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THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Vol. 17, No. 4 July - August 2003



Truce Signed



UNOFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNITED STATES FORCES, FAR EAST

Vol. 9, No. 207

Monday, July 27, 1953

Fighting Ends To

Ike Declares Challenge

PANMUNJOM, July 27 (Pac. S&S)—Truce delegates this morning quietly wound up their two years of passa wasing their two years of passa was was not passa w Met by U.N. their two years of peace-waging Korean war into history.

Delegate Lt. Gen. William K.

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)

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The Graybeards

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On the cover...



Reproduction of 'Stars and Stripes,' Monday, July, 27, 1953

The Days, Months and Years prior to the Armistice and Truce Signing

After the Communist offensives in the spring of 1951, combat action subsided and the battle lines stabilized in the general vicinity of the 38th Parallel, where the fighting had begun. With the status quo restored in the main, each side could claim some measure of success. Prospects for a military decision, however, dissipated as the opponents dug in and fortified their positions in depth. Under these conditions, continued stalemate or a negotiated agreement became the main alternatives since major offensives would require a high cost in casualties to breech the new defensive lines.

The Communists had spurned or ignored earlier attempts to initiate negotiations, but on June 23, Jacob Malik, the Soviet delegate to the United Nations (U.N.), suggested that the belligerents discuss the possibilities of a cease-fire. The United States and its allies quickly instructed General Matthew B. Ridgway, the U.N. commander, to arrange a military settlement that would bring the fighting to a halt and reduce the heavy drain in manpower and funds. Since the Communists might not be ready to seek a permanent political settlement in Korea, the United States sought an agreement that would endure over an extended period of time. At

the same time, Ridgway was told to avoid any discussions of political matters, such as a return to the 38th Parallel as a boundary, the seating of Communist China in the United Nations, or the future disposition of Taiwan.

The first contact with the Communists across the conference table came on July 8, when liaison officers met at Kaesong, the old capital of Korea, located just below the 38th Parallel and 35 miles northwest of Seoul. Two days later the plenary sessions began amid high hopes that the conflict would soon be brought to an end: there was no indication that it would take more than two years to reach an agreement on an armistice. But it was obvious even at the time that when the Chinese delegates sat down as equals before the U.N. Command (U.N.C.) representatives, the world power balance, at least in Asia, was for the foreseeable future profoundly changed. Certainly in this case, power for the Chinese had indeed "grown out of the barrel of a gun."

To head the U.N. Command truce team, Ridgway selected his capable naval commander, Vice Admiral C. Turner Joy. Together, they chose the other four members of the delegation: Army Major General Henry I. Hodes, Air Force Major General Laurence C. Craigie, Navy Rear Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, and Major General Paik Sun Yup of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Army. All five men were military professionals and had little or no political or diplomatic experience.

Across the table, the Communists had assembled a formidable group of negotiators. Chief delegate and nominal leader was General Nam II, chief of staff of the

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Conference Site at Kaesong, July 10, 1951, the day negotiations opened.

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President's Message



Harley Coon President, KWVA

Reunion 2003

7e had a great turn out Washington, D. C. between July 23 through July 28, 50 years have passed since the War in Korea. We had over 600 Veterans and wives attend.

Many of us still carry the battle scars, both physical and mentally. We were ordered to Korea do a job and we did that job. The world is a safer place today.

Promoting KWVA National

Traveling for the KWVA has kept me busy for the past two months. On Memorial Day many of the National Commanders and Presidents were invited to the White House for Breakfast and a Photo session with President Bush and the First Lady, Laura Bush.



On June 1st, I was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Plolver, Wisconsin State Korean War Memorial. The Memorial is located on an island in a very beautiful location.

I returned home late on the 2nd of June and early on the 3rd of June was flown to San Francisco where the Dolana Institute (Sponsoring Honoring The Parents of America and South Korea Movement) put on a culture performance and honored the Korean War Veterans.

On the 8th of June, I had the honor to represent the Korean War Veterans as Grand Marshal of the Miss Ohio parade.



Bill Woodrow and President Coon at Saratoga Springs, Miss Ohio Parade, 6-8-2003, Mansfield, OH.



Above, Forty seven contestants for Miss Ohio gather around KWVA President Coon.

Left, National President Harley Coon poses with Tiffany Haas 2003 Miss Ohio at the Miss Ohio pageant. Harley was the Grand Marshall on June 8th.

This event was sponsored by the Mansfield Elks Lodge #56. The Mansfield KWV Chapter # 51 provided the Color Guard.

Bill Shaw President of Adirondack Chapter #60 and Raymond Waldron Parade Chairman invited me to Saratoga Springs, New York (The home of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner) on June 14th (Flag Day). Once again I was honored to represent the Korean War Veterans. The Saratoga Springs Chapter #60 had a great banquet honoring all Korean War Veterans. The Adirondack Chapter #60 housed me at the Gideon Putnam Hotel and Conference Center.

After returning from Saratoga Springs I received a call from the History Channel to fly to Boston Ma. for an interview. The program will air in November this year. There were several Korean War Veterans interviewed from different parts of the country.

On July 1, Mr. Lee from the Christian Broadcasting came to National Headquarters to interview National Secretary Howard Camp and myself for a radio broadcast.

National Charter

Every state I visited whenever possible I talked to representatives from Congressmen and Senate leaders to try to get support for our national charter. Many said they would support our effort.

Until the next time, I remain,

Harley

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.

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Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

KOREAN WAR/COLD WAR DOCUMENT FAMILY RESEARCH

NEWS RELEASE from the United States Department of Defense No. 349-03 May 21, 2003

First Korean War Unknown Identified

The remains of a Korean War U.S. Marine buried as an "unknown" have been identified and returned to his family. He is Pfc. Ronald D. Lilledahl of Minneapolis, Minn. This marks the first unknown serviceman from the Korean War to be identified.

On Nov. 28, 1950, Lilledahl's unit, Company C of the 7th Marines, was surrounded by Chinese forces on the west side of the Chosin Reservoir and cut off from supporting units. During a seesaw battle throughout the day, Lilledahl reportedly was struck and killed by enemy fire and buried in a shallow grave.

In the ensuing withdrawal, C Company was unable to retrieve all of its dead, including Lilledahl.

Following the armistice, the North Korean government returned remains believed to be those of U.S. servicemen, but forensic technology at the time was unable to make positive identifications on more than 800 of those. They were interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as The Punchbowl, as "unknowns."

In 1999, the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii (CILHI) exhumed two of the Korean War unknowns for the purpose of possible identification. Between 1999 and 2002, CILHI scientists submitted 10 bone or dental samples to the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory but no usable mitochondrial DNA data could be extracted from the remains.

Broadening their search effort, CILHI researchers uncovered a postage-stamp sized chest x-ray in Lilledahl's medical records at the National Personnel Records Center. The scientific staff enlarged it many times and was able to show very strong consistency with the remains. The final piece of evidence confirming his identity came from a new computer program recently developed by

CILHI, which allows scientists to compare dental remains to a vast database of almost 40,000 dental patterns seen in the U.S. Lilledahl's were unique among the entire database, lending tremendous weight to the significance of the match.

Annual negotiations led by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office since 1996 have enabled CILHI teams to conduct 25 operations in North Korea, recovering what may be 178 remains of Americans. More than 8,100 are still missing in action from the Korean War.

Defense Official Voices U.S. Support for NATO Personnel Recovery Efforts

The senor Department of Defense official responsible for policy oversight of personnel recovery opened a key NATO conference in Naples last week.

Jerry D. Jennings, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, delivered keynote remarks to military representatives of NATO nations, gathered for a three-day conference on personnel recovery. The aim of the conference was to improve cooperation among NATO members in combat search and rescue.

"America, like the nations you represent, leaves no one behind on the battlefield, whether they be American or allied and coalition personnel," he said during his presentation in Naples.

Jennings met with key U.S. EUCOM and NATO military leaders to emphasize U.S. support of enhanced efforts to build an effective and credible combat search and rescue capability among coalition warfighting forces.

"We need to build a personnel recovery synergy within NATO that maximizes the capabilities of each member. The strengths of some members will complement the resource limits of other Alliance members," he added.

He also emphasized the importance of alliance partners planning and training together in the area of personnel recovery, and noted that fully trained and supported recovery teams "can ensure that we have the capability, not just the desire, to recover our isolated forces from harms way."

His delegation's visit in Europe concluded Friday with a visit with the commanders of the Italian Air Force's 9th Air Brigade and the 15th Wing at Practica Di Mare air base near Rome. Here, Jennings was briefed by IAF personnel and toured Italy's largest air base to see firsthand the forces dedicated to combat search and rescue.

He also met with U.S. officials in Italy to discuss details of a possible recovery operation of American WWII losses at Lake Garda in northern Italy. In addition to personnel recovery policy, Jennings oversees personnel accounting policy pertaining to worldwide operations to bring home the remains of Americans who are missing in action from WWII, the Korean War, the Cold War and the Vietnam War.

Casualty Offices

Department of the Army (800) 892-2490

Total Army Personnel Command (TAPC-PER) 2161 Eisenhower Avenue Alexandria, VA 22331-0482

Headquarters, US Marine Corps (800) 847-1597

Manpower and Reserve Affairs (MRC) Personal and Family Readiness Division 3280 Russell Road Quantico, VA 22134-5103

Department of the Navy (800) 443-9298

Navy Personnel Command POW/MIA Section (PERS-621P) 5720 Integrity Drive Millington, TN 38055-6210 http://www.persnet.navy.mil/pers62/POW-MIA/62Phtm

USAF Missing Persons Branch (800) 531-5501

HQ AFPC/DPWCM 550 C Street West, Suite 15 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4716

Department of State (202) 647-6769

Office of American Citizens Services and Crisis Management CA/OCS/ACS/EAP 2201 C Street, Northwest, Room 4811 Washington, DC 20520

2003 Family & Veteran Update Schedule

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Aug 23	Seattle, WA
	St. Louis, MO
	Jacksonville, FL
Nov 22	Phoenix A7

Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office Web Site www.dtic.mil.dpmo

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Korean War Ex-POW

Excerpts taken from Korean War Ex-POW June 2003 newsletter.

News From The President, Ray Unger

The Memorial ceremonies have passed but the memories never will. My wife, Elsie, and I along with about forty Korean War Ex-Pows, their wives and surviving spouses attended Memorial Ceremony in Hawaii. Nick Nishimoto almost single handedly made all the arrangements, from the ceremonies, trips, outdoor barbeque and the banquet, which about 90 people attended. We had a great time. Thank you Nick and Barbara for your hard work. This won't be the last reunion in Hawaii after all. It will be April 4 -11, 2004. More information to follow.

The second Memorial ceremony that

I was going to attend was the White House Breakfast and the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Unfortunately, I had to cancel at the last minute because of the flu, but our organization was well represented by Jack Chapman, Jim Ball and Elliott Sortillo. They went to the White House Breakfast and laid the wreath at the tomb. Thanks to Harley Coon for helping us organize this .

Phil O'Brien from the Department of POW/MIA in the Pentagon has accepted my invitation to be the guest speaker at our banquet. As many of you know, Phil has attended our reunions for many years. Those who have not spoken with Phil have missed out; those who have

spoken with him are astonished by his knowledge and memory.

TAPS

Claude W. Boren Joseph E. Carlin Alfred J. Connor, Sr. Harry R. Fleeger LeRoy J. Hawley Billie J. Holland Josef "Pepi" LaBatto

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.

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 Graybeards

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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

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Author's Note: Fifty-three plus years ago, the North Korean Peoples Army stormed across the 38th Parallel to begin what would one day be known as the "Forgotten War". It took over three years and the lives of almost 40, 000 Americans before the Korean War finally ground to a halt. Many excellent true combat stories have been written about the War, but relatively little about it's July 27th 1953 final chapter. This narrative provides a somewhat different historical perspective, and is dedicated to our comrades who never returned).

Tune 25th 2000 marked the 50th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War. To commemorate the occasion the cable TV service, History Channel featured an all-day television special "Korea - The Forgotten War."

As a veteran of that conflict I naturally spent a lot of my free time that day watching the series. As is their format, the History Channel interspersed newsreel action footage with taped interviews with historians and those who were there.

As I watched one veteran being interviewed, I saw tears well up in his eyes as he struggled to describe his emotions during the final moments of that horrendous conflict as he waited for the silence of the promised cease-fire. I found myself crying also, together with this man who I had never met as he took me back to relive those same unforgettable moments, one lonely night, 50 years ago....

In the early 1950's, my interests at age 19 were girls and cars, in that order. Plans for any sort of a military career, however short, was not high on my list of desirable job options. I was born and raised in England; having survived the blitz of London and the attacks of the V-1 and V-2 missiles, I had already had more than enough of war. However I had a draft card and a Selective Service number which told me that the U.S. Army would be desiring the pleasure of my company in about six months, and it was definitely going to be my duty to serve my newly adopted country.

Rather than wait in suspense for the other shoe to be dropped, I attempted to volunteer for branches of the military that I felt were more desirable. I was turned down by the Coastguard, Air Force, Navy and finally even the Army itself because I was not yet an American citizen. It seems

THEN THE GUNS TURNED SILENT

that a peculiar double standard existed at that time which allowed me to be drafted, but did not permit me to volunteer!

It actually took about six more months before I found myself wearing the uniform of the U.S. Army. Due to my civilian electronics experience I was assigned to the Signal Corps, and after training I was shipped to Korea in 1952.

Ours was a small family that had been through a lot, and I had no desire to have my parents spend their days and nights worrying about their only son in the middle of a shooting war. My problem was soon solved, however. As anyone who has corresponded with a member of the military on overseas duty knows, letters from home are usually not addressed to the country where the soldier is serving. If serving in the Army in the European Theater, letters are addressed to an APO (Army Post Office) Box Number, New York; if in the Pacific and Far East, to APO Box Number, San Francisco. I therefore concocted a story of my peaceful and boring duty on a remote part of Japan, and their minds were at ease.

The truth was that I was in Korea, part of a unique traveling radio repair team. A 2-1 /2 ton truck, towing it's own power generator, had been outfitted with a special body that contained a complete radio repair shop, including test equipment, spare parts, and just about everything needed to repair a malfunctioning army radio in the field. We would roam throughout the various line divisions, repairing and placing their communications equipment back in service. We would stay a day, a week, or a month,

depending to a large extent on how badly their equipment had been mauled in battle. We were never very far from the fighting front, and the thunder of bombs and artillery were our constant companion.

It seemed as though peace talks at Panmunjon had been going on forever. So many promises of the end of hostilities had been made and broken. On that fateful night of July 27th 1953 a cease-fire was supposed to take effect at 10:00 p.m. There was no reason for us to think that this would be any different from the last scheduled cease-fire — or the one before that — when peace talks would invariably fall through, and the guns boomed on - but for some reason, this one felt different.

Like that other veteran I had seen interviewed, I sat listening to the sound of the artillery along with thousands of other soldiers and civilians within earshot of the war. As I waited, alone in a tent in the middle of nowhere, by candlelight I wrote a long letter to my family back in the States. I told them where I was, I apologized for lying to them, I shared with them so very, many thoughts that I was unable to express previously. I ended by telling them that there was a cease-fire scheduled for 10:00 p.m. that evening, and if the noise of the guns did not stop they would never see this letter.

At approximately 10 minutes before the 10:00 deadline, I actually began to detect a lessening of the thunder of the guns. I kept my eyes on my watch. In the last few minutes the gunfire became sporadic, then finally started to taper off.

At exactly 10:00 p.m. the guns fell silent.

For the next 50 years.

And I mailed the letter.

Ron Rosen, 7901 40th Avenue N., No. 117 St. Petersburg, FL 33709 Tel: (727) 544-9623

(Thank you Ron for a great story. I held on to this letter for over 1 year because I wanted to print it in this issue. I took the liberty to revise some years because when you read this story it will be beyond or near the 50 year Anniversary. Korean War Veterans you can be proud of your service to help a country gain its freedom and become the great country South Korea is today. –Editor.)

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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.

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29th Inf. Regt. Assn.

Earle Downey AUS - 24 Div. (By Dale Schreiber)



Book Review



Operation Aviary

By Col. Douglas C. Dillard USA Ret.

The Book

At this time over fifty years since the end of the Korean War, we have just experienced similar special operations by Special Forces

who carried out almost exactly the same type clandestine airborne operations as covered in this book. Captain Amerine, the Special Forces Commander of the initial Special Forces personnel in Afghanistan, conducted their operation in the same manner as Ranger Sergeant Miles did in 1951 in North Korea. Miles destroyed most of a Chinese Communist Volunteer Army Division with his directed airstrikes using a simple Army radio, where Captain Amerine's troopers utilized state of the art computers, global positioning devices, and radically improved radio equipment.

The results were the same, the destruction of enemy forces. This book details such cases including some tragic losses. The uniqueness of this book is the fact that it reflects the first hand experiences of mine as well as the personal histories of other AVIARY veterans who flew on these dangerous missions, most for an entire year. The book provides details on special operations during the Korean War that are still not generally known. Agent and partisan activity behind enemy lines is movie material. The combined use of American, British, both South and North Koreans and Chinese volunteers in behind the lines combat is unique in itself. The details fill in the missing elements on clandestine airborne operations that other articles and books do not address.

I believe the final chapter of the US Army's use of Homing Pigeons by my unit in Korea is not only an interesting story but also historical in perspective for the US Army.

Generally, the scene is set, as to conditions present that influence the political leaders to make decisions that lead to significant actions, and quite often to hostil-

Continued on page 70

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THE LAST DAY

By M. J. Cramer

s I recall . . . July 27, 1953 was a hot humid day with the morning Lsun shining through a misty haze. The smells of war were ever present, rotting bodies, cordite and of course our own stinky sweaty uniforms. I think we had one shower in two months. There had been rumor of a cease fire, but we had heard that several times prior. K Company 224th Inf. 40th Inf. Div. was holding positions on or near 'Bloody Ridge'. To our left front loomed 'Sand Bag Castle' with the Chinese and 40th lines at some point about 30 yards apart. I think Love Co. was holding that area. To the right of 'Sand Bag' was 'Joe Stalin Hill', totally void of any vegetation. Some tree stumps, about four to five feet tall, were all that was left. Patrol size units from K Company probed 'Stalin' on night recons but failed to make contact. Intelligence had reported it was defended by no more than a squad of Chinese. Bum intelligence, as we found out the morning of the 28th. Several hundred Chinese were observed singing and waving banners. Some of them came to our wire, they carried hand made dolls as gifts, we were ordered to avoid contact with them.

But, back to the 27th, as the day progressed we could hear artillery rounds incoming and probably landing back at Division and Regimental Headquarters. The only thing going on in our sector was some small arms fire. I had glassed the hill and did not see any targets. Sometime in mid afternoon we began receiving mortar and artillery rounds. Through the smoke and haze we were expecting an assault. We could see nothing. The guys in the L.P. reported the same. Over the sound power line came the order to fire our F.P.L. for several minutes. I was on a light 30. With the incoming rounds and our F.P.L. fire, the sounds were indescribable, none of us could hear, we tried to read each others' lips. Gradually our hearing returned. One of the guys in the squad had his orders, on his person, to rotate home. He was kneeling on the floor of the bunker or the trench saying his rosary. I think the sight of him caused me to mumble through the Lord's Prayer - I was thinking about the 'Valley

of Death' -Wow! Am I there? Finally our big stuff 4.2 mortars, 105s and 155s opened up. They dropped W. P. in the valley, what a sight to behold. Everyone was firing anything they had into that valley. 'Stalin Hill' and 'Sandbag' were totally enveloped in the dust of explosions. I think they reduced the height of that hill on the Chinese side by a foot or so. As 2200 hours neared, the firing and explosions died down and then stopped. We remained on 100 percent alert as dawn broke on the 28th of July. Some of the troops had slumped into sleep while others shouted into each others ears still unable to hear in normal tones.

On the morning of the 28th we had visitors in the trench. These guys were dressed like they were from a recruiting poster. They wore clean fatigues with sharp creases and each carried a camera, most with telephoto lenses. They took pictures of each other posing around our positions, we found it amusing. The Lt. told me to escort two or three of the men into the valley, they were U.N. Observers. They spoke in broken English. The Lt. told me to take no weapon into the valley. I stuck a .45 in my belt in the small of my back. They followed in my foot steps. Half way down into the valley they indicated they wanted to return to the MLR. I think the sights and smells were too much, but I was happy to make the move up and out of there. That evening a reinforced squad of us stayed on the hill. All the positions and bunkers had been blown up by the demolitions squads earlier that afternoon. The Sgt. in charge said we would set up on the highest point of the Company area. We had two light 30's some BARs, M-2 Carbines, sound power and PR 6 for radio contact with Company C.O. Fifteen minute security checks were the orders. The evening was uneventful. We could see cooking fires on the Chinese hill. As dawn approached, we were anxious to pull out of there, head south, and rejoin our Company. We shouldered our light 30's ammo cans and BARs The only evidence of our being there that evening was two or three empty whiskey bottles. When we got down to the road, someone joked about Custer's Last Stand, that would have been us if an attack would have come. We took one last look up that hill. So many memories, so many people, the faded roster I have now is full of names but very few faces. We all did what we had to do, and did it as good as we could. We were young of age when we arrived, we were old with experience on this day.

About three miles down the road, we came to a staging area, pup tents, mess tents and our friends of K Company. We were directed up another hill, this one had vegetation growing on it and trees. We dug in at the top and went on night patrols. On the road we found other GIs doing the same. During the day we cut fields of fire, we hoped we would not have to use them. We moved to Kumwah then on to Chorwan. New hills, no names, living like animals. Freezing in the winter, but surviving better than those who went before us.

We at least had winter issue. Some of my friends back home had told me winter issue was not available to them in the early 1950s. Spring came and we were trucked in to Ascom City, Inchon, riding in a 2 1/2 ton truck -what a luxury! Down to the pier and on to L.S.T.s for our ride out in the bay to the U.S.S. General Gordon, barely visible in the morning mist. As we settled in the lower troop compartments we were told our trip home would take two weeks. San Francisco would be our port. Everyone was in good spirits we had done our jobs and made it out of Korea.

I'll never forget the Lieutenant, after the news of our two weeks to the states, he said, "I will not feel comfortable until we pass under the Golden Gate Bridge! There is a war going on right now and we could be involved in it". He told us the French were getting beat up in a place called French Indo China. This meant nothing to us, it was 1954, we were going home. As we passed under the bridge we reminded the Lieutenant. Little did we know, that French Indo China (Vietnam) would be a part of our lives for years to come.

Jake Cramer "K" Company 224th. 55 LW 301C Barton Lk., Fremont, IN 46737

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Frist Lieutenant 'Spud' Taylor



An Exceptional Friendship

Pyongyang, North Korea

October, 1950

Those who have experienced the painful loss of dear friends in battle already know the feeling. Those who have not shall probably never know; for it is impossible to truly describe such heartfelt feelings.

Because of the men I was privileged to be associated with during my Korean air war experiences, I am firmly convinced that valor and courage are not inborn, they are not hereditary; instead, they are the result of their then-current environment:

And, while I was serving with the 18th Fighter-Bomber Group and the pilots of those old derelict F-51 Mustangs, I can proudly state that: I ate with heroes, I drank with heroes, and to a certain extent, a part of me died with many of those heroes..

Perhaps another of my personal experiences, which I describe here, will help to explain what I mean:

First Lieut. Claude R. "Spud" Taylor, was a shining example of that unique type of individual ...

Following the North Korean invasion of South Korea on Sunday morning, June 25, 1950, we had gone into Korea in mid-July 1950 with the first increment of the 'Dallas Project', a hastily-formed squadron of volunteer fighter pilots from the USAF's 18th Fighter-Bomber Group, then stationed at Clark Field.

Spud Taylor was one of the first to raise

his hand when the 18th Group Commander, Col. Hank Norman asked for volunteers to go into battle; he went up to Korea as a "buck fighter pilot"; I was to be the full-time Squadron Intelligence Officer and just a part-time combat pilot.

It didn't take either, or any of us, long to realize that our gallant, but feeble efforts, initially flying ten derelict F-51 Mustangs from the dirt airstrip at Taegu, South Korea, were having little effect in slowing the North Korean's relentless offensive drive toward Pusan. Things improved considerably in early August, with the arrival of a shipload of 150 'new' F-51 Mustangs and a batch of experienced fighter pilots fresh from the States on the USS Boxer. But it wasn't until at least two months later, during September, 1950, that we honestly felt that we might be on the winning side. General Douglas MacArthur's audacious amphibious landing at the port of Inchon put a completely new perspective on what had, until then, been a defensive war.

The North Korean forces were forced into a complete rout; their offensive pressure around Taegu and the Pusan Perimeter was released immediately, and our attack efforts were simultaneously redirected to support of our troops racing toward the North Korean capitol city of Pyongyang.

But, before getting too far ahead of our

story, it's appropriate to tell a bit more about Spud Taylor ...

Like so many of the World War II Army Air Corps fighter pilots, Spud had been released from active duty in the drastic Reductions-in-Force of 1946. Having been trained as a professional jazz musician, Taylor made a reasonable living playing with small combos at various nightclubs and cocktail lounges.

But, also, like so many others, he too had been afflicted with the "fighter pilot bug" during the war and wanted very much to be flying again. He applied for Recall to Active Duty and was pleasantly surprised to be accepted for P-51 retraining during the Spring of 1948. After a brief tour of duty in the 'States, he was transferred to Clark Field, Philippines, traveling with his family by ship.

It was during the voyage from San Francisco to Manila that he met another fighter pilot with unusual musical talent ... a singer with a pleasant deep bass voice, and it was only logical that they should share many pleasant musical hours en route.

Lieutenant Taylor stood about five foot seven inches and, soaking wet could not have weighed 150 pounds. He wore a well-developed bushy walrus mustache and affected a slouched, rhythmic walk; he played beautiful Dixieland Jazz on the saxophone and, well, ... he just looked the part of a jazz musician!

His new friend, the other fighter pilot en route to Clark Field, First Lieutenant James ...Daniel James, had the deep, welltrained baritone voice, and in contrast to Spud's slight stature, he was six foot four, and tipped the scale at about 220 pounds; he was built like a pro football lineman.

They made quite a combination study in contrasts ...'Spud' Taylor and his new friend 'Chappie' James.

Besides the other visual contrasts between the two, Spud Taylor was white and Chappie James was an Afro-American black, ... in the days when it wasn't all too popular to be a black officer ...the only black officer in a recently-integrated all-white fighter squadron. Black or not, Chappie's personality was such that he was immediately accepted as a professional U.S. Air Force Officer-fighter pilot. Both were assigned to the 12th Fighter Bomber Squadron at Clark Field.

Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

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

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A few months before the start of the Korean war, the two pilots were flying Instrument practice together in a tandemseat T-33, trainer version of the F-80 jet fighter. Moments after take-off, the engine flamed out and they were forced to crash land, wheels up, in a rough sugar cane field several miles north of Clark's airstrip.

Spud, in the front cockpit, was knocked unconscious when his head hit the instrument panel in the crash. Chappie, in the rear cockpit, was bruised and shaken, but remained conscious, but found that the ship's canopy had been jammed in the closed position during the crash, and he was unable to open it electrically. Chappie immediately unstrapped from his parachute harness, stood on his seat with his broad back against the canopy, and with almost superhuman strength, was able to force the clamshell barrier open enough to scramble out. The ship's fuel tank was ruptured in the crash and there was a very strong possibility that the leaking fuel could catch fire at any

Although shaken and bruised, Chappie realized that Taylor was still motionless in the front cockpit and, despite the hazard of the spilled fuel, climbed back onto the wing and somehow managed to lift the limp form out of the cockpit and drag him a couple hundred feet to safety.

Few men could claim such devoted friends as were Spud Taylor and Chappie James and their families.

Together still, in July, 1950, in the newly-redesignated 12th Fighter-Bomber Squadron at Taegu, Korea, flying combat missions together whenever the schedule would permit, they complemented each other in the air as well.

On October 20, 1950, following the Inchon Landings, Spud Taylor, while flying element leader, was hitting the North Korean capitol, Pyongyang's airfield area as part of the "softening up" prior to an air drop by one of our Paratroop units, hoping to cut off a goodly number of the retreating Red Army.

During his dive-bombing and rocketing of the airfield, Spud's airplane was hit by ground fire ... hit badly enough, apparently, that he was barely able to maintain control long enough to pull up a couple thousand feet and turn southerly toward

our front lines. After just a few miles, however, the engine caught fire, forcing Spud to take to his parachute ...he had to get out while still several miles north of friendly territory.

His chute was seen to open, and he reportedly appeared to be conscious as he floated down, for he waved to one of his wingmen who flew by to check his condition.

Our ground troops came in by mass parachute drop early on the following morning, taking the area with but little opposition. Spud Taylor's body was found where he had touched down, still in his chute harness. He had been shot while descending in his parachute.

Spud's great friend, Chappie James ...who had pulled him from the crashed T-33 at Clark Field the previous year ...was absolutely beside himself with grief when told of Spud's fate. He had to be physically restrained from running out to one of our armed Mustangs with the intention of seeking single-handed retribution for Taylor's death. Instead, he was ordered off to Tokyo for a week's Rest Leave, after which he returned to Korea to finish far more than his required 100 combat missions before returning to the United States late in December, 1950.

Daniel "Chappie" James was promoted to Captain before leaving Korea; he went on to a highly successful Air Force career, rising rapidly through various command positions, and further combat responsibilities in Viet Nam ...to ultimately become our nation's first black four-star General, as head of North American Air Defense Command, (NORAD).

General James did much to inspire hope among the black youth of our country, and he always "told it like it was" ...he told the youngsters that they could not expect freedom and equality to be given to them as a "Right" ...they had to "get their ass in gear and work for it"!

General 'Chappie' James died of a heart attack in 1978, at a young 56 years of age, and was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC.

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman, Lt Col, USAF, Ret "...one of those OLD, Bold Fighter Pilots.." (Col. Biteman passed away on September 23, 2002. I will honor him and his unit by printing all of his stories.—Editor.)

Next Issue: Race to the Yalu
"Home by Christmas," then all the pipelines shut down.

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For all Korean War and DMZ Veterans

After 48 Years of Waiting, 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.

(I will print how to obtain medal when known. Editor)

U.S. Troops Slated to Move South From Korean DMZ

By Gerry J. Gilmore, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 6, 2003 – U.S. and Republic of Korea officials have agreed to a plan to realign American forces stationed in "The Land of the Morning Calm."

In June 4-5 meetings held in the South Korean capital city of Seoul, according to a joint U.S.-South Korean statement, it was decided the operation would consist of two phases:

Phase 1 - U.S. forces at installations north of the Han River

would consolidate in the Camp Casey (Tongduchon) and Camp Red Cloud (Uijongbu) areas. Both bases are north of Seoul and the Han, but well south of the demilitarized zone that separates North and South Korea. The 14,000-strong U.S. Army 2nd Infantry Division, which provides troops to bases near the DMZ, is headquartered at Camp Red Cloud.

Phase 2 – U.S. forces north of the Han River would move to key hubs south of the Han River.

U.S. and Korean officials

agreed to continue rotational U.S. military training north of the Han even after Phase 2 is completed, according to the statement. The realignment operation would take several years to complete, according to the joint statement. Realignment of American troops in South Korea is part of an ongoing U.S. force assessment involving overseas and stateside troops. About 37,000 U.S. troops are currently serving in South Korea.

U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz noted at a June 2 press conference in Seoul that "a substantial amount of money" would be invested — about \$11 billion, according to U.S. defense officials —over the next four years "in some 150 programs to enhance U.S. capabilities here on the (Korean) Peninsula."

The U.S.-ROK statement noted that the realignment would also

involve moving U.S. forces out of Yongsan garrison in Seoul.

Wolfowitz returned June 3 from a trip to Singapore, Seoul and Tokyo to discuss mutual security matters with East Asian leaders.

The deputy defense secretary observed in Seoul "that any basic changes we make to our ground forces here will affect the 2nd Infantry Division." However, U.S. "commitment to the defense of (South) Korea remains firm," the deputy defense secretary asserted at the Seoul press conference.

The purpose of realigning U.S. forces in South Korea, Wolfowitz pointed out, "is to enhance deterrence, not to weaken it."

More U.S.-ROK meetings on the subject of U.S. forces' realignment in South Korea are slated in the future, according to the statement.

Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul

For every book you purchase 20% will be donated to The Korean War Veterans Assn. or its Chapters

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 self-lessly served their country in faraway 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 waited at

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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.

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Wolfowitz Praises DMZ Soldiers, Marines 'On the Front Lines of Freedom'

Forces Press Service

SEOUL, South Korea, June 1, 2003 – U.S. soldiers and Marines deployed along the demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea "are on the front lines of freedom," U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz said June 1 during a visit to Camp Greaves - located a mile from the DMZ.

"The country is grateful for your service," Wolfowitz told the 500 Army soldiers and Marines gathered inside the camp's gymnasium. He noted that both President Bush and Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld "have asked me to send a message to you: that we appreciate what you're doing —it is fantastic."

Wolfowitz and his traveling party flew about 35 miles north of Seoul on Army Black Hawk helicopters to visit with Camp Greaves' service members. After meeting with 2nd Infantry Division commander Army Maj. Gen. John Wood, who has iurisdiction over the camp. Wolfowitz got together with the troops.

The deputy defense secretary said he was in South Korea "to update my own knowledge about the situation in this country and particularly about the defense issues we have with (South) Korea."

Wolfowitz added he was slated to

By Gerry J. Gilmore, American discuss mutual defense issues with South Korean President Roh Moo Hvun and other senior officials the next day in the capital city of Seoul.

> Recalling the recent victory over Saddam Hussein's forces in Iraq. Wolfowitz told the troops: "We have the best men and women anywhere in the world serving in our armed forces."

> American troops, he continued, "are brave, they're professional, they fight joint, and they're probably the most humane warriors any country has ever fielded."

> When U.S. and coalition troops were defeating Hussein's forces in Iraq, Wolfowitz noted, other American troops stationed along the DMZ "were preventing a war here in Korea."

> It requires skill, dedication and professionalism to serve along the DMZ, he asserted.

> Army Pfc. Corey Brown, 21, an artillery fire support specialist from Tucson, Ariz., said he volunteered to serve near the DMZ. He explained that his cousin, an Army staff sergeant, told him the DMZ "was the best place to come to learn your job." Brown, assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, noted that his cousin was right.

> Army 2nd Lt. Mike Murphy, 22, a fire support officer in Brown's outfit, declared that duty along the DMZ has a special meaning.

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"That's the reason most of us joined the military ...to help protect the freedoms that we have," Murphy, a Springfield, MO., native, observed, "and to keep on with the tradition of helping South Koreans stay free."

Duty along the DMZ is a joint endeavor, with U.S. Marines serving alongside U.S. soldiers. And Marine Corps Cpl. Lucious Robinson, 22, said he and his 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines, 4th Marine Regiment, buddies are training with Republic of Korea marines. Robinson, who hails from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., said he's learning about Korean culture during his DMZ tour of duty. He complimented his ROK marine counterparts: "They are pretty tough guys."

Many soldiers were pulling 12-month, unaccompanied tours at Camp Greaves. Wolfowitz acknowledged that performing such duty "means long, long months away from your families ...and that is a huge sacrifice." Yet, U.S. and South Korean troops serving on the DMZ, Wolfowitz asserted, have made and still make "a huge difference."

"With the protection that you and your comrades have provided over the years (and) with the dedication and commitment of your South Korean colleagues, we've enabled our allies to build one of the strongest democracies in the world," the deputy defense secretary pointed out.

However, North Korea's behavior over the past year, in both its public declarations and actions on its illicit nuclear weapons programs, "threatens regional and global stability," Wolfowitz said May 31 at a Singapore defense conference.

Wolfowitz pointed out to Singapore conference attendees that in October 2002 North Korea had declared it had violated and would continue to violate its promise not to press on with its uranium-enrichment programs. And earlier this year, he continued, the

North Koreans announced that they were reactivating their plutonium production program. Also, just two weeks ago, the North Koreans characterized the 1992 North-South Korean denuclearization agreement they had signed as "a worthless piece of white paper," the deputy defense secretary noted.

It's evident that North Korea is "a state that has little regard for the commitments it undertakes," Wolfowitz said at the conference, "or for the delicate nature of the northeast Asia security environment."

Regarding North Korea's desire to deal exclusively with America in discussing its nuclear program, Wolfowitz declared in Singapore: "This is not and cannot be a bilateral issue, as Pyongyang would like it — limited to a two-way dialogue between North Korea and the United States."

North Korea's nuclear program "affects the whole region," the deputy defense secretary observed at the conference, noting the issue therefore "requires a multilateral approach."

North Korea is "heading down a blind alley" in its pursuit of nuclear and other weapons, Wolfowitz asserted at Camp Greaves, a point he had made also in Singapore. The United States, Japan, South Korea, China and Russia, he has often reminded audiences, all strongly oppose nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula.

Meanwhile, Wolfowitz told Camp Greaves' troops that the United States and South Korea rely on them to keep the peace by deterring possible North Korean aggression.

"I thank you for your service. I thank you for your dedication," Wolfowitz told the troops. "Keep it up. Both our countries depend on you and I'm glad to be here this afternoon to say that," he concluded.

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Postal Service to Issue Stamp Honoring Korean War Memorial, Armistice

By Rudi Williams, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 23, 2003 – A photograph of a patrol of stainless steel statues trudging through snow toward an objective is featured on the new commemorative postage stamp honoring the Korean War Veterans Memorial that's slated to be dedicated by the U.S. Postal Service on July 27.

The 37-cents stamp also honors

the 50th anniversary of the armistice that ended hostilities during the Korean War.

The stamp's official first day of issue ceremony will take place at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Washington's National Mall.

The statuary troop patrol consists of 14 soldiers, one sailor, one airman and three Marines. The 7-foot-tall figures represent racial and ethnic cross sections of America —

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whites, African- Americans, Asians, American Indians and Hispanics.

One Marine carries an ammunition case about the size of a lunch box and a tripod on his shoulder.

The airman, wearing a fur hat, is the only one not wearing a helmet. There's also a statue of an African-American Army medic and a South Korean soldier fighting with the American unit.

Previous U.S. stamps have recognized the bravery of Korean War veterans and the significance of the Korean War in U.S. and world history. In 1985, the Postal Service issued the 22-cent "Veterans Korea" stamp. "The Korean War," a 33-cent stamp, was issued as part of the 1950s, and the "Celebrate the Century" stamp pane in 1999.

Congress authorized the building of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in 1986 and it was dedicated on July 27, 1995.

Shown marching in a wedge formation as if on patrol, the statues represent troops walking grimly through a triangular field of juniper bushes and marble barriers that symbolize the rough terrain in Korea. Their objective, at the apex of the triangular "field of service," is symbolized by a masted American flag. The figures are clad in wind-blown ponchos to recall the harsh weather troops endured during the three-year war — 1950 to 1953.

The 19 statues reflect off a shiny, 164-foot-long black granite wall. A computer-controlled sandblaster etched the wall's 41 panels, creating a mural of more than 2,500 images of U.S. personnel who supported combat troops. The etchings represent Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard personnel. Equipment etchings include everything from rocket launchers, vehicles and tankers, to hospital units, to chaplains of all denominations and switchboard and radio operators.

Faces etched into the wall came from photographs in the National Archives and the National Air and Space Museum. Some of the people whose images were used are

still alive.

The reflective quality of the granite creates the illusion of 38 statues, symbolic of the 38th Parallel and the 38 months of the war. When viewed from afar, it also creates the appearance of the mountain ranges of Korea.

The third element of the Korean War Veterans Memorial, an area of remembrance, consists of a circular reflecting pool at the apex surrounded by a grove of 40 Linden trees. "Freedom Is Not Free" is engraved on the segment of the wall that extends into the pool area.

The memorial recognizes the

contributions of more than 1.5 million Americans who served in Korea during the war. It also acknowledges the United Nations member countries that assisted South Korea in the conflict.

The Pool of Remembrance bears the inscription: "Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met."

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when North Korean communist troops invaded South Korea. The U.S. and 21 other nations rallied to the defense of South Korea with military personnel, medical support and supplies. More than 34,000 Americans had been killed and another 103,000 wounded when an armistice was signed on July 27, 1953.

More than 3,000 soldiers from other United Nations countries were killed and 16,000 were wounded. South Korean casualties vary greatly, with estimates ranging from 50,000 to more than 400,000 dead and hundreds of thousands wounded. Millions of civilians are thought to have been killed or wounded.

John W. Alli of Catonsville, MD, took the photograph on the stamp just before a snowstorm in January 1996. Alli, who served two tours of duty in the Persian Gulf as a Marine Corps second lieutenant, is now a commercial airline pilot and a lieutenant colonel aviator in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.



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Brothers Die in Same Korean War Action

By Art Lajeunesse

vear while reading the Last "Knickerbocker News" (Former local newspaper) on microfiche for August 1951, I copied an article about two brothers Killed in Action at the same time and in the same unit. The brothers were PFC John R. and Melvin H. Barnett from Batesville, Arkansas. It stated that they were the only brothers that were Killed in Action, the same day, same time and the same unit possibly by fragments of the same mortar round. John and Melvin served in the heavy weapons company, 5th. Cav. Rgt. 1st. Cav. Div. Last month I sent email to the Arkansas State Library to see if I could get more information or copies of local newspaper articles about these brothers. The librarian sent me some copies of articles and I was put in contact with a family member.

John R. Barnett was born September 1, 1931 and Melvin H. Barnett was born July 9, 1930 in Batesville, Arkansas. Their parents George and Corly Barnett had seven sons and six daughters. Corly died January 6, 1949. Melvin enlisted September 16, 1948 and trained at Fort

Ord, Ca. and Fort Benning, Ga. On December 3, 1949 Melvin was married to Miss Maude Lynn Alton.

John R. Barnett enlisted October 11, 1948 and trained at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas. Both brothers went overseas about the same time but in different units and this was in August 1, 1950. John was wounded while on patrol and received the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. After receiving these awards he requested a transfer to his brother Melvin's unit, heavy weapons company, 5th. Cav. Rgt. 1st. Cav. Div. and was transferred to this unit.

Together they wrote their last letter home on March 15, 1951. It told among other things how John had given Melvin his first hair cut in five months. John and Melvin were Killed in Action the next day, March 16, 1951 and possibly from fragments from the same mortar round. Their father George Barnett received two telegrams one for John and one for Melvin, stating they were Killed in Action.

A brother Louis Barnett who was in the process of being deployed overseas with



Melvin H. (left) and John R. Barnett.

the Army at that time, was ordered state side duty. They were returned to their native Arkansas soil, and buried side by side in the Sandtown Cemetery.

(Contact Arthur E. Lajeunesse, 73 Roadway Latham, NY 12110 E-mail: <alajeun314@aol.com> Tel: 518-783-8564)

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Reunion Showplace.....

74th Ordnance Battalion

On May 18-20, 2003, at Pocono Manor, Pocono Manor, Pocono Manor, PA, a group of buddies who served together in the U. S. Army and in Korea, attended a forty-five years reunion. It was the first time most had seen each other since leaving Korea in the fall of 1958. The men served with the 74th Ordnance Battalion in Ascom City and Uijongbu, and the 181st Signal Company in Ascom City. Plans are to make this an annual event.



Utjongbu, and the 181st Signal Shown in photo from left to right are: Jim Foley, Frank Biondo, Don McCarthy, Joe Kenick, Jr., Gene Leeson, Company in Ascom City. Plans are to John Torand, Max Sheets, Y. C. Kim, Michael Rossi, Lou Annesi, Jacques Cornet, and Jim Walton.

E-2-5 Korea Association



Gatherings of E-2-5 Korea Association at Newburgh, NY on May 10th. Easy Company, 2nd Bn., 5th Marines, First Marine Div, FMF, Korea 1950-1953. Evans Kerrigan, President of E-2-5 Korea Assoc., Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, NY Senator Bill Larkins. Korean War Veterans donated funds for children in the box Dr. Lee was holding.

11th Engineers (C) Batallion Association



73rd Tankers Association



7th reunion in Independence, MO. 50th Anniversary ending Korean War, May 8-11, 2003.

The 11th Engineer (C) Battalion Association held their 10th annual reunion at the Boardwalk Hotel in Las Vegas, NV on September 26-30, 2002. Attending were 31 members, 23 wives and 19 guests, a total of 73. Included were 3 former members of the 11th in Panama, Noah Bass (1938-40), Bob Tippett (1940-43) and Leonard Hartman who also joined the unit in 1940 and served as the Battalion XO in Europe during WWII. Member Ira Greenberg also served with the 11th in Europe. A total of 20 states were represented with New Jersey at 8, Washington at 7 and Texas with 6. The 11th Engineer Association will hold the 11th Reunion in Peoria, IL, October 3rd thru the 5th. Contact Fred Boelsche, 54 Edstan Drive, Moonachie, NJ 07074-1239. or E-Mail at <FredB11thEng@hotmail.com>.

Shown in photo are: Front Row, Jim Bell, Tom McGee, Doc Fischl, Ernie Seymour and Fred Boehle. Second Row, (Chairs) Gene Bowler, Bill VanOrt, Fred Boelsche, Dutch Heiney, Bill Brown, Les Davis, Bill Barnes, and William Harrison. Back Row, Mike Hermanson, Gene Swanson, John McOscar, Len Pavell, John Gagne, Paul Fessenden, Leon Bowen, Dick Soehlke, Ira Greenberg, Chuck Scott, Erine Reeves, Leonard Hartman, John Spehar, Bob Tippett, Ben Botelho, Jim Loose and Ray DiVacky

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THE SIEGE OF WONSAN

By Lt. John P. Tanner USNR (Ret.)

onsan, strategically located on Korea's East coast in the Sea of Japan, was North Korea's principal seaport at the start of the Korean War. The large 300 square mile harbor was naturally protected from storms and typhoons. Wonsan was ice-free in the Winter, unlike other ports to the North. Its anchorage had a mud bottom over good holding ground in six to eight fathoms of water.

The city of Wonsan in 1950 was a thriving and modern seaport. It was key rail center, road transportation hub, industrial complex and naval base. Wonsan's population was about 100,000. Wonsan was the terminus of the cross-peninsular rail and road line to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang. It was a pivotal location for highways in all directions and for the North-South rail line. Wonsan's principal industry was a huge petroleum refinery covering million square feet, with an annual capacity of close to two million barrels. The Korean Railroad Company maintained facilities in Wonsan for the construction repair and maintenance of locomotives and rolling stock.

Wonsan had first class port facilities. A large concrete wharf in the inner harbor was equipped with warehouses and railroad sidings, a forty ton traveling crane was also included. At both ends of the wharf were quays and piers for small vessels. The oil refinery had its own large pier. A huge fishing industry was also based in area around and centered in Wonsan.

These features and industries, as well

as the importance of the harbor were factors that led the Navy to establish the longest siege in modern naval warfare. To lay siege to the inner harbor would require clearing the Wonsan minefields and capturing its islands. There was considerable risk in this because the harbor was landlocked and enemy gunfire from all sides could be expected. Also, the minefield was almost completely intact from when it was first laid in December, 1950. At that time some 3000 moored and magnetic ground mines were laid to prevent Allied landings at Wonsan after the breakout from the Pusan perimeter.

The advantages in besieging Wonsan, in holding its harbor and the capture of its islands seemed to outweigh the risks to be overcome. These advantages included forcing the North Koreans and Chinese to divert large numbers of troops to protect against a possible invasion, and Wonsan was an important transportation center, lying astride the main rail and road arteries between Northeast Korea and the frontlines. It was also the terminus of the only East-West railroad in North Korea. Naval gunfire could reek havoc with these transportation routes, and by holding the harbor, the best port in North Korea would be closed.

The first task was to sweep a path through the minefield. A small swept area allowed initial siege operations to begin with two destroyers and the light cruiser Manchester. The destroyers and cruiser bombarded the harbor's military installations, but the swept channel was small and navigation so difficult that the two destroyers fired the bombardment at anchor. It was readily apparent that to conduct an effective siege, the swept channels through the minefields had to be enlarged and Wonsan's harbor

islands had to be captured or neutralized.

The first island captured was Sin-Do. After a two hour bombardment by destroyers and frigates, South Korean marines landed unopposed and secured the island. Sin-Do lying

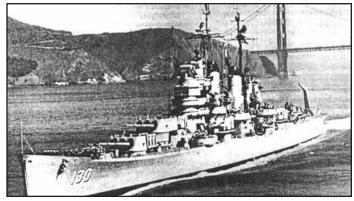
4000 yards from Kalma Gak (see map), would provide a good observation post for spotting our naval gunfire and for observing train and truck traffic in the city.

The next island occupied was Yo-Do, the largest island. Yo-Do was the ideal for a base, and later a small airfield. Initially it was far enough out in the harbor to be safe from enemy guns, there was no resistance to the landing and occupation by South Korean marines. In all some seven harbor islands were occupied.

The most useful of the Wonsan harbor islands for the siege ships was the island of Hwangto-Do, one of the three islands used for the spotting of ship's gunfire. The island only 3000 yards from shore, had an elevation of 160 feet and was closest to North Korean guns and mortars. It was also closest to the city of Wonsan and to the important road running Southward to the front. From the observation post atop the island spotters could look directly upon Wonsan, this road, the railroad and several important bridges.

A top priority was also to clear enemy minefields still remaining in Wonsan, and prevent the enemy from planting others. Minesweeping had to be continuous, in a single day the North Koreans could remine the swept areas using sampans. Even a small sampan could carry up to four mines. The minesweepers supported by destroyers were fired upon, the destroyers would retaliate. Also during the day's patrol the destroyers would take on certain shore bombardment missions. This included lucrative targets spotted in Wonsan by the spotters, naval gunfire parties on the islands or aircraft.

From time to time the siege would be augmented by air strikes from Task Force 77, by heavy ship gun strikes, or LSMR



USS BREMERTON CA-130 (Donated by Louis H. Parker - Warships International Collection)

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rocket attacks. Heavy ship gun strikes were especially effective in silencing shore batteries and causing massive devastation in Wonsan itself. The sixteen inch guns of the battleships and the, eight inch guns of the heavy cruisers were accurate and deadly. Gun emplacements, bridges, railroad marshaling yards, factories, locomotives, railroad cars, tunnels, trucks and troop concentrations were the targets.

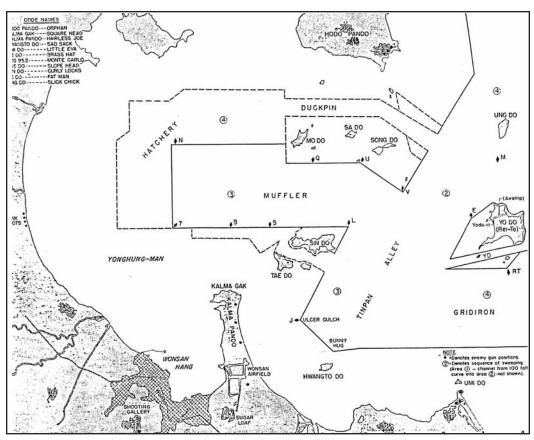
As, time went on the enemy shore defense system in Wonsan was steadily strengthened. As Navy minesweepers swept ever closer to shore, the North Korean entrenchment's were expanded to include the beaches nearest the swept areas and at other locations where the enemy thought Allied Forces might land. Shore batteries were placed so as to cover both the ship operating areas and to sweep potential landing sites.

All harbor guns were of field WONSON HARBOR artillery type, as distinguished from naval or regular fixed

shore defense guns. With few exceptions, these guns were hidden in caves or tunnels, cleverly camouflaged, and were rolled out for firing and rolled back inside for protection. The North Koreans soon learned that an exposed gun was a destroyed gun. In addition to field artillery pieces, tank guns and rail-mounted guns were used against our siege ships. In spite of this, damage to our ships and island installations were surprisingly small.

A heavy gunstrike by surface forces including the battleship New Jersey and heavy cruiser Toledo pounded Wonsan targets on 2 July, 1951. The first coordinated air-strike struck Wonsan targets on 18 September, 1951 and included the heavy cruiser Toledo and five destroyers. The same ships repeated the bombardment the next day joined by three rocket ships. The air-gun bombardment was repeated on 10 October, 1951 by the British cruiser Belfast, five destroyers and a light Australian aircraft carrier. A heavy bombardment led by the battleship Wisconsin struck Wonsan on 20 December, 1951.

Heavy air-gunstrikes continued



throughout 1952 and included the battleships, heavy and light cruisers and destroyers. The third year of the siege, 1953 saw continued air-gunstrikes and increased enemy-counter battery fire. Whenever Navy personnel on the harbor islands received word that a heavy ship was coming in for a bombardment of Wonsan, they would meet the ship in the outer channel and provide the latest target information gathered from spotters, and assist in plotting the exact coordinates. This ensured that the bombardment would do maximum damage.

The siege of Wonsan ended on the last day of the Korean War, 27 July, 1953. The final shots were fired by the heavy cruiser Bremerton. (See photo). The siege of Wonsan demonstrated the effectiveness of naval gunfire. This important rail and highway center, with its many industries, once a city of 100,000 and now half that size was a mass of ruins. The siege had tied down up to 60,000 North Korean and Chinese troops to prevent a possible landing by Allied Forces. These were troops which otherwise would have been fighting in the front lines to the South.

In a landlocked harbor which had been heavily mined and which the enemy had sought constantly to re-mine, where shallow, shoal-filled waters abounded, and despite the most intense enemy opposition, a siege of 861 days had been imposed with skill, determination and success by a tireless and efficient Navy team

SOURCES:

Cagle and Manson, The Sea War in Korea, U.S. Navel Institute, Annapolis, Maryland, 1957

Hartman, Weapons That Wait, U.S. Navel Institute, Annapolis, Maryland, 1979 Blair, The Forgotten War, America in Korea, 1950—1953, Random House, New York, 1987

John P. Tanner. 1410 Pinar Drive, Orlando, FL 32825-8208. Tel: 407-277-4321

(John participated in this siege as an Ensign aboard the USS Bremerton CA-130, and much of what is in this article draws on his personal experience and recollection. Editor.)

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He Deserved More

By Richard F. Lauer

n page 86 of the April 2001 issue of the Retired Officers Magazine there is a simple entry in a monthly article called "Sounding Taps". The entry read, "Russell, Frank, LTC (KY)". What a small legacy for a man who showed so much courage during the Korean War. That entire April issue could have been a tribute to him. Frank Russell, a warrior extraordinaire, is dead and 17 letters in the Army section of Taps attests to his death. Well, it's not enough! He should go out in a blaze of glory. It should have been announced on the 6 pm news and again at 11 pm. A soldier is dead, a true soldier of the "Old School". He was my friend and my leader. He was my second Company commander in combat; the first being retired LT Gen. Sidney Berry.

We all had an appointment with destiny of April 23, 1951. What a monument to his memory that Captain Russell would die in April 2001, 50 years after that 1951 date. B Co 35th RCT was the only thing between the Chinese spring offensive and the 35th RCT Hq. We were deployed in blocking position for our battalion and my platoon in company revenue. Our back was to the Hantan River.

On the afternoon of April 22, the Chinese began to probe our front. All platoon leaders were tied in with the Co C.P. by powered telephones. An all out attack began in late afternoon with the Chinese committing 27 divisions (about 250,000 troops) across a 40mile front. When they hit our two online platoons I could hear our guys talking to the company CP, first lieutenant Melvin C. Walthall reported that they were coming so fast our soldiers didn't have time to reload. The CCF were jumping into our foxholes and trying to grab the M-1s out of our soldiers' hands. During this period, I had a section of track mounted, Quad 50 Cal MG attached. Unfortunately, the Chinese had worked their way down the MSR to our right. In a well-coordinated attack they hit the front line, the blocking positions, and the Battalion and Regiment Headquarters all at the same time.

Russell called me and said our two front line platoons had pulled our and were now in the assembly area south of the Han Tan. He ordered me to withdraw and join him in the assembly area. I called the quad 50 section

sergeant and told him to withdraw. I said that I couldn't go with them. The Chinese had already set up machine guns to our south. To avoid being slaughtered, I had to take the platoon cross-country. He said, "Don't worry Sir. I think we can shoot our way through." He took his 2 tracks and started down the road. I took my guys and started over the hills to where I knew there was a ford in the river.

We arrived safely in the assembly where Frank Russell was waiting for us. He asked me where the quad 50s were and I told him that they were coming down the road, and that I came cross-country. In a short time the crews of the two tracks came hot footing into the assembly area. Russell asked where the vehicles were, and the Sergeant replied that they were in the middle of the river and that the Chinese were swarming all over them, trying to get the guns into battery. Russell asked why they didn't destroy them, and the Sergeant replied that there wasn't enough time. There were two tanks parked by, and Russell ran over to the tank platoon leader and ordered him to crank up the tanks. He said that they were going back to the river to destroy the quad 50s. The tank platoon leader requested Infantry support and Russell said, "There is no time. I will ride on the outside of your tank and guide you. We will run up to the river, shoot up the quad 50s, and turn around and run back." I was ordered to take the Company and continue south on the road.

As we approached the Regimental C.P., I could hear burp guns and grenades going off, and I could see tents and ambulances as well as other vehicles all-burning. Many were turned over on their sides. By now it was completely dark, but in the glare of the fires, I could see someone running toward us. It was Sid Berry, who at that time was a Major and the Regimental S-3. In the darkness he called, "Who's there?" I replied, "Lauer, Sir, B-Company". I told him that Captain Russell had taken two tanks and gone back to the river to destroy the two tracks. Major Berry told me that the twenty-fourth infantry had withdrawn and left our right flank exposed. The Chinese came down the MSR and attacked the Regimental C.P. They machine gunned our wounded and set our ambulances on fire. He told me that Lieutenant Charlie Walz, a West Point graduate and an A Co. platoon leader was trying to clear the ridge that paralleled the road. The Chinese on the



Korea - mid 1951 at Iron Triangle. Shown in photo standing (I to r) Capt. Frank Russell, 1st Lt. Melvin C. Walthall, and 1st Lt. Richard F. Lauer. Kneeling Capt. Joseph Moosen.

ridge were throwing grenades and calling in English "No rotation for you GI!" Major Berry instructed me to take two tanks and go down the road to where the Chinese had set up a roadblock. He said, "When you reach the roadblock, shoot your way through. Don't let anything stop you." We broke through the roadblock at dawn, and passed through the Turks lines.

I believe that Frank Russell was recommended for a DSC for destroying the two quad 50s. I was informed later that it was never awarded to him. In my mind's eye I can look back fifty years and see Frank Russell emerge from his tent to brief his platoon leaders on the day's plans. In a typhoon, rain so heavy you couldn't see fifty feet, he would look around and say to his platoon leaders, "Not much of a day for the air force, but perfect infantry weather."

Goodbye Captain Russell. It was an honor serving with you.

Richard F. Lauer LTC USA (Ret.) Tel: 704-846-9542 (Former 3rd Platoon Leader, Co. B, 35th RCT, 25 INF. Div.) (Thank you Sir for photo and great story. You mentioned T. K. Sessions story printed in the Nov-Dec 2001 Graybeards on page 34 and that he may recall you. I hope he will contact you after reading your story. Editor.)

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SIGNING from page 3

North Korean Army and vice premier of the Communist regime. Assisting him were four other officers with both political and military experience, including Major General Lee Sang Cho, chief of the Reconnaissance Bureau of the North Korean Army and a former vice minister of commerce, and Major General Hsieh Fang, chief of propaganda of the Northeast Military District of China. According to many U.N.C. observers, Hsieh directed the Communist truce operations at Kaesong.

It took two weeks just to hammer out an agenda, as the Communists tried unsuccessfully to incorporate the restoration of the 38th Parallel and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea. When they met firm resistance from the U.N.C. delegation, they finally settled for consideration of four major topics: establishment of a military demarcation line and a demilitarized zone; arrangements for the setting up of a supervisory organization to make sure that the terms of the Armistice were carried out; disposition of prisoners of war (POWs); and recommendations to the concerned governments regarding followup actions after the truce was in operation. Each of these topics was assigned to a subcommittee so that negotiations could proceed concurrently rather than serially.

The U.N.C. team discovered at the outset that the Communists were hard bargainers, yet highly sensitive to matters of tradition, protocol and equality. Any effort or seeming effort by the U.N.C. delegation to demonstrate superiority of any kind was swiftly countered by the Communists, since the matter of preserving "face" was of major importance in the Orient. When the U.N.C. members brought in a small U.N.C. flag and stand to the meetings, the Communists responded with a larger flag and stand. The construction of modest sanitation facilities at the truce site for the U.N.C. staff was quickly followed by the erection of a larger facility for the Communists that was brightly painted and landscaped as well. Joy, the senior U.N.C. delegate, had a sedan to transport him to the conference building, the Communists imported a vehicle from the Soviet Union so that Nam could arrive in similar style.

As the meetings that followed the set-



American members of the United Nations Delegation to the Panmunjom Military Armistice Conference attend a daily meeting at the Musanni United Nations Base Camp. Left to right: Colonel Andrew J. Kinney, USAF; Rear Admiral Ruthven E. Libby, USN; Vice Admiral C. Turner Joy, USN, Chief Delegate; Colonel Don O. Darrow, USAF; Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence G. Hill; Major General Howard M. Turner, USAF; and Major General Jai Heung Yu, Republic of Korea Army.

tlement of the agenda got underway, the U.N.C. delegation also found out that the Communists would use any tactic that would gain them an advantage. Bluster, rudeness and profanity were a familiar part of the Communists arsenal when they wished to hector the opposition and secure concessions. Since few of the U.N.C. staff members understood either Korean or Chinese, the rough words and insults lost much of their impact when they were later translated into English. On the other hand, the Communists could shift overnight from harsh, browbeating, name-calling attacks to quiet, reasonable and businesslike approaches when they had determined that they could secure no more concessions on an issue and were ready to settle the matter.

The U.N.C. team also discovered that the Communists were experienced and strong on substantive issues, but less rigid about procedural matters. In the latter

The U.N.C. team discovered at the outset that the Communists were hard bargainers, yet highly sensitive to matters of tradition, protocol and equality.

area, the U.N.C. staff members found that the Communists would never accept any of their proposals in toto; they deliberately would insert an error into a proposed agreement for the Communists to find, confident that their counterparts would probably leave the rest of the text alone. The enemy staff members, on the other hand, were tough negotiators throughout the lengthy discussions and regarded any effort on the part of the U.N.C. team to reach quick compromises with suspicion. Every concession had to be matched by a demand for a similar Communist concession. The Communists understood and respected the principles of horse trading; gift horses were always looked in the mouth.

One favorite Communist technique was to let the U.N.C. make the first proposals. By out waiting their opponents, the Communists could accept the portions favorable to their position and haggle for more. Eventually, when they saw that the U.N.C. would not yield further, they would bring forth their counter offer. In the debates that ensued, the Communists revealed a consistent pattern of response: as long as they continued to argue a point, the door was still open to trading, but when they refused to discuss the matter any further, they had arrived at their final position. The key attributes in dealing with the Communists, the U.N.C. delegation soon came to realize, were calmness, firmness and patience.

Shortly after the truce discussions began, charges of violations of the Kaesong Conference area surfaced and continued to hamper efforts to reach substantive agreements throughout the next two years. The first serious occurrence took place August 4, when a company of fully-armed Communist troops marched through the conference site and the U.N.C. delegation promptly suspended the negotiations for five days until assurances were received that there would be no further recurrence of such blatant violations. Shocked by the strong U.N.C. action and the attendant unfavorable publicity that it garnered in the world press, the Communists launched a flood of protests in the succeeding days and culminated their counteroffensive August 23.

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Claiming that a U.N.C. plane had bombed the conference site, they rejected the U.N.C. refutation of the charge and declared an indefinite suspension of the talks. Although the liaison officers continued to meet in the interim to discuss changing the site of the talks from Kaesong to Panmunjom, a village about five miles west of Kaesong, and rules and regulations that would reduce violations in the future, the plenary sessions did not resume until October.

In the meantime, the Communists had strengthened their forces and built up their military supplies in North Korea. With the possibility of an Armistice in the near future, there appeared to be little reason for the U.N.C. to mount offensives for objectives that might later have to be surrendered when a settlement was reached. But General James Van Fleet, the Eighth Army commander, became concerned that his troops had lost their edge during the early summer period of inactivity at the front and decided to carry out limited attacks to straighten out sags in the U.N.C.'s defensive lines, maintain pressure on the enemy, and keep his troops in combat condition.

In late July, Van Fleet mounted the first offensive action since the truce talks had started in the area known as the Punchbowl located about 20 miles northeast of the Hwachon Reservoir. Using the U.S. 2nd Infantry Division as the main attack force, the U.N.C. won a foothold in the area in July and then, in August, broadened the attack to include Bloody and Heartbreak Ridges, located about four miles west of the Punchbowl. The U.S. 1st Marine Division and elements of the ROK 7th, 8th, 11th and Capital Divisions joined the assault to wrest the fiercely defended terrain from the Communists during the ensuing two months. When the U.N.C. troops concluded the successful attacks in mid-October, the cost in casualties was high, with the U.S. 2nd Division alone suffering more than 6,000 during the offensive.

Determined to sustain pressure on the enemy, Van Fleet also conducted a modest advance of about six miles on a line roughly from Munsan-ni on the west to Kumsong in the central sector of the front. Three U.S. divisions—the 1st Cavalry, 3rd Infantry and 25th Infantry—the British 1st

Commonwealth Division, and the ROK 1st Division participated in this offensive during October and removed this salient in the line. Communist resistance was again intense and the 1st Cavalry Division took more than 2,900 of the 4,000 casualties suffered by the U.N.C. forces in the advance.

But the punishing "elbowing forward" tactics of the Eighth Army had given the U.N.C. the battlefield initiative and kept the enemy off balance as well as inflicting thousands of casualties on the Communist combat units. The limited offensives at the front coupled with U.N.C. air and naval attacks helped persuade the enemy to resume the truce talks in October.

When the plenary session resumed at the new conference site at Panmunjom October 25, the delegates began to iron out their differences on Item 2, the military demarcation line and the demilitarized zone. Before the talks had broken off, the Communists had worked diligently for the restoration of the 38th Parallel as the military demarcation line and the U.N.C. had firmly rejected all attempts to consider a return to the old boundary line. In an effort to shake the Communist stand, Joy had offered a novel approach to solving that problem. Since the U.N.C. controlled the sea and the air over Korea, he had contended that the enemy should compensate the U.N.C. for giving up its sea and air superiority by surrendering additional land territory at the front. Joy's proposal to break up the overall military power into component parts and give them separate values for bargaining purposes was an interesting gamble, but it had met with swift and rude rejection by the Communists. Nam II had maintained that the current battle lines reflected the concentrated expression of the total military effectiveness of the U.N.C. land, sea and air forces. When Joy had pointed out that Japan had been defeated in World War II without a single enemy soldier setting foot on the home islands, Nam had even derided the claim that the United States had vanquished Japan at all and had insisted that the entry of the Soviet Union into the war had provided the crushing blow. Nevertheless, the Joy proposal did provide a trade-off in settling the differences between the two sides over the military demarcation line when the October sessions began.

The Communist spurning of the U.N.C. offers to trade territory and the U.N.C. refusal to talk about the 38th Parallel finally led the conferees to accept the current battle line as the line of demarcation November 27. The line dipped south of the 38th Parallel in the west and arced north in the east. The Communist insistence on completing the work on the line of demarcation before taking up the other three agenda items aroused Ridgway's suspicions. Although the U.N.C. insisted that the line would only be valid for 30 days, it soon became apparent that the enemy intended to make the line a permanent rather than a temporary arrangement, and had, in effect, gained a de facto cease-fire, as Ridgway had predicted. Almost immediately, military operations slowed down and the Communists showed no disposition to reach swift agreement on the remaining items before the 30-day limit expired.

Debate on Item 3—the establishment of a supervisory organization to ensure that both sides complied with the terms of the Armistice—got underway in December 1951. After preliminary skirmishing, three basic questions emerged: Who would carry out the inspections behind the lines to report on violations? How much inspection would be permitted? Would the rehabilitation or construction of airfields be allowed during the Armistice?

Although the Communists eventually suggested that neutral nations be named to do the inspecting, they ran into adamant opposition when they tried to designate the Soviet Union as one of their choices. Considering the major role the Soviet Union had played in supporting the North Korean and Communist Chinese military effort, the U.N.C. refused to accept the U.S.S.R. as part of a neutral nation supervisory organization.

On the question of inspection, which the Communists traditionally had opposed in the past, it was the U.N.C., surprisingly enough, that proposed to limit neutral inspection teams to selected ports of entry and centers of communication. Ridgway maintained that the Communists would probably exploit the privilege of unlimited inspection for intelligence purposes and held that the neutral inspection teams

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could adequately check on the arrivals and departures of men and material. Since the Communists were willing to accept limited inspection, the discussions settled down to the designation of the number and location of the inspection points.

The second major stumbling block on Item 3 arose when the U.N.C. insisted that there should be no rehabilitation or construction of airfields during the Armistice. Both Ridgway and Joy contended that the enemy should not be allowed to take advantage of the truce to strengthen its air potential in North Korea. But the Communists rejected all efforts to place restrictions on airfields just as resolutely as the U.N.C. resisted Communist attempts to name the Soviet Union as a neutral nation.

With the major differences on Item 3 reduced to two, compromise again was reached. Poland and Czechoslovakia became the Communists' nominees for the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and Sweden and Switzerland were the choices by the U.N.C. delegation to complete the membership of that group. Now that the Communists had dropped the Soviet Union from their list of candidates, the U.N.C. withdrew its insistence on airfield restrictions.

Final agreement on Item 3 also included the acceptance of 20 neutral-nation teams to carry out the inspections, with 10 to be assigned to five ports of entry on each side. Replacement of materiel was to be on a one-for-one basis only and no more than 35,000 troops were to be rotated in any one month, again on a one-for-one basis. To handle all violations of the truce and the supervision and administration of the demilitarized zone, the negotiators established a Military Armistice Commission that would operate out of Panmunjom.

While arrangements for Item 3 were well underway, the opening discussions on Item 4, the repatriation of prisoners of war, took place. Although neither the United States nor North Korea had ratified the Geneva Convention of 1949 on prisoners of war, both had agreed to abide by its stipulations. Since Article 118 of the Convention clearly stated that all prisoners of war shall be released and repatriated without delay at the end of hostilities, there appeared to be little room for dis-

[The Communists] strongly denied that they had impressed large numbers of former South Korean military personnel into their armed forces.

pute. Yet difficulties arose at the outset on the exchange of prisoners and steadily mounted as the issue became burdened with fundamentally divisive elements. A series of conflicts broke out between the rights of the individual and those of the majority, between legal rights and human rights, and between humanitarianism and Communist pride.

The first evidence of trouble appeared just before Christmas 1951, when the two sides exchanged lists of prisoners of war. The U.N.C. rosters contained the names of 132,000 prisoners of war in addition to another 37,000 recently reclassified as civilian internees. Since the Communists claimed that they were missing about 188,000 personnel, the U.N.C. holdings represented about 90 percent of the Communist total. On the other hand, the Communist list contained only about 11,500 names—7,100 South Koreans and 4,400 U.N. personnel—despite their claim that they had taken 65,000 prisoners and the U.N.C. listing 88,000 South Koreans and 11,500 U.S. troops as missing in action. The Communist list, therefore, comprised only about 12 percent of the U.N.C. total, a remarkable disparity.

Pressed to explain the great difference between the two totals, the Communists maintained that their lists were small because they had "re-educated" and released thousands of prisoners at the front. They strongly denied that they had impressed large numbers of former South Korean military personnel into their armed forces. In addition, they decried the U.N.C. practice of screening prisoners and reclassifying as civilian internees those reportedly impressed into North Korea's military forces.

During the early discussions on prisoners of war in late 1951, no mention was made about the principles of voluntary or forced repatriation. Army staff officers in Washington had pointed out in mid-1951

that there were many Chinese prisoners of war who had formerly served in the forces of Chiang Kai-shek, and that they and othwho had demonstrated anti-Communist attitudes in the U.N.C. prisoner of war camps would likely be severely punished if they were returned to Communist control. The possibility of offering such prisoners a choice would be not only humanitarian, but also presented interesting psychological warfare opportunities. Although the concept appealed to Ridgway, he pointed out that once the United States openly advocated such a principle, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to abandon it.

Since Ridgway's first concern was the quick and safe return of all the prisoners held by the Communists, he was reluctant to espouse any policy that might endanger their release. On the other hand, he was willing to try a gambit that might work. If the Communists would consent to a onefor-one exchange, the U.N.C. could withhold all prisoners unwilling to return to Communist control until all of the U.N.C. prisoners of war had been exchanged and then could let the remaining detainees exercise an option. The enemy negotiators, however, quickly extinguished any hopes for a one-for-one exchange and insisted firmly on an all-for-all settlement.

Blocked by the Communists on this score, the U.N.C. delegates tried another tack in the closing days of 1951, and in the process, became committed to the principle of voluntary repatriation. They proposed to accept the Communist concept that a soldier captured could upon release choose whether to return to his own army or to join the other side. Since the Communists had admitted that they had "re-educated" and released thousands of prisoners during the early stages of the war, they had already practiced "voluntary repatriation" and the U.N.C. advocated the adoption of this policy by both sides as a means of assuring that all prisoners would be treated equitably.

When the Communists reacted vehemently to the use of their own practices, Admiral Ruthven Libby, who had replaced Burke on the delegation, solicitously reminded them that the Chinese troops, according to the enemy's own avowals, were all simply volunteers eager to fight for the Korean People's Army. If

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this were true, he could not understand why the Communists were worried about any of their volunteers not wanting to go home. But General Lee Sang Cho, his Communist counterpart, refused to rise to the bait and even denied any incongruities in the Communists' earlier and current positions on voluntary repatriation. Lee, however, did recognize the somewhat distorted logic in his arguments. At one of the January meetings, while defending the Communist system of prisoner education and calling it righteous and benevolent, he became so convulsed with suppressed laughter that he could scarcely complete his remarks.

During the talks that took place in February and March 1952. Communists remained adamantly opposed to voluntary repatriation. Their hatred of Chiang Kai-shek and fear that Chinese prisoners of war might be sent to Taiwan if not repatriated were clearly expressed in the staff meetings. Although they refused to yield on voluntary repatriation for former North Korean and Chinese soldiers, they did evidence a softer attitude on personnel who had lived in South Korea. One of the main problems at this point was that neither side had any firm idea about how many of the prisoners held by the U.N.C. would refuse repatriation since no real screening had been carried out.

An estimate based on guesswork made in February by the U.N.C. staff assumed that of the 132,000 in its custody, about 28,000 would not want to go home, but only 16,000 would resist repatriation. It also assumed that about half of the 20,000 Chinese prisoners would forcibly resist repatriation, since they were well-organized and led by leaders with strong pro Chiang Kai-shek sympathies. Although the guess that 116,000 of the 132,000 would probably agree to repatriation had no basis in fact, it became critical in early April, when the Communists demonstrated an interest in securing a firm estimate of how many prisoners would be returned. Lacking any accurate figures, the U.N.C. staff officers indicated that about 116,000 military repatriates would be involved in an exchange. Citing this figure may have been a tactical error on the part of the U.N.C., since the Communists accepted it as an approximate total and were led to

believe that they would recover about that number of prisoners. The enemy delegation quickly suggested that both sides check their lists to secure firm figures with the evident expectation that no more than 16,000 of their captured personnel would elect to remain under U.N.C. control.

Although the U.N.C. teams, sought to persuade as many of the prisoners as possible to return home during the April screening period, the final results astounded both sides. Only about 70,000 of the military prisoners indicated that they would consent to repatriation without the use of force. Significantly, only a little more than 6,000 of the more than 20,000 Chinese prisoners were included in the 70,000. The Communists' first reaction to this disclosure was profound shock, swiftly followed by bitter anger. They felt that they had been deliberately deceived by the U.N.C. for propaganda purposes. With the Communists deeply resentful, exchanges at the truce talks became acrimonious and little progress was made. The U.N.C. offer to swap the 70,000 prisoners for the 12,000 that the Communists held was coldly rejected at the end of April. The Communists wanted at least 116,000 returned and were especially concerned about the low total of Chinese repatriates.

The enemy secured fresh ammunition for their attacks on voluntary repatriation in May 1952, when violence erupted in the U.N.C. prisoner of war camps on the island of Koje-do, off the southern coast of South Korea. Communist prisoners seized the U.N.C. camp commander and used him to bargain both for concessions and for damaging admissions that the prisoners had been treated inhumanely and had been subjected to forcible screening. Although these concessions were given under duress, the enemy was able to gain the propaganda initiative during the summer of 1952.

In the process of restoring order in the prisoner of war camps after this incident, the U.N.C. carried out a more thorough screening and segregated all the prisoners desiring repatriation from those who wished to stay. By including civilian internees and South Koreans who wanted to go to North Korea, the new total came to about 83,000. When the U.N.C. submitted the revised figures to the Communists in July, however, they were again rejected.

The enemy continued to insist on the return of higher numbers and made it increasingly clear that the Chinese prisoners were the real bone of contention.

With the negotiations stalled, both General Mark W. Clark, who had replaced Ridgway as U.N. commander, and Major General William K. Harrison, who had replaced Joy as chief U.N.C. negotiator in May, recommended that the U.N.C. present the Communists with several alternate proposals for the disposition of the nonrepatriates. Then if the Communists refused to accept any of them, the U.N.C. would suspend the truce talks. Such a course would demonstrate to the Communists that the U.N.C. had reached its final bargaining position.

President Harry S. Truman approved this action in September 1952, and on the 28th, Harrison offered the Communists three alternatives:

- 1. All prisoners would be brought to the demilitarized zone and checked off by Red Cross or joint military teams. They could then choose whether to be repatriated or to remain in the control of the side that detained them;
- 2. All prisoners desiring repatriation would be exchanged expeditiously. All nonrepatriates would be brought to the demilitarized zone in small groups and would be interviewed by teams from countries not involved in the war and could then elect repatriation or non-repatriation;
- 3. All prisoners desiring repatriation would be exchanged as quickly as possible. All non-repatriates would then be brought to the demilitarized zone and freed. They could then go, without screening or interviews, to the side of their choice.

When the Communists turned down these proposals and continued to demand full repatriation, Harrison declared on October 8, that the meetings would be in recess until they accepted one of the U.N.C. proposals or offered a constructive one of their own. The talking stage had come to an end.

While the talks had been going on, combat at the front had been restricted in the main to limited attacks to maintain pressure on the enemy and to seize favorable terrain. Clark, like Ridgway, had no

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...Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin died unexpectedly and a thaw began in East–West relations as his successors sought to consolidate their power during the transition period that followed.

desire to incur large numbers of casualties to take objectives that might have to be given up when an Armistice was reached. Clark did authorize several larger-scale offensives to increase the pressure on the enemy after the truce talks went into recess, but the efforts to take the Triangle Hill complex north of Kumwha in October and November proved to be costly and the approach of winter discouraged further attempts to improve the U.N.C. battlefield positions.

Although the liaison officers continued to meet during the winter of 1952-53, they dealt mainly in complaints and alleged violations of the truce area and no progress was made in substantive matters. The advent of a Republican administration under President Dwight D. Eisenhower in January 1953, led to several attempts, including the veiled threat of the use of nuclear weapons, to increase the pressure on the enemy to end the conflict, but to little avail.

On March 5, however, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin died unexpectedly and a thaw began in East-West relations as his successors sought to consolidate their power during the transition period that followed. Evidence of the change came in late March. In the previous month Clark had sent a routine letter to the North Korean and Chinese Communist commanders that requested the immediate exchange of sick and wounded prisoners. Earlier attempts along this line had been fruitless and Clark held little hope that his suggestion would be accepted at that time. In the aftermath of Stalin's death, the Communist military commanders, on March 28, not only accepted Clark's offer on the sick and wounded, but also opened the door for further negotiations to settle the disposition of the other prisoners as well. Two days later, Chinese Foreign Minister Chou En-lai stated that both sides should hand over any prisoners who did not wish to be repatriated to a neutral nation for disposition and set the stage for the resumption of plenary talks in midApril.

In the meantime, the liaison officers met April 6, to discuss the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners in a completely different and business-like atmosphere, free of recriminations and rhetoric. Lists were prepared and exchanged and arrangements were made for transporting the sick and wounded to Panmunjom for their transfer. Operation Little Switch, as it was called, took place on April 20, when the U.N.C. turned over 5,194 North Korean and 1,030 Chinese soldiers, plus 446 civilian internees, to the Communists, and received 684 sick and wounded soldiers, including 149 Americans, from the enemy.

The threat of an indecisive settlement of the conflict alarmed South Korean President Syngman Rhee and he mounted a strong campaign in opposition, vowing to continue the war alone if necessary. Since South Korea was in no position to wage a prolonged war without U.S. assistance, the South Korean speeches and demonstrations proved to be more embarrassments than deterrents. The U.N.C. and the Communists pushed ahead in the weeks after Little Switch to resolve the last remaining issues: who would take charge of the non-repatriates, how long would they be held, and what would be their final disposition if they could not be persuaded to return home?

Initially the U.N.C. preferred Switzerland as the chief custodial nation, but the Communists had turned that choice down and instead had pressed for India as the fifth member of a Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission along with Switzerland, Sweden, Poland and Czechoslovakia. The U.N.C. had conceded on that issue, with the specification that



The 3-year-old Korean War comes to an official halt as General O.P. Weyland (left) Far East Air Forces commander, General Mark W. Clark (center), U.N. commander-in-chief, and Vice Admiral, Robert P. Brisco (right), Far East Naval commander, take part in truce signing ceremonies at the U.N. base camp at Munsan.

India would provide all the military and administrative personnel to carry out the mission. On the other hand, the U.N.C. proved to be less amenable to the Communist proposal that the nonrepatriates be held for six months while the Communist teams sought to change their minds about returning home. After some debate, the negotiators worked out a compromise period of 90 days and also agreed that there would be no more than seven men to act as explainers or persuaders for each 1,000 non-repatriates. For those who continued to resist repatriation after 90 days, their fate would be considered at a political conference to be convened after the Armistice was signed. If the conference failed to resolve their disposition within 30 days, the non-repatriates would be declared civilians and be free to seek residence in another country.

As the conferees moved ever closer to a final agreement in May, South Korean agitation continued to increase. Since the non-repatriates would remain on South Korean soil during the period of explaining and Syngman Rhee opposed the selection of India as the chief custodial nation, a crisis threatened to develop unless some means could be found to reconcile the sharp differences between the United States and South Korea over the projected

GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

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Perhaps the major deterrent to renewal of the conflict was the high costs in manpower and economic resources required to continue the fighting. Estimates of enemy battle losses alone came to more than 1.5 million men

terms of the Armistice. Basic to the settlement of these differences was the need to dispel South Korean fears that the United States might desert it if hostilities broke out again after the Armistice was signed. Although the United States was reluctant to conclude a bilateral security pact while South Korean threats and pressures were in such open evidence, Eisenhower decided at the end of May to offer such a pact to Rhee in an effort to defuse the dangerous situation.

But Rhee had placed himself in an exposed political position by stirring up South Korean emotions to a high pitch and had to take some action before he accepted the U.S. offer. On June 18, South Korean forces guarding the prisoners of war permitted about 27,000 Korean nonrepatriates to escape from their compounds; the majority of the escapees were quickly absorbed into the civilian population and were impossible to recover without South Korean cooperation. The unilateral action, although it caused an immediate uproar, did serve to relieve the pressure on Rhee to some degree and he became more responsive to U.S. arguments that the bilateral security pact would provide assurance of U.S. support in the future, and additionally that South Korea needed more time to expand and develop its armed forces. By early July, he agreed not to obstruct the implementation of the Armistice terms despite his continued misgivings over the long-term results.

The Communist reaction to Rhee's release of the non-repatriates in the meantime had been surprisingly mild, although they had obviously relished the U.N.C. embarrassment over the incident. During May and June, while the final details of the truce were being worked out, they had carried out a series of offensives to improve their defensive positions along the eastern and central fronts and, in the process, to deal the South Korean units opposing them a telling blow. The heavy attacks, which did not peter out until mid-July, caused heavy casualties on both

sides and may have had a sobering effect on Rhee's bellicosity.

Although the U.N.C. could not guarantee Rhee's full observance of the Armistice terms, the Communists were now ready to complete the agreement. A final demarcation line was drawn and last-minute arrangements for the transfer of prisoners, repatriates and non-repatriates was settled. On July 27, the plenary delegates met at Panmunjom and signed 18 copies of the truce agreement. Twelve hours later, the fighting came to an end.

Shortly after the Armistice was signed, the exchange of prisoners got under way. By September 6, the U.N.C. had sent more than 75,000 repatriates to the Communists and had received more than 12,000 from the enemy. On September 23, the U.N.C. followed up and delivered more than 22,000 non-repatriates to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission in the demilitarized zone, and the Communists gave the Commission more than 350 U.N.C. non-repatriates. Communist efforts to persuade their non-repatriates to return during the 90 days granted them were largely unsuccessful and only about 600 chose to go back when the explaining period came to an end in December. The Korean non-repatriates were released in Korea and the Chinese were sent to Taiwan, with the exception of 86, who elected to go to India. As for U.N.C. nonrepatriates, only 12 changed their mind; the remainder, including 21 Americans, were returned to Communist control in early 1954.

Since the war had never been declared, it was fitting that there should be no official ending, merely a suspension of hostilities. With the uncertainty of Syngman Rhee's intentions casting a deep shadow over the truce agreement, how long it would last was a matter for conjecture.

Perhaps the major deterrent to renewal of the conflict was the high costs in manpower and economic resources required to continue the fighting. Estimates of enemy battle losses alone came to more than 1.5

million men, and the U.N.C. had suffered more than 500,000 just to achieve a virtual standoff. The potential costs involved in attaining a total military victory in Korea were higher than either side wished to pay in 1953, and that, in effect, was the most patent indication that the Armistice would prove durable.

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Images of Korea

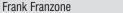
K-18 Kangnang, Korea, 1952, 1993 AACS Sqdn., 1st Marine Air Wing-Mag 33







Ross French Fran



Jim McGreevey

Frank Youdis





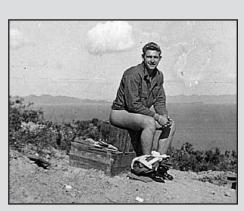


Frank Youdis Frank Youdis

K-53 Paengneyang-do, North Korea, 1952, 1993 AACS Sqdn., Radio Team.







Operations Center

Jack Edwards

Jack Edwards



Radio Team Encampment



Jerry Gaddy (right), Charles Mangus

Photos from Jack Edwards 10346 127th Ave. N, Largo, FL 33773 Tel: 727-582-9353



May-July 1953, Downed P-80 ½ mile from our battery



 $2\ DR$ Rocket FA. FD.C Bunker- 1953.



To my knowledge these were the only 105 mm rockets in Korea 1953 - May on.



1953 - Repairing latrine July 28th after direct hit on the last day of war (27th)



Marilyn Monroe USO Show (close-up).



Marilyn Monroe show and troops at a distance.



Rockets in Action.



Artillery Battery.



Artillery Firing.



2nd Rocket F.A.Battery closest F.A. Battery (1100 yds from M. LR)



Warning Sign.



July 28, 1953 - repairing bunker after direct hit on July 27.



Artillery Piece.



1953 - Tallest Bldg. City of Kumwha.



Winter 1953.



Winter 1953 - Snowed-in.



Jim Loftus - 1953.



105 Howitzer - 1953.



Rocket launchers - 1953.



Forward Observer - 1953.

Big Switch - August 1953" Submitted by James A. Warner, 720 West Joliet Street, Crown Point, Indiana 46307-3702



Korean POWs - sign says release at once pak song nylon ahd ree hak ku who are now groaning under murderous torture in Roze-do heavy monkey house!



Females and wounded POWs Chinese or North Koreans?



Another POW checkpoint.



North Korea's Freedom Village.



POWs at North Korea Freedom Village.



GI's coming back to our Freedom Village.



North Koreans stripping down to their shorts. They were issued new fatigues, ponchos and GI boots.



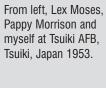
Yours truly guarding POWs at checkpoint.



POWs loaded from train to deuce and a half.



Schumaker, Tsuiki AFB, Japan, 1953





Photos from Curtis J. Farley, Jr., 2947 Gran Lin Drive, St. Charles, Missouri 63303

Donald L. Parrott, 3431 Grand Ave., S., Minneapolis, MN 55408-42221

Spring, Setting the

cannon in place.

base of the 240

✓ July 1953, 240



the tube in

cannon. >

place of a 240

cannon Eastern Sector NE of Yanggu, SW of the "Punch Bowl" Spring, Setting

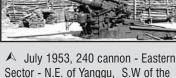


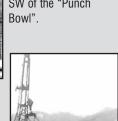
cannon - Eastern Sector, NE of Yanggu, SW of the "Punch Bowl".





"Punch Bowl"





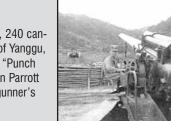
▲ Spring, 360 lb shells being unloaded for the 240 cannon - 3



- "Firemission Readiness", Temporary setup - 10 days in the Hwachon Reservoir Area. Don Parrott (far right)

skills in previous weeks.

July 1953, 240 cannon - NE of Yanggu, SW of the "Punch Bowl". Don Parrott sitting in gunner's seat.





at a time.

Members of my forward observer after the cease fire was signed July 28, 1953. We had 3 days to disas-

semble and have equipment and timber back 3 miles

from the MLR. Thus the DM7 was formed.

This is my story about the 240 cannon

fired the last 4 months of the War by the

213th and 159th Field Artillery Battalions,

US Army. I served with the 213th and we

were located in the Chorwon Valley in the Central Sector. In January 1953 our battalion had 155 howitzers and then to our surprise we received the (240) cannons in

April 1953. Battalion had 3 firing batteries

and I was with "Charlie" Battery. The

159th F.A, Bn covered the western half of

the Korean Peninsula with their 6 (240)

cannons. The 213th F.A. Bn was to cover

the eastern half of the Peninsula. At one

time we fired both the 240 cannons and

155 howitzers in May 1953. We eventual-

ly turned our 155 howitzers over to the

The first week of June 1953 the 213th started to move to the east. "Able" Battery remained in the Chorown Valley. "Baker"

Battery moved with their 2 cannons over to

the Kumwha Area and my "Charlie" Battery

moved the furthest to the east 115 miles to locate NE of Yanggu and SW of the "Punch Bowl". It was a challenging move for us with "Charlie" Battery that included a 10 day stop over in the Hwachon Reservoir

Area. We fired the 240 cannon up to the

Cease Fire on July 27, 1953. The 240 can-

non had a 9 inch diameter tube and could

fire a 360lb shell up to 14.3 miles. This

tube itself was 22 feet long. All photos are

the 213th F.A.- Bn-Btry "C", Korea in 1953.

South Korean Army.



Above, the Army Guard House on the road to Panmunion, the Spring of 1953 that is me in the picture. At the time 2nd LT. Henry G. Kreutzer, USMCR. We had to go up this road to get to one of our O.P. positions. It was very close to the truce zone. Manned by a forward Observer Team of "Hoco" Battery 11th Marines.



Photos from Henry Kreutzer 26 Starlight Drive, East Islip, New York 11730 Telephone 631-581-0366.



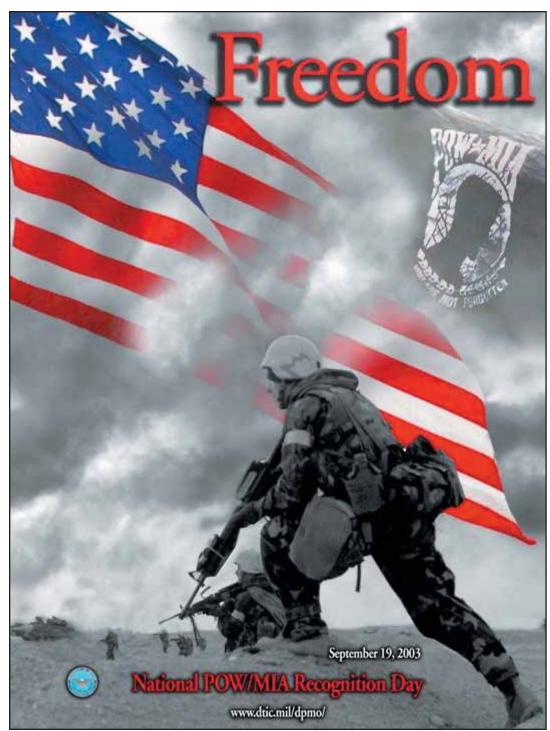
A shower at "How" Battery 11th Marines area (May

2003 National POW/MIA Recognition Day Poster

American warriors of yesterday and today have never failed to answer their nation's

brought to the entire world a concept most

call. Through selfless sacrifice, they have often associated with American ideals -Freedom!



A precious word. A word with so many meanings, yet a word that clearly means "This is America!"

The poster reflects on the past and the present. The somber, black POW/MIA flag, a national symbol, is a firm reminder of those still missing, and of their families who have waited decades for answers. "You are not forgotten" reminds us that this nation's work is not done. There are more than 88.000 warriors who still remain unaccounted-for from conflicts past. And still their families wait.

More than 140,000 Americans since World War I have endured the hardships of captivity as Prisoners of War. Their sacrifices must never be forgotten. This nation honors their names. their undying spirit and their memory on September 19, 2003.

The rippling red, white and blue banner, so clear and so proud through the smoke of battle, leads American warriors forward - toward freedom for oppressed peoples, toward freedom for those who know the word only because it means "America."

But "Freedom" lies not on the battlefields where our POWs and MIAs have fought so valiantly. It lies in the hearts of the people of entire nations. It lies in ideals so richly American, and it rests on the shoulders of those who we honor on this special day.Freedom!

"KEEPING THE PROMISE." IS THE MOTTO OF DPMO

OUR GOAL IS - "FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING."

OUR PLEDGE IS "TO DO THE UTMOST TO ENSURE PROPER RESOURCES AND TRAINING FOR AMERI-CAN RECOVERY FORCES AND TO KEEP SEEKING THOSE WHO REMAIN MISSING."

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Lapel Pin / Hat Pin \$10.00 Send Payment with order



No S&H charges

Korean War Veterans Assn. Sunshine State Chapter PO Box 5298 Largo, FL 33779-5298



Kimche Lady - Papasan - Mamasan - Holy Man

CARVER OF PUSAN

They are \$30 each. A set of 4 as shown above can be purchased for \$100. No credit cards, money orders only will be accepted. Send to:

Walter Andrews 2590 N.Y.S. Rte. 215 Cortland, NY 13045

Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

RAID AT INCHON

Left Behind the Lines

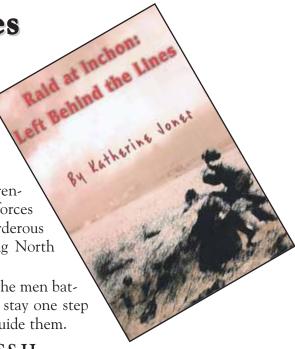
by: Katherine Jones

Korean war story about 16 courageous men sent to blow up an ammunition dump at Inchon, South Korea, September

15, 1950. After a successful mission, the men failed to rendezvous with their rescue ship. When the United Nations forces landed later that morning, the men were caught in a murderous crossfire. They fled into the hills to avoid the retreating North Korean army.

The author/wife paints a graphic picture of raw survival as the men battle fear, the elements, and sometimes themselves trying to stay one step ahead of the communist forces without a radio or map to guide them.

Toll Free 1-877-370-9631 \$12.95 + S&H



Letters



The Golden Gate Bridge brings back memories

Special thanks to Mr. Doenges for his front cover photo of the Golden Gate Bridge the March-April issue. The bridge was coincidentally opened on this (27 May?) day in 1937.

In one of my life's greatest moments, I passed under it aboard the General Collins in late November of 1953, returning from Korea to my family home across the bay in Oakland, to a wife I had not seen for a year and a 6 months old son I hadn't seen at all.

In the 50 years since I have not seen a picture, nor on rare occasions passed within sight of it, without the memory of that day coming instantly to mind. The bridge is a monument for me, and I hope there are many others who can share the feeling.

R. P. Hatch 20360 Strawline Road, Bend OR 97702-2628

A great hero remembered, he was our Chaplain



Col. Logan E. Weston 1914–2003

Mother's Day - on a beautiful windswept hill in western Pennsylvania an American hero was laid to rest. Col. Logan E. Weston, age 89, known to his men as "The Fighting Preacher", chose the beautiful rolling hills of his childhood as his final resting place. "Arlington? That's for heroes, I'm just a country boy, take me back to the farm." Humble words from a man who was possibly the most decorated soldier in American history. His 28 year military career from Private to Colonel showed an exemplary service and leadership in keeping with the highest traditions of our military service.

Veteran of World War II, the Korean War, and the build-up of the Vietnam war, he was shot and seriously wounded several times in over 48 battles and countless skirmishes. Logan Weston was one of America's most decorated soldiers with more than 200 medals, ribbons and awards. His military citations include the Distinguished Service Cross; The Legion of Merit; numerous Silver Stars; Purple Hearts; Presidential Citations; Expert Combat Infantry Badges; Campaign Stars and multiple American and foreign service medals. The foreign service medals include recognition by the governments of Korea, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and Australia. A member of Merrill's Marauders in Burma during WW II (The Marauders were the forerunners of today's Rangers, the Army's renowned special forces group.) A member of the "Wolfhounds" in the Korean War, engaging in the greatest bayonet attack by U.S. soldiers since Cold Harbor in the Civil War; an advisor and coordinator of Green Beret detachments in the vicinity of the Ho Chi Minh Trail along the Vietnamese-Laotian border; served in the Pentagon with the Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, with the mission of developing a manual concerning the assignment of enlisted personnel worldwide; a soldier on the front line of battle also serving unofficially as Chaplain to his men, and eventually a civilian Minister as well.

A partial listing of his Honors and Awards include: Nomination for the Congressional Medal of Honor; Senate proclamations by the States of Texas, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and South Carolina; the 21st inductee, including the Revolutionary War, into the Ranger Hall of Fame located at Ft. Benning, GA; acknowledgement plaque at the Soldier's and Sailor's Memorial Museum at Pittsburgh, PA; Alumni of the Year, 1997, at the Transylvania Bible School in Pennsylvania; the first edition of his book "Fighting Preacher" received the George Washington Medal of Excellence from the Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, PA; the Korean Commemorative War Medal.

Col Weston was a great American patriot that all Americans can be proud of.

Yank Drops Last Bomb in Korea

The crew shown in photo had the distinction of flying the last mission of the Korean War on July 27, 1953, when they crossed the bomb line at 22:00 hours on their return flight.

The crew was made up of pilot 1st Lt Donald W. Mansfield (on far right), navigator 1st Lt Billy L. Ralston (left), and gunner A2/c Dennis J. Judd (center). Also on board as an observer representing the press was Mr. Ed Hoftheim (not pictured). The aircraft was a B-26C we nicknamed Bye Bye Bluebird and assigned to

Yank Drops Last

SEOUL, July 28 .- (AP)-

man Third Class Dennis Judd of

215 Burrows street, Pittsburgh,



Above, Crew aboard the B-26C that fire last mission of Korean War

Left, press release from 50 years ago. (Text below)

Seoul, July 28.-(AP) - Airman Third Class Dennis Judd of 215 Burrows Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., a gunner on a night-flying B-26 light bomber, dropped the last bomb of the Korean war, the Fifth air force said Tuesday. The plane crossed

Pa., a gunner on a night-flying B-26 light bomber, dropped the last bomb of the Korean war, the Fifth air force said Tuesday. The plane crossed the battle line at 9:29 Monday night and

dropped its eight 500-pound bombs on a cluster of personnel shelters in the Kumsong region of North Korea four minutes later—twentytwo minutes before the cease fire.

the battleline at 9:29 Monday night and dropped its eight 500-pound bombs on a cluster of personnel shelters in the Kumsong region of North Korea four minutes later - twenty-two minutes before the cease fire.

the 8th Bomb Squadron, 3rd Bomb Wing flying out of Kunsan, Korea (K-8). An 8th Bomb Squadron crew was selected to fly this last mission by Headquarters of 5th Air Force because the 8th Bomb Squadron dropped the first bombs of the war thirty-seven months earlier.

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I have a personal interest in this mission because I was the gunner of this crew. We had gone to our afternoon briefing and received our targets of the evening. The significance of this mission did not go unnoticed by the press. While milling around and talking after the briefing I was approached by Col. E. B. LeBailly, 3rd Bomb Wing Co. He "asked" me if I would step aside and let Dennis Judd fly in my position. Apparently some press personnel felt it would make good press back in the States to have a mixed race crew. Needless to say I was very disappointed to miss out on a history making event but at least I was able to take the enclosed picture. James Q. Lamson, 520 South Main Street, Plainwell, MI 49080

(James, this would of made a great cover photo but I had already selected another for this issue. Color would have made it even better. Dennis Judd also sent in same photo and Press Release shown. Thanks to both of you for great photo and story.)

USS Hailey in the Korean War

The period from 11 October to 5 February was spent in the Korean War Zone except for brief upkeep periods in Sasebo and Yokosuka. At different times the Hailey was part of the famous Fast Carrier Task Force 77 and a link in the Blockade formed by Task Force 95. In support of ground troops and on destructive missions the ship's batteries poured out over 3,300 rounds of 5 inch ammunition earning for the ship a reputation for accuracy and dependability.

Sub chase Oct. 20-21 1952 in the company of the USS Frank

Our Score:

Destroyed:

• Fired 3,380 rounds of 5"/38 ammunition

Known Damage:

- 14 gun positions
- 13 personnel bunkers
- 18 supply buildings
- 11 railroad cars
- 1 supply dump

- 400 yards of trenchline *Damaged:*
- 13 gun positions, 26 personnel bunkers, 17 supply buildings, 1 supply dump and 9 railroad cars.
- 3 major road cuts, 13 rail cuts, 22 secondary explosions, 1 observation post and 2 mines.

Knox using hedge hogs and depth charges Sinking unconfirmed.

Picked up navy pilot Lt.JG Lou Ives eight minutes after his plane hit the waters in Wonsan harbor. Waters were unswept and we were in range of shore batteries. Feb. 2, 1953

(Thank you Ron Bennett for history of your ship. We Army and Marine soldiers on the ground are proud of our Navy. Many of us would not be here today without our Navy and Airmen.)

.....

Coming Home by Ship

The article in March-April issue reminded me of when I returned home from Korea in April, 1953. My friend and I were looking forward to being discharged on the west coast, traveling cross-country touring the country and picking up odd jobs along the way. We were very unhappy to find out that we were to be on the first ship to go to land in New York City with troops from Columbia, Puerto Rico and the east coast, passing thru the Panama Canal Then docking at NYC on Good Friday. We had so many

meals with rice that I still don't like it. I wonder how many out there that I never met may have been on that ship. To my knowledge it was never done again.

.....

Tony Kondysar 33 Fuller Lane, Hyde Park, NY 12538-1232. Tel: 845-229-7711 <Marto4@AOL.COM>

Maj. Arnold 'Moon' Mullins F-51 Airplane

KOREA---The terrific striking power of a single F-51 Mustang Fighter is shown here as one of the hard-hitting fighters is being prepared for another destructive attack on North Korean Communist positions. S/Sgt. Bernard J. Chrostowski, Marblehead, Mass., jacks up a loaded napalm tank to loading position as S/Sgt. Angelo Balanzino, 438 Saint Marks Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y., guides the tank into the shackles.

Perched atop the wing with his arms full of .50 caliber ammunition is T/Sgt. Frank Tyne, PA. Nanticoke, Three high-velocity rockets are already in proper position, and the load same



Full Load - 28April 1951

mounted under the other wing. The three armament technicians are members of the Fifth Air Force's 18th Fighter Bomber Wing. (U.S. Air Force Photo) G-550-1

Bobby D. Faries 8944 Random Rd. Ft. Worth, TX 76179. Tel: 817-236-7587.

(Thank Bobby for photo and letter. See May-June 2003 issue pg. 63 for story about Maj. Mullins. We are proud of our Airmen)

Bill Mauldin was a hero in Korea also

Bill Mauldin keeps multiplying into a man of many parts. He remarks, "It makes me feel downright professional as a writer to have a genuine illustrator decorate my stuff." Genuine Illustrator Thornton Utz will agree that this young fellow, originally famed



Hit th' dirt hove!"

for his priceless drawings of our soldiers in World War II, is a pretty genuine picture-maker himself, and Mauldin's text in his five books, plus his many magazine articles, make it high time he did feel like a professional at juggling words. Mauldin also feels well this week because this is his first published fiction.

Other multiplying of his parts includes collaborating on two movies and acting in one of them.

KWV Commemorati

Korean War veteran spends life looking for others







Photos show Richard Gallmeyer in his computer room working on database filled with more than 23,000 names and addresses of Korean War veterans from all branches of service. His work room is a miniature museum of the Korean War. Walls dressed with Korean War photos, maps, flags and letters that scream volumes about the story of war. (Photos and story was sent to the Editor of The Graybeards by SSG Timothy W. Volkert DoD-KWCC.)



s Richard Gallmeyer lay in a hospital bed for three months recovering from major surgery, the faded, black and white photographs of his Korean War battle buddies were what kept him going and gave him

his will to live. "Those are what

kept me alive," he said. "I told my

wife that 'if I ever get out of here,

I want to find my buddies."

After returning home in the fall of 1994, Gallmeyer did just that and today has a database filled with more than 23,000 names and addresses of Korean War veterans from all branches of service. In the fall of 1994 he formed the nonprofit organization named Korean War Veterans Reunion,

Inc., and has spent the last eight years researching and compiling his list of Korean War veterans so fellow service members have a way to find each other. In his initial year, his list grew to 3,000. It has been growing rapidly ever since.

As he shuffled through his office closet, he emerged with boxes filled with letters and notes with names and addresses scribbled on them. His blue eyes sparkled with the enthusiasm of a young child who found a long lost toy as he said the boxes included information for more than 6,000 Korean War veterans that he has not been able to place in his database because of the time.

Gallmeyer said he is an organization of one and cannot keep up with the information coming in. He said he hopes to find a sponsor in his home city of Virginia Beach, Va., to provide him a location to continue his life's work and for volunteers to help him keep up with his ever-expanding list of veterans looking for each other. For now, Gallmeyer keeps plugging away at his list in his home, which doubles as a miniature museum of the Korean War. Walls dressed with Korean War photos, maps, flags and letters that scream volumes about the story of war. Photo albums sit on his coffee table containing more images,

documents, assignments and, menus from unit holiday dinners evoking memories of military men and women who fought for their country.

While striving to help Korean War veterans get in touch with other, Gallmever said it was great to see the Department of Defense honor them during the 50th anniversary of the war and to help educate people so that they would not become service members who fought in a forgotten war. "After all these years, we're finally being remembered. What else can I say?" Gallmeyer said the Defense Department's commemoration and the Korean War Veterans Memorial erected on The Mall near the Lincoln Memorial in 1995 is helping Americans learn about the Korean War, which statisticallv. was the most violent war for the United States except for the Civil War. About 37,000 U.S. military personnel died in 37 months of combat in Korea.

Gallmeyer doesn't look back at the darkness of war, he spends his life looking for those who were lucky enough to make it home, and each year he sponsors a reunion for all Korean War veterans to get together, to be a family again. For the past eight years, his reunions have brought together thousands of Korean War veterans and their

families from across the country. This year, for the ninth annual reunion, he is having a Christmas dinner in Laughlin, Nev. He said this dinner will be the first sit down Christmas reunion that most of them could not enjoy 50 years ago. He laughs as a 3x5inch black and white photograph takes him back to his time in Korea, where tired, ragged men sat on the ground drinking from their tin canteen cups with a tank looming ominously in the background. With the annual reunions and his ever-growing list of Korean War veterans. Gallmever said he cannot stop what he began eight years ago. something I have to do," said the 75-year-old Gallmeyer. "I just can't stop anymore. If I didn't have anything, I could look forward to death, and that's no fun. What I have to look forward to is finding Korean War veterans."

The Korean War Veterans Reunion, Inc. 9th Annual reunion will be Dec. 8-11 at the Ramada Express in Laughlin, Nev. For more information about the reunion or the organization, contact Richard Gallmeyer at 1-800-523-4715 or via e-mail at msg1gal@aol.com. Information about the reunion can also be found online at www.korean-warveteransonline.org

ve Partner Events

Veteran recalls post-war service in Korea

hey said the Korean War ended July 27, 1953. However, for Sam Fire and hundreds of others like him their missions in the Pacific peninsula were just beginning. While the ink was drying on the signatures of the armistice, it became clear to them that their lives were still very much in danger. "I expected that it was going to be a cake walk," Fire said. "I didn't expect what we went into. No one did. We found out the hard way."

After landing at Inchon and making his way south to Pusan in August 1953, Fire, then a tough, 21-year-old Army private, soon found himself working on the riot squad at a prison camp and assisting military police with prisoner exchanges. "It was a combat situation," he said. "The tension was still there for four or five months (after the armistice). The war didn't end July 27. There was a lot that went on after the armistice was signed." He spent the first five months of his Korea tour working the prison camp near Pusan and said his life was always in danger.





Sam Fire displays the letters he had written to his parents and photos taken while in Korea.

Fire said he spent his time there trying to ensure some sense of order in the camp by searching prisoners for weapons and checking for escapees at all hours of the day and night and trying to stop the prisoners loyal to the communist leadership from killing those who said they did not want to return north. That job never became routine, he said. The constant tension in the prison camps kept everyone uneasy. While on this duty, Fire said he was never more

conscious about the thought of death. "We went into that compound every night while on the riot squad," he said. We could have been killed. As a young kid, I was scared to death the whole time."

Chinese POWs march of out a Pusan-area prison camp in Sept. 1953.

Sam Fire while

working on the riot squad at a

POW camp in

the Pusan area

in Sept. 1953

This job required him to go into the areas where the prisoners lived, including sleeping quarters and do head-counts and check for weapons. He said you did the job as fast as you could because although you had a gun, you were still outnumbered by the enemy.

After Christmas of that year, Fire received marching orders and headed up to the Demilitarized Zone where he worked on a surveying crew. His crew took on the task of heading up past the front lines to try and determine the exact locations of enemy strongholds so they could be accurately targeted. Fire said there were countless times that fear was almost overwhelming from the constant sniper fire and ever-present danger of land mines. However, he said those who served in the Korean War did whatever job needed to be

done.

"I was glad to serve my country," Fire said. "I went with no animosity." As he, looks back at what they did a half a century ago, he said it is important that people today never forget what the veterans did. He said it meant a lot to him when he learned about the Department of Defense's 50th Anniversary of the Korean Commemoration Committee and the events they sponsored to help educate the nation about the significance of the Korean War while thanking all Korean War veterans for their sacrifices and service. "I think (the commemoration) means a lot to all of us that were there," Fire said. "I'm very pleased that the commemoration occurred."

He said today's youth need to learn about war and the impact it has on the freedom people in this country has and what its military has done to ensure the freedoms of other peaceloving people. "Any war that carries the flag of the United States perpetuates the freedom we have," Fire said. "Where we are living today is because of the sacrifices of those that served before." Although Fire will not attend the National Salute to Korean War Veterans, July 25-27 in Washington D.C., which will focus on the commemoration of the signing of the armistice, the Philadelphia resident said that it will be a great way to honor those who did not make it back. "I made it back and I'm very fortunate. About 38,000 (Americans) never did. I feel so sad for the guys who didn't come back. In the future, I hope we can work things out without going through this again."

[For more information about the National Salute to Korean War Veterans, go the committee's official Web Site at www.korea50.mil or call toll free 1-866-567-3250.]

Photos are courtesy of Sam Fire. Photos and story were sent to the Editor of The Graybeards by SSG Timothy W. Volkert DoD-KWCC. —Ed)

Sam Fire stands in front of tents while working on the DMZ in Nov. 1953.



Some time back, says he, he felt artistic and worked seventeen months on a play, then decided it wasn't so good and wouldn't let anybody read it. Somebody better grab off this playwright before somebody else sews him up.

In the country above New York live free-lancer and Mrs. Mauldin, their three sons and a jeep. Life there is different from in Korea, where Mauldin went last year. Yet the Korean mountain warfare was so much like the campaigns in Italy that "it was surprisingly easy to adjust to being in a war again."

(Bill Mauldin passed away last January. He will be remembered by GI's from many wars for his great art and since of humor.

Korea and today, our KWVA National Director

Photo of John H. (Jack) DeLap taken in the spring of 1951. The picture was





taken as the 1st Marine Div. moved North from Mason to once again meet the Chinese aggressors. Photo is Jack today your National Director for 2001-2004.

Korean War Truce Bugler

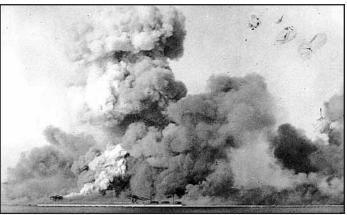
As we approach the 50th Anniversary of Little Switch which took place on April 26th 1953 I wanted to share a true story about an event that took place. I was serving with the 1st Marine Div. 1st Service BN. near Panmunjom, Korea during Little Switch and was sent over to Freedom Village to help with the returning POWs. As the ambulances pulled up we would help or carry the returning POWs into the medical tents that were set up to examine and tag the sick and wounded prior to transporting them further to the rear.

As I was doing this one ambulance pulled up and as we opened the door a skeleton like man fell out onto the ground. I picked him up and helped him into the medical tent. As it has turned out that man I picked up was a Bill Smith. He had been a POW since Nov. 2nd 1950, some 29 months. He moved to my home town about three years ago and joined our Korean War Vet. Association here in Quincy, IL. We got to talking about our experiences and discovered that he was one of the returnees at little switch and that he had fallen out of the ambulance and a Marine had picked him up and took him into the medical tent. That of course was me. What a small world. When Bill Smith was captured he weighed 192 pounds and when he got to freedom village he was down to 85 pounds. We have become good friends and he keeps thanking me for picking him up that day at Freedom Village 50 years ago. Little did we know that some 90 days later the Korean War would end and that I would be the Bugler to signal the Cease Fire at the UN. Truce Camp at 2200 hours on July 27th.

> Robert H. Ericson Korean War Truce Bugler 1134 S. 14th St.

Quincy, IL. 62301.<ericsonr@adams.net>.





The pictures above were taken off the USS Massey DD778, one of the last ships to leave the harbor. The cans on the fantail are five-inch powder canisters. 24 December, 1950

USS Massey at Hungnam 24 Dec. 1950

The Massey fired 2,663 five inch from 15 December to 24 December 1950. The value of real estate took a big drop during this time. From 15 to 24 December, Task Force 90 fired 162 rounds 16", 2932 round 8", 18,637 rounds of 5", 71 rounds 3", 185 rounds 40mm and 1462 rockets.

The fire support ships were battle ship Missouri, heavy cruisers St. Paul and Rochester, destroyers Forrest Royal DD872, Norris DD859, Borie DD704, English DD697, Lind DD703, Hank DD702 and Massey DD778, rocket ship LSMR 401, 403, and 404.

Robert C. Rogers Jr. 1000 27th St. Parkersburg, WV 26101

The William Allen Scholarship

May 1, 2003 Former Prisoner Of War Korea, William Allen and his wife Helen Attended the Awards Ceremony at the local high school in Saint Petersburg, Florida, to present Alicia Poole a check for the amount of \$1,000 for the winning essay in the scholarship given from the sale of Bill's book "My Old Box Of Memories. This scholarship is in conjunction with The 50th Anniversary Of the Korean War. The scholarship was started in 2000 and would have finished in July of 2003. Because of the interest in the book

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Shown (I to r) are William Allen, Alicia Poole and wife Helen Allen.

he has decided to extend the award for two more years. Writing the book served two purposes. The first is it tells



the story on a personal account of early stages of the war. The second reason was it enabled Bill to raise the funds to award students with the scholarships. He is now compiling information for the history of Charlie Company, 19th Inf. Regt. From the day it arrived in Korea until it returned to Japan. Former members that are interested can contact Bill Allen at 421 Ave., Tierra Verde, FL 33715 or <wallen2@ tampabay.rr.com>

My Brother Was A Hero Also

My brother Corp. Edward J. Connelly was killed in Korea Dept, 3, 1951. That is why I am a member of KWVA. At the time Eddie enlisted we felt that the Army was wrong for taking him because he was stone deaf in the right ear. A while after he was killed we received a letter from PFC. William Winnenger, RA56073462 telling us how Eddie was killed and we knew he was a hero. We had a childhood friend in a group that was ordered to take a hill (Heartbreak Ridge) and they became pinned down by a machine gun nest. Eddie was the radioman, he took off the radio, grabbed a recoilless rifle and whipped out the nest. He was only one killed in that action. For that he received the Bonze Star. I watch CNN all the time and between Afghanistan and Iraq they have passed out the Bronze Star like peanuts and popcorn. The people who decide what deed deserves what metal have degraded the Bronze Star. We all know the Purple Heart is awarded to anyone wounded or killed in action. Bronze is for a deed over and beyond their duty. In my brother's case under President Bush he would have received the Congressional Medal of Honor. I have a great love for our boys in the military and would never begrudge them from being honored, but it really hurts to know how little by big brother (age 19) was honored.

> Patricia Connelly Sutton 7920 S. Kolin Ave. Chicago, IL. 60652

I Went Under That Bridge Also

The Graybeards cover from March-April reminded me of the time I returned to the States from Korea. We could see the lights of the city, San Francisco as they came into shape. We passed under the ridge near 2 o'clock in the morning. It was very quiet as the ship passed under the ridge. When from the fan tail end of the ship came loud and clear a voice that cried out as the ship cleared the inside or bay side of the bridge these words "You will never get me west of this son of a bitch again." I had left Korea on the 6th of Oct. 1951. I entered Korea from Japan on July 18, 1950. I served with the 14th Combat Engineers and the 5th RCT. 24th Inf. Div.

this trip under the Golden Gate Bridge was my 45th in WWII and Korean War.

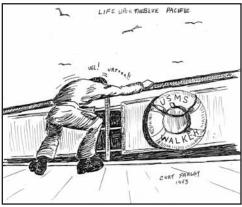
Charles R. Grimshaw 15825 E. 132nd Pl. Renton, WA. 98059-6817

Golden State Bridge View Going Out

In the last issue of the "Graybeards" on the cover was a picture of the Golden Gate Bridge and a narrative by Wayne Doenges of

his departure from the states and return. My story is my departure from the states and last view of the Golden Gate Bridge. I enlisted in the USAF Jan. 1951. Took basic at Lackland AF. Camera Repair School at Lowry AFB in Denver, CO, and then O.J.T. training at Hill AFB, Utah till Feb. 1953. departed San Francisco the last Feb. 1953 aboard the USMC Walker and hit rough weather outside the Bay much seasickness with 5,000 air-





men, soldiers and marines aboard. After 13 days aboard that miserable ship we arrived in Japan and I was sent to Tsuiki AFB on the southern island of Kyushu as a gun camera repairman on F-86 Sabrejets. I returned to the states in Feb. 10564 and finished the last year of my enlistment at DOW AF in Bangor, Maine.

Curtis J. Farley, Jr. 2947 Gran Lin, St. Charles, Mo. 63303

Wife Fits My Uniform

A few years back in "The Graybeards" there was two Korean War Veterans bragging how they still can wear their uniforms. Well, I can't but my wife can and here is the proof. Ladies don't get offended.

Antonio F. Rodriquez 8857 Williams Road Fontana, CA. 92335-5123.)



Chapter Affairs

Sussex County Chapter #1 of Delaware

Korean War Memorial Ceremony

Following the wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Solider in Arlington National Cemetery, the Korean War Veterans continued their odyssey to remember and pay homage to the fallen comrades killed in the mountains and rice paddies of Korea.

The veterans, spouses, and friends gathered at the long granite wall, which stretches from the rear of the Korean War Memorial to the small reflecting pool at its front.

Forming a thin, long column, the group assembled. At the front, Bill Noll and Jim Baker carried the American and KWVA flags. They were followed by the wreath bearers, Ruley Banks and Ray Musciano.



Memorial Ceremony about to begin. Color Guards Bill Noll and Jim Baker flank wreath. Bugler Ray Rogers and Cape Cadet Pat Kuhn follow with veterans and spouses next



KWVA Vets marching in the Memorial. KWVA president Russ Cunningham in command.

Next were our two buglers, Ray Rogers and Dave Allwood, then came the Korean War Veterans, followed by spouses and friends carrying fresh flowers.

A short, sharp bugle call brought the group into slow march to the front of the beautiful memorial. On our left we passed nineteen 8' statues of a foot patrol in combat. Dressed in bronzed military uniforms, ponchos draped over shoulders, radios and rifles in hand, the silent group appeared in motion. To many of us, the eyes followed our progress.

Spouses Virginia Noll and Sue Cunningham lay fresh flowers, while Bill Noll, Roger Reeves, and Jim Baker watch

As our shoulders nearly brushed the granite wall on our rights, we passed the thousands of faces on the wall. The faces were created



by etching actual pictures of the soldiers, airmen, navy, and coast guard who served in Korea.



Above, Buglers Ray Rogers and Dave Allwood pay final respect with KWVA's Russ Cunningham.

Right, Korean War Vet Roger Reeves laid wreath during ceremony. Here he and wife Carmeline pay final tribute.



As the group reach the front of the Korean War Memorial and formed a line around the flagpole flying the beautiful red, white, and blue flag, the ceremony immediately attracted a crowed of about 100 tourist and visitors.

KWVA President Russ Cunningham spoke to both the veterans and the onlookers. He stressed that the purpose of American partic-

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Korean War Vets and families remember the 33,500 killed, 105,000 wounded, and the 8,100 who never returned.

ipation in the Korean War was to restore the freedom of the Korean people. And that we had succeeded. Today, fifty years later, the people of South Korea are still free. A tribute to the success of our sacrifices.

But, noting the 35,000 men killed in freeing the South Korean people, there was a heavy price to pay-which underscores our slogan "Freedom Is Not Free".

KWVA's Mike Mihalo gave a brief, but stirring prayer. The wreath bearers Ruley Banks and Ray Musciano then presented the wreath to KWVA Roger Reeves. He took the wreath and laid it at the head of the statues. The spouses and friends then came forward individually to lay a fresh flower beside the wreath.

The ceremony concluded with a beautiful rendition of the "Taps". Bugler Ray Rogers, stationed at the flagpole played each chord with a pause. Bugler Dave Atwood, located to the rear of the memorial, repeated each chord. The echo effect was haunting. By the time the final note receded, dozens of faces were wet with tears.

We had done our Duty! We did Remember! We shall always Remember!!

Army Survivor of the Chosin Few Honored

Delaware KWVA vets paid their last respects to one of their own. In a memorial service at their May meeting, the Delaware Veterans said goodbye to Jean Paul Bizier. Bizier served with the 32nd Regt., of the 7th Inf. Div. in 1950-1951 during the Army's epic battle with the Chinese on the east side of the Chosen Reservoir.

Bizier's wife Betty, children, and grandchildren attended the memorial service. The family was presented a beautiful Bible in recognition of his service

Right. Chapter President Russ Cunningham assisted by Chaplain Bob Lewis present Bible to Bizier's widow Betty and family.



to his country. In brief remarks, chapter president Russ Cunningham noted that the bible was a memento presented on behalf of a grateful nation and the respect of his fellow veterans.

Cunningham noted that the fate of the 7th's men had been overshadowed by the news coverage of the Marine's fight on the west side of the Chosen. "It was a forgotten battle of a forgotten war. Many of the men were heroes, fighting through a



State Vice Commander Geo. Goss, Charles Farrell and Roger Reeves present family members with KWV pins as part of memorial service honoring 7th Div.'s

few freezing and terrifying days to the last of their ability. Few were ever honored. His comrades of the KWVA are doing that today."

The Chapter Honor Guard, Chaplin, and Sgt. Of Arms participated in the memorial service. Member Roger Reeves presented each family member with a Korean War Commemoration Pin. Vice President Walt Koopman presented the family a framed picture of Bizier surrounded by some of the Chapter members. (See Photos.) (Thank you Russ Cunningham for photos and letters.)

Union County Chapter #53 of New Jersey





Top: Members pose in front of the bingo board at the Menlo Park Home for disabled veterans. **Below:** With the bingo game a special Christmas Party was held with refreshments and each resident received a card with cash money. (*Thank you Richie Alexander for photo and letter.*)

Taejon Chapter #170 of New Jersey

St. Patrick's Day Parade, Sunday March 23, 2002 - Pearl River, New York

Korean War Veterans Association Taejon chapter 170 of New Jersey participated in the 41st annual Rockland County St Patrick's Day Parade. A huge crowd witnessed the parade which is the biggest in Rockland County. Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole lead the twenty man contingent through Pearl River.

Ten veteran organizations marched as part of over 100 entries in the parade that took over two hours to complete. KWVA Taejon Chapter 170 was picked and won a large trophy entitled "St Patrick's Day Parade Uniform Veterans Marching Group." The awards and judges chairperson was Patricia Dwyer. The trophy was presented to Commander Onorevole in Pearl River, New York on Thursday March 27. Doing the presentation was parade official Neil O'Sullivan. Trophy donor was Madden's Restaurant.

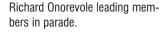
(Thank you Lou Quagliero for letter and photos.)



1st Place Trophy awarded to the Taejon Chapter for "St Patrick's Day Parade Uniform Veterans Marching Group." L to R Dr. Francis Holt, Erwin Burkert, Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole with trophy. Trophy Parade Official Neil O'Sullivan and Louis Quagliero.



Group picture before parade. Commander Onorevole in front.





L to R Jerry Van Brunt, Commander Richard Onorevole and Dr. Francis Holt. Members behind him.

L to R Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole and Jr. Vice Commander George Bruzgis.





St. Patrick's Day Parade at Dr. Holt's home. His wife Patricia cooked for Taejon Chapter members. On left Commander Richard Onorevole and Patricia's helper Alexander Atheras. A great party.

Captain of the Color Guard James Lomauro entertaining members at Dr. Francis Holt's home..



Corps Artillery Reunion Alliance.

On October 7, 2002, five members of KWVA Taejon Chapter 170 Color Guard attended the annual Corps Artillery Reunion Alliance at the Mariott Hotel in Saddle Brook, N. J. Corps Artillery President Nick Vanderhave of Morris Plains, N. J. and Vice President Larry L. Hyer of Lewiston, Utah, requested the Color Guard for presentation of the colors at the annual reunion

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dinner dance. Color Guard members were: Captain James Lomauro, J. Vice Commander George Bruzgis, Louis Quagliero, John DiLonardo and Alexander Atheros.

(Thank You Louis Quagliero for photos and letter.)



Alexander Atheras, Louis Quagliero, Corps Artillery President Nick Vanderhave, Jr. Vice Commander George Bruzgis, Vice President Corps Artillery Larry L Hyer, John DiLonardo and Color Guard Captain James Lomauro.

Hasbrook Height, NJ Memorial.

On Sunday October 27, 2002, KWVA Taejon Chapter #170 of N. J. Color Guard were asked to participate in a memorial service. The township of Hasbrouck Heights honored three residents who were killed during the Vietnam War.

The memorial service was sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 800 and Hasbrouck Heights. Opening ceremony was conducted by Marine and member of the Vietnam Veterans Daniel Vecchio. Honorable dignitaries present were Mayor William Torre, Congressman Steve Rothman, State Senator Joseph Coniglio, Assemblywoman Rose M. Heck and Assemblyman Matt Ahearn.

(Thank You Louis Quagliero for photos and letter.)



On the left is Marine Vietnam Veteran Daniel Vecchio. On the right is Commander Richard Onorevole. Color Guard is in the back. Left to right - DiLonardo, Cupo, Atheras, Burns, Van Brunt, Quagliero.



Three purple Hearts Veteran George Job, Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole and his wife Cathy.



Eleanor Altomare, Sergeant At Arms Salvatore Altomare and Marine Vietnam Vet Daniel Vecchio.

Columbus Day Parade

Columbus Day Parade in Lodi-Garfield, N. J. Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole led the contingent of members in the parade. The three mile parade was witnessed by many residents of Lodi and Garfield, N.J. The parade contained many floats and a very sharp band from Italy. Italian decent members who were present were Commander Richard Onorevole, Historian Louis Quagliero, Color Guard Sergeant Vincent Cupo and Frank Castaldo.

(Thank you Louis Quagliero for photos and letter)



Left to right - World War II and Korean War Veteran Harold Dinzes and Taejon Chapter Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole holding Chapter Banner.



Front Row - Left to right - Quagliero, Bruzgis, Commander Onorevole, Castaldo, Cohen. Back Row - Left to right - Burns, Dinzes, Burkert, Atheras and Van Brunt.

GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later then the second week of the first month of that issue. Example: Sept-Oct 2003 articles must be received by editor no later then September 12. We print on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have a backlog.— Editor.

Manasota Chapter #199 of Florida

World War II air combat operations were vividly described by two of the famed Tuskegee airmen at a recent membership meeting of our Chapter. The overflow crowd of 103 WWII and Korean War Veterans were treated to a fast paced presentation which included the roles of the P-51 Mustang fighter and the Billy Mitchell B-25 bomber.



Yenwith Whitney, who piloted a P-51 over Italy discusses his combat-missions.



Yenwith Whitney (Left) with chapter members Larry Hanneken and George Staudt, as Nasby Wynn, who piloted a B-25, looks on.

Northwest Alabama Chapter 2

Chapter members had the pleasure of serving two purposes on May 9, 2003. All Korean War Veterans were specifically honored during Senior Citizen Appreciation Day for persons 60 years old and over, sponsored by NACOLG's, (Northwest Alabama Council Of Local Government), Department of Aging Services from 9 am until 3 pm at the Florence, AL Coliseum. There were over 1100 local citizens attending this event, which included singers, music, dancing, and drawings for gifts. We had several veterans enjoy this 6 hour event, which included a lunch. We accepted many complementary remarks for all Korean War Veterans and passed out information brochures and discussed the war with those having interest. We emphasized that we wanted to honor the Korean War Casualties and their families. In addition, the KWVA Chapter 2 members set up a display of Korean War information, to recruit new members.

(Thank you Paul E. Riley for photo and letter.)



Chapter members shown left to right are Bob L. Norris, Ralph C. Dula, William M. Gotcher, George J. Ellis, Bobby W. Burbank, Barbara J. Judd, David Bee, Paul E. Riley and Carmel D. Olive.

Quad Cities chapter #168 of Illinois



American Ex-POW Recognition Day April 10, 2003, Executive Mansion Lawn, Springfield, Illinois. All POW's from WWII, Korean and Vietnam. Welcome & Program by Roy L. Dolgos, Director, Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs. Pictured above are all POW veterans. Circled is Gene K. Bleuer of KWVA, Quad Cities Chapter #168.

(Thank you Arthur Holevoet for letter and photo.)

Chapter #153, Central Florida



Left to right, Jim Malley, Don Smith and Frank K. Nicolo. (Thank you Amelia Carafano for photo.)

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KWVA Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter #227



President Ed Slovak (Left) receives the new Chapter flag from member Bob Almaraz, who was instrumental in designing and procuring the flag. (Thank you Jim Becker for photo and letter.)

Central Long Island Chapter #64 of New York Veterans Day Parade November 11, 2002.

On Monday November 11, 2002 Central Long Island Chapter #64 KWVA marched in the Veterans Day Parade in New York City (from 23rd Street to 55th Street on 5th Avenue to be part of the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Korean War 2000/2003. Honorable Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg gave a great speech about US veterans and of September 11, 2001. As we marched up 5th Avenue they whistled and carried signs saying "Thank You Veterans". It was great to have the recognition.



Some of our Korean-American Comrades and good friends. Left Sal Scarlato 1st Vice President of Central Long Island Chapter #64 KWVA, Honorable Duk-Ho-Moon Deputy to Ambassador Consul General of Republic of Korea New York Office, Retired Lt. Colonel ROK Army Nurse Corp., Retired Jung Ho Kim Colonel ROK Army. All others in the background are from Korean Marines and Korean Navy and there are many other Korean-Americans.

The Parade Committee United War Veterans Council of New York County, Vincent McGowan President, Patrick Gualieri Executive Director, Paul Buono Parade Coordinator, Robert Deluccy Parade Promotion and Joseph Davis. They did a great fantastic job on this event. Beside the KWVA/Central Long Island chapter #64 in attendance were KWVA/Kivetlan Chapter, KWVA Nassau County Chapter #1, Chosin Few New York Chapter, KWVA Taejon Chapter, KWVA Chapter #171 KWVA of Delaware, KWVA of Brooklyn, KWV Association of Greater



Central Long Island Chapter Veterans and Banner.



Central Long Island Chapter Veterans marching in parade.

New York, Korean Veterans Offices Christian Union, Korean Veterans Association, Korean-US Veterans Group and other Korean-American groups from all over Metropolitan area. Photo (Thank you Sal Scarlato for letter and photos).

Korean Parade in New York City - October 2002.

In October 2002 various Korean-American Organization have their annual parade in New York City. The Central Long Island Chapter #64 KWVA march every year in this parade. (*Thank you Sal Scarlato for letter and photo.*)



Left Kyu-Ho Park (our coordinator) Lou Caligiuri, John Yandor, Bill Beatty, Paul Zerafa, Bill Puls, John Gauchran Sr., Paul Fitzsimmon, Bob Morga, Sal Scarlato. The four Korean-Americans belong to Korean-American Business Women Association of New York.

KWVA Chapter of Massachusetts

The New England Region - Gold Star Wives of America held their Annual Conference on May 3, 2003 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It was dedicated to those who served in the Korean War honoring both the veterans and their widows. Theme - "Korean War" - "Forgotten No More" Joseph McCallion, current President of the Chapter and Cpt. Thomas Hudner (USN retired), Medal of Honor recipient-Korea were the guest speakers.



Joseph McCallion, Virginia Hurley, President, New England Region Gold Star Wives, Phoebe Voyer, Past President Gold Star Wives and Cpt. Thomas Hudner, USN, (ret). Medal of Honor (Korea).

(Thank you Virginia Hurley for letter and photo.)

Texas Lone Star Chapter #76

To honor all veterans at Minute Maid Park in Houston Texas, May 24, 2003, Memorial Weekend, Henry Martinez threw out first pitch commemorating 50th Anniversary of Korean War "Cease Fire". Posting colors was TLSC/KWVA members Bob Mitchell and John Barker. Josh Flynn Desert Storm Marine sang the National Anthem.

(Thank you Carlos Ballard for letter and photos.)



Left to right -Henry Martinez, Bob Mitchell and John Barker.

Henry Martinez throwing out Ceremonial first pitch.

Suncoast Chapter #14 of Florida



Members gathered for a ground breaking ceremony recently for the Korean War Memorial being built for Freedom Lake Park, Pinellas Park, FL. Dedication of the memorial is scheduled for July 27, 2003 the 50th anniversary of the Truce. Pictured Left-Right are: Al DeStefano, Manny Matos, Joe Sheehan, Sam Farina, Bob Kunz, C. Dadswell and R. Foster.



Members line up, prior to participation the POW-WOW Parade, Seminole, FL. Their float carried a replica of the Korean War memorial which will be dedicated on July 27, 2003. Pictured [L-R] are: Bob Kunz, Joe Sheehan, Ralph Beezhold, Carl Bitzer, Joan Arcand, Richard Arcand, Richard Foster, Bill Hendrickson, Art Prentiss and Clarence Dadswell.

Our Chapter prepared the Display Cabinet at the VA Medical Center, Bay Pines, Florida for a period of two months. The photographs and Memorial display represent the activities of the Chapter members at the hospital and in the



community. Members belong to Hospice, Red Coats (Welcoming group), drive the parking lot shuttles, man the Coffee Cart, the Fischer House and hospital visitation. In addition, the Honor Guard performs Final Rites for deceased members of the armed forces as well as assisting with Memorial Day, POW Day, Veterans' Day and the Four Chaplain's Ceremony.

(Thank you Joan Arcand for photos and letter.)

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Mahoning Valley Chapter #137 of Ohio



Chapter members shown donating purchased underwear at Youngstown, Ohio V.A. Outpatient Clinic for distribution to veterans at the Brecksville and Louis B. Stokes V.A. Hospitals in the Cleveland area. Many chapter members also serve as van drivers for the clinic. Pictured left to fight Rocky Anobile, Richard Koker, Zeno Foley, Bob Brienik (volunteer coordinator), and Ed Mauer (clinic director).

(Thank you Bob Bakalik for photo and letter.)



We are in the process of raising money for our KWVA Memorial Monument to be erected in Austintown, Ohio. This quilt was made by two of our members Harry and Jane Ponikvar, it measures 6 foot by 8 foot. It took Harry and Jane 7 months to finish it. Shown holding the quilt is from left Larue Brown and Joann Onstott, Associate Captain. We have various money making projects to help fund this memorial.

(Thank you Joann Onstott for photo and letter)

Veteran Richard Koker was honored as VETERAN OF THE YEAR for 2003 by the United Veterans Council of Mahoning County. Koker, is a signer, which means he interprets speech into sign language for those with hearing problems. Rich has signed for the Vice President, the Governor, Senators and Congressman, and



for numerous religious affairs and veterans programs. His smiling face is well known over the northern regions of Ohio. In 2001 Koker returned to Korea after 50 years and even did a little signing "over there." Congratulations, Richard Koker of Youngstown, Ohio (Thank you Charles Stepan for photo and letter.)

Western Massachusetts Chapter #187



Consul General pinning the silver cross hanging from a scarlet ribbon on the lapel of 107 year old WW I veteran, Anthony Pierro of Swampscott making him a Chevalier, a French knight.

Western Mass KWVA Attends "Legion of Honor" Ceremony. We received an invitation from Consul General of France, Thierry Vankerk-Hoven, to participate in France's highest medal award ceremony, the "Legion of Honor". The event took place, Feb. 10, 2003, in the prestigious Hall of Flags at the State House in Boston.

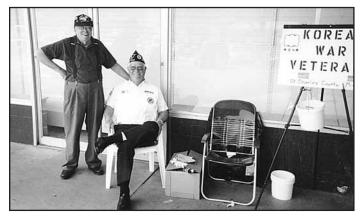


Shown L - R are Barry Plumbley, Paul Mei, Sr., John Sasso, Jerry Roy, and George Bratainu with Anthony Pierro sitting.



Color guard, led by, Commander John V. Sasso marched into the hall with the U.S. Marine and Navy Color Guard. Presenting the colors for their chapter were, L to R: Barry H. Plumbley, Jerry Roy, George Bratainu, and Paul Mei, Sr. (Thank you John Sasso for photos and letter. At least they remembered a veteran of WWI.)

St. Charles County Chapter #6 of Missouri



Selling "Rose of Sharon" in April at IGA Store in St. Charles, Missouri, Curt Farley and Sherman O'Quinn.



Left to right Frank Williams, Bob Peitz, Don Kohlman, Curt Farley, and museum employee at Tuscola, Illinois Korean War Museum May 13, 2003.



Left to right Curt Farley, Gene Stark, Bob Hayes, Frank Williams, Bob Snowden. Taken at Florissant, Missouri parade May 4, 2003.



Curt Farley ,Commander, laying wreath at Sharles County Court House Memorial to all war veterans. Memorial Day 2003

Left to right Frank Williams, Don Kohlman, Bob Peitz, Gene Stark at Korean War Museum at Tuscola, Illinois May 13, 2003.



Little Korean girl in native costume at South Korean picnic which all Korean Vets were invited. Castlewood Park in St Louis, Missouri, Memorial Day 2003. (Thank you Curtis Farley for letter and photos)



C.N.Y. KWVA Chapter #105 of New York



Above, Commander Anthony
Vaquero presenting a plaque of
appreciation in recognition of the U.
S. Army's contribution to the Korean
War 1950-1953 to General Franklin
L. Hagenbeck, 10th Mountain
Division. Presentation was made at
the Ft. Drum, NY at their Association
of the United States Army (A. U. S.
A.) on April 17, 2003.

Right, Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck 10th Mountain Division, Ft. Drum, NY giving acceptance speech after receiving plaque.

(Thank you Mrs. Bruce H. Ackerman for photos and letter.)



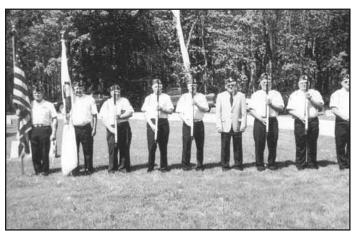
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Imperial County Chapter #165 of California



Members assembled in front of the world's tallest flag pole below sea level - 184 feet (the top of the flag pole is at sea level) in Calipatria, CA where they were participating recently in a "Support Our Troops" gathering. (Thank you C. W. 'Bill' Housouer for photo and letter.)

Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter #21 of Illinois



Shown Left to right in the photo are: Barney Baroff, Theo McConnell, Ritual Team Cmdr. Frank Hoskins, Bill Steffey. Richard Nicoson, Chaplain Harold Bott, Dan Schlorf, Bill Crouch and Ray Nasser.

Our Chapter has an outstanding Ritual Team of which we are very proud. We perform Military Rites for any veteran. We usually have 5 or 6 funerals a year. We have already performed for four funerals so far this year. We recently had three funerals in three weeks. We often serve as pall bearers as well. At times we have provided total graveside rites at the National Cemetery in Danville. Our Chaplain, Harold Bott is a very talented minister who wears many hats.

Several times funeral directors have called us the day before a funeral. They know we will be there. Our last service was for an Army Retiree from the Vietnam era. Sometimes it's hard for us to realize that these kids, we used to know, are becoming old men, like us. We also Post the Colors for various groups from time to time and participate in many parades.

(Thank you Ray Nasser for photo and letter.)

Rhode Island Chapter 2



The West Bay Korean War Veterans of our chapter awards the first of their two annual \$500.00 scholarships to West Warwick High School senior Eric Giammarco. Another scholarship will be awarded at North Kingstown high school on June 17, 2003. Pictured left to right are Roland Gravier, Fred Wiley, spokesman Joe Guthrie, Chapter Commander Bob Hartley, recepient Eric Giammarco, Mel Hill and Ted Inman. (Thank you for photo and letter.)

KWVA 'War Dogs' Chapter #203 of California



Chapter Members and the dog 'Santo' at the Mother Lode Days' Parade held on May 10th 2003, in Sonora, California before the mile long march. We were honored by being awarded the second place ribbon in the Military Category. Shown in photo R. Gross, L. Ramos, L. Johnson, M. Stavrakakis, S. Regalado, T. Pontes, E. Gonzales, W. Herbert, W. Hoyle, M. Rios and 'Santo'. (Thank you William E. Hoyle for photo and letter.)

Central Kentucky Chapter #219



Getting ready to "move out" for the Lexington Christmas Parade. Shown left to right are John Armacost, James McKinney, and Dick Wonger. (Thank you John Armacost for photo.)

Reunion Calendar

August 2003

USS Essex CV,CVA,CVS-9, LHD-2 Inc., August 4-9 at the Marriott Hotel 123 N St. Joseph Street in South Bend, IN. Contact H. Bruce Sims, 581 Conkle Rd., Hampton, GA 30228-2702. Tel. 770-707-1812

U.S.S. Abnaki A.T.F. 96, Aug. 6-10 in San Diego, CA, 92123. Contact Jeff Stanley, 5666 Birkdale Way, San Diego, CA, 92117. Tel: 858-277-3233 or E-mail < jstanley@ucsd.edu > .

1092d Engineer Combat Battalion, West Virginia Army National Guard, All who served with Battalion in Korea. August 15-17 in Parkersburg, WV. Contact Ray Williams, 88 Smitherman Rd., Washington, WV 26181. Tel: 304-863-6104 or E-mail <rayandjudyw@charter.net>. Further information and registration forms on the web at www.1092ecbreunion.com.

USS ALGOL AKA 54, Aug. 20-23 to be held at the Quality Hotel 2261 Causeway Blvd., Metairie, LA. 70001 Tel: 504-833-8211 Mention" Algol" for the special rate!!! Contact Tony Soria Tel: 209- 722-6005 or Art Nelson <artbets@cs.com>

Nebraska Korean Veterans (anyone who served in any branch of service between June 1950-1956.) August 22-24th at New World Inn, Columbus NE. Tel: 1-800-433-1492. Contact Bob Lindhorst, Tel: 402-563-1430

USS Carmick DMS-33 with Tin Can Sailors in Portland, OR. Aug. 24-28 Contact: Bill Allmon, 231 Obispo Ave Long Beach, CA. 90803 Tel: 214-416-7433 Wba2409@aol.com Details at http://Destroyers.org

88th Inf. Div. Ass'n., "Blue Devils", Aug, 28-31, in Philadelphia, PA. Contact Bill Konze, 7318 Riverhill Rd., Oxon Hill, MD 20745-1031. Tel: 301-839-4427, Web Page: www.88inf'div.org

2nd Infantry Division Korean War Veterans Alliance (joint with 2nd Indianhead Div Association), Aug. 29-Sept. 2 in Kansas City, MO. Contact: Ralph Hockley, 10027 Pine Forest, Houston, TX 77042. Tel: 713-334-0271 or E-mail: <cghrmh@sprintmail.com>

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

USS OXFORD (AG-159/AGTR-1) and sister ships. Reunion-at-sea on a cruise/tour to .Alaska with Holland America Line. August 2003. Contact excrewmember George Cassidy: 800-572-0855, ext 114 on weekdays; 860-535-1171 on evening/weekends. E-mail: <gacassidy@earthlink.net>

September 2003

98th Bomb Group/Wing Veterans Assn., Sept. 2-6 in Riverside, CA. Contact Dennis Posey at 770-509-7734, E-mail <dennisposey@mindspring.com> or Ken Laninga at 616-751-8231, E-mail <kglan@juno.com>

USS Defense AM-317 with the Naval Minewarfare Assn. in San Diego, Sept. 3-7. Contact Marty Strauss, 24814 Eden Ave., Hayward, CA. 94545-2391. Tel: 510-782-4783 days, 510-887-4366 Evening. E-mail <vipmarty@aol.com>. Details at http://www.navalminewarfareassociation.com/

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.

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.

151st Combat Engineers -Korea Seeking-men who served in Korea 1950-54, Sept. 4-6 in Marrianna, FL at Microtel Inn (888-771-7171. Contact Robert Ringer, 3058 Fifth Street, Marianna, FL 32446 Tel: 850-482-3319 or e-mai1 < jessiestewart@webtv.net > .

51st Fighter Interceptor Wing Assn., Korea 1950-53, Sept. 5-7 at the Embassy Suites in Omaha Nebraska. Contact Gene or Shirley Zenk, 1417 Broadway in Denison, IA., 51442. Tel: 712-263-5051.

14th Inf. Regt., 25th Inf. Div., Korea 1950-53, Sept. 5-8. Contact Keith Walker, 529 W. Clinton Street, Logensport, IN 46947. Tel: 574-722-1069

6th Photo Tech/548th Recon Tech Sqdns. FEAF YOKOTA AFB JAPAN (1947-1954), Sept. 5-8 at Pittsburgh, PA. Contact Guy Dille, 691 Ryland Dr., Pittsburgh PA. 15237-4279. Te1: 412-366-2094. E-mail <gddrd5k@attbi.com>.

92nd Armored Field Artillery Bn., Sept. 7-10 at Settle Inn, Branson, MO. Contact Guy McMenemy, 12027 Westover Drive, Cypress, TX 77429. Tel: 281-469-2819 or e-mail <reddevilbn@aol.com>

32nd Infantry Regiment Assn., "The Queen's Own" Sept. 7-10 at the Settle Inn, Branson, MO. Contact: Helen Dyckson, P. O. Box 5930, Spring Hill, FL 34611-5930. Tel: 352-597-5912, E-mail <hdyckson@earthlink.net>.

4th Inf. (IVY) Div. Assn., Sept 7-14, Contact Gregory Rollinger, 13507 Danube Lane R-1, Rosemount, MN 55068-3395. Web Page www.4thinfantry.org.

630th Engineer Light Equipment Co., Sept. 8-10 at Fall Creek Inn, Branson, MO. Contact: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072. Tel: 636-285-4402 Cell: 636-390-3308, E-mail: <ogvccv@ruralcom.net>.

GHQ 1st Raider Co/X Corps Sp Opns Co., Sept. 9-11 at Chattanooga Choo Choo Holiday Inn, 1400 Market Street, Chattanooga, TN. Tel: 800-872-2529 or 423-266-5000. Contact Joseph Myers at 423-510-8606.

14th Combat Engineer Battalion, Sept 11-13 in Branson MO. Contact: Stanley H Schwartz, 313 Hollow Creek Road, Mount Sterling, KY 40353. Tel: 859-498-4567.

75th Air Depot Wing (Korea, Japan, Europe) Sept. 11-14 in Branson MO. Contact Walter Walko, 23459 E. Canyon PL, Aurora, CO 80016. Tel: 303-690-7399 or E-mail <wawlaw1@juno.com>.

USS SATYR Association, ARL 23, World War II - Korea - Vietnam. Sept. 8-12 in Branson, MO, at the Mountain Music Inn. Contact Bill Janosco, 2981 Anita Ave., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404. Tel: 928-453-6755 or Email: foojanosco@msn.com

51st Signal Bn., Sept. 9-11 in Dallas, Texas. Korean Vets, former members are welcome. Contact: Tommy Thompson, 4129 Fairway Dr., Granbury, TX 76049 Tel: 214-670-6322 or E-Mail: <tom@itexas.net>.

44th Engineer Bn. Assn., (Korea) Sept. 10-12 at Fort Leonard Wood, The Hampton Inn, St. Roberts. Contact Dave Clasby, Tel: 314-837-1449. e-mail <dclasby@earthlink.com>; or Ken Cox, Tel: 314-423-5483, e-mail <kdc@WANS.NET>; or Bernie Resnick, Tel. 603-434-6406, e-mail <BigBMR@aol.com>

28th Inf. Div, 109th Regt., Army, Sept. 10-14 in Portland, OR. Contact Jordan L. Stockton, 13321 NW Cornell Rd. #206, Portland, OR 97229. Tel: 503-466-0780

G-3-1 Korea, G Co. 1st Marines and FMF Corpsman Korea 1950-55, Sept. 10-14 at DoubleTree Hotel. Crystal City, VA. Contact Bob Camarillo, 19 Stanislaus Ave., Ventura, CA 93004. Tel: 805-647-9319.

USS Wright, CVL-49 (also AV1, AZ-1, AG-79, CC2) Sept. 10-14 in Dayton, OH, Contact Ed Harvey at 229-872-3940 or e-mail <edgin@CairoNet.com>.

38th Ordinance MM Co., Sept. 11-14 at Adams Mark Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana. (by airport) Contact Deke Dalasta at 208-746-6345 (after 5/31) 262-695-8338, or Bill Smith 260-418-5667.

USS TITANIA AKA 13, Sept. 11-14 at Amana, Iowa. Contact Cliff or Caroline Trumpold, 816 31st Ave. Box 31, Middle Amana, Iowa 52307. Tel: 319-622-3103

7th Infantry Division Assn. Sept. 11-14 at the Imperial Palace Hotel in Las Vegas, NV Contact Gene Peeples, 8048 Rose Terr., Largo, FL 33777-3020. Tel: 727-397-8801. E- mail: <fpeeples@tampabayrr.com>.

U.S.S. Okanogan APA 220, All Years All Troops All Ships Company, Sept 14-17 in Chicago, IL. Contact ED Collins, Tel: 773-631-5568 or E-mail <EDTOPCOP1 @AOL.COM>.

USS Wasp CV/CVA/CVS-18 Assn, Ship's Co., Air Groups and Marines who served aboard the ship between 1943 and 1972. Sept. 14 -18 in Fremont, CA, (San Francisco area). Contact Richard G. VanOver, 6584 Bunting Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127-3635. Tel: 716-64.9-9053

58th Engineers Treadway or Float Bridge Co. Korea 1950-54, Sept. 16-18 at Pigeon Forge, TN. Contact Carl Welker, 17 HWY E Steelville, MO 65565. Tel: 573-775-5147, E-mail < welkers3@misn.com > .

50th AAA AW Bn. (SP), Sept. 16-18 in Branson MO. Contact Bob Matis 352-686-0550 or

bob50aaa@netzero.com> or Nelson Ruiz 321-267-1106 or <amynel@695online.com>.

25th Div., 8th F.A. Bn. Korea, (with 25th Div. Assn) Sept. 16-20 at Holiday Inn in Hampton, VA. Contact Allen M. Smith, 3338 Dupont Ave. N. Minneapolis, MN 55412. Tel: 612-529-4567

532nd Engr. Boat and Shore Reg. Sept. 17-19 in Rendlake, IL. Contact Charles Brown, 15769 North Woodlawn, Woodlawn, IL. Tel: 618-735-2981.

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.

79th ECB, Sept. 17-20 at the Radisson Hotel Opryland. 2401 Music Valley Drive, Nashville, TN. Room rates \$80.00. Call 615-231-8800 for reservations. Tickets for the Grand Ole Opry are \$30.00 ea. (main floor) and \$27.00 ea. (balcony). Call

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704-482-2733 or write to Don Rhom, 811 Pleasant Dr., Shelby, NC 28152. 79th ECB Web Page: Http://geocities.com/bobbyb30l

F-2-5 1st Mar. Div. ('50-'53), Sept. 17-21 at Quantico MCB. Contact Mike Michael, 153 Clapboard Ridge Rd., Danbury CT 06811, Tel: 203-748-5154 or e-mail hnmich@snet.net.

712th TROB. Sept 17-21 at Settle Inn, Branson, MO. Contact Robert G Shannon 910/949-3920 or email <rshannon@ac.net>.

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

A-1-1 U.S.M.C. (Korea 1950-1953), Sept. 18-20 at the Best Western Hood River Inn, Hood River, OR. (Call 541-386-2200 for reservations. Any questions contact Bob Nippolt, P.O. Box 207, 9 Fordyce Road, Husum, WA 98623-0207, Tel: 509-493-4338.

Anti-Tank Co. 5th Marines Korea 1950-53, Sept. 18-20 at Clarion Hotel Bloomington, MN. All Co. personnel are invited to join 3rd Reunion. Renew old friendships. Contact person's: Chuck Batherson, Tel: 231-839-5476, E-mail <chuckandbarbat5@voyager.net> or George Barrette, Tel: 715-582-3835, E-email: <grinandbarrett@cvbrzn.com>.

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

USS Witter DE 636, Sept. 18-20 in Albany, NY. Contact Joseph Ogrodnik, 26 Lagadia St., Chicopee, MA 01020. Tel: 413-598-8595 or E-mail: <jjogrodnik@rcn.com>

Army Security Agency Korea. Sept. 18-21 in Buffalo, NY. Contact: Jackie Rishell, c/o All-In-One Tours, 1530 Commerce Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601

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>

96th FA Bn. (all batteries) Sept. 18-21, in Mentor, OH. Contact Frank Lewandowski, 6264 Kenyon Ct., Mentor OH 44060. Tel: 440-255-2459.

USS Rowe DD-564, Sept. 18-21 in Charleston, SC. Contact ML & RS Inc. P.O Drawer 11399, Hickory, NC 28603. Tel: 828-256-6008.

29th Inf. Regimental Assn., Sept. 24-28 at Fort Benning/Columbus, Georgia. Attention all WWII, Korean Veterans, and former members of the 29th Infantry Regiment. Contact person, CSM Frank C. Plass, President, Tel: 706-561-0774. P. O. Box 158, Ellerslie, Georgia 31807-0158. Fax: 706-562-1040, or E-mail: <the29thinregtassn@att.net>.

2nd Chemical Mortar Bn. (and 461st Inf. Bn.) (Korea 1950-53), Sept. 24-28 at the Radisson Hotel, Branson, MO. Contact William R. Thomas, 7418 Overdale Drive, Dallas, TX 75254. Tel: 972-387-1247.

7th Field Artillery Regt., All Bns, all periods of service. Sept. 25-27 at Dutton Inn in Branson , MO. Contact Stanley C. Stankiewicz, 112 Bremer Street, Fayetteville, NC 28303. Tel: 910-822-0703.

780th Field Artillery Bn., Sept. 27-29 at Park Inn Regency Lodge in Omaha, Nebraska. Contact George Ellis, 1020 Wildwood Park Road, Florence, Alabama 35630-3352. Tel: 256-764-5938.

26th Inf. Scout Dog Sept. 26-28 at Caruthersville, MO, Contact Bob Fickohm at 605-456-2636 or Buck Ferrell at 573-333-1871.

USS Renville APA 227 mid-September at Philadelphia, PA contact: Don Wright, 4289 Alex Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45211-5348. Tel: 513- 481-8317 or E-mail <jdwrightstuff@cs.com>.

October 2003

F-2-7, 1st Marine Division, Korea 1950-1953 Oct. 1-4 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Contact Bob Gaines, 320 McClure Road, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005-2003. Tel: 505-526-8624.

Veterans of the Korean War Reunion, Oct. I-4 in Va. Beach, Va. All branches. Contact Floyd Newkirk, 608 Kingston Dr. Va. Beach, Va. 23452. Tel: 757-340-9801 or e-mail <fnewkirk1@cox.net>. See Web Site, VKWR.org

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: hmuleym@aol.com

11th Engineer Association, Oct, 3-5 in Peoria, IL. Contact Fred Boelsche, 54

Edstan Drive, Moonachie, NJ 07074-1239. Tel: 201-641-5828. E-mail at <FredB11thEng@hotmail.com>.

Carrier Air Group Two (CVG-2 Korea), Oct. 7-11 at Santa Rosa, CA. Contact Ray "Andy" Andrews, P.O. Box 750474, Petaluma, CA 94975-0474.

USS SOLEY (DD 707) Oct. 8-12 in Louisville, KY. Contact: Eugene Blum, 6749 San Benito Way, Buena Park, CA 90620-3741, Tel: 714- 527-4925. E-Mail: <eblum3@juno.com>.

USS OZBOURN (DD846), Oct. 8-12 at Holiday Inn Select, San Antonio, TX. Contact W. D. Minter 903-794-4748.

USS VALLEY FORGE CV45, CVA45, CVS45, LPH8, CG50 All hands, embarked Air groups and Marines. Oct. 8-12 at Corpus Christie TX. Contact Tom Kocurek, 317 Chase Oaks Pl. Fredricksburg, TX 78624 Tel: 830-997-6061

H-3-1 KOREA- Oct. 8-12 in Branson, MO. Contact Jack Dedrick, 10 Donna St., Peabody, MA 01960. Tel: 978-535-5451 or e-mail <ifdedrick@aol.com>.

Heavy Mortar Company, 5th RCT, 1950-1954, Oct. 9-11, at Executive Inn in Louisville, KY. Contact Bill Conley, 4442 Mulberry Ct., Pittsburgh, PA 15227. Tel: 412-885-2053 or E-mail <Copconley@aol.com>

1st Field Artillery Observation Bn., Assn., Oct. 9-12 at the Airport Holiday Inn, Englewood OH. Men who trained at Fort Sill OK., FARTC Training center Sept. Dec. 1951 are also invited. Contact Don Dust, Tel: 352-799-2426

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.usssaratoga.org

999th AFA Bn. (Armored Field Artillery Battalion) "Never Die" Army Korea 1950-1954, Oct. 10-12 at Best Western Midway Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Contact Tom Talaska, 3941 W. Denis Ave., Greenfield, Wisconsin 53221-3937. Tel: 414-421-4189 or Email: <atalaska@att.net>.

44th Inf. Div., 1952-1954 Korean War. Oct. 10-12 Peoria, IL. All units & anyone who served at Cp. Cooke, CA. or Fort Lewis, WA. Contact Duane Heward, 505 W. Merle Ln., Peoria, IL. 61604. Tel. 309-682-6519. E-mail: <dfhewardl@aol.com>. Paul Stern, 2258 Oaklawn Dr., Decatur, IL 62526. Tel: 217-428-0069.

86th Ordnance Co. Assn., Oct. 13-15 in Aberdeen MD. Contact Edward T. Reilly, Tel: 910-798-9865.

45th Inf. Div., 279th Inf. Reg., Co. L (Thunderbirds), Oct 14 -16 at College Station, TX, Contact: Jack Rose 979-693-4656, e-mail < jrose24@ juno.com>.

USS EVERSOLE DD789 Oct. 15-19 in Charleston SC. Contact Tom Trainham, 981 Garrison CT., Jonesboro, GA. 30238-4102. Tel: 678-479 8851 or E-mail <tjt1958@yahoo.com>.

USS BAYFIELD APA 33, Oct. 16-19 to be held at the Sea Mist Hotel, 1200 South Ocean Blvd., Myrtle Beach, S.C. 29577 Tel: 1-800-732-6478. www.seamist.com or <artbets@cs.com>

USS Francis Marion APA-LPA 249, Oct. 16-19 at Norfolk, VA. Contact Bob Martin, 16 Staples St., Melrose, MA 02176. Tel: 781-665-9222 or E-mail <tirman61@juno.com>.

Army Engineer OCS Alumni (All Classes) Oct. 16-20 at Silver Legacy Resort in Reno, Nevada Contact E. T. Mealing Tel: 404-231-3402 E-mail: <ENOCSA@earthlink.net>, Web Page <www.teocsa.org>

Subic Bay Reunion, Oct 17-27 at Subic Bay/Olongapo, Philippines. All Marines, Sailors, Soldiers, Airman who have served in the Subic Bay/Olongapo/Clark Airfield areas of the Philippines. Contact Judy Buzzell, 4600 Duke Street, # 420, Alexandria, VA 22304. Tel: 703-212-0695 or <info@subicbayreunion.com> or web page www.subicbayreunion.com

1st Ordnance MM Co. 60th Ord.Gp. 328 Ord.Bn. All members. Oct. 22-24 in Chicago, II. Contact Milan Laketa - Tel. 630-739-5008 E-Mail <Lainie550@aol.com> or George Suppes. Tel: 815-485-5398

USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN CV-CVA-CVS-39, Ships Company/airgroups. Oct. 23-26 in Cocoa Beach, FL. Contact Eugene Carroll, PO Box 131, Interlaken, NY 14847 Tel: 607-532-4735 or e-mail <gcarroll@rochester.rr.com>.

USS Norris (DD/DDE 859), Oct. 23-26 in Dallas, TX. Contact Ed Mehl at Tel: 302-541-0685 or e-mail <ussnorris@erols.com>

USS Newman K. Perry DD/DDR-883, Oct. 23-26 in Branson, MO. Contact Walt Steffes, 218 E. North Ave., Stockton, IL 61085-1204. Tel: 815-947-3624 or E-mail <milkshake@blkhawk.net>

72nd Engineer Combat Company., Oct. 27-31 at the Hershey Farm Inn and Restaurant, in Strasburg, PA (800)-827-8635. Special room rate for our group is \$75. Contact person is Bob Mount, 6518 Fish Hatchery Rd.,. Thurmont, MD

21788. Tel: 301-898-7952, E-mail <taxpreper@aol.com>.

November 2003

Army – 398th AAA. AW. BN. - Korea, November 9-12 in Branson, MO. Contact Arlie Schemmer, 4195 Cappeln-Osage Rd., Marthasville, MO 63357-2039. Tel: 636-228-4474.

September/October 2004

430th Engineer Battalion (Korea) reunion to be held in September/October 2004 location TBA later. Contact Charlie Wise, 9542 Yolanda Ave. Northridge CA. 91324. Tel: 818-993-5876. E-mail < wisekev @aol.com>

(It is requested that you to send a minimum donation of \$1.00 for each reunion notice you wish published in The Graybeards. This is only a request and is not mandatory. Please send notices directly to the editor and make checks payable to KWVA National. Typed lower case copy only.—Editor)

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Korea Fifty Years Ago

Bugler, prepare yourself
To play taps upon this day.
For a very special group of men,
That the Lord has called away.

We have gathered here from every state, Cities, throughout the land. To pay respect to those Beneath the rough Korean sands.

We were there in Korea Beneath the smoke filled sky above. There we grieved for our Dear Brothers, So many we did love.

I watched the flag as it unfurled, And waved freely in the sky. Then I asked myself again, "Lord, why? Please tell me why?"

To our right we saw so many.

Off to our left was no surprise.

For the dead were in the hundreds

We could hardly believe our eyes.

For the battle now is over,

For some they do not care.
Fifty years have just gone by,
But we still see them lying there.
To us they are the heroes,
And for America they stood true.
The men that rest in Korea
Beneath the red, the white, and the blue.

By Walter M. Bennett

The "Forgotten War" No More

Some have made the grave mistake Of calling Korea the forgotten war But you can bet that none of them Had to storm the Inchon shore I am also very positive its memory Unfortunately stays with all of those That at the Chosin Reservoir They shivered, fought and. froze Perhaps you know of someone Who fought among the ranks And saw the awful, bloody terror Of "Old Baldy" or the Yalu River banks Be assured that a foggy memory Would be a relief to maintain For those that charged up the hill: "Heartbreak Ridge" it seems, in vain We can he sure that there are some To this very day can still. Hear the horrors of the battle We know as "Pork Chop Hill" Definitely an everlasting imprint Of the 38th parallel has been burned Into the hearts and minds of families Of the many heroes that never returned We are coming up on fifty years Since Panmunjom brought peace In Honor of those that fought there May the memory never cease

By Dee M. Tramontina

At My Mother's Side

I was at my mother's side The day the notice came,

> It said your son is missing We share you grief and pain.

I was at my mother's side

When she cried and carried on,

I really didn't understand, But I knew that something must be wrong.

I was at my mother's side As she anxiously did search,

For word that would reveal to her Where her son could be.

With the passing of my parents, They may think the matter closed.

Just another M.I.A.

To mark our struggles fought.

An M.I.A. He is not!

He's more than that to me.

For what he meant to her, He also means to me.

What They never realized is I was at my mother's side

The answers that They kept from her, They now must give to me.

By David A. Velasco

Korea The Forgotten War

We ask for so little and we ask for no more but, please remember Korea, the Forgotten War. Some men are members of the Chosin Few, a place in Korea that we never knew.

We got there the 27th of November, at the Chosen Reservoir, I'll always remember. So many died but they all died in vain, some died quickly, but many died in pain.

Thirty-four trucks loaded with wounded and dying,
Oh Lord, what a shame,
I watched gas poured on them and then,
I saw them go up in flame.

When I go to Heaven, as all God's children do, I'm sure I'll meet the men of the Chosin Few.

This is the end of my story, but I'll ask it once more, please remember Korea, the Forgotten War.

The hills around us bombed with napalm were bare, and "yes" Hell did freeze over once, I know because I was there.

My name is Fred and my brother is James, we survived going through that misery and pain.

After 44 years, I read and hear by mouth that in Korea, there's still a North and a South.

This is truly the end of my story and I'll say no more, but when James and I left Korea, we had won our war.

By Fred M. Lane 3rd Bn, 31st Reg., 7th Inf. Division

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Korean Battlefield Tours: 2003 & 2004

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division:

September 26 - October 3, 2003



Sponsored by the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, this tour will visit Inchon, Seoul, and the Uijongbu Corridor, and spend two nights in the Chorwon Valley, viewing White Horse, Jackson Heights, the Boomerang, OP Harry, Chorwon and Kumwha, etc. All are welcome on this tour.

The 7th Division Association:

October 3 - 10, 2003



Sponsored by the 7th Division Association, all are welcome on this tour, which will visit the Inchon landing sites, Seoul and the Uijongbu Corridor, the Chorwon Valley (T-Bone, Alligator Jaws, "Papasan" and Triangle Hill, etc.) the Hwachon Reservoir and the Punchbowl.

1st Cavalry / 24th Infantry Division Associations: Joint Tour

October 15 - 24, 2003



These two Associations again sponsor a joint tour covering the southern battlefields of Korea, where both Divisions fought in July and August of 1950. Beginning at the TF Smith battlesite, travel through Pyongtaek, Chonan and the Kum River crossing sites at Kongju and Taepyong, through Taejon to Waegwan, Yuhak Mountain, the Bowling Alley, Taegu and along the Naktong Perimeter - the shared battlefields of 1950.



An added point of interest: this tour will also visit ROK Army positions along the DMZ near Yonchon, including Hill 346 (known to the Cavalry as "Old Baldy", not be confused with Hill 266, near Pork Chop Hill, also known as "Baldy"). All are welcome on this tour, which is the only tour to concentrate on the battlesites of the first 90 days of the Korean War.

1st Marine Division Tour:

September 13 - 20, 2003



Our 1st Marine Division Tour will place us in Inchon on September 15, the Anniversary of 1950's Inchon Landing. We will also tour sites of the Battle for Seoul, the Hwachon Reservoir - Punchbowl battles and the Panmunjom "Western Front" Area. All are welcome on this tour.

China Extension Tour

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. Traveling Independently? We offer discounted air fare (ex., Los Angeles - Korea Round-trip: \$650 + tax); Call for information

2004 Tours

2nd Infantry Division Battlefield Tour:

April 4 - 13, 2004

Visit battlesites of the "Indianhead" Division - Bloody Ridge, Heartbreak Ridge, Hoengsoeng, etc.., and visit with the active duty 2ID, now stationed at Camp Red Cloud (Uijongbu) and Camp Casey (Tongduchon), Korea.

40th and 45th Infantry Division Tour:

April 14 - 22, 2004

We commemorate the two Federalized National Guard Divisions, the California (40ID) and Oklahoma (45ID). All Vets - Guardsmen and Regular Army - are welcome. Visit battles of both units - Heartbreak Ridge, Punchbowl, Iron Triangle, etc.





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Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

California Remembers



Ventura County KWVA Chapter #56 paid for 12 signs as shown in photo. They are placed over 44 miles of Highway 126 between Highway 101 (Ventura County) and Highway 5 (Los Angeles County).

Pennsylvania Remembers

The Korean War Monument in Shippensburg, PA There are two (2) of these monuments at the entrance to Shippensburg Memorial Park. The one on the left side list the WWII Veterans and the one on the right side list the Korean War Veterans.



Illinois Remembers



Korean War Memorial in Kennedy Park, Chicago, IL.

Colorado Remembers



On Memorial Day, celebrated 26 May 03, I visited the Colorado State Veterans Center. Homelake, Colorado. On the drive to Homelake I passed the newly erected highsigns that way announce the Colorado Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway and the 38th Parallel. The Highway is approximately 116 miles in length and is



located in Southwestern CO. It is about 116 miles long, rectangular in shape and the 38th Paralell crosses it twice. Quite unusual but appropriate for the Memorial Highway. (Walter Walko in photo and took both photos.)

The legislators who introduced it in-the Colorado Legislature are State Senator Lewis H. Entz (a Korean War Veteran) and State Representative John Salazar. They also got the approval for the Korean War Veterans vehicle license plates which are now being issued. We Colorado Korean War Vets certainly owe those gentlemen for their efforts and diligence.

Ohio Remembers

Last June the President and Vice President of the Greene County Chapter # 125 made a presentation to the Superintendent and school board members of the Xenia Community Schools. The topic of the presentation was that there was nothing honoring the veterans who had attended the Xenia Schools through out all wars. There was a large number of former students who were wounded and quite a few gave their lives in past wars. The Superintendent thought it was a great idea and he accepted the challenge. He got the school board members to go along with the project and formed a committee to raise the funds needed for the

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The Xenia Alumni Veterans Memorial in Veterans Field is located on the north side of Business US 35 in Xenia, Ohio at the football field west toward Dayton, Ohio. The memorial is the same on both sides so that it can be viewed from the highway and the football field. It is lighted for night viewing. At the Dedication was Greene County Chapter # 125 members identified Left to Right: Charles Kyle, George Funderburg, William McKenzie, James Rogers, William Griffey, Robert Dale Anderson (Pres.), and William Brumma.

project. All funds came from private individuals and local businesses in the community. The memorial was dedicated on Memorial Day 2003. In less than one year the funds were collected and the memorial was constructed. This shows what can be accomplished when you get the right people behind a worth while project. The Greene County Chapter is proud to have been the catalyst for this project and we now have a beautiful memorial to honor all of the Alumni Veterans of the Xenia Schools who served in all wars.

Delaware Remembers



Delaware KWVA bugler George Taylor is pictured beside the Delaware Korean War Memorial following the dedication on Memorial Day.

Memorial Guards Dick Trager (L) and Bill Hendricks are pictured with the newly dedicated Delaware War Memorial. A detachment of Delaware KWVA.Honor Guards stands in front of the Delaware Korean War Memorial.





MG Frank Vavala, Adj. Gen. of the Del. National Guard and Frank Howerton, Vice Cmdr. of Chapter #2 KWVA.

Kansas Remembers

The Kansas Korean War Memorial in Veterans Memorial Park, Wichita honors the men and women from the state who served in Korea for their struggles and sacrifices under trying circumstances in service to their country and the cause of freedom and is dedicated to those that made the supreme sacrifice.





Continued on page 64

Rutgers University Alumni Honored

On the morning of June 25th, 2002 five members of the 6147th Tac Con Gp, Mosquito Association, arrived on to the campus of Old Oueens Rutgers University. Their visit by invitation, was submitted by the Commander(Col Randall S. Lanning, USAF) his Cadre and Cadets of the Air Force ROTC, Det 485. The cordial invite was for a Korean War Monument Dedication in memory of Captain Wilbur S. Darby, USAF, who was killed in action during air strike operations as pilot of his T6 aircraft in Korea, October 24, 1952. Captain Darby an alumini of Rutgers in the year 1940, received great honorable mention this day to his heroism not only as a pilot with the 6147th Tac Con Gp, but the Silver Star and Bronze Star Medal awarded for his duties as a Forward Air Controller with the 6150th Tac Con Sq prior to his last flight.

The bronze plague dedicated at the campus was unveiled by Capt Darby's wife and Col. Lanning. Special reading was made by one of Capt. Darby's daughters; Mrs Joan "JED" Chang representing the Darby Family. It was noted that JED wore proudly around her neck the Silver Star and Bronze Star awarded her

Plaque in ground at Rutgers University

ERECTED IN TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED IN MEMORY OF APT. WILBUR S. DARB RUTGERS CLASS OF 1 KILLED IN ACTION OCTOBER AMI POTC TROTE AND THE TOTAL T

Our President for the Mosquito Association, Mr. Dan McConaghy of RI.



Sharp ROTC Cadets.

Captain Wilbur S. Darby (1918 —1952)



Wilbur Smith Darby was born 27 September 1918 in Elizabeth, New Jersey to parents Florence and Azel Darby. He attended the Thomas

Jefferson Elementary School. Wilbur was a graduate of the class of 1936 from Thomas Jefferson High School. In the fall of that same year, he enrolled at Rutgers College.

Known as "Fuzzy" by his Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity brothers, Wilbur developed a reputation of being a ladies man. His greatest popularity, however, stemmed from his athletic pursuits. Throughout his athletic career, he earned many awards for his achievements. Wilbur participated in water polo, 150 pound football, lacrosse, and swimming. He won the Eastern Collegiate Swimming Association Medal for the 200 meter relay and was Junior A.A.U. Champion for several years. In total, Darby captured 22 swimming awards as well as lettering in football and lacrosse. After so much success in athletics, Wilbur managed to earn a degree in Physical Education.

After teaching for two years, Darby enlisted in the Army Air Corps. He saw tour duty in Iceland, Northern Ireland, England, North Africa, and Egypt before going to India. While flying in the Army Air Corps, he flew 89 combat missions, functioning as either a bombardier or a navigator in B-24s during WWII. Lt. Darby was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross after sinking a Japanese freighter he encountered on a lone mission. He was also the recipient of the Air Medal with oak leaf cluster.

Captain Wilbur Smith Darby was killed in combat on 24 October 1952, while flying a "Mosquito" mission over Korea.

father. Present to speak on behalf of the Mosquitos was our President, Dan McConaghy who did an excellent job in a speech about our Association and commanding a special salute toward the plague from the remaining Mosquitos; Johnny Abbotts, Fred Holmes, Sam Gattenella and Dick Souza.

We were treated with respect from Col Lanning's Staff and his Cadets. We left that day with thought that the future of our US Air Force will be in good hands in the future.

It was a great day for all and I believe mostly for us as we looked at a monument that had Mosquito History. The ROTC planners decided to include onto the plague the Mosquito emblem which we were proud to see.

We said our fairwell to home from the University that day, content and proud to have been there. On the way home we passed the resting place of this man we honored. In our hearts we gave him a final salute with knowing here in place rested a man who we know that day, felt an honor to himself, and the knowing not far, his name lives on for centuries to come. MAY HE REST IN PEACE.



Colonel Randell Lanning, Commander and Major Paul Pigeon, US Air Force Staff Members of the University.



Ms. JED Chang, Daughter of Capt Darby, wearing Silver and Bronze Stars awarded her father during his Forward Air Control duties with the 6150th TCS.



(L to R) Sam Gattinella of NH; Fred Holmes of MA; Johnny Abbots of NJ; and yours truly Dick Souza of MA.

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Another Hero Remembered

By R. D. Santora

LT.COL. Bert SANTORA (Ret.) -WWII veteran and POW in Korea (Nov. 1950 - Aug. 1953)

My aunt, Dr. Olga Santora, notified me of her brother's passing. Bert died Nov. 2, 2002 shortly after his 90th birthday (10/23/02).

Bert was drafted mid 1942-hoping for the USAAF. He was a school teacher and at 29 too old to be considered for pilot training. Instead the army thought he was good infantry material. He completed OCS, commissioned a 2nd LT., and following advanced infantry training landed in southern France -Aug.1944. He promptly rose to a Major in Patton's 80th Infantry Div. when wounded Nov. 27, 1944 near the German border. His rapid promotion was indicative of the battle intensity. He seldom talked about WWII but praised the close ground support of USAAF P-51s, P-47s and P-38s.



Lt. Col. Bert Santora identified as fourth man from left in the above Chinese photo.

Bert returned to the states after VE day and stayed in the Army. His rank dropped back to Caption but was shortly returned to Major and then to Lt. Colonel just before Korea.

In Korea Lt. Col. Santora was assigned as an advisor to the 7th ROK Division in Oct. 1950. His last letter home was from the Yalu River area just after China entered the "WAR". His 3rd Regiment was driven back by the Red attack and was saved from being cut off by the US 2nd Division and a UN artillery barrage.

He was reported missing as of Nov. 27, 1950, six years to the day after being wounded in Europe.

A month later the Chinese photo service sent several photos of unidentified captured Americans to US newspapers. Bert's wife and relatives thought they recognized him in one of the photos but we heard no word from him for over a year. He resisted communist indoctrination and refused to write home their propaganda. The communist eased up after the first year and he could write in his own words, with censorship restriction.

He survived 33 months of captivity and was released Aug. 1953 The first winter was brutal-many just gave up. He acknowl-

edged that he was one of the ten officers in the Chinese photo. Relatives picked him out as the officer on the left in the light jacket, with a gloved hand. Bert said that he is the one standing right in front of the one we identified.

He turned down WAR College and remained a Lt. Colonel retiring in the mid 60s to his hometown area of Oneonta N.Y. He and his wife had three children, the first a daughter, a year after being released in Korea. He was a much requested speaker at civic organization and patriotic events.

It is planned to have a military service Memorial Day in Meridale, N.Y. I have no information on any of the other officers in the photo-who they are or if they survived. I don't know if the photo has been seen/published since 1950/51-maybe some of your readers can supply additional information.

Contact Richard D. Santora, 207 E. Heather Road, Bel Air, MD 21014.

'B' Btry - 49 FA BN - 7th Inf Div

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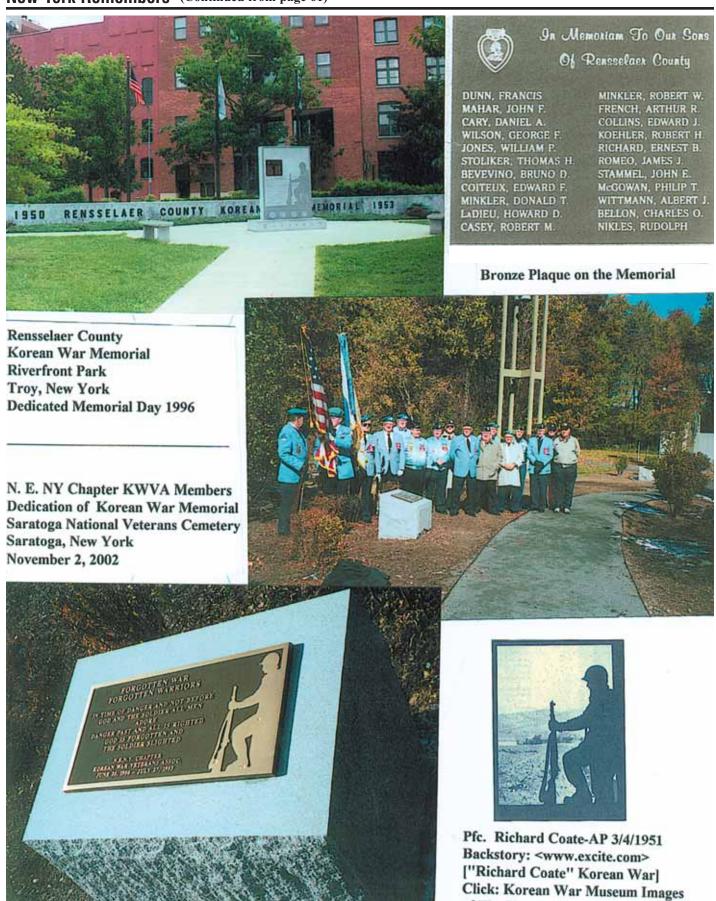
NOW HAVE FOUND 23,619 KOREAN WAR VETERANS. TO ADD TO THIS LIST OR DIS-COVER WHOM I HAVE FOUND GIVE A CALL.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS WHO WANT TO FIND BUDDIES NOW

MAY DO SO. NO FEES, IF I HAVE GUYS FROM YOUR UNIT, I PRINT AND MAIL THEM TO YOU. USUALLY HAVE THEIR NAMES, ADDRESSES, PHONE#'S AND UNITS SERVED IN.

THIS MAKES MY LIFE ALL WORTHWHILE.

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PO BOX 8946 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. 23450-8946
1-800-523-4715 * msglgal@aol.com
NATIONAL XMAS REUNION 8-11 DEC, 2003



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of The Korean War Page

Keystone Uniform Cap

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Manufacturers of Quality Uniform Headwear

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Item:	Description:		Units	Price Ea.	Extension
Ft. Knox Cap:	Navy Blue Overseas Cap with a Square Cover at the Top. Cap has white trim and white letters, KWVA on the Flap, and Embroidered 2" patch sewn on the left side.			\$16.95	
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Additional S & H charge per item			\$.50		
		Total Order In All Orders are I with check or m	Paid in Adv noney order	vance r.	
Embroidery Left	side of Cap	Embroidery I	Right Side	of Cap	

Looking for...



The **96th FA Bn**. is looking for members who served in Korea from Sept. 1950 to July 1958. We have 444 members located and on our roster. Our Assn. is active with reunions and comradeship. Please contact Arnold Anderson, HC 83 Box 116A, Custer, SD 57730. Phone 605/673-6313.

*

I am trying to have my Army DD-214 Discharge corrected. My name is Cpl. Robert W. Sanford and I served in Korea with HQ. CO. & HQ., 194th Combat Engineer Bn. in the Heavy Equip. Section as a 6 ton truck/trailer operator from Oct. 1951-Aug. 1952. We moved around Korea several times but when I rotated the unit was at Kumwha, North Korea. All of my Buddies knew me as Sandy (our Korean House Boy, Kim, called me Shindy). I was discharged from Camp Rucker, Alabama in Jan. 1953 after spending only 53 days there following reassignment. Some of the statements on my DD-214 were not correct when it was typed and after reviewing it with authorities after checking my records at that time, I was promised that a new one would be made out and mailed to my then home address. It NEVER CAME. I thought about pursuing it several times but at age 21 at that time, it was never one of my priorities, so pursuit was always put off until later. Well, later finally arrived and I started trying to get it squared away early in 2002.

I filled out the proper forms with the help of veteran representatives. The Dept. of The Army came back and told me that my military records were destroyed in a fire in 1973 in The Personnel Records Keeping Bldg. in St. Louis, Missouri and that changes could not be made unless I could prove to them with documentation that I actually served in Korea. So now I need help from anyone out there who remembers me. The reason that I want to get my DD-214 corrected now is I have given this a lot of thought lately. I have a copy of my Fathers and his Fathers discharges which I treasure and now that I am almost 73 years old, I know my children (now grown) and my grandchildren would feel the same way about my discharge also, but, I want it to be right—- the way it should have been from the beginning. I would like to have it as part of my legacy that I leave behind. Can you help me?? My home address is 432 Walnut Hill Road, san@aol.com>.

*

We are looking for a **Salvotore Russo** who served with C Btry, 92nd Armored Field Artillery Battalion (Red Devils). He came from the Douglas Street area down near the Brooklyn Water Front. Contact Pete Taormina, 1011 SW 16 St., Boynton Beach, FL 33426. Tel: 516-732-8881- E-mail <taorminap@yahoo.com>.

*

For some time now I have been trying to find out anything about the **Korean War DMZ Line.** Somewhere, sometime, somehow, surveyors staked out and monumented the boundaries of the DMZ. As an artillery surveyor in Korea in 1950-51 with the 8221st AU, Field Artillery, Topographic & Meteorological Detachment, I am looking for anyone or anybody that can shed

some light on this mission. Somebody or unit had to have had the mission and had to have documented the survey. Contact CW3 Michael C.J. Kaminski, USAR Ret. E-mail <mcjk.8152@worldnet.att.net>



Trying to locate **Sgt. Walter Six** who was a Marine photographed in Korea. He and Sgt. Scinto filmed much of the Chosin Reservoir battles. I would like to communicate with Sgt. Six, if possible, before the Annual Reunion of B-1-5 which will take place in Sept. to discuss the film they made. I hope to have the video of it to show at the reunion and would like to discuss it with him beforehand. Contact Milton H. Donaldson at <mickeyed1932@earthlink.net>.



Am trying to locate members of **Hq. Co., 6th QM Group** who served in Pusan and in Inchon during the period of Sept. 1951 through Jan. 1953. Contact Keith Lovekamp, 216 Wayne Ave., Stuarts Draft, VA 24477. Tel: 540-337-3736 or E-mail at <lovekamp@cfw.com>.



Nearly forty members of the 8221st Army Unit, formed to provide weather and survey data to the X Corps Field Artillery (Korea 1950-1954), will attend the 50th Year Anniversary of the Korean War Cease Fire in Washington D.C. on July 27. They will gather first at Gettysburg PA, from their homes in all parts of America, and then go by bus to the D.C. ceremony. The 8221st F.A. Topo. & Met. Detachment had its initial combat experience with the invasion of N. Korea at Hungnam. Support of the field artillery and air operations by this unit of 50 specialists continued until the cease-fire was declared. Approximately 150 soldiers rotated in and out of the Unit's complement during the history of the 8221st. Come and join us. Contact James Nibbe at e-mail <jnibbe5@yahoo.com> Michael Kaminski or <mcjk.8152@worldnet.att.com>.



Brilliant, embroidery, **11" Red White & Blue logo**, suitable for back of jacket, is available at a cost of \$15.50. Allow 2 weeks for delivery. Contact Jerry Guinn, Chapter # 168 KWVA, PO Box # 6713, Rock Island, IL 61204-6713. Or E-mail at <four-duce@qconline.com>



Christmas in July is not an original title, but it is appropriate for the story of Christmas Hill in July 1953 fighting until the very end. It was written by over 20 veterans of the **2nd Bn**, **180t Inf.**, **1st Bn.**, **179th Inf.**, **B Bat.**, **145th AAA AW (SP)**, **45th Inf. Div**. It also includes a little about the **5th RCT and PEFTOK**. It is on the web at <www.northcoast.com/~dogface> or at the webpage of Humboldt State University (don't forget the d). Click on "Departments." Click on "History." Scroll down to "Dogface" The story is intended for historians of the future as well as veterans and their families. It is free and fully downloadable. Contact Donald W. Nicol at E-mail <muddog@northcoast.com>



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Looking for veterans to attend **The Oregon Trail Chapter KWVA Event.** I would like to inform the veterans that we are planning a major commemoration ceremony of the end of the Korean War. The ceremony will take place on July 26, 2003, at the Oregon Korean War Memorial in Wilsonville, Oregon, between 10 am and noon. Wilsonville is a southwest Portland suburb, and is located on Interstate 5. Highway signs can direct drivers to the memorial. We have planned to have a military band, notable guest speakers, static displays of military hardware, and plenty of patriotism! The public is invited to attend. Contact Loren Mitchell e-mail <Lahom03@aol.com> or Tel: (503) 670-1382)



I am giving away Korean bumper stickers to veterans. My mother (Joan) and dad (Harry) died recently and in their honor I had printed bumper stickers that say "Proud Son of a Korean War Veteran" and Proud Daughter of a Korean War Veteran." The stickers are 3" x 11 1/2". This is the second batch of stickers I had made. The first time I ordered 250 of each. I kept about 30 of each and sent the rest to the IMJIN Chapter in southern Illinois. I took it upon myself to contact people who identified themselves as children of a Korean War Veteran. I have sent out several stickers to those who responded. Some of them folded a basic business envelope self addressed and stamped and I put the sticker in there. I have not heard of anyone complaining of a creased sticker. Usually they put two stamps on the envelope and that was more than enough. Again though, I only have 500 of each. I don't care who gets them or how they are distributed, I wish I could pay for over 18,000 but I just can't do that. Hopefully someone will take up where I leave off and continue this. Contact Jim Reime at E-mail <save our guns@hotmail.com>



I received an email from a Rick Suarez I-3-7 KO CF 50/51. He thought you might be able to help me get info on my uncle **James A. Stevens**. He was KIA on 2-12-1951. He was in the 38th Inf. Div, Reg. 2, I Co., Army . I am trying to find someone who knew him. A man named David Sowell brought James belongings to my grandmas house but I do not know if he is still alive. Rick tells me when his Marine Div. came upon the area where James was killed they only found 2 survivors. Contact Susi at Email address
bilger@webound.com>

(Susi and I exchanged several E-mails. Susi and I now think he was KIA in Wonju. Being in the 2nd I.D and knowing many of my friends died in the February battles pushing the Chinese and North Koreans back across the 38th Parallel. I had just left the 2nd I.D. the last of January 1951 due to my brother being MIA. I hope in a later issue to print what was sent to Susi hoping to help closure on her KIA Uncle. Veterans we can all help others including Susi listed in our Looking For section. I have many books on the 2nd I.D. and Morning Reports [3,000 pages for 3 years.])—Ed)



I served in Korea August 1952 to April 1953, I was part of the Forward Observer Team, **25th Inf. Div., Btry. B, 8th Field Artillery.** Would like any contact from members of same, also you "Wolfhounds", 27th Infantry Regiment men, I served with, and information on that special 90 to 105 mm. piece that you men

fired directly on the MLR at our enemy. Contact Alex Boboc, #41B, 1655 Post Road East, Westport CT. 06880. Tel: 203-319-0643.



I have been trying to locate an old Marine Corps buddy by the name of **William J. Haberman, Jr.** who's last known address was York, Nebraska. Contact Gordon W. Provost, 500 Ocean Street, Unit 18, Hyannis, MA 02601.



I am trying to find anyone who might have served with me, especially in Korea with **7th Inf. Div., 32nd Regt., 2nd Bn, Co. H.** I went into Army April 4, 1951, after taking my basic training at Fort Ord, CA. we were sent to Japan. Stayed in an old Japanese Barracks, till sent into Korea. I was then sent to Korea. Probably in July or August, 1951. There I soon lost track of where we were, as I was trying to stay alive. If I remember right we went to the Chinese and Russian border. Sgt. Told about 5 of us to go look around. I don't remember how I got back.

The 2nd division was sent out to front line. Their commander kept sending them out till only around 20 some where left. We had to relieve them. We were told our records would be lost if we said anything, and they were.

We had the Ethiopians assigned to our company. They went out at night, and would kill enemy and bring back their heads. They would let out the most horrible noise as they killed the enemy.

We were known as tin can because we hung tin cans all around side of hill. This let us know when anyone approached. We also strung hand grenades around bunker, so one pull on the trip wire would set it all off.

One black soldier always moved very slow. We kept telling him move faster after a shell landed right near him, he moved very fast from then on.

One soldier kept telling us what he was going to do when he got off those hills. We told only two ways to get off early. Die or be totally crazy. He took a bunch of hand grenades and started throwing then everywhere.

Enemy fire broke lose. Don't know what happened to him. I was checking telephone wire up on a hill. A shell landed beside me and I fell off the hill. It was about 2 stories high. Went to medic he took a piece of steel out of knee, put some white powder on it and bandage. I was sent back out on patrol.

Upon returning to the states I was assigned to 9th AAA Gun Bn. at Fort Winfield, Scott, CA. I was discharge from active duty, Jan. 1953, but held in ready reserves till Jan. 1959.

I am enclosing some pictures I took while over there hope someone recognize where we are and who the soldiers are. Would like very much to hear from anyone who was in Co. H. Contact Milton Friesenhahn, 3636 S. Ranch Drive, Ponca City, OK 74601. Tel: 580-765-8826.

(Sorry Milton, Photos are not good quality. I suggest you take them to a photo store and have all three printed on one glossy sheet photo paper. It costs under \$1. Return the copy back to me along with your printed request for each photo. Also lower case type is best for me. Also if you went to the Chinese and Russian border in July or August in 1951 you would have ended up as a

KIA or POW. The last time any part of the 8th army was that far north was late Nov.-Dec. of 1950. The 7th I.D. suffered heavy losses at the Chosin in Nov.-Dec. 1950. Falling off that hill sure hurt your memory. Maybe you have your year of going to Korea wrong. Thanks. Editor.)



I am trying to find **Edward Foute** or **James W. Sweitz.** I remember them from the 45th Inf. Div., 180th Regt., HQ Co., 1st Bn. Contact Al Ratner, 7233 Lugano Drive, Boynton Beach, FL 33457. Tel: 561-742-3901.



Al Ratner, left, with buddy from Brooklyn, NY.



Al Ratner, left, with Jim (?) from Connecticut



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KWVA, P.O. Box 276, Noblesville, IN 46061 or Fax 317-776-2693.



I am looking for anyone with L Co. 3rd Bn. 38th Reg. 2nd Div. Contact Donald Kindt, 6198 Wilson Road, Butler, Ohio 44822. Tel: 419-883-3925.



Looking for **Jim Beyersdorf**, Sam Fingerhut, Bill Harver, Bob Rapp and Bill Rotherberg and others. They served with me in the US Army from 4/5/51 to 4/5/53. After four months of basic training in Kentucky at Camp Breckinridge I was sent to C.I.C. School and then to German language School in Baltimore, Md. I was finally sent to a C.I.C. unit in Heildelberg, Germany in 1951 and was with this unit until I was discharged in 1953. Contact John J. Garra, 200 Clinton Street, Apt. 31, Brooklyn, NY 11201-5631.



laps

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.)

Arkansas

★ Sam H. Taylor

Connecticut

★ John Andros

Florida

- ★ Jeremiah T. Hayes
- ★ Don R. Pool

Georgia

★ John W. Wyatt, Sr.

Hawaii

★ Young Chang Chun (ROK)

Illinois

- ★ Walter O. Brey
- * Ronald J. Potts
- ★ Walter A. Schaller

Indiana

* Walter G. Roemke

Kentucky

★ Rodney L. Oldham

Maine

* Armand Chstonquay

Massachusetts

- ★ Merle M. Crocker
- * Arthur C. Young

New York

- ★ Lawrence H. Cavanaugh, Sr.
- ★ James M. Ecklund
- ★ Richard Hochheimer
- ★ Clarence R. May
- * Robert J. McCallister
- ★ John C. McCullough
- * Albert F. Newman

- * Alfred J. O'Marra
- ★ William Orman
- ★ Patrick A. Panfile
- ★ Harry Edwin Smith
- ★ Dominic Testa

Ohio

- ★ George Belon
- * Ray Edward Bowersock
- ★ Delbert D. Himebaugh
- * Patricia J. Himebaugh
- ★ David Storer
- * Edward G. Wright

Oklahoma

* Alvin E. Meir

South Carolina

- ★ Joseph A. P. Duheme
- ★ Jack R. Moore
- ★ John D. "Buddy" Palmer

South Dakota

- * Leonard C. Cottrill
- ★ Wallace F. Hale
- ★ Gordon J. Hanson
- ★ Marvin G. Telkamp
- ★ Theodore R. Wilder

Virginia

- * Lloyd R. Davis
- * Edward Markart
- ★ Charles "Chuck" Thoms

Wyoming

★ John A. "Jack" Tarter

Unknown State

* Rudy M. Aguilar

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Al	PPLICATION FO	OR KWVA REVI	SIT TOURS			
KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose: "To expr United States who took part in the Korea	ess the gratitude n War from June	of the Korean Gov 25, 1950 to July 2	vernment towards K 17, 1953." (Eligibili	orean War Ve ty below).	eterans of the	
Please check year of desired revisit tour:	Month:	ril 🗖 June 🗖 July	y □ Sept. □ Nov	Year: □	2003 🗖 2004	
VETER	AN'S PERSONA	AL HISTORY (PI	ease print or type)			
Veteran's Name:			Date of Birth:_		_ Sex:	
KWVA Membership #						
Name of family member and relationship:		Date of	Birth:		_ Sex:	
Address:		State: _	Zip Code:			
Home Phone:						
Veteran's Soc Sec #						
Have you previously received the Korean War Medal from the Korean Veterans Assn in Seoul, Korea? No Yes						
Have you received the medal elsewhere?	If so, where? _			Date		
		MILITARY BIOG				
Branch of Service:	Service	Number:				
Period of Service in Korean War, from:	(Month/Year Arrive	ed) to	(Montl	n/Year Departed)	
Unit Assigned:	Locatio	on of Unit:				
Rank Achieved in Korea:	Highes	t Rank Achieved:				
Personal Military Decorations:						
☐ I hereby certify that I have never previ	ously accepted a	KVA (Seoul) Revi	isit Tour.			
Veteran's Signature:				Date _		
Please complete and mail, with deposit of	\$250 per person	, (check or money	order), made out to	Military His	storical Tours. (This	

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

deposit is fully refundable at anytime and for any reason, since there are more applicants than the limited amount of Revisit space available.) KWVA Revisit Program, c/o Military Historical Tours, Inc., 4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304,

Background

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

Tel: 703-212-0695 Fax: 703-212-8567.

KVA Eligibility

- A. Korean War veterans and/or war correspondents of the 21 nations which came to the assistant of the Republic of Korea between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953.
- B. Immediate family member of those killed in action in the Korean War.

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

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

Privileges Extended Courtesy of KVA

- A. Hotel accommodations (2 persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation while in Korea for 6 days and 5 nights.
 - B. Tour of Seoul and its vicinity: itinerary

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

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

Miscellaneous

- A. The KVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
- B. Participants are required to be in possession of a valid passport. (A visa is not required for visits to Korea of 15 days or less.)
- C. KVA (Seoul) is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of life due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip insurance is available and recommended.

- D. The cost of the airline ticket must be borne by each individual visitor who will fly with the group.
- E. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, First-serve" basis.

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

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

BOOK REVIEW from page 10

ities between countries.

My book is set in a wartime period, the Korean War, and the clandestine airborne operations that were conducted. Of course, if one studies the terrain on the Peninsula of Korea, especially the northern portion, it is easy to see the terrain's influence on operations by planners and operational staffs in both BAKER SECTION and AVIARY, the two operational elements that conducted the airborne missions.

From the planner's standpoint, the mountainous terrain offered potentially good sustaining bases for the partisan, while the airborne planners looked for small, reasonably secure drop zones in these mountainous areas. Additionally, both coasts of North Korea also offered a chance for the air dropped team to exfiltrate and be picked-up by off-shore boats that were standing by for their recovery. The other more difficult escape alternative was land exfiltration through both enemy and friendly lines where many agents were inadvertently killed or wounded by friendly forces. The resort to clandestine airborne missions, against targets that were accessible resulted in a great loss of personnel.

A few words need to be devoted to the US personnel who participated in these operations. Some lost their lives, some were critically wounded and disabled for life, some became prisoners of war, while the remainder finished their military careers and also fought several times again before retiring. These men are heroes and deserve great praise for their service that was so closely held as secret until the past few years.

The Author

Colonel Dillard enlisted at Fort McPherson, Georgia July 3, 1942, at the age of 16. Recruit training done at Camp Walters, Texas, then the Parachute School at Fort Benning, Georgia, Class Number 29, November, 1942. Colonel Dillard retired 30 September 1977 after serving thirty-five years on active duty.

102 pages; paperback; ISBN 1-55369-789-8; US \$20.00 (Can \$30.60) To order write to: COL Douglas C. Dillard, USA (Ret.), 12114 Long Ridge Lane, Bowie, MD 20715

(A great book with information that many Korean War Veterans never heard about. The actions of these Special Forces Heroes is the reason many if not most us came home. See Ad. Editor.)



Sacrificial Lambs

By Raymond C. Colton, Sr.

Pusan Perimeter

A rush of thoughts went through my mind as we headed back to action. "I don't want to die. I am only eighteen years old. I've never married, never been treated as an adult. I never completed my education. I never had sex with the girl back home. I don't want to die, but I don't want to let my buddies down. I don't want to be judged yellow. As scared as I am, I don't have a choice. I must face the worst danger and try to be the type of soldier that I always dreamed I would be. I know I have lots of company.

With the way that we were trained and equipped, and with our grand pay of seventy-two dollars a month, it's asking a lot for us to go through hell day and night. Also, you must realize that we had been offered up as "sacrificial lambs" who must die, if need be, to buy a few more days for our Army to get more soldiers to the action. Certainly, the United States, a great world power, could not stand the embarrassment of defeat by a peasant army. Our military was in a horrible state thanks to budget cuts. Beyond safety and common sense, little else mattered. Our best equipment and highly-trained troops were all in Europe where the Russians presented the only danger that Washington was able to see. Since a price had to be paid, we were directed to pay the price for this bungling error, and pay we did. Our three weakest regiments were chopped to pieces in early July at Osan, Pyongtaek Kum River, Taejon and our division commander became a prisoner of war. Those who were not dead, wounded, or prisoners of war, made their tortured way back to Yongdong where we met the First Cavalry Division, also weak and totally unaware of the hell that was about to swoop down upon them. My day of horror came on 25 of April.

Shortly after the beginning of the firefight. We heard the first mortar round thump as it was fired. It struck on the front slope. Seconds later, round two was fired and fell on the back slope directly to our rear. I heard the thump of the third round and seconds later, I was floating in an orange cloud. Shortly after, consciousness returned to me and was followed with the feeling of a hot poker going through my chest. That's how it felt to be hit, but the good part was very little consciousness to have to suffer through. The medic was crying because he was out of just about everything, including morphine surrettes. Believe me, medics take their jobs seriously and they were some of the greatest heroes in Korea.

The Author

Raymond Colton studied at Bryan College and Western New England College. Employment roles included Quality Control Manager, Production Control Manager, a Purchasing Agent and Aircraft parts Buyer. He is a member of many prestigious military groups such as the Disabled American Veterans, a Member of Veterans' Foreign Wars. Colton is currently retired and on the Board of Directors. He resides in Connecticut.

Purchase book from Ivy House Publishing Group, 5122 Bur Oak Circle, Raleigh, NC 27612. Contact: Christine McTaggart, Editor in Chief. Tel: 919-782-0281, Fax at 919-781-9042, or E-mail at <cmctaggart@ivyhousebooks.com>. Price: \$15.95, Size: 5.5" x 8.5", Pages: 140, ISBN: 1-57197-349-4, LC #: 2002 113072, Binding: Paperback.

(Raymond's title gives you a strong flavor of what this proud division and its men went through the early days of the war and during his days in Korea. You can also follow the many months of recovery after April 25 and up to today. Another great story of a true hero remembering his and others sacrifices. A must read. Editor.)



Korea, I was there

By Harold L. Gamble

The Book

KOREA, THE LAND OF THE MORNING CALM

We made port in Pusan, Korea, just before lunchtime on Monday, 21 July 1950, without further incident. As the ship

Page 70 The Graybeards

was docking, I was standing by the railing watching the activities when my view was suddenly drawn to a Korean woman sitting on the dock next to a building. She smiled up at us. She had a small baby in her arms. As she held the baby, I noticed that she was picking lice nits from the hair of her baby and as she did this, she would look up and smile at us. Welcome to Korea! These civilians were all refugees crowding the dock. Where were they going? Better yet, where could they go? This was for all practical purposes, the end of the line for them.

The war in simple terms was on the doorsteps of Pusan. We of the 29th Infantry, in a scant few hours, would become embroiled in some terrible events and in one of the bloodiest wars of this century. When we departed the ship, it was in two sections for each battalion. The first off would march to the train depot and ride to Chinju with the second section traveling by road convoy to Chinju.

When our convoy departed the dock area and moved through Pusan, the crowds along the roadside were unbelievable. Koreans were standing side by side as far as I could see. They were cheering us on. I have never seen so many people.

I was a medic in the Pacific Theater during WWII and I wanted our medical platoon to have weapons to protect themselves and our wounded.

THE HADONG MASSACRE

The 3rd Battalion 29th Infantry Regiment was ordered to Hadong to clear out some 300 Communist guerrillas. They departed just shortly after midnight. The unit was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Harold Mott and in his company was General Chae, who had just been relieved as Commanding General of the South Korean forces. He would act as guide and interpreter since he was familiar with the area. Even so, this did not help the men of the 3rd Battalion. They would fall into one of the worst massacres of a modern military unit in recent history.

At the Hadong Pass, most of the battalion staff officers were killed or wounded. No one was left to give direction and leadership. The command of the battalion was passed to Captain Sharra. By that time, there was much confusion and the troops were surrounded on three sides.

The Editor

Author Harold Gamble, who served as a medic with the 29th Infantry, has documented the experiences of the unit in a book that illumines the hardships and exhaustion, the terror and emotional pain felt by the soldiers who served there. Only 25 years old at the time, he was part of the occupying force of Okinawa when the call came in 1950 for troops to go to Korea, and he trained even younger medics on the troopship that took them to an uncertain future.

The focus of Gamble's book is the grit and heroism of the men he served with. Even against overwhelming odds, they persisted to achieve their military objectives. The greatest crises for the unit were the devastating ambushes at Anui and Chinju Pass, and the battle for the Pusan Perimeter. Included in the book are the extended accounts of two prisoners of war who were freed after years in captivity.

Tending the wounded and dying for more than two years left Gamble with a permanently heavy heart and a desire that others should know of the greatness of the 29th Infantry in Korea.

(I will stop here and only tell you that history relates to Jul 25-26 Hadong Ambush. 29th Regimental Combat Team (RCT) is committed to combat near Chinju, and its 3rd 3n. (757 men) are decimated: 313 KIA and 100 captured. Many personal stories can be found in this book on that battle and many more. Many POW stories of men in his unit is covered in the Book. I bet some of them were with my twin brother who was captured on the 1st of December and went to Camp #5 also.

The stories lead me to believe this. A POW mentions a driver by name from my battery "D" of the 82nd AAA Bn. I did not know him by name. A special book about true heroes of the Korean War. Harold wants America to remember our war and their experiences. 335 pages of text.

The above text will give you great insight of events experienced by Harold and his unit. This book can be purchased for \$20.00 plus \$2.00 S & H. Contact Harold Gamble, 475 7th Ave. Pleasant Grove, Al 35127. Tel: 205-744-0159. Editor.)

Tent Pegs and 2nd Lieutenants By John W. Harper

Introduction

As listed in the chronology at the end of this introduction, the Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when the North Korean Peoples Army invaded South Korea. The most dramatic events all took place within the first year of fighting, leading too many people to believe that there was no real war thereafter.

Nothing could be farther from the truth. Thousands on both sides were killed and wounded during the following two-plus years, as real estate changed hands and the armies battled for a position of strength to take to the armistice negotiating tables during the interminable "peace" talks.

These memoirs and stories begin in July 1951, when I joined the First Marine Division in North Korea. During the preceding period of April, May and June, the Division had been in continuous action against the attacking Chinese Communist Forces and the North Korean Peoples Army. The Marine Division was part of the United Nations forces, which had defeated and forced into retreat this third powerful offensive by the Communist armies.

In July, the respective armies had stabilized their front lines while attempting "cease-fire and armistice" talks.

In August, 1951, the negotiations fell apart. The United Nations forces resumed their attacks deeper into North Korea. Within months, the attacks forced the Communist armies to resume negotiations. By late 1951, both armies had assumed static, "stand-off" postures.

NORTH KOREA - SEPTEMBER 20-21 1951

We had trained all summer until September 6, when the Marine Division had deployed to join the renewed UN attacks into North Korea. Our Battalion had been held in reserve or in support of other attack Battalions the previous fourteen days. The NKPAs still showed fight after weeks of UN and Marine Division attacks. On September 20, our Battalion had been ordered to assault a ridge, officially Hill 854, designated by its height in meters. Our Company would climb it, attack and drive the NKPAs off its top or

kill or capture them all, and hold the ridge.

I had command of a rifle Platoon. The coming assault would be my first, if the NKPA rear guard stood its ground. More than a numbered topographic feature, Hill 854 dominated a chain of ridges which formed a natural line of defense in North Korea; a "frontier of state" for whoever held it.

The day of our attack the Company stepped off at a gentlemanly 0800 hours. The gravel road and bright Indian summer day made for good marching. The weather would allow close air support. I hadn't thought about that advantage, but someone else had.

(I stopped the battle story so you can enjoy this and 109 more pages of interesting personal experiences of the later years of the Korean War in the John Harpers words as I did. Look for Tent Pegs and 2nd Lieutenants at your local bookstore, or on Amazon.com.

You may also order it directly from the publisher in three ways. By telephone: Call 1-800-848-5224. By fax: Orders may be sent to 847-441-5617. By mail: Conversation Press, Inc., P.O. Box 172, Winnetka, IL 60093. Phone and fax orders must include your Visa or MasterCard number and expiration date. Mail orders may be by credit card or check made out to "Conversation Press, Inc." For the first book - Add \$3.00 For each additional book - Add \$.50. Hardcover book \$19.95 (ISBN 0-9634395-7-X) Softcover book \$13.95 (ISBN 0-9634395-8-8) Illinois residents add 7.75% sales tax to book subtotal. Another must read book. Editor.)



The College Bastards Go To War

By Bernard L. Young

Preface

Several books have been written, and many movies and short subjects filmed about the Korean War. All of these dealt with the fighting men, whether foot soldiers, Navy, or Air Force, and with the respect which they deserved. However,

KWVA Members and Friends

Visit the KWVA web site at:

HTTP://www.kwva.org

none of these movies or books has ever portrayed the rear echelon men, who also stood and waited and served.

For every fighting man on the front line there were seven or more who never fired a shot or had a glimpse of the enemy, yet they were indispensable if the fighting man was to continue his struggle, with whatever he needed. Therefore, this book is dedicated to all who served, wherever duty called, so that mankind may remain free from aggression; while showing the greatest admiration for those on the front lines.

There were countless men and women who drove trucks hauling ammunition, gas, food weapons, etc., and all of them had to eat and sleep and have clothes consequently, there were many cooks, bakers, quartermaster people, corpsmen, nurses, and doctors. And all these G.I.s, whether they unloaded ships, cooked, or built roads, ad infinitum; sometime got sick or injured. That's where medics like me came into the picture.

Mountains of equipment and vehicles had to be maintained and repaired. Oceans of gasoline and oil had to be unloaded, hauled, and distributed. Records had to be kept, men paid, M.P.s to direct traffic and keep order, bridges to be built. There were wires to be strung and switchboards to be operated. Airfields had to be built and maintained. And all these things were done. Each of us had a job to do whether we liked being in Korea or not.

And who did all these jobs? Guys like you and me and the fellow next door. We came from farms, factories, and businesses; some had never finished high school, and some were drafted right from college. Some had graduated from college and were working in professions and raising families. Some volunteered, while others were in the National Guard or an Army or Navy Reserve unit. But we came.

The Author

Bernard L. Young, graduated from Purdue University College of Pharmacy in 1950, one week before Korean War. Entered the Army from Peru, IN and was assigned to the 135th Medical Det., 163d Med Bn. which located north of Seoul in December 1951. They had eight enlisted men and one officer (Doctor) and was attached to the 44th Eng. Bn.

His first assignment as a medic was to go pick up five men, not knowing what kind of injuries, etc. It turned out all five had the tops of their head off and steam rising from inside their skulls due to the cold weather--- nothing he could do for them and a hell of a beginning!

Working with the doctor, he helped patch up wounded men and took care of the sick. Once the war had slowed somewhat, a semi-permanent dispensary was set up among the wreckage of buildings in Seoul. (548th general Disp.) He was transferred here to operate a Pharmacy and continue to take care of sick and injured, occasionally drive an ambulance, and made up pharmaceutical preparations for other medical units in South Korea who had no means of trained personnel.

After delivering three enlisted men to 163d Hqs. in Wonju for rotation home, was fired upon on the return trip as they drove through an area where a guerrilla mopping up operation was taking place.

Later was sent to pick up some men in 2d Inf. Div on "Old Baldy", got lost and inadvertently wandered through Chinese territory, but luckily without mishap.

He was awarded the Commendation Ribbon w/Medal Pendant by General Maxwell Taylor for aid man and Pharmacy work. Also awarded the Korean Service Medal w/3 Bronze Service Stars. Unit Commendation, and Korean President's Citation.

Returned to United States in May 1953 for separation, and became manager of a chain drug store in Evansville, IN. In 1956 he was nominated for the "Pharmacist of the Year Award". Worked for a total of 42 years. He lives with his wife Mariette in Muncie, IN.

(This great book is dedicated by Bernard Young to the families of over 33,000 who never came home and to those countries who participated on the side of the United Nations. I also feel it should be dedicated to the many Bernard Young's who served so honorably in the rear echelon. Everyone was needed and without soldiers like Bernard the 33,000 plus may have been increased by many thousands. This book is very special. 170 pages of great stories and photos of Korea. Cost \$24.95 plus \$1.50 postage. Order from Young Publications, P.O. Box 3388, Muncie, IN 47307. Editor.)

Page 72 The Graybeards

Korean War Medallion

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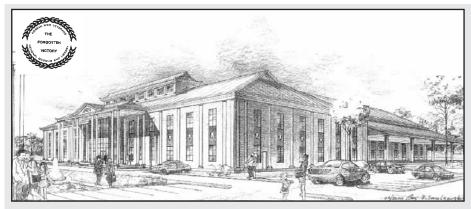
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Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library



KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

P.O. Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953

E-mail: kwmuseum@theforgottenvictory.org Web-Site: www.theforgottenvictory.org

Progress Report – July - August 2003 Museum Donations

Education and research was featured in our report last month. Our museum and our 50th Anniversary Observation will be featured this month. Our museum has been displaying the many artifacts being sent in by veterans across the United States. We have uniforms, guns, paintings, pictures and personal mementoes from many veterans. There are too many to list, but I would like to tell about some of the special artifacts that have been received lately.

Glenn Bitzer of Sparks, MD donated a North Korean flag made by a POW. He was sent overseas April, '52, when he joined Co. A, 64th TKN at Ujonbu May 3, '52. On May 5 he was moved by

Please add my name to your membership roll:

train to Pusan, where he boarded LST for trip to Koje-Do. He participated in restoring order after the prisoners rioted. One of the prisoners was waving the flag and gave it to Glenn. Glenn was a Gunner, Tank Cmdr. Areas of operations were Chorwon and Kumwha Units supported were 1st ROK Division and 9th ROK Division.

George L. Parks, Decatur, IL, donated a 3.5 Rocket Launcher. The Launcher is a very early M20 Model. Later lighter models were light aluminum with a different sight, and BiPod Legs, no protection plate and other modifications. He also donated several models of planes. Mr. Parks is a member of the KWVNM&L and volunteers on weekends.

WE NEED MORE NEW MEMBERS



I WANT YOU

During our 50th Commemoration Banquet on June 7, 2003, Mr. Gil Isham presented a ceremonial staff honoring all Native American Korean War Veterans to the KWVNM&L. Mr. Isham, is a KW veteran and a member of the KWVNM&L. The ceremonial staff represents the Oneida, Menominee, Potawatomi, Winnebago and the Chippewa tribes. Mr. Isham spent two years accumulating the feathers and wood for the staff. He assembled it in four days. Mr. Isham presented the staff to our President Jere Crise to be placed in the museum. (See photo lower right.)

We are still looking for donations of Korean War airplane models we could hang from the ceiling of the museum and library.

Sharon E. Corum Executive Secretary

KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY

Tuscola, Illinois

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Individual veteran or spouse (\$25/1 year)

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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

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NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY 50TH COMMEMORATION



Master of Ceremonies William Williams and Frank Delgado from Charles Parlier Chapter KWVA of Dacatur, IL perform POW/MIA Ceremony.



Mr. Gilbert Isham presents Ceremonial Staff to President Jere Crist at banquet.



Army veterans from Korean War standing at 50th Commemoration Banquet. 140 in attendance.



50th Commemoration Banquet Speaker, Col. Mary Mason from 50th Korean War Commemoration Committee



July 5, 2003 at Coles County Airport in Mattoon, IL. 50th Anniversary dedicated to Korean War Veterans. Working KWVNM&L display. Standing: Joe Matthews and Jack Corum. Seated: Rosie Matthews and Sharon Corum.



State of Illinois KWVA Department President, Clyde Fruth introducing speaker at Banquet.

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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
1 October, 2003	Mutual Defense Treaty	Seoul, Korea	Eighth US Army (EUSA)
11 November, 2003	Official Closing of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration	Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC	50th Commemoration Committee
11 November, 2003	Korean War Veterans Welcome Home Parade	New York City, NY	50th Commemoration Committee

(To be updated each issue as required. Go to www.Korea50.mil for current listings)

Mr. Charles Krohn, the Deputy Chief Public Affairs Civ from the Department of the Army Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, assumed oversight for the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee on 19 June 2003. Colonel Mary Joyce Mason assumed the role as Chief of Staff for the Committee and is responsible for its day to day operation.

Major General Nels Running (Retired) served as the Executive Director of the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee for three years. Sadly, his term ended 18 June 2003. Major General Running (Retired) did a magnificent job while serving as the Executive Director. He worked untiringly to thank and honor our Korean War veterans and their families for the sacrifices made over 50 years ago. He also spent numerous hours educating the American public about the Korean War veterans.

erans' great sacrifices and accomplishments that guaranteed the Republic of Korea's security and independence. During his tenure as Executive Director, more than 13,000 commemoration partners joined the DOD 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee in thanking and honoring Korean War Veterans and their families. A series of nation-wide educational events and commemoration programs were flawlessly conducted across America. These events included memorial services, parades, symposiums, receptions, media presentations, and various public displays. Major General Running (Retired) provided guidance as his staff began extensive planning for several special weekend events for 25-27 July 2003 which marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of the armistice. Major General Running (Retired) rendered outstanding service as the Executive Director and will be sorely missed.

Membership Application

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

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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 StarWives**. 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.

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Page 78 The Graybeards

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The Operation AVIARY story details the activities of US Army Rangers, WWII Airborne veterans and Special Forces trained personnel. Additionally it reveals the airborne experiences of Korean partisans, agents and Chinese agents who worked behind the lines, throughout the period of hostilities, as a force multiplier. Personnel losses were great and the activities of Soviet advisors are revealed that no doubt influenced these losses. A must read for the personnel of today's Special Operations Forces.

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The history of the Korean War remains unknown to far too many who owe gratitude to those whose courage, commitment and sacrifices secured a victory for freedom and democracy over communist aggression. Even deeper in the shadows of the unknown, lay the clandestine operations of 'special forces', whose actions often serve to enhance the conventional forces'. The men of "Operation AVIARY" were indeed force multipliers whose actions contributed immeasurably to the United Nations Command's victory over communist aggression.

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Korea 50 Years Ago



BRRR! Daniel taking a bath.



Souvenir enemy burp gun.



Evidence of fighting.



Heart Break Ridge.



140 MM Gun.



Blowing up a DUD Shell.



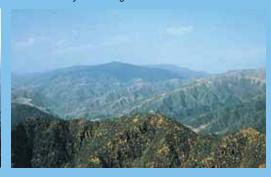
Incoming! PIA-RI Pass.



W.P. on Enemy-Mundung-Ni.



West of Mundung-Ni (You felt naked going down Commo trench), enemy on yonder hill.



Sand Bag Castle (Joe Stalin Hill in background)

Photos from D. J. Harrington, P.O. Box 971, Kimberling City, Missouri 65686. Tel: 417-739-4259 (120th Engineers in the Korean War.) (Thank you Daniel for photos. See March-April issue for other photos from Daniel and his unit in Korea. This will complete the group of photos you sent in. Editor.)

Limited Objectives & Digging In. (Hill Wars)

Through 1952 through 53, the two sides continued the pattern of patrols, probes, raids and limited-objective attacks that had characterized operations since November 1951. Van Fleet had his corps commanders take full advantage of reduced operations to improve their defenses. U.N. troops moved bunkers below the crest of hills, strengthened them to withstand light shelling from artillery and mortars, and repositioned automatic weapons to obtain the best fields of fire. Intelligence indicated the communists were doing the same thing, in many places extending the depth of their works 20 miles to the rear. In addition, the enemy forces brought forward more artillery and improved their techniques of massing fire. In one month alone, an estimated 102,000 artillery and mortar rounds fell on Eighth Army positions. In the mean time, U.N. forces tried ruses to inflict losses. In some cases, they withdrew outposts in the face of Chinese probes, allowed the enemy to occupy the abandoned positions, and then hit them with presighted artillery. Within an hour, the Chinese and North Koreans usually retreated with heavy casualties.

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