are standing in the same order in both photos. L to R: Richard Binch, Les Mullin and Peter Palmer. In the recent photo, Les Mullin, standing in the middle and is holding the older photo. Photos from Sallie Barr Palmer (wife of Peter).

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 \$3.85 postage.

We can send up to 8 copies for \$3.85 postage. For orders above 8 copies or future issues, there is an additional cost of \$1 per copy.

Example: if you wish to order a full year 8 copies each of 6 issues) then a check for \$71.10 should be enclosed with your request.—Editor.

ABOVE: Standing: J. Hountz, D. Eckstien and I. Wilson (deceased). Kneeling: D. Pettit, D. Jarvis, Jr. (deceased) and K. Bockhorst in Japan 1952. All these men were from Ripley County, Indiana were on their way to Korea. They had taken their basic training at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky.

BELOW: Was taken in 2002. The men have gotten together every year in July since their discharge in 1954. Left to right: Bockhorst, Hountz, Stark, Eckstein and Pettit. Stark took basic with the others but went to Korea on a different date. Photos from Betty Pettit, 5416 South Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN 46953 Tel: 765-674-3152.

Korean War Veterans Memorial—The Video



Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War — 2000–2003



Lead Scout

Every day, as many as ten thousand people flock to the KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL in Washington, D.C. to see this long-awaited national tribute to our Korean War veterans. The Memorial honors America's sons and daughters who were wounded and missing in action or captured and those who gave their lives protecting freedom in a land far away.

Now, with this one-of-a-kind, commemorative Video you will visit this awesome Memorial again and again in your own home. You will marvel at the magnificent steel sculptures and the monumental wall of 2400 images. And so that you never forget, casualties are imprinted over a background of combat artists' battle scenes from the Navy Art Gallery.

Hundreds of close-up and wide angle photo-video scenes record the breathtaking artistry of this extraordinary Memorial and bring back memories of the war years.

From the Architect's opening remarks to the segment about the Korean War Honor Roll, the Video leaves an incredibly unforgettable impression on those who watch it and hear its inspiring music and stories.

Three years in the making, this ten-part Video memento is dedicated to all Korean War veterans.

THE MUSIC

Scenes of the Memorial are enhanced throughout the Video by the thrilling, high fidelity, stereo music of *nine* highly acclaimed U.S. Armed Forces bands and choruses.

VETERANS' ACCOUNTS

Veterans' memories include: "Busting through at Kunu-ri Pass," "Lost behind enemy lines," "What it's like to lose close friends," "Johnson's POW List," and many others

THE VIDEO

This video treasure comes with an attractive box, a six-page brochure, a guide to the memorial statues and mural wall, and an itemized program of the video segments, the veterans' accounts and the music.

TO ORDER THE VIDEO

1) Please print or type your full name and your complete return mailing address on a stamped #10 size envelope; 2) Place this envelope inside another envelope; and 3) Mail it to: RAH Publications & Video Productions, KWVM Video Request, 23871 Meadowlark Street, Oak Park, Michigan 48237-2266. (Do *not* send payment with request.)

After the videos are made, invoices will be sent to all those whose requests are on file. After the deadline for receipt of payments has passed, the videos will be shipped in the same sequence in which the payments were received.

For USA orders, the cost of the video is \$39.95 each plus \$5 shipping and handling.



U.S. Army Chorus

©1999 Richard Alden Huebner
©1995 KWVM Productions, Inc.



The Advance Party



The Mural Wall

Chapter Affairs

Taejon Chapter #170 of New Jersey

New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal

On May 16 and May 30, 2002, twelve members of KWVA Taejon Chapter 170 New Jersey received the State's highest military award "N. J. Distinguished Service Medal".

In order to be eligible for this medal, veterans must meet the following criteria: currently a resident of New Jersey. A resident of New Jersey at the time you entered military service. Honorably discharged. Proof of having served in a combat zone.

The Distinguished Service Medal was originally issued in 1958. Since 1988, more than 8,500 medals have been awarded to veterans of New Jersey. The Distinguished Service Medal is awarded posthumously to the next-of-kin of a veteran. Refreshments were served after the ceremony. Over 400 veterans from all wars received the Distinguished Service Medal on these two dates.



Receiving the "New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal" in Teaneck, NJ, Gerald Van Brunt (left) and William Zimmer.

Memorial Day Parade

KWVA Taejon Chapter 170 New Jersey member Dr. Frank Holt served as Grand Marshall in the River Vale, New Jersey Memorial Day parade - May 25, 2002 as Chapter members marched as a unit in support of Dr. Holt in remembrance of those who died for our country. After the parade Dr. Holt invited members to his home where his wife and daughter prepared a banquet.



Receiving "New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal" in Clifton, New Jersey, May 16, 2002. Left to right Louis Quagliero, Harold Dinzes, New Jersey State Colonel, George Brugis and Dominick Di Paola.



Grand Marshall River Vale, New Jersey Memorial Day Parade Dr. Frank Holt.



Receiving "New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal" in Teaneck, New Jersey, May 30, 2002. Left to right Salvatore Altomare, Alexander Atheras, New Jersey State Colonel, unknown veteran, Robert Domanoski and Irving Hauptman.



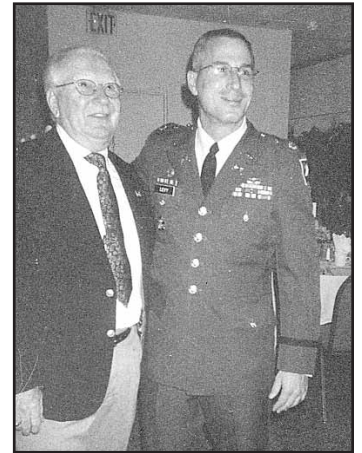
Commander Onorevole (left) and George Job.

Department of New York



Part of those who attended. At table # 4 is John & Lucille Quinn, Howard & Fran Platner, Tom & Catherine Riley, Ray & Florence Gramarossa, and Charlie & Margie Malone.

Department Celebrates the 200th Anniversary of West Point Military Academy. With Special Guest and Banquet Speaker LTC Edward Levy - Chief of Military Instruction, who was accompanied by his Father. He is a long and strong supporter of Korean War Veterans and includes each year 32 members (13 Jan 03) to speak and lunch with the Cadets as a part of his overall program.
(Thank you Dave Allen for photos and letter.)



Manasota Chapter # 199 of Florida



Flag Day ceremonies in West Central Florida featured Katherine Harris who was recently elected to a seat in the U. S. House of Representatives. Shown above with chapter member Larry Hanneken.

WW II and Korean War Veterans Harold Dinzes (left) and Murray Cohen



Shown left to right in front are Quagliero, Cohen, Commander Onorevole, Grand Marshall Frank Holt, Burkert, Burns and Ottina. In back shown left to right are Atheros, Past Commander Meuser, Lomauro and Ferrarini.



Shown left to right are Jr. Vice Commander Bruzgis, Color Guards Ferrarini, Burns, Color Guard Captain Lomauro, River Vale, New Jersey Memorial Day Parade.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter #109



Veterans Day at the Stroudsburg Memorial Court circle in Stroudsburg, PA. Pictured here are some of our members. Left to right: Paul Wartman, Arthur Tramontina, Pasquale Coppola, and Tony Diecidue.

(Thank you Pasquale Coppola for photos and letter. I will print poem elsewhere.)

Department of Delaware

The Rehoboth Beach Public Library and the Korean War Veterans Association (Sussex County) joined hands to create an exhibit honoring the 36,000 Americans killed during the Korean War.

The exhibit features many books, which have been written about the Korean War. Marge LaFond, director of the library, said staff researched and collected books from libraries across Sussex County, "This collection will provide all local residents not just veterans a ready source for the books. We have joined with the Korean War Veterans to commemorate and honor in our home town the men and women in uniform during the Korean War-June 25, 1950 through July 27, 1953."

Mrs. LaFond said, "The Rehoboth Beach Public Library is



KWVA members at marquee showing the event in the library.

proud to take part in this recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War and its veterans."

The Korean War Veterans Association in partnership with the library produced a large glass exhibit with memorabilia from the members of the local Korean War Veterans Assoc. KWVA president, Russ Cunningham said, "The items come from the men's personal collections-thus never before seen by the public. You don't want to miss this."

The exhibit was officially opened to the public on June 19, 2002. The exhibit was available to the media for a private showing. Television, radio, and print journalists were encouraged to attend. Interviews of Marge, Russ and other KWVA veterans were available.

The exhibit was scheduled for one month. Korean War Veterans were at the Library every Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. to greet Library visitors and talk about the War. The exhibit was deluged with hundreds of the many summer vacationers in the busy beach town.



Above: Display case shown with POW/MIA table on left.



At right is upper shelf in display case.



Shown at left is lower shelf of display case.

CHAPTER AFFAIRS is continued on page 38

KWV Commemorative Partner Events

Presentation of the National Korean Flag to DoD

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Republic of Korea Ambassador will present the “Tae-guk-gi” (National, Korean flag) to the Department of Defense, at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 16, at the ROK Embassy in Washington, D.C.

ROK Ambassador, Yang, Sung-Chul will present the Tae-guk-gi to Major General Nels Running, United States Air Force (Retired), Executive Director, DoD 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee.

The presentation of the Tae-guk-gi is symbolic of an ongoing effort between ROK and DoD-KWCC to provide Korean flags to support U.S. Korean War commemoration events. At present, over 10,000 Korean War commemoration partners are active in the U.S. executing events to honor the veterans; however, due to a lack of the Tae-guk-gi, many organizations did not have the flags for their ceremonies. Moreover, some organizations possess the Tae-guk-gi, but outworn flags have tarnished Korea's national image.

After learning about the situa-



Ambassador Yang Sung Chul (left) of the Republic of South Korea shakes hands with retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Nels Running, executive director of the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee after presenting him with the national Korean flag or “Tae-guk-gi.”

tion, the Republic of Korea produced 250 ceremonial flags for KWCC. The flags will support a variety of Korean War commemoration events all across America, and also be kept in major organization's offices for use at all times.

“Korea will forever remember the 1.8 million U.S. men and women who have served in the Korean War to safeguard democracy, and through this event, we once again, honor and thank the veterans and families of the Korean War and hope

that it will strengthen ROK-U.S. bond,” said Ambassador Yang.

2003 is the last year of the three-year Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration.

The Republic of Korea has donated more than 200 Korean flags to help rekindle awareness of the war and the impact it had on the world and communist aggression, and to support ongoing commemoration events. The flag presentation is a symbol of the nation's appreciation to the sacrifices of the United States' Korean War veterans and their families.

During the next year, the final year of the Defense Department's Korean War commemoration period, the commemoration committee will continue to work with the Republic of South Korea to honor veterans with similar flag presentations during local commemoration events across the country.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Tim Volkert, Media Outreach, DoD 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee.

DoD and Tampa to host first commemoration in 2003

BY: Tech. Sgt. Michael Dorsey

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Department of Defense will host America's first Korean War commemoration ceremony for 2003 with the city of Tampa.

“We know first hand of the tremendous spirit of patriotism and the strong support for the military and veteran

populations that abound in Tampa and the region around Tampa Bay,” said retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Nels Running, executive director of the Korean War Commemoration Committee. “We look for the Tampa ceremony to give a terrific jump start to the culminating year of the Korean War's 50th anniversary commemoration.”

In addition to its strong military presence, Tampa Bay's cultural diversity, military resources and mild winter weather make the city an excellent location for the event. As a result, the committee is expecting a large turnout on Jan. 18, 2003 to include a host of Korean War Veterans and supporters from the state of Florida and the surrounding region.

The event will be at the Tampa Convention Center. One of the key elements of the ceremony will be the presentation of the Republic of Korea Korean War Service Medal to five Korea War veterans, each representing his or her respective branch of service.

(More on Tampa event in next issue, including photos.— Editor.)

Korean War Medallion

Shown actual size, complete with neck ribbon, and case. The reverse side is suitable for personal engraving. Can be used in essay and AUX programs, scouting, R.O.T.C., etc... Personalized medallions are a lasting tribute from your chapter to any worthy recipient. Make checks or money orders payable to:

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Columbia County Chapter #283 of New York



KWVA Chapter receiving their Charter. The presentation was made at a County Honor-A-Vet ceremony in Hudson, NY. Pictured, back row left to right, are John Neary, 1st vice Commander Jack Hallenbeck, 2nd Vice Commander Roger Bradley, Tom Flavin and James Sconvie. Front row receiving the Charter are Commander Walter Doty and making the presentation, Martin Torrey, Special Assistant to U. S. Congressman John E. Sweeney, 20th Congressional District. (Thank you Roger E. Bradley for photo and letter.)

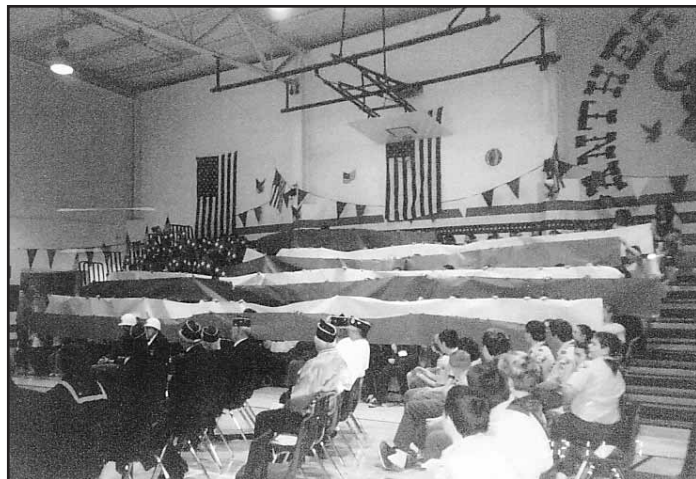
Mahoning Valley Chapter #137 of Ohio

A two hour ceremony was held at Bristol High School to honor all Veterans who served our country. Bristol is the second School District in the Mahoning Valley to be a Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemorative Partner.

The Flag was presented by the KWVA Chapter # 137 of the Mahoning Valley. Five students who are grandchildren of Korean War Veterans accepted the flag on behalf of the school. The ceremony was so stirring it brought tears to many people including the men. Speaker was Maj. Robert Sines who served 3 tours of the Vietnam War.



Pictured (l-r) are: Keith Sponsler, Anthony Williams, Michelle Peachock, Eden Dulka and Nicole Walsh



This is an American Flag done by the students of Bristol High School.



Boy Scout Anthony Williams presented KWVA's Bob Brothers an American Flag and photo of soldier with flag. (Thank you Joann Onstott for photos and letter.)

Western Ohio Chapter # 108



Chapter President, Ken Williamson and charter member, Fred Shively display the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War commemorative flag during each classroom presentation of our Tell America program.

Ken Williamson, President and chapter charter member, Fred Shively, have prepared a special Veterans Day format as part of our annual Tell America program. During the 2000-2001 school year 1,120 students were in attendance.

Our Tell America program was presented to 3,215 students.

During the 2001-2002 school year it is interesting to note the interest that the teachers indicated in requesting both formats. Veterans Day format 2,050 students were in attendance; for the Tell America program 1,944 students and 45 teachers and other adults were in attendance. Nineteen area schools, 64 classes, 118 periods with a classroom time total of 87 hours! This 2002-2003 school year is beginning to indicate a continued interest in these formats to inform students and teachers regarding the Korean War and it's profound change in world history!

President Williamson and charter member Shively display the official 50th Anniversary of the Korean War commemorative flag during each classroom presentation of the Tell America program.

(Thank you Gene Bowser for photo and letter.)

Rockford Chapter #272 of Illinois



When the 2002 Veteran's Day Parade was cancelled in Rockford, Illinois, the Greater Rockford Area our chapter accepted an invitation to march in the Belvidere, Illinois Vet's Parade. After the parade the chapter was the guest of both the Belvidere VFW and the American Legion for liquid refreshments and dinner. Photo by Mrs. Jill G. Keefe.



From left to right, Greater Rockford KWVA Secretary Lou Suit, Operations MSgt. John Bauer, President Chapter 272 Richard Lopiccolo, SSgt Robert Edmiston and Capt. Michael Deer shown receiving a certificate of appreciation for the 244th Army Liaison Team of the Illinois National Guard for providing transport for the chapter's three 2002 parades. Photo by Jack Philbrick. *(Thank you for photos and letter)*

Taejon Chapter #170 of Illinois

Saddle Brook, New Jersey Memorial Day Parade KWVA Taejon Chapter 170 was a participant in the annual Memorial Day parade in Saddle Brook, New Jersey on May 26, 2002. Led by Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole they were greeted by a large crowd of Koreans in front of "The Roman Catholic Church of the Korean Martyrs" Saddle River Road. Young and old cheered as Taejon members march by.



Left to right; A great supporter of our chapter, Saddle Brook, New Jersey, Mayor Karen Chamberlain, Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole, Saddle Brook City Councilman and Taejon member John Cook, Past Commander William McGuinness.



Left to right; Holt, Domanoski, DiPaola and Van Brunt.



Left to right; Burns, Ferrarini, Atheras and Burkert.

50th Anniversary of the Korean War:

Official Licensed Gifts



A. Official 50th Anniversary Custom Framed War Memorial: The cherrywood shadow box includes a vivid portrait of the Memorial, each side of the Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin, & interpretive text. Available in Spring Scene **\$179.00 ea.**

B. Limited Edition Pen Box: To commemorate the signing of the Armistice, the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Committee has authorized the production of a limited edition replica of the Parker Pen used by General Clark to end the fighting in Korea. Each fountain pen is individually numbered, engraved with General Clark's signature, and decorated with the official seal of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War.

Only 2,003 of the Korean War Commemorative Pens will be produced. Each will be enclosed in a handsome cherrywood box. The Official 50th Anniversary of the

Korean War Commemorative Coin, in antique brass with brilliant color, will be embedded in the lid of the box, which bears the immortal phrase, "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE". **\$99.00 ea.**

C. Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin: Anniversary seal in brilliant color set in antique brass. Hand-sculpted and die-struck, the coin is preserved in a custom card package with interpretive text. **\$14.95 ea.**

D. Limited Edition Fine Silver Commemorative Coin: Struck in .999 pure fine silver, each coin is preserved in a custom card package with interpretive text. **\$39.95 ea.**

E. Official 50th Anniversary Leather Coaster/Paperweight: 50th Anniversary seal is presented in die-struck antique brass and recessed in rich burgundy leather. **\$12.95 ea.**

F. Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Medallion: 3" medallion in antique brass with 50th Anniversary seal in color on 1 side and a marvelously hand-sculptured depiction of an American soldier on reverse. **\$24.99 ea.**

G. Official 50th Anniversary Lapel Pin: Gold-plated lapel pin bearing the 50th Anniversary color seal of the Korean War. **\$7.99 ea.**

H. Official 50th Anniversary Key Fob: Die-struck antique brass with 50th Anniversary set in color and attached to a key ring by a brown leather fob. **\$9.50 ea.**

I. Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Medallion Gift Set: In custom, hand-crafted and flock-lined cherrywood keepsake box. Gift box included. **\$99.00 ea.**

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Korean War Veterans Certificate

The beautiful, full color 11" x 17" certificate pictured on the right is now available. It is produced on parchment-like stock.

A special certificate is available to family members of those who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the Korean War or who died of wounds received. The individual request should have the date of death and place and be certified by the requester.

Veterans who want to have a certificate made up for the spouse or descendant of a fallen buddy and can certify to the event, may do so. Multiple copies of the same certificate can be ordered if you have a number of children/grandchildren. You may order certificates to give to members of your unit or provide them with an order form.



Please be sure all information is printed clearly or typed and include your serial number and unit designation while in Korea. In some instances, it may be necessary to abbreviate. Begin your unit designation with the smallest designation and list to the largest.

The certificate will be shipped rolled in a protective mailing tube and total cost is \$20.00 paid in advance. This beautiful certificate can be framed in a 16" x 20" frame with appropriate matting, mounted on a 12" x 18" placard or a walnut plaque.

Certificate Order Form

- ☐ I certify that I served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces in combat/support of the Korean War: 6/25/50- 7/27/53.
☐ I certify that I served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces in Korea (9/3/45 to present - if not during above period.)

I served in: ☐ Army ☐ Air Force ☐ Navy ☐ Marines ☐ Coast Guard ☐ Other

I would like the following information on the certificate:

Rank (Optional) _____ First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____ Serial Number _____

 Spell out full unit starting with the smallest group (i.e., Company, Battalion and/or Regiment, Division)

☐ Killed in action: Date & Place _____ ☐ Died of Wounds Received: Date & Place _____

Mailing Information:

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Street Address _____ Apt No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 Code _____

Signature and date _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Send cash or make checks/ money orders in the amount of \$20.00 for each certificate payable to N. C. Monson. Mail to: N. C. Monson, 5911 North 2nd Street, Arlington, VA 22203.

CHAPTERS from page 39



Left to right; Ottina, Past Commander Meuser, Quagliero and Cutrofello.



Left to right; Castaldo, Cupo, Cohen and Jr. Vice Commander Bruzgis.
(Thank you Louis Quagliero for photos and letter.)

Dutch Nelsen Chapter # 9 of Colorado

The Dutch Nelsen Chapter KWVA, a Commemorative Partner, designated by DOD, held a dual ceremony in front of their Memorial Stone, in Memorial Park, Colorado Springs, on July 27, 2002.



Bag piper Justin Duran leads the Wreath laying procession followed by (left) Whan Gil Kim, Secretary General, of the Korean/American Society of Colorado Springs and (right) John Goodner, 1st V.P. of the Chapter. Also, (center) Elisabeth Goodner, following with a yellow rose, for placing in the wreath.

Posting of the Colors by the Colorado Springs Young Marines. The singing of the National Anthem, by Sgt Linda Sterling, USA MEDDAC, Ft. Carson and the singing of the Korean National Anthem, by Mrs. Sunhee Kim, of the Korean/American Society of Colorado Springs; A wreath was laid at the Memorial to honor their departed comrades. A single yellow rose was placed in remembrance of the MIA'S. Taps were played by Specialist Russell Massey, Colorado National Guard. The Firing Squad, provided by the Pikes Peak Veterans Honor Guard, fired the appropriate number of volleys.

This solemn ceremony was followed by the presentation of Korean War Service Medal to Primary Next of Kin and to Veterans who served in Korea between June 25th 1950 and July 17, 1953. In this and other ceremonies conducted over the past three years the Chapter has presented over 125 Medals, and handled more than 350 inquires concerning the medal. Photos by Specialist Stacy Harris, USA, and courtesy; The Mountaineer, Ft. Carson.

(Thank you Scott L. Defebaugh for photos and letter.)



LTC Scott L. Defebaugh, MSC AUS (Ret.) Chapter President, is shown exchanging salutes with Gary Stroud, of Topeka, Kansas, after Defebaugh, had pinned his friend of over 50 years with the KWSM. Both men served in the 24th ID and have roots in Chanute, Kansas



Sgt. Linda Sterling, (shown) singing "Heroes" to Dutch Nelsen, Chapter Founder and other Veterans present as a part of the program. SFC William Sterling, USA Fourth Finance Bn., Ft. Carson closed the program by singing Lee Greenwood's "God Bless The USA."

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



LTC. Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen, FA USA (Ret.) the main speaker is shown pinning the KWSM on Francis "Frank" Broadston.

Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter #66 of New York

On Veterans' Day in New York City the Chapter participated in the annual ceremony and parade. Dignitaries including Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Senator Charles Schumer, Commanding General of the 10th Mountain Division from Camp Drum NY and Vincent McGowan, President of the United War Veterans Council, NY who conducted the ceremony.



Chapter Officers marching in parade.



Color Guard marching in parade



Chapter members marching in parade.

The ceremony consisted of Speeches by the dignitaries, a History of the 11th Hour and 11th Month, Wreaths presentations, 21 Gun Salute, Taps by the 10th Mountain Div. Bugler and Benediction and songs by a renowned Choral Group. After concluding with the ceremony, which was performed during inclement weather, the parade commenced.

Veterans' groups marched from 24th Street to 56th Street on Fifth Avenue lined with on-lookers who greeted all elements with loud applause and continuous "Thank You's". When we marched with our flags and banners, we were greeted loudly because many recognized Staten Island and were familiar with our Chapter. Also marching with us were Korean War Veterans Chapters from Nassau County, Central Long Island, Taejon Chapter and many other Korean Veterans. We numbered over 100 Korean War Veterans strong. Next year, our anniversary, we should double our participation.

(Thank you Bernie Hoganson for photos and letter.)

Citrus County Chapter #192 of Florida

Shown in photo are Stan Tompkins Citrus Springs, Florida #192 Chapter congratulating grandson Alex Abernathy on his leading the local Boy Scout Troop in the Flag raising and Korean War Plaque dedication on Memorial Day 2002. There were not enough Vets available so the Scouts took over the job. Alex lives in Pulaski, TN.

(Thank you Stan Tompkins for letter and photo)



Ocean State Chapter #117 and West Bay Chapter #147 of Rhode Island



On July 27, 2002 our two chapters commemorated the ending of the Armistice ending the Korean War. Standing left to right Peter Kelley, Peter Paul Boyd, Joseph Lafontaine, Maurice Trottier, Roger Catineault, Roland Watts Sr. Kneeling left to right are John Pina and Leo Courtois.



Left to right Maurice Trottier, Steve Anderson, Bob Hartley, Roger Catineault. (Thank you Maurice Trottier for photos)

Memorial Photos Needed

If we have not shown your memorial in the last 2 years please send in a photo. Please identify the memorial and all persons in it. Send us the best photo that does your memorial justice. Describe the 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

Lt. Richard E. Cronan Chapter #17 of Florida

Veterans Day 2002, Veterans Park, Boca Raton.



Joe Wilcox



Michael Kiernan



Herb Shore



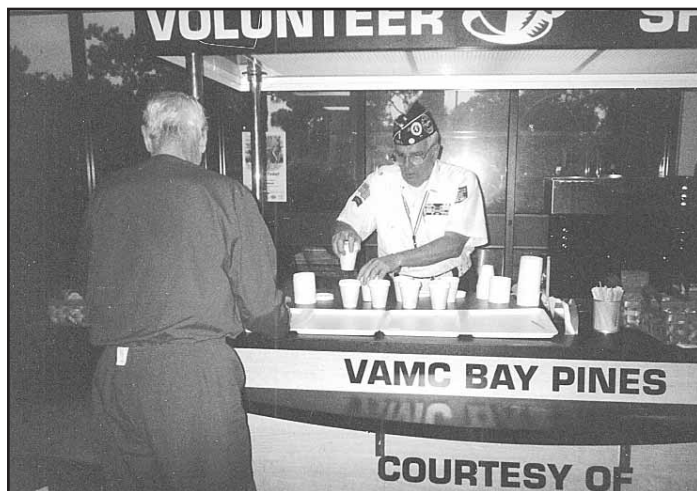
Memorial Day 2002, Royal Palm Garden , Left to right, Elliot Warehoff, Les Bader, Maurice Balin, Murry Havelin. (Than you Herb Shore for photos)

Dear members and readers:

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 must optically scan text in to the computer and it helps when articles are typed well and lenght kept to a minimum.— Editor.

Suncoast Chapter #14 of Florida

Members of our chapter are one of three sponsors of a daily coffee service for outpatients at the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) Bay Pines, Florida. Two groups from the Chapter provide coffee on Thursdays and Fridays each week for a total of four hours per person.



Pictured is the Honorable Ralph Beezhold serving coffee at the VA/VS Coffee Counter, Bay Pines.

In addition, members drive the shuttles about the hospital grounds, visit patients in hospital and in the Hospice program. Sixteen men and women comprise an Honor Guard Corps providing final military rites for all veterans as requested and respond to teaching opportunities at schools and ceremonies at nursing homes.

(Thank you Joan M. Arcand for photo and letter.)

Western Lake Erie Chapter # 71 of Ohio

Members at our annual summer picnic. The jackets were purchased by the members in preparation for colder weather. At the picnic, our annual scholarship fund was awarded to Kate Petro. Her qualification and thesis were very encouraging and really made us feel that the future generation will be able to understand what the veterans are trying to accomplish.



Chapter members in front of tank.



Chapter members enjoying shaded picnic area and telling war stories.



Kate Petro winner of scholarship award for thesis and qualification. *(Thank you Richard Smink for photos and letter.)*

Ventura County California Chapter #56

I am very proud, of the work done by, our chapter member's. Our chapter is run by our staff, our Vice Commander Mike Hidalgo, who served with the 45th Inf. Div and our Secretary Everett Baca served with the 1st Marine Div. and our Treasurer William Glenn, who served with the U. S. Navy, and the rest of our chapter members served in all branches. Our chapter was established on Sept. 13, 1997, and at the present time we have 34 life members, and 24 regular members.

We have participated in parade's, presented the color's, and have had some fund raisers. We send a newsletter to all our mem-



Taken right after dedication.

bers every 3 months and it took our chapter 3 years to raise the funds that we needed to erect our Korean War Monument. It was dedicated on November 11, 2001 Veterans Day in Veterans Park in the city of Santa Paula, CA. Our footing for our monument, was donated by life member Manuel Mendez.

Our chapter is also responsible for getting eight road signs, which cover 23 miles of Highway 126. We received help from our State Senator Gary K. Hart, now we are asking State Senator Jack O'Connell for his help in getting us to get 4 more signs which will cover 16 more miles of Highway 126, for a total of 44 miles, from highway 101 in the county of Ventura to state highway 5, in Los Angeles County. We will have 6 signs in each direction. Also in the coming future we plan to get 7 M-1s in order to form a chapter ceremonial rifle squad for our departing veterans.

(Thank you David Lopez for letter and photos, names not clear enough to print, next time please send original photos)



This photo was taken a week afterwards.



Presented Colors at the Little League Ball Park.



Manuel Mendez doing his work for our Monument.



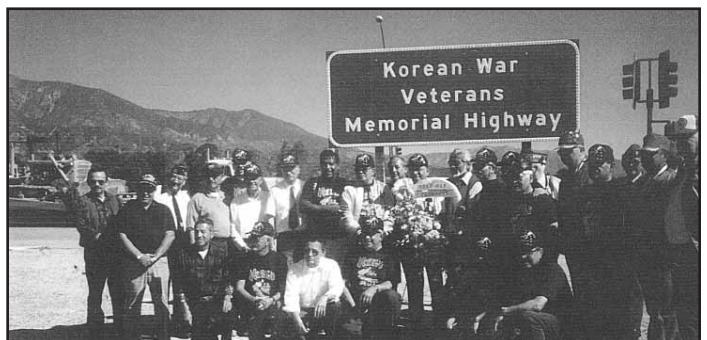
People that spoke at our dedication.



Santa Paula Cemetery - Memorial Day.



Fund Raiser at Steckel Park, July 28, 2001.



In 1995 we dedicated our first sign at Hullock Road in the city of Santa Paula, Ca.

Low County Chapter # 185 of South Carolina

First Vice President Samuel Warren presenting a wreath from our chapter at the Veterans Monument, Main Street in Moncks Corner, SC on Nov 11, 2002.



Chapter Secretary Ray McDaniel and president Pat Sullivan at the monument after the ceremony. (Thank you Pat Sullivan for photos and letter.)

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Update

Korean War Ex-POW

Excerpts taken from Korean War Ex-POW, January 2003

News from the new President, Ray Unger.

I would like to thank the Board for giving me the opportunity to serve as president of the Korean War Ex-POW Association. It is a totally new experience for me, but with your help and input we will keep our organization strong and independent.

Valley Forge Reunion - July 27 to August 3, 2003

Hilton Valley Forge Hotel, 251 W. DeKalb Pike, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Toll Free Reservation No. 1-800-879-8372 - Room Rate \$77 plus tax. Mention that you are with the Korean Ex-POW Group. Philadelphia International Airport is approximately 30-40 minutes from hotel. Shuttle from the airport is \$17 per person.

We are using Armed Forces Reunions to do our reunions. We have used them in the past and they have done a great job. They take care of all details including registration, banquet and tours. The only responsibility we have is setting up our Hospitality Room. There will be a \$5 per person Reunion Planner's Fee to handle everything.

Proud Korean War Vets Display Tags



Dwaine Loest



Marshall E. Lee



Jere Crise



Korean War Veteran

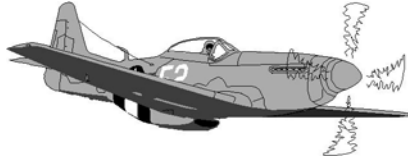
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Only 1 each available in back issues, current (2002) and last issue can be ordered in multiple quantities.

These issues are limited so get your order in early. \$1 per copy plus \$3.85 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.

MAJOR KEN CARLSON



Up or Out...even in Wartime

September 1951

The Reds were making a desperate attempt to break through our lines on three or four different fronts; they were pounding in the south, in their 'end-run' around Masan; they were still trying to cross the Nakdong near Waegwan, still beating on the central area north and east of Taegu ...and they were racing, almost unimpeded, down the mountain road along the far east coast near Pohang-dong. Our pilots were based closest to the east coast, so many of our strikes went to that area.

I flew my next mission on 14th September, with a 'distinguished' wing man ... Major Ken Carlson.

I'd first met Ken at Roswell, New Mexico in 1948, when he was the Commander of the 60th Fighter Squadron, 33rd Fighter Group. He'd come over to Japan on the USS Boxer in July 1950, and had been temporarily detained in Tokyo because they wanted him to work in FEAF Headquarters ... an assignment of which he wanted no part.

He was adamant in his desire to get into one of the Korean operational combat squadrons. He had flown combat in Europe during World War II and reportedly, had several victories to his credit, and a whole chest-full of high-powered medals.

Because of our brief acquaintance at Roswell, he asked to fly with me during his 'combat check-out' at Taegu, and he soon learned that I was 'hard' to fly formation on,

because I was continually jinxing the plane around the sky, to keep gunners from taking accurate aim on their target. He liked that '... you pick up fewer bullet holes that way'!

On the September 14th we were set up in a four-ship flight, with Bill Slater leading, Bill Bridges on his wing, I was Element Lead and Ken Carlson brought up the rear on my wing. We each carried two napalm tanks, rockets and machine guns, and were in the Pohang-dong area within twenty minutes after take-off from our base at Pusan.

We contacted the local T-6 spotter ship, who told us he had pinpointed the location of a gun position which had shot the tail off of another control ship just thirty minutes before. He wanted us to go in and knock him out before the guy created some really serious problems for someone.

There is little in life that makes you feel more insecure than to know you're going to have to attack a known flak position ... knowing that the gunners can see you, but you don't know for sure where they are. It always gives the flak gunner the first shot, and you're not much of a threat to him until after he starts firing at you ... at which time you hope you can see his muzzle blast and return his fire, quickly and accurately ... or else.

The Mosquito spotter ship pilot fired a smoke flare into a creek bed between a group of low, bare ridges, then told us the guns were in a certain clump of bushes on a ridge

two hundred yards east of the smoke flare.

Bill Slater dove in first, dropping his Napalm bombs just a little east of the smoke flare. It landed fifty feet short of the intended ridge. Bill Bridges went in next, from a different direction, and dropped his bombs nearby ... close to where we thought another set of machine guns were located. Carlson and I circled at about 3000 feet over the area, just out of the gunner's effective range, looking for muzzle flashes. We couldn't see any until Bridges had finished his attack, and started climbing out, when we could see the flashes coming out of a clump of trees about 75 yards behind where the bombs had been hitting.

During the time Ken and I had been circling, I was planning my line of attack to place my ship within the enemy's line of sight for the briefest possible time. So, when Bridges pulled off, I knew just which way I was heading. I signaled Ken, by hand, to 'firewall' his throttle, then dove onto the deck just behind a low ridge south of the target. We followed a little ravine which ran toward the north, then popped up over a little covering ridge just in front of the tree clump. With Carlson following just a few hundred feet behind and to my side, I fired steadily at the trees with my machine guns as soon as we cleared the first ridge, then dropped my two Napalm bombs so they'd splash forward into the suspected clump. I got a beautiful hit, with the fan of flaming jelly bouncing and spreading out to penetrate deep into the trees. Ken Carlson dropped his bombs right next to mine, and they too penetrated deep into the forest.

We immediately hit the deck again, and I started kicking rudders to skid the airplane from side to side, turned north at the first little valley and continued to 'jinx' around for a couple of miles before pulling up into a steep, full-throttle climb, leveling off, finally, at about 2500 feet.

Carlson had seen another gun position firing at me, off to the side of where he had dropped his bombs, and, before he could turn out of the way, his airplane was hit in the engine by a 20mm shell. He immediately pulled up and headed toward the nearby airstrip at Pohang ... now deserted and in the middle of 'no-man's-land'. We weren't sure whether we or the North Koreans owned the real estate by that time, but Ken had to find a level spot to put it down, and quick, for his engine had started to flame.

Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,

Lt Col, USAF, Ret

It's really too bad that we can't put our highly-skilled, professional 'killers', our top notch fighter pilots, in a state of suspended animation during peacetime, so they would not embarrass the Air Force bureaucrats with their drinking and their youthful, carefree hi- jinks.

He managed to spike it onto the ground ... downwind, and get it stopped at the far end of the runway.

As he opened his canopy he heard the sharp "twang, twang" of rifle fire, which told him he we didn't really own the airfield. He jumped out and ran for a nearby drainage ditch, while we circled overhead, looking and ready to strafe any troops which didn't look friendly. A group of five Koreans in civilian attire moved toward him, and Ken wondered how far his seven rounds of .45 pistol fire would go towards stopping them ... but they stopped, and tried to signal that they were friends. About that time the Mosquito control ship came over to tell us the field had not yet been taken by the Reds. But Ken didn't know that; and he didn't move from his huddled position in the drainage ditch ... until the T-6 spotter landed and taxied over to where he was hiding.

There wasn't room in the control ship to pick him up, but he was assured that there would be a helicopter along very shortly. We continued to fly top-cover until the chopper had safely picked him up and he was on his way back to Pusan.

Ken Carlson had just survived his fourth knock-down. He had been shot down three times in Europe, and now once more during his first week of combat in Korea. Ken blamed himself for getting hit; said that he was too intent on taking accurate aim on the target and wasn't 'jinxing' his airplane around like I was. The gunfire that he heard on the ground was a lone sniper in the hills north of the Pohang airfield perimeter.

Major Ken Carlson was a Regular Air Force officer, professional Air Force. He was

an example of the dilemma that the Air Force began to encounter in the years immediately following World War II ... namely: the best, most successful combat pilots oft-times did not fit the "Jack Armstrong, All-American Boy" image that the peacetime Air Force wanted to present to the American public. Many, like Carlson, received rapid promotions while they were quite young, and were at their efficient best while winning victories and successfully killing the enemy. But, with Victory and peacetime, these brave killers were then suddenly expected to keep all of their uniform pockets buttoned, hair properly combed, shoes shined and teeth brushed and sparkling ... fitting into the imaginary mold devised by some unseen "they", who contributed little more to the war effort than the reams and reams of restrictive regulations.


Many fine pilot officers couldn't ... or wouldn't, bend to the false image demanded by that peacetime mold. Ken Carlson was one of these. He had been "passed over" for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel for a second time and, with the current rules, that meant that his Regular Air Force Commission would be revoked, and he must be separated from the service ... at a time when his highly-developed skills as an experienced combat fighter pilot were direly needed in Korea ... combat victories and a multitude of awards and decorations notwithstanding!

Ken was transferred to Tokyo in November, 1950, where I ran into him, briefly, in the University Club. We had a farewell drink together ... but he had no good news to pass on to me. He was later trans-

ferred back to the 'States, but I was never able to learn the final outcome of his hearings. I had always hoped he was ultimately able to 'beat the system' ... he was a helluva good fighter pilot, and we needed a lot more of his ilk.

It's really too bad that we can't put our highly-skilled, professional 'killers', our top notch fighter pilots, in a state of suspended animation during peacetime, so they would not embarrass the Air Force bureaucrats with their drinking and their youthful, carefree hi-jinks. Then, when the wars come, we could pull them off the shelf, dust them off, shoot them with a hypodermic of some sort, and send them off to risk their necks for us while mercilessly attacking the enemy! We needed more combat fighter pilots like Ken Carlson, and fewer of the Tokyo-based desk jockeys! *Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman, Lt Col, USAF, Ret "...one of those OLD, Bold Fighter Pilots..." (Col. Biteman passed away on September 29 2002. I will honor him and his unit by printing all of his stories. Editor.)*

Next Issue: Lt. Mike David
Young pro, but he couldn't make his Mustang float.



WEEKEND WARRIORS by Paul L. Cooper. Churchill called them "twice a citizen" — the military Reservists. This account of their contribution in the Korean War is written from a citizen/sailor viewpoint as part of the Reserve fighter squadron VF-871 aboard the USS *Princeton* **\$23.95 pb**

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WREATH-LAYING from page 13

winding road upward to the ridge tops. Allied soldiers had fought on the slopes against entrenched Turkish soldiers. As Korean War veterans, we could easily visualize the fighting and sympathize with those who had battled to seize, or defend, hilltops.

The fighting ended eight months later when the Allies evacuated. Casualties were a quarter million for each side. British reports concede that the outcome was affected more by the actions of the local Ottoman commander Colonel Mustafa Kemal (Ataturk), than by those of any other individual.

Ataturk deployed his troops, used up his reserves, and launched attacks, all without permission of his superiors. He went into the trenches to inspire his men, and even got shot in the chest by an enemy bullet - which was stopped by a pocket watch he carried.

At each cemetery we saluted and, in some cases, said silent prayers. The sides of walls and monuments and gravestones bore words that summed up the anguish and sacrifices of the combatants and conveyed universally felt emotions. We veterans value the sacrifices of other veterans and can understand how every nation owes much to those who fought to preserve their country and protect their people.

April 25 is ANZAC Day. That is when thousands of Australian and New Zealanders come to Turkey to honor the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) that fought here. The visitors recognize that they are on holy ground.

Most moving to many of the visitors is the message on the marble wall, containing the words from Ataturk's speech to the first visiting group in 1934:

**"Those heroes that shed their blood
and lost their lives...
You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country.
Therefore, rest in peace.
There is no difference between the Johnnies
and the Mehmeds to us where they lie side by side
in this country of ours...

You, the mothers,
who sent their sons from far away countries
wipe away your tears.
Your sons are now lying in our bosom
and are in peace.
After having lost their lives on this land, they have
become our sons as well."**

We drove from the battlefield, to be

lunch guests of Brig. Gen. Gurbuz Kaya, the Dardanelles defense commander. After the usual group photo sessions and exchange of gifts, we were off to Istanbul. Unlike the invading Allies of the First World War, we would arrive at the capital of the Ottoman Empire - and safely.

Byzantium, Constantinople, Istanbul

This city started out as Byzantium, then was renamed Constantinople - capital of the Roman Empire and later the Ottoman Empire - and finally Istanbul under the Turkish Republic (but no longer a capital). We visited some of the major tourist attractions (Aya Sofya, the Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, etc.) The food and night life were enjoyable. But for veterans, a special treat was visits to military sites.

Accompanied by Turkish veterans as we visited the Naval Academy. After Joe Pirello and I had a private chat with the Commandant, Vice Adm. Ozer Karabulut, we got a slide-show briefing, tour of their small museum, and a fine lunch. We gave them the KWVM photo and the poem from Pusan, and stopped off at their PX before leaving.

Outside the PX, were some Turkish school children asked our three Korean-American veterans (Kim, Kouh, and Pak) about their identity. Upon finding out, the schoolchildren suddenly astonished them by calling out, in perfect Korean, "hurrah, South Korea"! They had learned those words from TV broadcasts of the Turkish and Korean soccer teams playing each other for the World Cup in Seoul!

Our final official visit was to the historical Selimiye Barracks, headquarters of the Turkish First Army, and site of the Crimean War hospital, where Florence Nightingale, Mother of Military Nursing (the "Lady of the Lamp"), treated the wounded soldiers. Her quarters have been incorporated into a museum of exhibits about Turkish military

history. The building was built in 1840, at Uskudar on the Asian side, and has a commanding view of the Bosphorus with the city of Istanbul on the opposite shore.

The army commander, General Cetin Dogan welcomed us on a red carpet and took us to his command center. There we got a briefing that included a large, four-section TV screen on which a teleconference was held with his four corps commanders in the field. Each commander welcomed our group.

We were joined by a retired admiral, Isik Biren. As a destroyer captain, he became a decorated hero of the 1974 Turkish Rescue Operation, which saved the Turkish Cypriots, after Greek extremists overthrew Greek Cypriot President Makarios's government in an attempt to annex the island.

After some refreshments, short speeches, gift exchanges, and group photos, we boarded our bus. Through the windows of the bus we returned the salutes given by the Turkish officers outside. With much satisfaction, we had finished our official visits and would cross the bridge to Europe and soon end our final full day of the tour.

Final Notes

Each person had unique experiences on our tour. Dr. Jim Hooper of Sandy Spring, MD, who was accompanied by his wife Martha, said that the people of Turkey were "cordial and pleasant to be with... It's a beautiful country and the antiquities there were beyond our imagination."

Jack Ben-Rubin of Alexandria, VA, who was an Army chaplain's assistant in Korea, pointed out how helpful and friendly the tour members were toward each other. John



Bill Alli (left) receiving gift from Gen. Cetin Dogan at Selimiye Barracks. Behind them is a painting of Ataturk.

Delaney supported this view and had compliments for the way the group got along.

From Belton TX, retired Army Lt. Col. Charles Hickerson and his wife Jane, had these e-mail comments:

"...hospitality remains the one most notable attribute of the country...starting at the port of entry (Esenboga Airport, Ankara) and everywhere we stopped along the way for the next 12 days...the sincere friendliness of our hosts was evident (and much appreciated)...the Turks opened their hearts and homes to visitors (us)...some of this possibly due out of respect to the military nature of this tour, but I felt it in the villages and downtown streets of the big cities also...it was open and honest and made me feel welcome...

Thanks, Mac and Janie" (9 Jan 2003)

Such a successful tour deserves to be repeated. Come October 16, 2003 ATVA will, God willing (Insaallah), take a new group on the U.S. Veterans Friendship Tour of Turkey.

NOTE: Bill Alli served in Korea with the 2nd Battalion, First Marines, March 1951 to March 1952. He is a member of the Baltimore Chapter of the KWVA. He can be reached at <wealli@erols.com> or <atva@erols.com>. Tel: 301-464-5664 or 301-262-4604.

Into the Fight - Turkey in Korean War

The Turkish troops arrived at Pusan in the second week of October 1950 with over 5,000 men and helped defend this last U.N. toe hold in Korea. They were commanded by General Tashin Yazici, who had fought against British Empire forces at Gallipoli during World War I.

The employment of the Turkish Brigade partially reflected both the U.S. and the U.N. desires to show the world a broad anti-communist coalition in Korea. The brigade's first major action came in the intense fighting in and around the North Korean road junction of Kunu-ri in the last week of November 1950. At that time the brigade was positioned on the right flank of the U.S. Eighth Army's 2nd Infantry Division.

Chinese People's Volunteer Army (CPVA, Chinese communist) and North Korean People's Army (NKPA, North Korean) forces had broken the front of the Republic of Korea Army (ROKA) II Corps.

That unit's defeat and retreat threatened to expose the Eighth Army's right flank. The Turkish Brigade was ordered to help stem the communist advance.

By all accounts the Turks fought fiercely against communist troops, even while suffering heavy losses in an ambush of two of the brigade's supply columns south of Kunu-ri on Nov. 29. Despite the enemy's numerical superiority, the Turks were able to hold down the Chinese for a crucial period. After a northerly advance of about seven miles from the village of Sunch'on toward the brigade's rear area, Turkish motorized supply columns ran into advancing communist forces and were ground down in the heavy fighting that followed.

Legendary Performance

In these first battles the Turks demonstrated behavior that subsequently came to characterize other U.N. soldiers' descriptions of the brigade. Stories of Turk bravura assumed the stuff of legend: officers throwing down their hats, refusing orders to retreat further, and "dying on their fur;" repeated bayonet charges by Turkish infantry in both offensive and defensive situations; small units being wiped out rather than surrendering when isolated by Chinese forces. While such stories could not always be confirmed, many Allied soldiers reported them. True or not, reports of Turks' fury with the bayonet at least raised morale among the U.N. forces in the face of Chinese successes in the dark days of fall, winter and early spring of 1950-1951. U.S. Lieutenant General Matthew Ridgway took note of this and decided to have all infantry units fix bayonets to their rifles. Such apparent bravery on the part of the Turks and attendant casualties also flew in the face of General Douglas MacArthur's statement before the U.S. Senate that the non-U.S. and non-Korean units "had no impact on the tactical situation."

This sentiment particularly galled some observers, given the fact that the Turks had



Tour group with Turkish veterans in front of First Army Headquarters.

deployed to Korea at a time of significant tensions in their own part of the world; and when the U.S. government quietly excused itself for the heavy losses suffered by the brigade at Kunu-ri, Ankara reportedly could not understand what the fuss was about. It was, after all, the duty of Turkish soldiers to die. As U.N. forces attempted to regain the initiative at the onset of the new year, the Turks once again found themselves in action. Refitted and reorganized to replace the losses at Kunu-ri, the Turks subsequently fought in the recapture of Seoul in January 1951 and were later assigned to protect Kimpo Airfield. In the spring, the brigade was assigned to the U.S. 25th Infantry Division's sector.

Decorated for Bravery

In late January 1951 during Operation THUNDERBOLT, the Turkish Brigade covered a seven-mile front between U.S. I and IX Corps. The allies were outnumbered and the enemy held two important hills and the area around Kumyangjang-ni. As the allied forces moved forward phase line by phase line, they met pockets of strong enemy resistance. The Turks moved forward with fury cutting the enemy down in hand-to-hand combat. Kumyangjang-ni was a crucial position for both sides.

The Chinese fought fiercely to keep it, but the Turkish assault was overwhelming. The Turkish Brigade took all enemy-fortified positions in its area. For its actions Jan. 25-27, the Turkish Brigade was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation from the U.S. Congress, now known as the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation, and the Korean Presidential Unit Citation.

Fierce Fighting Continues

The front had begun to stabilize in antic-

ipation of a successful outcome to truce talks. As both sides entered the long period of strategic stalemate and attempted to adjust the front to their respective advantage, communist forces planned a major assault. The main effort of the Chinese offensive between April 22 and April 30, 1951 drove the brigade and other U.N. forces back to the Han River, on the southern bank of which the Turks took up positions on April 30. After recovering this lost ground by June 1951, the brigade fought small actions as the main line of resistance wavered back and forth across the middle of the peninsula.

In spring 1953, during the last of the Chinese offensives along the putative truce line, Turkish forces commanded by Brigadier General Sirri Acar fought a series of intense, sometimes hand-to-hand, battles with Chinese troops. At the time the Turks were assigned positions in the complex of outposts and bunkers called NEVADA, the retention of which the U.N. command deemed crucial. The Turks were ordered to hold at all costs. In the course of this fighting northeast of Panmunjom, the Turks suffered approximately 395 killed and wounded but inflicted some 3,000 casualties on the communists. Having delayed and frustrated Chinese efforts to modify the lines, on May 29 the Turkish troops were eventually withdrawn from the line.

For nearly three arduous years, the Turks' resolution in combat and ability to endure the harsh conditions of Korea were noted by other units. Their legendary ferocity and characteristic bravery continue to be celebrated and commemorated by many today.

Portions of this text from Encyclopedia of the Korean War.

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Paul's Story

To all the pauls that paid their dues in "The Forgotten War" from one who was right along with you but came back in one piece, I will never forget you. Also to all KIA's, MIA's, and MIA's of all wars, you are not forgotten.

By Jim L. Clark

Introduction

I am submitting the enclosed copy of a letter written by one of our own who will only be known as Paul. My possession of this copy came under strange circumstances. It was found in the wastebasket under the customers convenience desk of a local bank here in Chicago. I can only surmise that a bank customer had used the copier in the bank to make a copy and since it printed crooked decided to discard this copy and make a new one. I have kept this letter for sometime and felt with the 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War coming up this month, that perhaps it was time to share this powerful descriptive letter written to his wife and family by one of our comrades. I can only guess that it was typed on an available portable typewriter in a hospital in Japan by a wounded member of L Co., 3rd Bn., 3rd Inf. Div. I suspect that Paul lived in the Chicago area.

In the descriptive way this letter is written I feel confident that it is "the real thing". I also think it should be reprinted with the same errors in typing and spelling as Paul wrote it in that hospital. To be shipped back to a hospital so near his home indicates the seriousness of his wounds. I can imagine that he had a long recovery period, and if he is still living, never lives a day without pain.

This letter deserves to be taken out of the waste basket, and put in a place of honor our hearts.

.....

February 20, 1951 Korea
My Dearest Wife and Family,

Just a line to let you know I have been wounded and am in the hospital in Japan. I was shot through the right thigh with a single sniper bullet. It broke the bone about midway between the knee and hip. Pain was very acute until my

leg was put in a traction splint. I have a cast on it now and the pain has settled down to a dull ache. The cast doesn't permit me to sleep very well, but I am thankful to be alive.

We had to break up a road block near Hakchon where 300 Chinese were supposed to have been dug in; they had a regiment of the 3rd division cut off and we had to make contact with them, without delay. Everything was thrown at them before the infantry and tanks went in planes, artillery, and mortars in big doses. Then the 3rd Bn. went in with "L" Co. on tanks. I was on a tank about 8 minutes- then I was hit. The same bullet hit the platoon leader in the buttocks; it wasn't as bad a hit as mine, but he died later from loss of blood and cold. I screamed at them to stop the tank so I could get off and crawl into a ditch about 20 yards away. Finally it stopped and Sgt. Miller dragged me off the tank. I knew right away that my leg was broken because it flopped all over and I had no control over it; It was dead-weight. The rest of the men ran for the ditch. Sgt. Blankenship stayed with me and dragged me as best he could.

Bullets were landing close all the time. Then Bert Truett came and helped him drag me the rest of the way; I helped all I could with my good leg. I lay there for about a half hour to 45 minutes while the other men fought from the top of the ditch. Snipers worked around to our left flank and were firing effectively from about 100 yards. Then they decided to try to carry me out.

I could never describe the pain and horror that made up about the next 20 minutes of my life; they dragged me through water and hit my back on rocks which caused me terrific pain. But I know they did the best they could under the circumstances. Sgt. Byrd and McLaughlin of the 4th squad were

wounded while helping to carry me out; McLaughlin died later. Taylor of my squad also got wounded while helping to carry me out. After Taylor got hit there was not enough men to carry me, so they dropped me and said they would send help or come back with more help. I lay there for a short while and then dragged myself about ten yards to a little better cover, and I lay there til well after dark.

I decided to try to drag myself to the road where I might get picked up. I tried for about a half-hour and knew it was hopeless, I was getting cold very fast and my leg was causing me great pain when I moved the smallest bit. The wound did not

bleed a great deal, but I was weak from shock I guess. Elleyod and Taylor were about 15 yards in front of me; they got up and stumbled off toward our lines. I lay there about 5 minutes and started yelling for help. I could hear tanks pretty close by, but I guess they never heard me. I found later that four tanks were sent out to look for me.

It wasn't long before I saw some guys walking around against the dim light of the sky. I yelled for help again, and they started toward me; they had long fixed bayonets, and by their uniforms they were Chinese Soldiers.

They squatted and stood around and looked at me for awhile, but did not harm me or abuse me in any way. In fact I saw a honest look of pity and sympathy on every face. I knew then that they would not leave me there to freeze and die of cold. They took me by the hands and tied a belt around my feet and dragged me for about a mile to a small burned out village where they were staying. Then a Chinese medic came and put a fresh bandage on my leg and put me on a litter. I was carried into the one house that was left standing where they made a warm fire and covered me up as best they could. My wet clothes made it very difficult for me to get warm but I am sure that what they did for me saved my life.

American artillery and mortar shells were landing in the general area all night long. They (the Chinese) left about 2:00 o'clock and came back about 3:00; they

tried to get a little information out of me and promised me very good medical treatment. But they left and I never saw them again.

Our 1st and 2nd battalions were coming through, and the Chinese had to leave; it was daylight and our tanks and infantry were crowding them too close. I waited until about one o'clock in the afternoon and a G. I. patrol came in to give the village the once-over. I opened the door and yelled for help. This time they heard me and found me. I thanked God! In less than 5 minutes I had a drink of water, a morphine shot, a cigarette, and a fresh bandage on my leg, and a litter jeep on the-way to pick me up. About an hour later I had a splint on my leg and was wrapped in blankets. So that is the whole story as I remember it. The army may give you some sort of

notification, but don't want them to scare you. I am not in as much pain now, so don't worry.

By the way, I may end up in Percy Jones Hospital in Michigan and if I do, you and any others that want to visit me won't have too far to go. I'm going to ask to go to the Great Lakes if I get the chance to get my choice. That would really be nice, huh?

Well, I am going to close for now, my darling, and will try to write again tomorrow. I think it would be proper and fitting if you would let as many of the family and friends as possible read this letter. I love you and have an idea that I will be seeing you soon. Love to all,

P.S. What's left of the squad would still like to have your cookies

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:

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- Richard Dribben USN (By Richard Ordway)
- Cpt. Ralph J. Kaufman, 24th I.D.
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- Lt. Parker H. Pratt, 24th I.D. (By John Baglama)
- Capt. Benjamin Neale Rader (By John K. Carmichael, Jr.)

Donations as of 01/03/2003

BOOKS from page 9

Regiment; the Sidney Bates vc was one of five!

In this recounting of the pilgrimage, which is told without rhetoric or hyperbole, memories of the violence, the horrors, and, most strongly, the enduring comradeships come flooding back. A macro view of battle is possible for the staff officer or the historian but for these frontline warriors every recollection is micro. What is burned into the brain is what the eye saw, the ear heard, the nose smelled, and, sometimes, what the tortured body still feels. Time does not erase such memories nor loosen the psychological bondings formed from shared experiences of endurance, fortitude, comedy, remarkable acts of courage and, occasionally, all too human acts of cowardice.

About the Author

Tom Bates, the author, is now an American citizen who has dedicated the last fourteen years of his life to writing this book. In the forties, he was a young subaltern in the Indian Army who saw some of the fiercest fighting in Burma against the Japanese. He writes with controlled passion and reverence for gallantry. His courageous twenty-three-year-old namesake, Corporal Sidney Bates, would surely treasure the tone of respect and tenderness contained in these pages. As a south London cockney, Sidney would undoubtedly be amused at the activities of men who were his contemporaries but are now quite elderly, and he will be pleased that his self sacrifice for his mates, his battalion and his country will never be forgotten.

In the third part of the book the reader is treated to an unusually detailed account of the 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment fighting in its first action since the miraculous escape of the British forces from Dunkirk in 1940. Here is recorded, at fighting level, what battle was like – repeated crises despite most thorough training and planning, setbacks accompanied by costly losses. On D-Day, the 1st Suffolk infantry, the ‘queen of battle’, at heavy cost because of untoward events that denied them the intended air and naval artillery support, captured HILLMAN, a monstrous underground fort and command centre that constituted the Germans’ most formidable obstacle to the Allied advance

in the Second Army sector.

The second part of the book links the other two. It is the story of a courageous French woman and the part she and her family and her village played in the D-Day saga. If it had not been for this lady, this book may never have been written. The presentation in English and French is intended by the author as a tribute to her and as a mark of his admiration and affection for her.

Finally, surely the fact that in these pages the two languages march along side by side, neither the one outstripping the other, offers a moral, and a plea, to my sadly troubled bilingual country that, as in times of war, so now, in times of peace, we can and must live and work together in mutual trust under one flag.

*John Ross Matheson,
Rideau Ferry, Ontario, Canada 1998.*



This photograph, taken in 1977, shows John Matheson in the uniform of a Colonel of the Royal Canadian Artillery. Colonel Matheson served overseas from 1940 to 1944 until invalided home with severe war wounds. As a Captain and Forward Observation Officer with the British Eighth Army, he saw action in Sicily and Italy with units of 231 (Malta) Brigade and the nine battalions of his First Canadian Division. After the war, he sat as a Member in four Parliaments of Canada, and is largely responsible for development of the Canadian Maple Leaf Flag in 1965 and the Order of Canada in 1967. In 1992, he retired from the Ontario Court of Justice in his twenty-fifth year on the bench. In 1996 he served as a monitor of the elections conducted in Bosnia under international auspices. His decorations include OC, KST.J, CD. He holds honorary doctorates of Law from Queen’s University in Kingston and the Royal Military College of Canada.

(Over 200 pages of photos and text written in both English and French. A great story about the heroes of WWII and D Day. The introduction gives you just a small outline of a greater story of a true hero and why Tom Bates wanted to tell his story. As you read this special book you will learn about other special people and you can even brush up on your French. A true history lesson from another point of view. I see a

price of \$30.

Contact www.batesbooks.com or call Tom Bates at Phone/Fax: 510-655-6685. His e-mail address is <certcito@dnai.com> He lives in Berkley, CA.)



Delayed Letters From Korea

By Frank O. Pruitt

Introduction (Edited for space by Graybeards Editor):

There comes a time in the lives of most men who have lived through a war, when they want to tell someone about the life-shaping adventure they lived through. When asked about what they did in the war, the stereotypical combat veteran “doesn’t want to talk about it” and his experiences die with him, locking out his loved ones from stories of events that had a life-shaping impact on him. I have found that in time, and under the right circumstances, most combat war veterans will share their stories with a caring listener, one who shares this interest. Most don’t want to seem irrelevant, or don’t want to bore relatives or friends with their “combat stories”; and so they don’t talk about what happened to them. This results in many fascinating tales going untold.

Some veterans kept diaries, and many wrote regular letters home to parents, siblings, and sweethearts, but most of those letters have been lost in the passage of time. In my case, I had a box of letters written to my fiancée from December of 1952 through January of 1953 that were carefully tied into bundles which sat on a shelf in my closet for 45 years. These letters kept calling to me to open them, read them, and release the experiences I went through as a young man in Korea in 1952 and 1953. After 48 years, this worm eating away at my conscience finally led me to dig into the box and painfully review my personal experience in the Korean War.

As you go through the process, the act of reminiscence releases a stream of hidden memories tucked away in the recesses of your mind. In my case, I returned to Japan and Korea on a personal pilgrimage, retracing the journey and visiting the sites of my Korean War experience some 48 years before.

After I published my book in 1999,

reaction started coming in, and I am convinced that I told it right. One theme has been repeated by countless men, and that is that they have stories in their heads they want to tell. They, too, have their own "delayed letters from Korea" which tell a story of personal hardships, selfless calls to duty, and acceptance of personal responsibility without looking back. Most of these young men were 18 or 19 years old, and looked at military service as an adventure and a responsibility to serve their country. Almost universally, they quietly accepted the call to serve in a far-off land, in an unpopular war which was largely forgotten by the media and the country. There was none of the public outcry that accompanied the Vietnam War.

The following delayed stories were collected by me in a series of interviews over the past two years. Many experiences are similar, as most of the stories involved service in the 40th Infantry Division, but each man's tale has its own unique flavor which shows the remarkable ability of young Americans to serve their nation while living life to the fullest. The nation was preoccupied with recovery from World War II, and those in Korea returned to their civilian lives with hardly a ripple in the mainstream of American life.

I have organized the stories in chronological order to keep each man's experience concurrent with the several phases of the war as it unfolded. I have tried to do as little editing as possible, and some of the stories came with a caveat to use the story the way it was told, in its entirety, or not to use it at all. Generally, I have done just that. What follows are not just tales of heroic combat. There are, of course, some graphic combat tales, but I have tried to capture where possible the feelings of each man's first taste of war and the feel of being shot at for the first time.

Most men also found humor in the daily grind of just existing in the primitive, Neanderthal-like existence, dwelling in bunkers with rats as daily companions. Life on the front line was one of constant tension, but not sheer terror, except during the massive mortar barrages and during the limited attacks the Chinese and North Koreans directed at our outposts. The patrol activity was ongoing and created

most of the casualties right up to the final days of the war in July of 1953.

The generation that made up the veterans of World War II has been hailed as "The Greatest Generation." After listening to the personal stories of the Korean War veterans, who were mostly teenagers during World War II and saw fathers and older brothers go off to war, I would have to label them as "The Greatest Generation Plus Five."

There were no peace marches, no "conscientious objectors", demonstrators, or protesters in the Korean War. Almost to a man, those called went willingly because the example set by veterans of World War II established a positive pattern that made serving their country the right thing to do. Over and over again, I was told by Korean veterans that they had brothers and fathers who had served, and they felt obligated to do their part.

About The Author

Frank O. Pruitt, a native of Florida now residing in Lake Charles, Louisiana, is author of the widely-acclaimed *Reminiscence of a Forgotten War*, a memoir of service with a rifle and tank company in the 223rd Regiment of the 40th Division in Korea in 1952 and 1953. He enlisted in the U.S. Army at age 17 in the closing days of World War II. Pruitt completed Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, Georgia. Following peacetime service, Pruitt returned to Florida and civilian life but was recalled to active duty in 1951 when the Korean War broke out. Upon separation from the Army in 1953, he entered the family insurance and finan-

cial service business, and completed his business career in Louisiana, where he remains active with his family land and timber business.

Pruitt returned to Japan and Korea in 1998, retracing his Korean War trail and visiting many of the people in areas in Japan and Korea where he fought and trained. A cache of long unread letters to his wife and family became the genesis of *Reminiscence*.

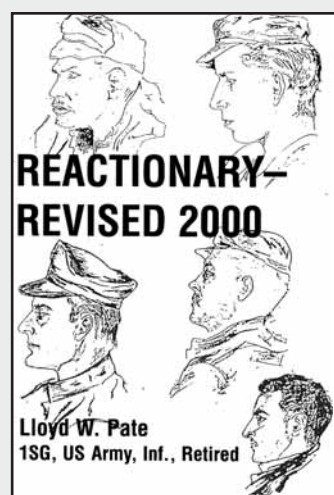
For the past three years, Pruitt has interviewed numerous World War II and Korean War veterans who have contacted him following the publication of *Reminiscence*. These unique interviews with 35 veterans form the basis of his latest book, *Delayed Letters from Korea*.

Pruitt is an avid student of military history and frequently lectures on the Korean War. Pruitt and his wife Ginger reside on Prien Lake near the site of a prehistoric Indian settlement in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

(A special book about true heroes of the Korean War that wanted America to remember our war and our experiences. 444 pages of text and great text. Each story will touch on a experience that most of our veterans lived through every day with different units and locations. This book can be purchased online at 1st Books website www.1stbooks.com/bookview/10836, or by calling 1st Books at 1-800-839-8640. Contact Frank O. Pruitt, 1401 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601-5918. Telephone 337-439-7500 Fax 337-439-3355 or Email <frankopruitt@pwktimberland.com>)

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Willie Ruff ex-pow

For an autographed copy send \$15.00, includes postage, to: **Lloyd W. Pate, 5720 Broad Oak Dr., Grovetown, GA 30813**



UNTOLD STORY from page 21

developed an acute case of tetanus.

They found more than 20 children in various stages of undress. Their condition was so desperate that in spite of the cold, one child had only an undershirt and shorts for clothing. None of them wore any shoes and the all showed signs of malnutrition.

In another ruined village ...soldiers found nine-year old Kang Su Pok, who carries her little sister Kang Sun Pok on her back.

Hunger is the rule at Sam Sung orphanage where each child gets two handfuls of rice a day-and sometimes a bit of barley to go with it. There's no heat at Sam Sung, either and no light.... That's why the three American soldiers brought all that food out for the Christmas dinner.... 'From now on (we) will keep an eye on the orphanage and do everything we can. The hard part is—there's so damned much misery out there that can't be healed with food and money.'

Battle-hardened veterans of the 5th Cavalry Regiment, who have seen much of the human suffering inflicted upon children in this war-ravaged country, have been quietly raising a fund to be used as a Christmas donation to Korean War orphans.

She was freezing cold... no hat, a ragged old sweater and nothing but shreds of an old GI blanket wrapped around her feet for shoes. She told me her mother left while she was asleep and never came back ...The (25th Div.) Engineers now have the orphan warmly clothed and keep her appetite satisfied.

Moe, a little Korean boy left injured in the mud without parents or home now has a little more to look forward to Judged to be only about three years old ...Moe was first seen standing by the road crying. (Sgt. Ford) vowed to pick him up if he was still there when they returned. When they came back he was knee deep in mud,

crying at the top of his lungs, and with a bloody bruise over his eye. Back in the signalmen's quarters Moe was cleaned, DDT's, given new clothing and medical aid, and temporarily adopted by the signal section.

Some 10,000 Korean orphan children and refugees received clothing and toys recently when 50 tons of gifts were distributed by officers of the 1st Marine Wing.

American GIs rescued this deserted baby girl, hungry and crying and covered with grime as enemy artillery shells exploded near the roadside where she sat. After caring for her for several days, they turned her over to a Korean family, which agreed to be responsible for her. Korean custom dictates that anyone touching the child after her abandonment is thereafter responsible for her care.

But Myung Chin Su orphanage in Seoul... could not approach solving the problem of homeless children in Seoul, where four or five thousand war orphans still are shifting for themselves in the streets.

Nearly a thousand big-eyed little Korean street Orphans were flown to an island sanctuary... in the most unusual airlift of the war.... ranging in age from six months to 11 years. Most had been saved from gutter death by kind-hearted American troops who found them wandering or lying abandoned on the streets of Seoul.

It's not cold anymore for the 45 Korean war waifs who were found huddled in a shell-marked building on a tiny island off Inchon. There was no heat. The food had given out. And the tattered rags the children wore were little help in the cold.

Throughout the ages the outrages wrought by war on helpless, innocent children have been its most eloquent indictment.

(I believe we showed the proposed Korean War Children's Memorial in a past issue. Check out their web page <www.koreanchildren.org> When Dedicated in 2003 please send in a photo. Editor.)

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.

Mar-Apr 2003Mar 14

Jul-Aug 2003July 11

May-June 2003May 9

Sept-Oct 2003Sept 8

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

Korean Battlefield Tours - 2003

Spring 2003 Special Commemoration Schedule

In 2003 - last year of the 2000 - 2003 50th Anniversary Commemoration - there will be several major Korea-Based Commemorations:

US Forces, Korea (USFK): "Veterans Appreciation Day"

April 23 - 30, 2003

Sponsored by the Central Florida Veterans Association, this tour attends the last USFK "Veterans Appreciation Day" Commemoration, held at Knight Field on Yongsan Army Post. All participants are welcome on this tour, which will continue on to tour Northern battlefields in the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys, and in the Punchbowl.

40th Infantry Division: Chorwon, Kumwha, Kapyong, Heartbreak

May 16 - 24, 2003

Veterans of the US 40th Infantry Division have not yet had the opportunity to return to Korea as a group. Organized and led by author Frank Pruitt ("Reminiscence of a Forgotten War - Korean War Service with the 40th Division") this tour will visit 40ID battlesites in the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys and the Punchbowl, and Kenneth Kaiser High School in Kapyong, built by the Division in 1952. By special permission of the ROK Army, this tour will also visit ROKA positions on Heartbreak Ridge - off limits since the end of the War.

US Naval Forces, Korea (USNFK): "Sea Power Commemoration"

May 25 - June 3, 2003

USNFK "Sea Power" is the only Naval Commemoration in 2000 - 2003. This Tour will attend the "Sea Power" Event at Pusan, including International Ship Visits, and visit the ROK Naval Academy at Chinhae. The tour will also cover major Naval sites of interest, including the Pohang and Incheon amphibious landing sites, and cover the ground battles of the first 90 days, which led up to the Incheon operation.

Mt. Do Sol Battle Festival: The Punchbowl and Heartbreak Ridge

June 17 - 25, 2003

In July of 1950, the Korean Marine Regiment fought a two-week battle at Do Sol San (Hill 1148) in the Punchbowl - a formative battle of the KMC. The battle is commemorated by the "Do Sol San Battle Festival", a week-long folk festival held in the Punchbowl every year. Our participants will attend the Festival as honored guests, and tour Punchbowl battlesites. By special permission, this program will also visit ROK Army positions on Heartbreak Ridge - off-limits since the end of the War. All participants are welcome on this tour, which will be of special interest to all Punchbowl Vets, as well as 2nd, 40th and 45th Division Vets who fought on Heartbreak Ridge.

50th Anniversary of the Korean Armistice

July 24 - August 2, 2003

July 27, 2003 - the 50th Anniversary of the Korean Armistice. This day will mark the end of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration, and large public ceremonies have been planned by the ROK Government and US Forces Korea. This tour will attend these ceremonies, and continue on to tour Northern battlefields in the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys, and in the Punchbowl.

Fall 2003 Divisional Association Tour Programs

1st Cavalry / 24th Infantry Division Associations - Joint Tour September 24 - 30, 2003

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division October 3 - 10, 2003

7th Division Association October 15 - 23, 2003

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Looking for...



I am Shorty Estabrook, Founder of the Tiger Survivors, a group of former POWs in Korea. I was with B/19/24 from June 1948 until 16 July 1950 when I was captured. I saw freedom on 29 August 1953. Anyone who was with the 21st Inf. Regt., 24th Div. and who was awarded the **Army Occupation Medal**, Japan, are requested to send a copy of your orders to Shorty Estabrook, 23816 Matador Way, Murrieta California 92562. The next-of-kin of Ralph McKinley, K/21/24 who was in Japan and then went to Korea and was captured and died as a Prisoner of War has requested his medals but Department of the Army said he was not authorized the Occupation medal. In fact the letter says that the 21st Regt., 24th Div. was never authorized that medal. This is not true as you know but now we have to build a case so this family can get the long overdue medal.

★

I am writing a book about the battle of **Triangle Hill (Operation Showdown)** and the U. S. soldiers engaged in that and related battles along the MLR in Korea during 1952 and 1953. My father, now deceased, was in the 31st Regt. and fought and was wounded in the battle. I have been working on the book for the past 18 months. In addition to extensive documentary research in the US and Korea, I have been interviewing veterans of the battle and those who were in the service during that period. To date, I have interviewed or corresponded with over 100 veterans of the battle. The battle was fought by elements of the 7th US Inf. Div. and the 5th USAF. I encourage any veterans who have knowledge of this battle and the other hill battles during Oct.– Nov., 1952 to contact Kevin Quinn, 310 Sportsmans Hall Rd., Queenstown, MD 21658. Work: (410) 267-8811, Fax (410) 267-8235, Mobile (410) 456-2376 or email <kquinn@wyeriv-er.net>.

★

In the past few years our unit, **GHQ 1st Raider Company**, has been somewhat successful in locating its former members. However, there are still a few that seem to elude us. Contact: J.E. “Buck” Ballow, 83 Roundtable Road, Springfield, IL 62704, or e-mail: <bballow@motion.net>.

★

Looking for members of the **4th Signal Bn.** from Nov 50 to Dec 51. My name is George Derwart. Went by boat at Hungnam, North Korea Nov. 17, 1950. I was assigned to the 4th Signal Bn. After the Chinese entered the war I was put on a LST and went to Pusan. I spent the next year supplying the 10th corps with communication. Sometimes we were a relay station or a forward station. I was the driver for the team.

We had a 3/4 ton truck that we used to carry our equipment in. At some point in time I was at some bombed out factory. And there was a truck there that had a metal topper on it. I thought it would fit on our 3/4 ton truck. So we put it on our truck. And we painted it and named it “Queen of Shebe”. Does anybody remember seeing this truck. Pictures were shown in another section. If anyone recognizes themselves please write me a letter and I will send you a copy of the picture. Contact George Derwart, 3000 Tampico Dr., Orlando, FL 32812-8624.

★

I Served aboard the **USS Titania AKA 13** during the Korean War and would like To contact the Gregory (twins) Don and Ron. I think they were from Ohio. Also would like to contact Max Pendergrass. He was from Arkansas. Anyone else who served aboard during WWII or Korean War contact Glen R. Hilton 40 Corman Ct., Decatur, IL 62521. Ph. 217-428-8561.

★

Anyone who was in the **49th and 58th FBW at K-2** in 1952 -1953 and patronized the Lower 4 Club. Contact Jess Milford, 1176 Leonard Dr., Mountain Home, AR 72653 or e-mail <clawed14@centurytel.net>

★

Wanted: One **wool OD overseas cap**, size 7 3/4. (My uni-form is complete except for the cap). Paraglider Wings (Unofficial 11th badge, trained in parachute and glider). Does anyone know where I can obtain a copy of the VCR tape of a fictional Korean War TV movie titled either the “Case Against Paul Ryker” or “Sgt Ryker.” It starred Lee Marvin. Contact Kenneth W. Race, 906 Liberty Court, Cupertino, CA 95014 Tel: 408-996-0878.

★

Looking for an old friend of my step-father’s. I only have limited information. The **Robert E. Green** I’m looking for would be about 72 or 73 now (He was 25 on 2/9/1955, so he would have been born in 1929 or 1930 I guess). He was Stationed in or near Maryland around 1955. Probably Navy. My dad thinks he was born in Michigan. “Might” have moved to Ohio, but I’m not sure. Contact C. Gary Frost, Non-Standard Hardware, Inc., P.O. Box 48085, Athens, GA 30604-8085. Tel: 706-207-3638, Fax 702-95-8097, E-mail <www.non-standard.uni.cc>

★



Paul Albert Lissan,

Please place my brothers name and photo in the ‘Looking For’ section. **Pfc. Paul Albert Lissan**, L Co., 3/8 1st Cav. Div. MIA 1950 near Usan. Korea.

I would like to hear from anyone that knew him or knows something about his actions on the time period he became missing. Contact William J. Lissan, Sr. RD #1 Box 164, Weirton, WV 26062. Tel: 1-304-748-7788.

★

If you served with the **45th Inf. Div. during the Korean War**, especially in “G” Company, 180th Inf. Reg. your comrades would like to hear from you. Especially soldiers from the 1st. Cavalry who joined the 45th Inf. in Korea and soldiers who served from Spring 1952 till July 1953 when the war ended. Please call 609- 884-6652 and ask for Patrick “King” Sbarra. Your Comrades-in-rms would like to see you again.

★

Looking for information on my brother **Robert D. Quatier**,

MIA. Contact Richard Quatier, NE 27 Court 9901, Vancouver, WA 98686 or e-mail <rquatier@msn.com>.

★

Hello: My name is Ed Handy, in West Palm Beach, and I need some help. I'm trying to compile information regarding my Uncle for my family history. My Uncle, **Melvin L. Handy** is listed as MIA at Chosin, December 12, 1950. He was assigned to Company M, 31st Inf. Regt. 7th Inf. Div. His MOS was 04812, Heavy Weapons Infantryman. Here is my problem, I've been in contact with the Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, (like forever), they sent me his medals, but no Combat Infantry Badge. They say because of the 1973 fire they have nothing to document that this was his MOS and is entitled to the CIB. I need any type of documentation that would verify any of this. I have tried different organizations, etc., but they either can't help or don't respond back at all. I found your name on the web page for the KWVA and thought I'd give it a try. I hope you can, I'm running out of sources. Contact Ed Handy at e-mail <vietvet70_71@yahoo.com>

★

I am searching for **John S Osley** or Ozley, on behalf of a friend. He is known to have served in Korea around 1953, probably serving in the US Army 23rd Engineer Co. based in Seoul. His age in 1953 would have been around 22 or 23. Any information would be much appreciated. Contact Michael Luddington at e-mail <mjsluddington@msn.com>

★

I am a writer in Washington, D.C., researching the story of the "**Meredith Victory**," a cargo ship that evacuated 14,000 Korean civilians from Hungnam, Korea, at Christmastime, 1950. Is there a way to query members of KWVA about whether they were in Hungnam at that time and would be willing to be interviewed about it? For your information, I intend to include the story in a children's history book (3rd – 5th grade-level) about sea-borne rescues. I also hope to write a more extensive history of the Meredith Victory and her captain for adults.

Thank you very much for any help you can provide. I look forward to hearing from you by reply email or, if you prefer, by phone: Contact Mandy Katz, Tel: 202-686-3920 or e-mail <mmkatz@aya.yale.edu>

★

I am looking for members of the **Hqs Btry, 99th FA Bn** (1st Cav. Div.), wire section from Japan and Korea especially Batt, Cooper, Hayes, Mahoney, Reiger, and Stoltz. Contact Jim Miller ('49-'51) at P.O. Box 272, Winona, MN 55987 or e-mail <jimarmiller@charter.net>

★

I am looking for A buddy, **Robert (Bob) Chapman**. We served in Heavy Mortar Co. at Camp Cook California in 1952. We received orders for Korea in September of 1952. I was the forward observer for the 180th Heavy Mortar Co, 45th Div. Need information for claim. Call 360-993-0514 Jim Adkins, Email <jimbrenda2@aol.com>

★

I am compiling data for a article involving the role of the

artillery battalions of **IXth & Xth Corps during the "Kumsong Salient Battle,"** (north of Kumhwa 13–20 July 1953.) In particular the following units; 92nd, 424th, 555th, 936th, 937th and 955th. Two artillery groups were involved, the 5th and 955th, when friendly forces retrograded (went south) and left the artillery units to "stand fast & hold". If you have any memories, copies of maps/command or morning reports indicating map coordinates etc. I would like to hear from you. It is my desire to have something ready for the 50th anniversary forthcoming. Contact me at e- mail <NewfordFDC@aol.com> 10901 S. Millard Av., Chicago IL. 60655. C.F.E.M. Jim L. Clark (Bn. Operations Chief 937th Field Artillery 5–54)

★

I'm writing you in regards to a battle that my uncle was in at **Luke's Castle**. He was in the 179th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div., K Co. He was KIA on December 25, 1952. I would like to contact any of the men who served in that company. I've located a gentleman who was in G Co. and he said that he saw the battle from afar but does not know the particulars of the fight. If you have any information concerning my uncle, Chester F. Reas, Jr., he was called "Skip", could you please forward that to me. My sister and I are both interested in finding out what actually happened to our uncle. Dennis W. Francis at e-mail <Dennis.Francis@asm.ca.gov>

★

I would like locate **Donald A. Phillips** of U.S. Army. We trained at Fort Ord July 1953 to November 1953 in Co. E, 63rd Inf. Rgt. I last saw him in Sasebo, Japan in December 1953. I made him a loan and he offered a ring as security. I shipped out to Korea and never saw him again. I am sure he would like his ring back. I believe he lived in the State of Washington. Please contact Richard Tieben, 1549 Quail Lane, Carson City, NV. 89701. Phone 775-887-9085

★

I served in Korea in S2/S3. I was in the **45th Div. Bty. A 158th FABN**. When I first arrived at the front there were some South Korean troops attached to our battery. While they were there we became good friends with some of them. After several months these troops were reattached to the ROK Army. I have always wondered what happened to them. I know they were involved in some heavy fighting. Could someone possibly furnish me with address of some organization who would have records of such troops. Contact Mr. George K. Collinson, Poverty NOB Farms, Box 244, Victoria, Illinois 61485

★

I am looking for **Tom Flavin** (Lockport, IL.) and David Ramirez (Pomona, Ca.) who served with me in the 65th Inf. Reg. In Korea (1953-1954). We were teachers in the tent school (Hansen ED Center) after the war. Contact Ivan Maras, 185 Tanglewood Trail, Crossville, TN 38571-2139, Tel: 931-456-4313.

★★★

(Please take the time to type, print or write clearly. Also add a land address, e-mail address or telephone number. Editor)

Reunion Showplace.....

8047th Army Unit, Kokura Signal Service Detachment #8

A Fifty Year reunion was held in Branson, Missouri the weekend of June 27-30, 2002.

Stationed at Kokura, Japan with the 8047th Army Unit, Kokura Signal Service Detachment #8 (1951-953) First time in 50 plus years that these five army buddies met after leaving Japan in 1953

(Thank you Richard C. Ruiz for photo and letter.)



Shown L-R are Francis Dreesen, Francis BeVier, Roger Moll, Mack Duckworth, and Richard C. Ruiz.

8th Engineers



2002 Reunion of the 8th Engineers.

(Thank you Roedger Seipp for photo and reunion notice. Sorry no names, no location or date given for photo of past reunion. See Reunion Calendar for 2003 in this issue. Editor.)

Submissions to The Graybeards

Readers are welcome to submit letters, poems, articles, notes and stories to *The Graybeards*. Submissions are selected for publication on the basis of suitability, length, and timeliness. Opinions and comments published are the sole responsibility of the author. Official opinions of the Korean War Veterans Association appear under "Official Announcements."

The Graybeards

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

All articles, reports, and items except those clearly marked Official KWVA Notices and/or Announcements may be edited to conform to space, clarity, and format specifications without permission of the authors. Expressions of opinion as in editorials and letters to the editor if printed, may be edited only with the writer's consent. Material used with permission from other sources will identify and credit that source. The use of copyrighted materials must have the permission of the copyright holder before using. Advertisements in this newsletter are not necessary KWVA Inc. associated unless otherwise stated. We do suggest our members support our advertisers through purchases, for the ads support the publication costs. KWVA Inc. and Editor are not responsible for purchases. All claims of dissatisfaction must be made directly to the distributor.

Chaplain Coppens Buried In Korea's UN Cemetery

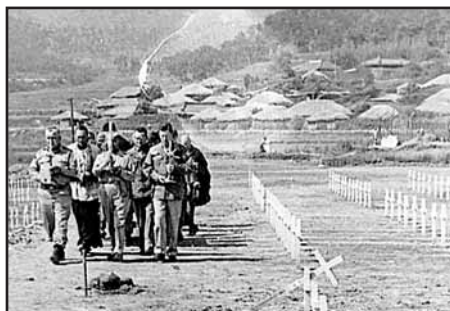
■ Young Boston Priest Died on War Front With Rosary in Hand

Eight American GI's carried a coffin containing the remains of Chaplain Francis X. Coppens, a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston, to a grave in the United Nations cemetery in Korea. Fr. Coppens, a veteran chaplain of World War II, was serving with the 21st Inf. Regt. when he was killed in action during an enemy attack in the early hours of May 27.

Interment followed a Requiem Mass celebrated by Rev. (Lt. Col.) Charles E. McGee of Trenton, N. J., in a Quonset hut near the U.N. Cemetery just outside of Pusan on June 2. Nine priests, of whom six were chaplains and three Columbian missionaries, attended the Mass and burial. A contingent of 21st Infantrymen and other groups attended the rites. Protestant chaplains were represented by Chaplain Haywood K. Cross.

In a letter to the military ordinariate pertaining to Capt. Coppen's death, Father Paul D. Roche describing the enemy attack supplements information previously given by Rev. Thomas Waldie who was called to anoint the body of Fr. Coppens. The Boston chaplain, fatally wounded by a 30 caliber bullet, fell with his Rosary in hand.

Military comrades of Chaplain Coppens



Photos by Edward L. Forster, 106 Circuit Rd., Winthrop, MA 02152-2819

served at the Mass and burial services. Sgt. Ray Spiekerman, from St. Viator's parish, Chicago, served the burial Mass. Father (Major) Arthur Denolto, chaplain from New York, was cross-bearer. Father (Major) Ramon Sollance, O.F.M., of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Father (Capt.) Joseph Parent, O.F.M., of Washington.



(Thank you Edward for photos and letters. Edward also related that four (4) other Catholic Priests killed in action were. Capt. Herman D. Felhoelter KY, Capt. Lawrence F. Brunnert MO, Capt. Leo P. Graig MA, and Capt. Emil J. Kapaun KN POW/MIA who we did a story about in the Sept.-Oct. 2002 Graybeards.)

Photo file...



Photo of John Simoni, on the right and two fellow MP's from the 728th MP Battalion. We are standing at the Han River Bridge, Seoul Korea in 1953. I can't remember the names of the men other than the middle person's last name is George. Any help from your readers would be appreciated. Photo by John B. Simoni, 2046 Maple Ave. Charlton, NY 12019. Tel 518-399-5082, Fax 518-393-0792 or e-mail <mohawkgrp@aol.com>

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.

Special Graybeards Back-Issue Offer

Only 1 each available in back issues; however, current issues (2002) can be ordered in multiple quantities.

I will take orders for special functions on the July-Aug 2002 issue for 50 copies at \$33 because of over printing. Contact editor at 410-828-8978 for large orders and special prices.

Vince Krepps, Editor

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U.S. Prisoners of War in the Korean War



Their Treatment and Handling by the North Korean Army and the Chinese Communist Forces

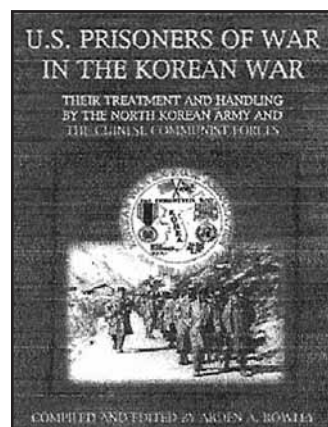
The Korean War Ex-POW Association joined forces with Turner Publishing Company and M.T. Publishing Company, Inc. to publish U.S. Prisoners of War in the Korean War in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary in 2003 of the end of the Korean War. This historical U.S. document has been reviewed and edited by Arden A. Rowley, Historian of the Korean War Ex-POW Association, and contains never before published reports, interviews, medical studies, and editorial comments regarding the treatment of U.S.- POWs captured during the Korean War. This publication is 312 pages and is an 8 1/2" x 11" coffee table size hardbound edition with Smythsewn binding and matte, acidfree pages for superior photo reproduction.

U.S. Prisoners of War in the Korean War is presented as an historical resume of the experiences undergone by U.S. military personnel interned by the North Korean Army and the Chinese Communist Forces during the Korean War. During this time, information as to the existence and activities of the POWs was almost entirely dependent upon enemy propaganda and media. It was only after the release of these prisoners in 1953 that the full story as to their treatment became available. Based on the intensive debriefing of 34 returnees ranging in rank from Private First Class to Lieutenant Colonel by the Army Security Center as well as information from the debriefing of additional returnees and information gathered from various studies, this publication presents an accurate and shocking review of the methods utilized by the Communists to contain and exploit U.S. POWs.

The U.S. Prisoners of War in the Korean War is available at a price of \$49.95 (plus tax). Delivery is currently scheduled for the third quarter of 2002.

Features:

- Development of the POW Camp System
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- Interrogations and Indoctrination
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- Camp Life and Routine
- Food, Clothing and Medical Treatment
- Correspondence
- Radio Broadcasts



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the Korean War History Book**
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1-800-788-3350

ANNOUNCEMENTS from page 17

proper recognition to cease-fire veterans. The KDVA is a national organization of current and former Armed Forces members from all branches of service that have served in Korea between 1945 and the present. The offi-

cial web site is at: <http://kdvamerica.org>

Thomas McLaughlin, National Public Relations Officer. Tel: 718-634-4312

Norm Tredway, National Commander Tel: 732-752-8457

Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul

After the attack on America and during our country's current state of war, there is no better time to turn to those who have experienced such troubled times for comfort and guidance. Now the legacies and stories of veterans are living on in the New York Times best-seller, *Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul*, a select collection of inspiring and gripping stories of heroism, bravery, comradery, laughter and patriotism.

Tales of Gettysburg, Iwo Jima, Anzio, Guadalcanal, Omaha Beach, the Chosin Reservoir and Hamburger Hill are places woven

into our national psyche because we all know someone who selflessly served their country in far-away places like these, defending the freedom we all share. *Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul* celebrates these extraordinary men and women who changed the course of history.

You will be overcome with emotion from these powerful true stories of veterans and their families, many of whom are sharing their experiences for the first time. Whether they were Prisoners of War, Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, USO volunteers, loved ones who wait-

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ed at home, or GIs who battled daily in the trenches, they all put their dreams on hold, held fast to their faith and overcame their fears in the name of freedom.

Whether you are a veteran yourself, are related to one or simply enjoy the rights that they fought so hard to defend, this

remarkable book will leave you with a heightened admiration for our nation's best. For more info call: 888-387-6373, fax: 641-472-0719, e-mail: remember@vetstories.com Write: Veterans Stories, Inc., PO Box 1537, Fairfield, IA 52556.

Korean War Veterans Association Initiates Membership Awards Program

All chapter and/or department membership inquiries by mail or phone will be to the membership chairman or committee members only. Listed below. The KWVA Executive Board approved the following Membership/Awards Program at the Branson, MO. meeting in October 2002.

Awards

The three Top Members that recruit most new members in fiscal Year (July 1st – June 30th).

1st Place:\$1,000.00

2nd Place:\$500.00

3rd Place:\$250.00

Awards to be presented at annual reunion convention.

Departments that charter new chapters with 100% National membership in fiscal year (July 1st – June 30).

KWVA will pay \$100.00 to said department for each chartered chapter.

National Membership Committee:

Chairman: Jack Edwards

Members: Sam Naomi, 202 Washington St., Tingley, IA. 50863-9701, Phone: 641-772-4393; David A. McDonald, 139 Scenic Dr., Concord, CA. 94518-2038, Phone: 925-689-0672.

*Harley Coon,
National KWVA President*

Reunion Anyone?



KMAG Unit - Korea, 1951- Standing: Curtis Jones, John McMinn, John Larson, Howard Dahl, kneeling: Dean Valliant, Harold Husel, Leslie Lanning and Charles Stepan.

KMAG reunion anyone? Contact me at [<chisholmranger@aol.com>](mailto:chisholmranger@aol.com)

Reunion Calendar

March 2003

USS Georgetown (AGTR-2) and **USS Oxford** (AGTR-1) March 15-22 aboard MS *Zuiderdam* in the Caribbean. Contact George A. Cassidy, 37 Noyes Ave., Stonington, CT 06378. Tel: 860-535-1171 or E-mail: <George@mail.mysticalcruises.com>. Website: www.ussgeorgetown.com or www.ussoxford.com

April 2003

40th Inf. Div., 160th Inf. Regt., 2nd Bn., G Co. (1950-53) Cal., Japan, Korea. April 14-16 in Laughlin, Nevada. Contact: Bob Kuenzli. Tel: 503-364-5035 or Email: <rwkuenzli@aol.com>.

3rd. AAA AW Bn. (SP), April 23-25 at Pigeon Forge, TN. All Korean War Veterans of this unit are invited. Contact Jim Goff 500 Jefferson Ave. Hopewell, VA 23860. Tel: 804-541-7667 e-mail j.w.goff@worldnet.att.net

USS Washburn -(AKA-108) April 24-26 at the Holiday Inn in San Diego Bayside. Contact E.L. Swensen, 109 Manzanita Drive, Vallejo, CA. Tel: 707-554-8011.

AAA OCS Fort Bliss, Texas, 1952-1953 All Classes, April 24 - 27 at Columbus/Fort Benning, GA. Contact: Robert L. Manson, 26 Cygnet Ct., Hilton Head Island, SC 29926. Tel: 843-681-2512. E-mail <AAAOCSS5253@aol.com>

1st Battalion, 7th Marines (Korea 1950-1953), April 22-27 at Hilton Head, South Carolina. Contact Ed Orford. Tel: 843-525-0955

76th Engr. Const. Bn. April 24-27 at Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Thomas KY. Contact Roy F. Miller 6115 Roe Cincinnati, Ohio 45227. Tel: 523-272-3451. E-mail <roy4@fuse.net>.

May 2003

772nd MP Bn. Korea and All members. May 1-3 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 7701 42nd Street, Indianapolis, IN. Contact William McDonald Tel: 708-422-3892 or e-mail <billmcdonald@attnbi.com>.

USS Kenneth Whitting (AV 14) May 5-9 in Portland, Oregon. Contact: Al Moreno, 15311 Birch Street, Long Beach, WA 98631. Tel: 360-642-3247 or e-mail <alrom@pacifier.com>.

73rd Tank Battalion, May 8-11 at Independence, Missouri. Contact Curtis Banker, 44 Westcott Road, Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940. Phone or Fax 518-643-2302 or E Mail: <dmbankercurtis@northnet.org>.

5th Regimental Combat Team Association May 14-17 at the Radisson Hotel Jacksonville, FL. Room Rate \$85.00 per night including tax. Contact Bill Kane, Reunion Chairman, 1591 Birmingham, Avenue, Holly Hill, FL 32117. Tel: 407-275-7450.

40th Inf. Div., 223rd Inf. Regt. May 18-21, at Hotel San Remo (1-800-522-7366) Las Vegas, NV. Contact Norm Hackler, 5302 Olympia Fields Lane, Houston, TX 77069-3326. Tel: 281-444-5279.

Co. "L" 160 Inf. 40th Div. in early May at Branson, Missouri. Contact: Richard Deyo, 744 Conifer Court, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572 Tel: 1-843-497-6458 or email <irdeyo@verizon.net>.

Ascom City, 74th Ordnance Bn. Korea 1956-1957, 1957-1958, May in Pocono Mountains, PA. All welcomed including 181st Signal Co. 8th Army Aircraft Compound, 55th Quartermaster 8057th, 121st Evac., 44th Engineer Construction Bn., 728th M.P., etc. Contact Jim Foley, 224 Sanderson Ave., Olyphant, PA 18447. Tel: 570-489-7474.

June 2003

AP TRANSPORT GROUP- USS Generals Mitchell-AP114; Randall-AP115 Gordon-AP117; Richardson-AP118; Weigel-AP119; Hodges-AP144; Breckinridge-AP176 and Admirals Benson-AP120; Capps-AP121; Eberle-AP123; Hughes-AP124 and Mayo-AP125. June 5-8 in Palm Springs, CA. Contact Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040. Tel: 516-747-7426.

The **USS Buck** (DD-761) June 5-8 at the Omni Tucson National Golf Resort and Spa in Tucson, AZ. Contact John Connolly for further information. Tel: 501-922-3969 or e-mail: <joncon@a-cox-internet.com> or mailing address at; 7 Tenerife Way, Hot Springs Village, AR. 71909

84th and 62nd Engineer Construction Bn's, Korea 1950-1954, June 12-15 in Spokane, WA. Contact Ted Anbuhl, 7255 Oakbriar Dr., Mobil, AL 36619. Tel: 251-666-5521 or e-mail <tanbuhl@gulftel.com>.

728 M.P. Bn. and Satellite Units, June 26-29 in Springfield, MO 65706.

Contact Robert Jean, 3558 Meyer Hollow Road, Marshfield, MO. Tel: 417-859-6518) or e-mail <RJJean18205@aol.com>.

July 2003

8th Engineers, July 20 will meet at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Springfield, IL, 3000 Oirkson Parkway. For information please call: Kenneth Smith at 309-526-7460.

Korean War Veterans SW Region July 24-26. To be held at the Ramada Express Hotel in Laughlin, Nevada. Contact C.A. Stewart, 1346 W. Clear Spring Dr., Gilbert, AZ. 85233. Tel: 480-813-2186, E-mail <pete6730@aol.com>.

2nd Battalion 1st Marines Regt, 1st Marine Div. Korean War Era 1950/55 July 24-28 will be holding a reunion in Washington, DC Any Marines or Navy personal who were attached to 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Regiment in Korea from 1950 to 1955 are invited to join us in Washington, DC. Contact George T. Coyle, Sr., 54 Price St, Sayreville, NJ 08872-1644. Tel: 732-254-6646 by E-mail <aceGTC1528@worldnet.att.net>

91st M.P. Bn., Pusan, Korea 1952-54, July 25-27 in Birch Run, MI at Best Western Hotel. (1-989-624-9395). Contact Manuel Sanchez, 4160 Burnham Street, Saginaw, MI 48603. Tel: 989-793-4277.

August 2003

64th FA Battalion Association, August in Louisville, KY. Contact KH Bailey. Tel: 919-787-1643 or e-mail <eeekhb@earthlink.net>.

September 2003

987 A.F.A. Bn., Sept. 4-5 in Canton, OH. Contact John Luther, 3101 Willowrow NE, Canton, OH. 44705. Tel: 330-452-2522, or John Quick at 910-496-0084.

151st Combat Engineers -Korea 'Seeking-men who served in Korea 1950-54, Sept. 4-6 in Marianna, FL at Microtel Inn (888-771-7171. Contact Robert Ringer, 3058 Fifth Street, Marianna, FL 32446 Tel: 850-482-3319 or e-mail <jessiestewart@webtv.net>.

25th MP Co., 25th Inf. Div. (Korea) Sept. 4-7 at the Radisson Plaza Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia, Pa. Contact William Huston Tel: 201-391-7730 or write to 25th MP Co., P.O. Box 8523, Woodcliff Lake, N.J. 07677.

82nd AAA AW Bn. (SP), September 17-20 at Hampton Inn in Wichita Falls off I-44 near Sheppard Air Force Base. Contact Truman Davis, 615 Royal Road, Wichita Falls, TX 76308-5748. Tel: 940-692-1880.

USS Colonial, LSD 18, in Gaithersburg, MD, Sept 17-21. Contact Jim Roberts, at 615-833-1863 or e-mail at <lsd18@netscape.net>.

45th Inf. Div. Assn., (Thunderbirds), Sept. 18-20, in Oklahoma City, OR. Contact Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street Oklahoma City, OR 73111. Tel: 210-681-9134. Fax: 210-543-7313

The Society of the Third Infantry Division and attached units in war and in peace-time. September 18-21 at Airport Marriott Hotel, Interstate 70 at Lambert International Airport, St. Louis, MO 63134. Tel: 314-423-9700 or 800-228-9280. Contact Roger Lochmann, 1616 Frederick St., Collinsville, IL 62234. Tel: 618-345-1067. Visit Web site at: <www.warfoto.com/3rdiv.htm>

October 2003

A-1-7 Marine Corps. Assn., Korea, Oct 1-5 at the Holiday Inn, Airport in Oklahoma City, OK. All Men, Navy Corpsmen, Doctors and Chaplains, who served, in Korea, with "A" Co. 1st Bn. 7th. Reg. 1st. Marine Div., between 25 June 1950 to July 27th. 1953. Contact H. L. Mulhausen, 6405 S. Douglas Ave., Oklahoma City, OK. 73139. Tel: 405-632-7351 or E-Mail: <hmulley@aol.com>

USS Saratoga CV3/CVA/CV60 .Ships Company/Air Wings/All Officers USMC/TAD/ Magic Carpet, October in Dearborn, MI. Contact John D. Brandman. Tel: 1-877-360-7272. E-Mail <cva360@aol.com> Web pages www.uss-saratoga.com or www.ussarotoga.org

(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 lower case reunions only requested. Editor)

THEY HAD THE BEST VIEW

By Lillian M. O' Neal R.A

Dedicated to the "Gold Star Families" May 27, 2002,

On this day ...at this hour ...the angels came together for the best view...
A day of celebration, peace, recognition, support, love, camaraderie and to shed a tear or two.

A new type of star will be shining bright...
This 'Gold Star'... will be pointing up ...into the day... into the night...As a constant reminder...
of what happened... here today...
As we bow our heads ...we'll think of them... in our prayers

Somehow... this star is special ...it comes from the ones they love...
Their memories are so precious ... and they're carried to the ones above...
These memories are so special ...that they now... burn deep... within their hearts...
These memories ...will remain ...although they are apart...

This 'Gold Star'... is dedicated from their families ...to the ones they lost... not so long ago.
As they pause here ...they want them all to know...

It's true ...they're in their prayers ...each day and every night...
On this day every memory ...each one's love and everyone's heart
will become ignited...
But, there is one thing ...their pain ...will remain the same...
It doesn't matter who they are ...where they came from ...or even their names...

Yes, here among the honored ...a bench now takes a place...
With it... carries memories of a loved one's face...
With it... carries prayers... and special kinds of grace...
With it ...carries memories, which are both good and bad...
With it... comes memories of pains... of death... and times when they were sad...
These feelings swelled within these angels ...for on this day ...they felt a reaching love...

So if you feel a gentle breeze that brushes across your face...
And it seems to come ...from some other place...
You will know a special kiss ...has now ...takes its place...
They came to let you know ...they'll always love you ...and that they have... the best view...
For in God's taking... He brought a new kind and lasting family ...together...
Every time they come together now ...these families ...will share a special bond

**It doesn't matter where you are... what you do... who you love...
These Angels... Will Always Be There With You...**

I WANT TO MAKE YOU PROUD

I wish every day I could turn back time,
Back to the days of yours and mine.
The last thing I wanted was for us to part,

But I know you remain within my heart.
I see God's might show in the sky,

And I know your soul did not die.
Though your body did depart,
Our love and bond will never part.
And I know your light will lead me there,
And then that love again we'll share.

I just can't believe you're truly gone,
But I know from Heaven you still look on.

I just hope that I make you proud,
I'd give anything just to hear a sound,
To know you're there watching me,

And to know my life... you do see.
I know where you went the day you died;

And I know you saw the way I cried.
So up in Heaven I hope it's bliss,
And that's the place I mustn't miss.

So lead me, Grandpa, away from sin,
So Heaven's a place we'll meet again.
So I'll see you the day my tears run dry,
For that's the day that I will die..
Show me the light so I won't be scared,

And thanks for letting me know you always
cared...

I miss you, Jared

Wrote in loving memory of his grandfather,
Raymond Bisley, Jared Burris is 16.

DARKNESS BROUGHT DEATH

Each time the daylight faded, and darkness filled the sky,
the waiting would begin, for the night to hurry by
Darkness was the time that the enemy chose to strike;
knowing eyes grew dim and weary as they strained to pierce the night.

There was little sound or movement and the weather took its toll.
Bodies ached and stiffened, from winter's bitter cold.
Hours slowly passed, all senses showed fatigue.
Endurance had its limits, with sleep the crying need.

Suddenly without warning, flames and thunder rock the scene.
Shells and bullets hit their targets, while the night was rent with
screams.

Man-made moonbeams lit the sky; flares added their glow.
Shadows twisted and danced, like some weird picture show.

Chattering machine guns sang their deadly serenade.
Shrapnel whined and howled, from exploding hand grenades.
From frozen snow-filled holes, men would fight to stay alive.
Sadly, though some did see a sunrise, many others also died.

By Donald A. Chase

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library



KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

P.O. Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953

Ph: (217) 253-5813 ♦ Fax: (217) 253-9421 ♦

E-mail: kwmuseum@theforgottenvictory.org

Web-Site: www.theforgottenvictory.org

Progress Report – Jan-Feb 2003

The Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library will launch its national advertising campaign January 2003 to raise funds to build the project. A press release kit will be sent out to the media. The press release kit consists of a media letter, membership letter and corporate sponsorship letter. Depending upon who the letter is sent to, enclosures will consist of facts about: Korean War and Korea today. A massive membership drive will be launched at the same time. Korean War veterans in several states are preparing to launch membership drives in their respective states. There is a group in

the United States that may give funds to build the replica of Heartbreak Ridge. A large corporate sponsor is being contacted. Several large veterans organizations are going to give the museum, and library their support. A video will be prepared about the museum and library and the City of Tuscola, IL.

There are approximately 4,000,000 Korean War Veterans living today and more veterans who have preserved the armistice. 1,000,000 veterans are needed as members of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library to fund this project and establish an endowment fund to perpetuate for the

next 100 years. This can be accomplished if 1,000,000 veterans buy a \$25 individual or Spouse membership each for 2 years.

The six states with the most Korean War Era veterans are California (431,000); Florida (294,000); Texas (243,000); New York (220,000); Pennsylvania (201,000) and Illinois (154,000) as of mid year 2000. The total is 1,543,000. This is the group that could be the one to help us fund the project.

Our goal is to provide an educational research center that will give the American public a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons learned, history and legacy of the Korean War.

*Jere Crise,
President*

WE NEED NEW MEMBERS



I WANT YOU

KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY

Tuscola, Illinois

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please add my name to your membership roll:

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Mail to: Membership, P.O. Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953. (Tel: 217-253-5813)

- ☐ Individual veteran or spouse (\$25/1 year)
- ☐ General public (individual) (\$35/1 year)
- ☐ Life Member (one person only) (\$1,000)
- ☐ Veteran family Membership (\$30/1 year)
- ☐ General public (family) (\$40 - 1 year)

The Korean War Veterans Association Executive Council at Branson, MO on October 6, 2002 passed a resolution stating their support for the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library and requested that all Korean War veterans support the fund raising for the construction of the museum and library



Listen...
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sound.
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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 Partner Program

- States, Military and civilian communities, and civic and patriotic organizations will be requested to become Commemorative Partners 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, Suite 702, Arlington, VA 22202-4303
Tel: 703-697-4664 — Fax: 703-697-3145)

Web Site: **KOREA50.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 Partner."

- 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.
(For Republic of Korea War Service medal call 1-866-229-7074)



Proposed Commemorations of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War

1950 — 1953

2000 — 2003



Planned Events 2003

Date	Event	Location	Lead
9 April, 2003	Nat'l Former POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony	Andersonville, Georgia	The Korean Veterans Assn , Allan Murray kvaainc@optusnet.com.au Contance Burns, 202-685-2470 US Congress Military District Washington (MDW)
25 April, 2003	ANZAC Day	Melbourne, Victoria, St. Kilda Rd	
16 - 19 April, 2003	African Americans in the Korean War Conf.	Morgan State University	
25 May, 2003	National Memorial Day Concert	U.S. Capitol (West Lawn), Wash., DC	Commander, US Naval Forces Korea, 50years@cnfk.navy.mil Sharon E. Corum, 1-888-295-7212,
26 May, 2003	Memorial Day Breakfast and Wreath Laying	White House, Arlington National Cemetery and Korean War Memorial, Wash., DC	
30 May, 2003	Korean War Sea Services Commemoration	Pusan, Korea	
6 - 7 June, 2003	50th Anniversary Commemoration Weekend The Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library	KWVNM & Library, Factory Stores Mall, C500 Blvd, Tuscola , IL	The Korean Veterans Church, Assn of Australia, Allan Murray, kvaainc@optusnet.com.au National Commemoration Committee 50th Commemoration Committee (DoD) State of Hawaii Eighth US Army (EUSA) 50th Commemoration Committee 50th Commemoration Committee
22 June, 2003	Korean War Veterans Remembrance Day	Korean Uniting Community Melbourne, Australia	
30 June, 2003	MiG Alley Commemoration	National: Washington, DC Osan Air Force Base, Korea	
27 July, 2003	Korean War Armistice Day Commemoration	Korean War Memorial, Washington, DC	50th Commemoration Committee (DoD) State of Hawaii Eighth US Army (EUSA) 50th Commemoration Committee 50th Commemoration Committee
27 July, 2003	Korean War Veterans Parade	Location: Honolulu, Hawaii	
1 October, 2003	Mutual Defense Treaty	Seoul, Korea	
11 November, 2003	Official Closing of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration	Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC	
11 November, 2003	Korean War Veterans Welcome Home Parade	New York City, NY	

(To be updated each issue as required)

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. (Deaths which occurred over 6 months ago are not listed.)

Alabama

- ★ Gary J. Danforth
- ★ Joseph A. Norris

- ★ John Walding

California

- ★ Fred J. Moore

Connecticut

- ★ Joseph Heron

- ★ John L. Keefe

Delaware

- ★ Elwood C. Altemose

Florida

- ★ Emmett Benjamin

- ★ Darryl Johnson

- ★ Richard J. Razvoza

Maine

- ★ Leslie M. Bowden

New Jersey

- ★ Eugene H. Cathrall

Maryland

- ★ Robert E. Atkins

New York

- ★ Frank J. Clarke

- ★ Bernard Dyer

- ★ Eskel W. Falk

- ★ Thomas Novotney

- ★ Felix A. Pecorado

- ★ Raymond J. Tolomer

Pennsylvania

- ★ John E. Kerner

Tennessee

- ★ Harry J. Maihafer

Wisconsin

- ★ Wayne D. Sonntag

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



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

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CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualification of Members. Membership in this association shall consist of honorary members, regular members, and associate members.

A. **Honorary Members.** Any person of good character may be elected as an honorary member by the vote of the Executive Council.

B. Regular Members.

1. **Service in United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, said service being within Korea (September 3, 1945-June 25, 1950), within and without Korea (June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955), or who, as a member of the armed forces of the United States as defined by U.S.C. Title 10, served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1955 shall be eligible for membership. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, so long as the individual meets the service requirements.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service in Korea during the Korean war era shall be eligible for life membership.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward shall be eligible for life membership.
4. **United Nations Command and Korean Army.** Any person who served honorably in the armed forces of the United Nations command or in the Republic of Korea armed forces during the Korean War era and thereafter shall be eligible to membership. 90% of members must be United States Veterans, 10% can be others
5. **Gold Star Mothers.** Any woman whose son was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership,
6. **Gold Star Wives.** Any woman whose husband was killed in action or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership.

WEB PAGE WWW.KWVA.ORG

Korea 50 Years Ago



Each night mission starts with a 3:00 p.m. briefing to assign our targets for the evening.



Preparations for an early evening takeoff.



Most of our missions were night interdiction of trucks, trains & troops, we occasionally flew daylight formation bombing. A good example of mountainous terrain our ground troops had to fight through.



Returning from a daylight bombing mission – turning over Kunsan.



Painted by James Lamson – most paintings were requested by the crew chief of the aircraft.



Because we flew missions at night I spent most of my days painting the noses of aircraft.
(James Lamson with his art work)

3rd Bomb Group in the Korean War.

These photographs from my experiences as an aerial gunner on a B-26 attack bomber. Most of our missions were flown at night so not many flying shots but it gave me time to paint on aircraft noses. I thought the orphanage shots might be interesting to show that we not only destroyed but also started rebuilding.

I have included a picture of the B-26 crew that flew the last mission that ended the war. I went to the briefing and prepared my guns. At the last moment a press corps reporter suggested to our base commander that a black gunner would make good press, so the base commander personally asked me to step down to allow A/3c Judd to fly the mission (bummer!). This would have been my 15th mission, my ticket back to the States, but no, I had to stay a full year. An aircraft from the 8th Bomb Squadron was selected to fly the last mission that ended the war because the 8th Bomb Squadron was the first to fly B-26s out of Japan at the beginning of the Korean conflict.

James Q. Lamson,
520 South Main Street,
Plainwell, MI 49080
<Mmamaggie33@hotmail.com

(James, I wish I had more space to print all your photos. I will print them in upcoming issues.. They are great and very welcomed. You are a super artist and I bet this made you very popular. I understand why they prevented you from getting your 15th mission. They did not want you to leave. Sorry you had to stay for a full year but if I was the C.O. I would have did the same thing.— Editor.)

Korean War Veterans Association
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