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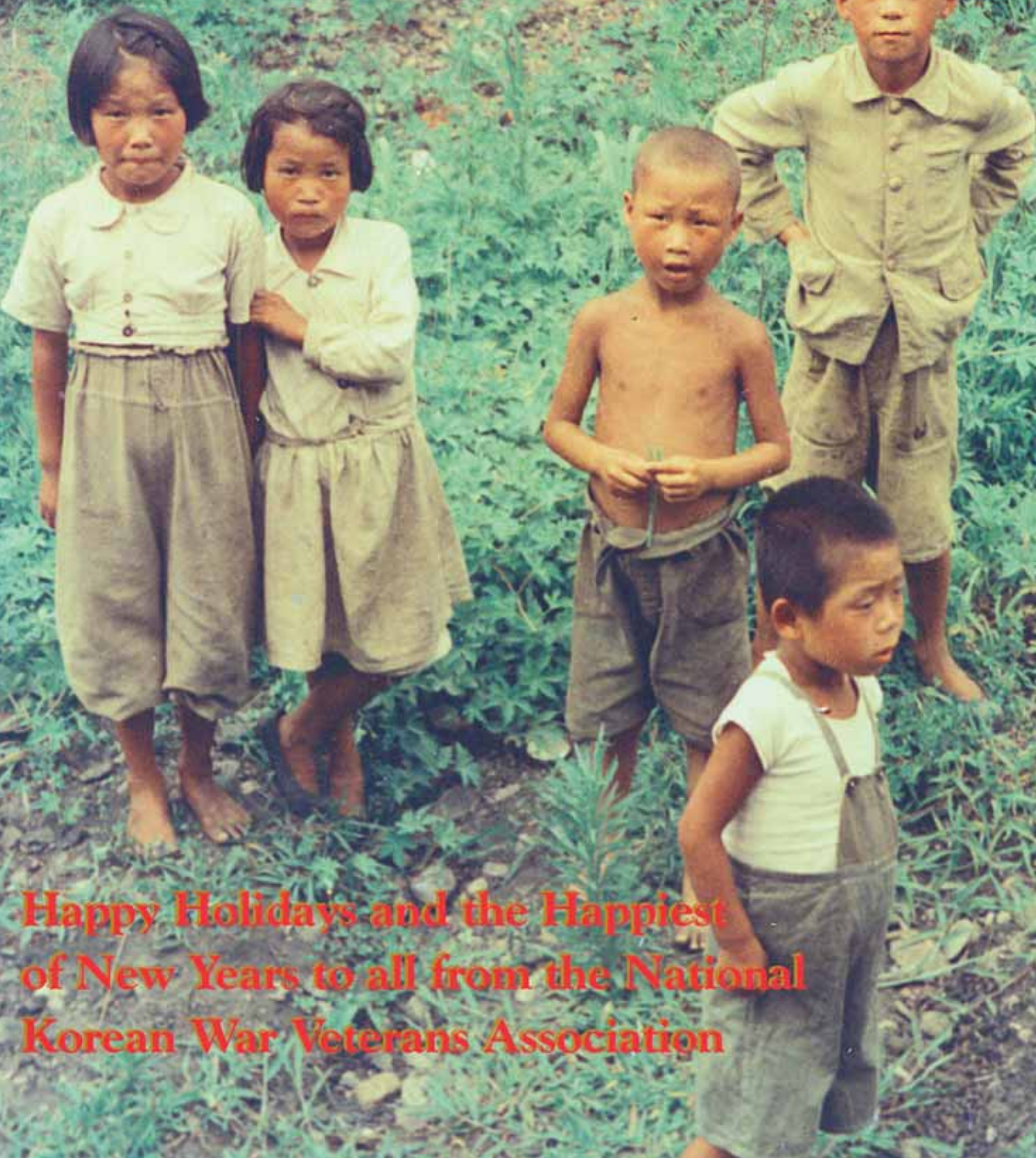
# The Graybeards

Official Publication of

**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

Vol. 17, No. 6

November - December 2003



**Happy Holidays and the Happiest  
of New Years to all from the National  
Korean War Veterans Association**



# The Graybeards

The Magazine for Members, Veterans of the Korean War, and service in Korea. *The Graybeards* is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association, PO Box, 10806, Arlington, VA 22210, (www.kwva.org) and is published six times per year.

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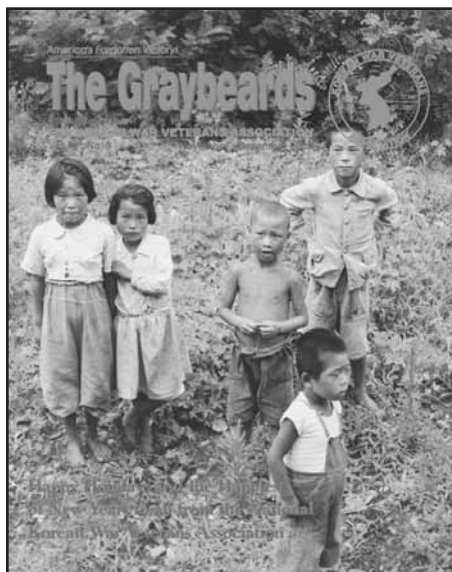
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# On the cover...



## Children of Korea

### GIs and the Kids, A Love Story

Please "pass the word" on the greatest untold story of the Korean War, a story of love and compassion in the midst of a horrible war. The Korean War may be called the "Forgotten War" but we who were there will never forget the children.

*From: George F. Drake, Coordinator, Korean War Children's Memorial Project. For more information contact: Telephone: (360) 734-9757, E-mail: <gdrake@korean-children.org, Web site: www.koreanchildren.org, Address: 1421 Cornwall Ave., #B, Bellingham, WA 98225.*

An extensive collection of digitized photographs is available for use by the media. Korean War Children's Memorial is being constructed in Bellingham, Washington, one that recognizes humanitarian elements in a horrible war. Built in the form of a traditional five sided Korean pavilion with an elaborate joinery roof structure and topped with smoked black tiles from Korea, the structure honors the men and women of the US armed forces who saved the lives of thousands of Korean children during the war years from 1950 to 1953. It will be dedicated on 27 July, 2003, the 50th anniversary of the armistice ending hostilities in the Korean War.

The memorial is the brain-child of George F. Drake of Bellingham who went to Korea as a soldier in the US Army in the fall of 1952 and left in December of 1953. During his time in Korea, stationed about half way between Seoul and the DMZ, he volunteered

with his company orphanage committee. With the men in his company he helped sustain a small orphanage for fifty children across the road from the company motor pool and, when they finally moved the children to a larger missionary-run orphanage east of Seoul, he continued to help the new administration meet the needs of the hundreds of children in their care.

Drake became very aware of the extensive support the members of the US armed forces were giving the children and their care givers so with the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Korean War he sought to honor the "soft side of the war" as the Pacific Stars and Stripes called it in a major article on Drake's project. The first stage in the project was to document the nature and extent of the help the GIs (both sexes and from all branches of service) rendered the children. In his pursuit of documentation Drake spent time at the US National Archives in College Park, Maryland, at the archives of the Pacific Stars and Stripes in Tokyo, Japan as well as in the archives of private organizations working in Korea in the early 50s. He also obtained material from private collections and from public libraries.

Now, almost four years later, Drake has over 2,000 photographs and over 1,800 documents that tell the story of the relationships of the GIs with the war child of Korea. He maintains that the US forces helped save the lives of upwards of ten thousand children, helped sustain over 50,000 in more than 400 orphanages, donated from an average salary of less than a hundred dollars a month more than two million dollars for the orphans and their care givers and brought in from family, friends and neighbors back home thousand of tons of aid in the form of clothing, toys, tools, medicines and food. The very size of this aid is mind-boggling, says Drake. "It is a totally unknown aspect of the war," he adds. Drake plans to present all of this material on the project web site [www.koreanchildren.org](http://www.koreanchildren.org) but finds it a slow process as he has been able to generate little outside funding for the project.

At the moment it looks like donations for the building of the memorial pavilion will not suffice to have it completed in time for the dedication ceremony but the ceremony

Continued on page 4

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# President's Message



Harley Coon  
President, KWVA

This past year has been very busy with all the commemoration events going on. With the success of the July reunion we received many "Job well done" letters. There were over 650 people at the banquet and not one complaint.

The membership appears to be very pleased with the direction KWVA is going. I want to thank the Executive Council for their support for the future of the Korean War Veterans Association.

I want to thank Howard Camp (Asst. Treasurer/ Secretary and, Treasurer Thomas Gregory) for managing the KWVA funds. We have been in the black for over 5 years. The Graybeards editor (Vince Krepps) is producing the best Veterans magazine being produced.

We have just concluded our mid winter meeting in Beavercreek, Ohio and it was a very successful.

## Special Notice

Alert to the membership. There is a small

group of people that has started a KWVA AD-HOC discussion committee. *The Korean War Veterans Association does not sanction this group.*

(According to our bylaws only the President may form an AD-HOC Committee.) The information that these people are putting out is False and Misleading information. This group has conducted a character assassination on our board members and officers. I monitored several of their "E" mail transmissions to keep abreast of what they were trying to do. I did learn that a woman by the name of Lynette Brown is trying to solicit money from Korean War Veterans for a Web Site. She has asked the KWVA for \$15,000.00. Our finance committee turned her down. Now she is attacking the KWVA. I urge ALL Korean War Veterans not to contribute one cent. Let us keep KWVA strong and on the right track.

I guess every organization has a few bad apples; all they want to do is complain and try to create problems. Ask them to run for office and all you get is "I don't have time" As I have said before if you have a concern or problem please contact our National Headquarters or me.

Until next time HAPPY VETERANS DAY, also a HAPPY HOLIDAY and a GREAT NEW YEAR!!!!!!

Harley

## CHILDREN from page 3

cannot be postponed as many of the persons coming for the dedication are in their 70s, 80s and even 90s. Chaplain Russell L. Blaisdell, USAF (retired) the main speaker, at age 93, was responsible for saving the lives of over 950 orphans from Seoul as the Chinese forces were at the northern edge of the city.

The woman who ran the orphanage set up to receive those children, Whang On Soon, wants to come - at age 105 but her health may prevent that from happening.

"Fund raising activities will continue", says Drake, "until the structure is finally built even if it takes years". Drake hopes that the visibility that will come from the publicity on the "dedication/ground breaking" ceremony and banquet will generate sufficient support so the structure can be completed within a

year. Fifty thousand dollars is still needed for completion. Meanwhile supporters are sending checks to the Whatcom Community Foundation, 119 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225 indicating the donation is for the Korean War Children's Memorial. The Foundation then makes a grant to the City of Bellingham Park Department for pavilion costs. In this manner the donor receives a tax break for their contribution. More information on the Korean War Children's Memorial can be found on the project web site or by contacting Dr. Drake.

*(Photo on front cover by Glenn Ed White. Photo shows "Children of War- July 1952." Photo taken from window of train heading to Inje. These children would be in about 56 to 60 years old today. Thank you Glenn for photo. Editor.*

**See orphanage on back cover**

## Foundation Aids Korean Orphans

Henry Sosa, President of 21st RCT Assn. (HQ 3rd, 21st Inf. Regt.) and Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, President of Korean American Foundation USA, visited Korea to deliver the sum of \$10,000.00 at Mayor Woo's office of Hwaseong City, to abandoned children in Korea on June 8th through June 15th, 2003.

Korean American Foundation USA has been established in US to help orphaned children in Korea.

*Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, President,  
2 Neeley St., Town of Wallkill, N,10940  
Tel: 845-342-1244, Fax: 845-469-5797*



Monument for Korean War Veterans at City Hall of Hwaseong City. Shown are Henry Sosa and Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee.



Shown are Eslee, who receives \$10,000 on behalf of 50 children, Henry Sosa, Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee at Mayor's office of Hwaseong City, Kyungido. 6-13-03.

Military Shop - 4 color



# Listen Up

Official KWVA Notices and Announcements

## Call For Elections

The offices of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President for the years of 2004 -2006.

The offices of four Directors for the years of 2004-2007.

No later than February 15 of each year when such offices are to be filled, any regular member in good standing of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. seeking to run for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, or Director shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Nomination Committee in writing using the following format:

Requirements;

A. Must present proof of service by submitting a copy of a DD214 or other document notarized as a true copy showing eligible service and a statement releasing such document for verification by the Nominating Committee.

B. Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.

C. Must submit a letter with the following:

1. Their intent to run for an office and the office sought.
2. A resume of their qualifications for this office stating any experience that will be of benefit to the association.
3. Their current mailing address, home phone number, and KWVA membership number.
4. This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.

D. A statement that they will attend all called meetings of the Executive Council and that they understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for their removal from office.

E. They must sign a statement that their dues are current through the whole term of office they are seeking. Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the association.

F. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested to the Nominating Committee to arrive no later than February 15th 2004.

Send to:

Nominating Committee Chairman  
Attn. Kenneth Cook  
1611 North Michigan Ave.  
Danville, IL. 61834



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



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# FATHER CRAIG A HERO AMONG HEROES

**April 5, 1951.**

## Remains of Father Craig, Dominican Army Chaplain, Returned From Korea

**A**n army transport pulled into New York harbor on Tuesday, September 25th, completing the long funeral march from Korea carrying the remains of Rev. Leo Peter Craig, O.P., United States Army Chaplain who, on April 5th, 1951 near Chunchon, Korea, gave his life while administering the Last Sacraments to a soldier whose truck hit a land mine. As he bent over the injured man with Doctor Crouch, USNR, of Boston and a few GI's, a second land mine exploded killing all present. Newspaper readers will remember the photograph showing this touching scene just before the explosion. The photographer escaped with his life because he left to get more film.

The Very Rev. T. S. McDermott, O.P., Dominican Provincial and Father Craig's religious superior, said that the remains of Father Craig will rest at "The Abbey", 66th St. and Lexington Ave., until Wednesday evening when they will be moved across the street to Saint Vincent Ferrer's Priory where his brother Dominicans will carry out the Dominican liturgy for a deceased member of the Order of Preachers. The casket will then be transferred to the sanctuary of Saint Vincent Ferrer's Church. A solemn High Mass of Requiem will be sung Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. The ministers of the Mass will be Reverend Thomas Q. Shanley, O.P., Associate Editor of the Holy Name Journal, Celebrant; Reverend Philip L. McQuillan O.P. of the Dominican Mission Band, Deacon; Reverend Thomas T. Shea, O.P., former Navy Chaplain, SubDeacon. Interment will be at All Souls Cemetery in Pleasantville, New York.

Father Leo Peter Craig was born in Everett, Massachusetts October 27, 1913. Although his formal education was started in the public schools of his native city, when the family moved to Providence, Rhode Island, he attended the parochial schools.

In 1918 Father Craig's mother (nee



THIRTY SECONDS AFTER THIS PICTURE was taken all the persons shown here were killed by a land mine in Korea. Father (Capt.) Leo P. Craig, O.P. (with the cross on his helmet); Captain Crouch, USNR doctor from Boston; and others were attending the soldier on the ground who had been injured when his truck hit a land mine. Although they knew the area was dangerous because of land mines, the heroes above rushed in to give aid to the truck driver. The photographer took this picture and then ran back to get more films. When he returned 20 seconds later, all the others had been killed by the explosion of a second land mine, to which a booby trap of TNT had been attached.

Catherine Fitzpatrick) died, leaving his father Mr. Roland P. Craig to take care of a family of five young children, the youngest a few months old. An aunt, Veronica Craig, at that time was a nun in the Dominican Sisters of Springfield, Kentucky. She obtained permission to leave the sisterhood and help her brother raise his family. For 18 years she was Father Craig's second mother. After completing this great act of charity, Veronica Craig re-entered religious life. She is now a nun in the Sisters of the Atonement (Graymoor) bearing the name of Sister Dominic Francis, S.A., and stationed at Mechanicville, New York.



Father Craig's secondary education was directed by the Christian Brothers at La Salle Academy in Providence, Rhode Island. In the fall of 1931 he entered Providence College

from which institution he received his bachelor's degree in 1935 and the same summer he entered the Dominican Novitiate at St. Rose's, Springfield, Kentucky. Brother Peter, as he was known during his student days, followed his philosophical studies at the Dominican House of Studies in River Forest, Illinois. His theological studies were completed at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C. He was ordained to the priesthood in the Chapel of that institution on May 21, 1942 by the Most Reverend Eugene J. McGuinness, D.D., at that time Bishop of Raleigh, North Carolina. Subsequent assignments were at Aquinas High School, Columbus, Ohio and as a curate at St. Andrew's parish in Cincinnati, Ohio. Father Craig volunteered for a chaplaincy in the Army about two years ago. After the basic course in Chaplain school, he was assigned to Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Orders for foreign duty soon followed and Father Craig was assigned to the famous First Cavalry Division fighting in Korea. On his way to his new assignment he was given an opportunity to visit his brother, Father Lawrence Craig, a missionary of the Sacred Hearts stationed in Japan.

In addition to his priest-brother, Father Lawrence A. Craig, 55, CC., in Mito, Japan, Father Leo Peter Craig is survived by his father Mr. Roland T. Craig, living at 17 Jackson Street, Paterson, New Jersey; two brothers, Gerard Craig, living at 2175 Cedar Avenue, Bronx, New York and Richard J. Craig, 15 West 63rd Street, New York City; and a married sister Barbara, Mrs. Edmond T. Egan, Jr., of Pattersonville, New York.

*(Thank you Tom Eviston KWVA Chapter 116 Columbus, Ohio (Past President), Photos was widely distributed by the Catholic Press from The Archives of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph, USA, Providence College, Providence, RI., written news release information came from the Office of the Provincial, Dominican Fathers, Province of St. Joseph NY, the Catholic Times used that information as the basis for their own article and Rev. Richard A. McAlister, O.P. Providence College. Editor)*

**RAH Vidio Ad**



## Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

Many members have responded to the suggestion to temporarily help underwrite the cost of publication of *The Graybeards* by making voluntary contributions. This issue is still being printed considering cost restraints and due to change of printer and mailer we have been able to continue to reduce the cost per issue and also try to upgrade your newsletter.

Your heartening response has made this step possible. Hopefully we will be able to restore our newsletter to a higher quality with other desired changes in subsequent issues. Members please continue to respond by sending your contribution to Editor KWVA, or Treasurer KWVA marked: **Support of Graybeards**. Every donation will be recognized in the magazine. Those that do not respond for any reason are still valued members, for your dues also contribute to the printing of our newsletter.

Names listed came from those wishing to support KWVA by donations for: *The Graybeards*, "Looking For," "Reunions," and "In Memory of." At the time of publication the following names of donors and "Memorials" have been reported to *The Graybeards* and are listed as follows: (Donations as of September 16, 2003.)

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

Jan-Feb 2004 .....Jan 9

Mar-Apr 2004 .....Mar 12

May-Jun 2004 .....May 14

Jul-Aug 2004 .....May 16

## Book Review



### I Remember Korea

By Linda Granfield

#### Author

The author of more than twenty nonfiction titles. Her book *Cowboy: An Album* (Ticknor & Fields, 1994) was an American Bookseller Pick of the Lists, an NCSS Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies, and a Hungry Mind Review Book of



Distinction. She has published books about World Wars I and II, including *In Flanders Fields*, a White Raven selection. Three of her titles have won the Information Book Award from the Children's Literature Roundtables of Canada. Born and raised near Boston, Ms. Granfield lives in Toronto, Canada.

#### Book

What is it like to go to war? How does a war affect the men and women who are fighting in it? Here are vivid first-person accounts that address these questions and offer powerful insights into what it means to serve in the armed forces in an unfamiliar country far from home. Award-winning author Linda Granfield has collected the stories of thirty-two men and women who were part of the U.S. and Canadian forces in Korea during the years 1950-53, and has set them against a backdrop of historical and geographical information. The veterans in this book represent a variety of service areas, such as medical, supplies, infantry, and naval.

Their sometimes grim, sometimes lighthearted recollections are illustrated with their own personal photographs. From a prisoner of war's gripping description of being held captive for nearly three years to a machine gunner's fond memories of the canned hamburgers and bacon his battalion loved to eat, these stories emphasize the human face of war at a time when it's more important than ever to try to understand the many different ways that war changes people's lives. A foreword by renowned author Russell Freedman relates

Continued on page 70

The meeting convened at 7:50am.

Pres. Harley J. Coon welcomed all in attendance.

Howard W. Camp assistant National Chaplain gave the invocation. 1st Vice Pres. Jack Edwards led in the pledge to our flag.

Roll Call; Present were Pres. Harley Coon, 1st Vice Pres. Jack Edwards, Directors present were Don Byers, Jack DeLap, Michael Mahoney, James F Jones Jr., William Mac Swain, Dorothy Wenzel, James Ferris, Joseph Perrillo Charles Ray Wells. Absent were 2nd Vice Pres. Kenneth Cook, Directors Jerry Lake, Warren Weidhahn with valid excused absences. Thomas Nuzzo had submitted his name for resignation from the Board with personal reasons.

*Jack Edwards made the motion to accept Thomas Nuzzo's resignation, it was seconded.*

**Motion passed.**

*Joseph Perrillo made the motion to appoint Larry McKinniss to fill the remainder of Mr. Nuzzo's term. It was seconded. A roll call vote was asked for. Voting yea were Jack Edwards, Don Byers, Jack DeLap, Michael Mahoney, James F. Jones Jr., William Mac Swain, Dorothy Wenzel, Joseph Perrillo, and Charles Ray Wells. Voting nay was James Ferris.*

**Passed 9-1**

Larry McKinniss was sworn in to fill the unexpired term of Thomas Nuzzo.

*Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting of July 25 2003 were approved with corrections. Jack DeLap made the motion to accept and seconded by William Mac Swain..*

**Motion passed.**

George Funderburg was introduced as the SGT. OF ARMS.

*Motion by Don Byers and seconded by William Mac Swain to appoint LTC. Clifford Borden Ret. as liaison to Canada.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Don Byers to accept the treasurer's report given by Treasurer Tom Gregory was seconded by Larry McKinniss as amended. Current assets \$599,290.25 Fixed assets are \$4067.92 for a total of \$603,358.17*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Ray Wells and seconded by James Ferris to approve 2004 Budget with and amending to add \$5000 for 1st Vice President use for a total of \$289,700.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to lock in \$200,000 in investments. Seconded by Michael Mahoney.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Jack DeLap and seconded to table the \$200,000 investment till later time.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Jack DeLap to approve the administrative changes to the By-Laws. Article VII "Amendments and Resolutions" On Section 1, make it to read under the heading "Section 1 Charter", On Section 2 to read under heading "Section 2 By-Laws" and Section 3 to read under the heading "Section 3 Resolutions." Seconded by Jack Edwards.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Don Byers to add to the end of Article VII Section 1 Charter these words "Send the administrative change of this to the State of New York for approval of Section 1 heading Charter." Seconded by James Ferris.*

**Motion passed.**

Meeting recessed at 10:50am for break.

Meeting reconvened at 11:05am

Meeting continued

The Executive Council went into a work session. Speaking during that time were Directors; Ray Wells on survey results that he had distributed to members, James Ferris on the improvement of better communications between the Board and the KWVA members, James F. Jones Jr. on the By-Laws and his duties as it's Committee Chairman, Jack Edwards spoke as membership chairman and rebate proposal, Don Byers spoke concern about having a National office in Washington D.C. and the benefits of having one there, William Mac Swain spoke on the issue of Procedure Manuals. He distributed a sample copy for each one to read and make comments on and report back.

*A motion by Jack DeLap to allow Pres. Harley Coon to proceed with Armed Forces Reunion Inc. to consider Knoxville TN. and other places for 2004 reunion. Seconded by Larry McKinniss.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Jack Edwards that the Executive Council establish a Standard Procedure Manual to cover the duties and methods of operation for each Elected Official and appointed position, as well as procedures to clarify methods used to accomplish other tasks vital to the operation of the KWVA. Such manual to be completed as soon as possible by an Executive Council Committee. All Council Members are encouraged to submit what their duties should be to the Chairman of the Standard Procedure Manual Committee and any other procedures they feel should be included in the Standard Procedure Manual. Seconded by Ray Wells.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by William Mac Swain that Executive Council instruct the Standing By-Laws Committee to review all the By-Laws to correct and strengthen the wording. The By-*

Laws Committee Chairman should solicit inputs from all States Departments and Chapters as well as individual members. Such suggestions shall have a set time for submittal and the request for inputs should be presented in the Graybeard Magazine with instructions where to send the submittals and the time period for submittals. Those changes required by the By-Laws Committee may be reviewed by mail, e-mail or telephone to accomplish this task for submittal to the Executive Council as soon as possible. Seconded by Ray Wells.

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Dorothy Wenzel to remove from the table a motion made by William Mac Swain at the July 25, 2003 meeting regarding a motion to a donation to the Korean Museum and Library at Tuscola, IL. Seconded by Joseph Perrillo.*

**Motion passed.**

This is the original motion made by William Mac Swain with the correction to it.

*William Mac Swain made a motion that the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. (KWVA), Executive Council approve a donation of eighty eight thousand dollars (\$88,000) to the Korean War Veterans Museum and Library, (KWVM&L) to complete the outstanding purchase price for the (KWVM&L) land site. This motion includes a signed agreement between the KWVA Executive Council and KWVM&L Board to return the donated sum with reasonable interest should the Museum not be built on the site purchased or should it sell any portion or all of the site.*

This motion shall be presented to the KWVA Membership at the next Annual Membership meeting in 2004 for approval so the Executive Council may complete the agreement by years end.

Jack DeLap seconded this motion. A roll call vote was asked for. Voting yea were William Mac Swain, Voting nay were Jack Edwards, Don Byers, Jack Delap, Michael Mahoney, James F. Jones Jr., Dorothy Wenzel, James Ferris, Joseph Perrillo, Larry McKinniss. Abstaining was Ray Wells.

**Motion failed. 1 yea-9 nay-1 abs.**

*A motion by James Ferris to have Pres. Harley J. Coon appoint a committee to oversee the sending of a newsletter to Departments and Chapters to maintain better communications with the membership. Seconded by Dorothy Wenzel.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Don Byers to establish a committee of five to be given the authority to establish a National Headquarters in Washington D.C. with a budget of \$50,000. Seconded by Jack DeLap.*

There was an amendment to the motion by



Ray Wells to allow up to \$20,000 instead of \$50,000 to be budgeted. Jack Edwards seconded the motion to amend. A roll call vote was asked for. Voting yea were Jack Edwards, Don Byers, Jack DeLap, Dorothy Wenzel, James Ferris, Ray Wells. Voting nay were Michael Mahoney, James F. Jones Jr., William Mac Swain, Joseph Perrillo. Larry McKinniss abstained.

**Motion passed. 6 yeas-4 nays-1 abstaining.**

*This changes the original motion by Don Byers to read thus "To establish a committee of five to be given the authority to establish a National Headquarters in Washington D.C. with a budget of \$20,000." Seconded by Jack DeLap. A roll call vote was called for. Voting yea were Don Byers, Jack DeLap, Dorothy Wenzel, James Ferris, Ray Wells. Voting nay were Jack Edwards, Michael Mahoney, James F. Jones Jr., William Mac Swain, Joseph Perrillo, Larry McKinniss.*

**5 yeas-6 nays – Motion failed.**

*A motion by Don Byers that the Executive Council direct the Nominating Committee to establish a recommended slate of Officers and Directors for the next and all future elections. The recommended slate of one individual for each office, along with their pictures and resumes, shall be published in the Graybeards and on the official ballot. Space shall be provided on the official ballot for write-in candidates. Seconded by Jack DeLap.*

**No vote was taken as it was referred to the By-Laws Committee.**

*A motion by Don Byers that the Reunion Committee be directed to establish dates and places for all future reunions at a minimum of three years. Seconded by Jack Edwards.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Don Byers that all hospitality rooms at future reunions be modeled after the one we had at the 2003 reunion in Arlington Va. Seconded by Jack Edwards.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Don Byers that we change our name from Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) to Korean Veterans Association of America (KVAA).*

**Died for a lack of a second.**

*A motion by Don Byers that we establish an advertising budget of \$5000 for the purpose of placing ads in other Association journals and newsletters in an attempt to recruit new members. Seconded by Jack Edwards. A voice vote was taken.*

**10 yeas-1 nay – Motion passed.**

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to rescind the motion and referred the matter to the Finance Committee for further consideration. Seconded by Jack Edwards.*

**Motion passed.**

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

Meeting reconvene at 8:00am Saturday October 25, 2003

Meeting continued

Assistant National Chaplain Howard W. Camp had the Invocation. 1st Vice Pres. Jack Edwards led in the pledge to our flag.

Roll call was taken: Present were Pres. Harley J. Coon, 1st Vice Pres. Jack Edwards, 2nd Vice Pres. Kenneth Cook, Directors: Don Byers, Jack DeLap, Michael Mahoney, James F. Jones Jr., William Mac Swain, Dorothy Wenzel, James Ferris, Charles Ray Wells, Larry McKinniss. Excused absence were Jerry Lake, Warren Wiedhahn, and Joseph Perrillo.

Kenneth Cook, Elections Chairman spoke on the upcoming elections and the qualifications and all details concerning them. Amos Board has been added to this committee.

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to ratify the card vote that the Executive Council voted upon to donate \$10,000 to help maintain the National Memorial in Washington D.C.. Seconded by William Mac Swain.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by James F. Jones Jr. to authorize the \$5000 request for advertising in periodicals and for the President to determine what committee will be responsible for action. Seconded by James Ferris.*

**Motion passed unanimously.**

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to give authority to the Treasurer to invest \$150,000 in "I" Government bonds. Seconded by James F. Jones Jr.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to place in The Graybeards magazine that the Korean War Veterans Association does not sanction, endorse, or is in any way associated with the group calling themselves "KWVA-AD-HOC-YAHOO." Seconded by Michael Mahoney. A roll call vote was taken. Voting yea were Jack Edwards, Kenneth Cook, Don Byers, Jack DeLap, Michael Mahoney, James F. Jones Jr., William Mac Swain, Dorothy Wenzel, Ray Wells and Larry McKinniss. Abstaining was James Ferris.*

**Motion passed – 10 ayes, 1 abstaining.**

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to bring off of the table "the motion to lock in \$200,000 in investments." Seconded by Don Byers.*

**Motion passed.**

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to rescind the "motion to lock in \$200,000 in investments." Seconded by Don Byers.*

**Motion passed.**

A tentative setting in April 2004 is set for

the next Executive Council meeting.

*A motion by Larry McKinniss to adjourn the meeting at 11:15am on October 25, 2003. Seconded by Jack Edwards.*

**Motion passed.**

Any corrections to the minutes can be made at the next Executive Council Meeting.

*Sincerely, Howard W. Camp Secretary*

**Changes or revisions to July 25, 2003 minutes printed in September-October 2003 The Graybeards.**

Corrections to the minutes of the Executive Council Meeting of July 25, 2003.

There were two requests for changes to the By-Laws. One was as follows:

**Change 1.** Article V-1 Departments-Section 3 under the heading Officers

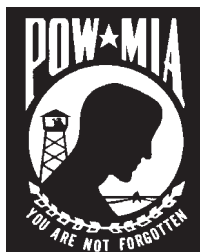
"Changing of the name of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President to Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander. This change is asked for in the Departments of the States (and not as previously stated likewise for the chapters) only. The recommendation from the By-Laws Committee is (and this will be voted upon by the membership after publication in *The Graybeards*) that quote: "After their election to the office in the Department their title can be changed to the above mentioned with the approval of the Department during their time in office."

**Change 2.** And included in the same request is the following: Article V-11 Chapters-Section 4 under the heading of Officers: "Each chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. shall elect a chapter President, Vice President, Secretary and treasurer during their annual meeting, to be held prior to the end of the month of June each year. The results of said election shall be transmitted forthwith to the National Secretary. All other officers shall be appointed, as needed. No person may hold two elective offices, except for secretary and treasurer, which offices may be held by one person. (To be added to this section is the following: After their election to the office the President's and Vice President's name can be changed to Commander and Vice Commander with the approval of the chapter during their time of office.)"

Director Don Byers made the motioned to accept the recommendation and seconded by Director Jerry Lake.

**Motioned passed 10-1.**

*Sincerely, Howard W. Camp Secretary  
(When the By-Laws are revised I will print a complete set in The Graybeards. Editor.)*



# Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

KOREAN WAR/COLD  
WAR DOCUMENT  
FAMILY RESEARCH

No. 795-03 IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(703) 697-5131(media)  
(703) 428-0711(public/industry)

Oct 29, 2003

## Remains of U.S. Servicemen Repatriated from North Korea

Remains believed to be those of eight American soldiers missing in action from the Korean War were recovered by two teams of U.S. specialists and repatriated to U.S. control in ceremonies at Yokota Air Base Japan Oct. 28.

The joint remains recovery work is the result of July negotiations with North Korea led by the Defense Department's POW/Missing Personnel Office.

The negotiated terms enabled U.S. specialists to recover these eight remains between Aug. 23 and Oct. 28. A joint forensic review confirmed these remains likely to be those of U.S. soldiers.

A joint team operating near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea recovered seven sets of remains believed to be those of U.S. Army soldiers from the 7th Infantry Division who fought against Chinese forces from November-December 1950.

Approximately 1,000 Americans are estimated to have been lost in battles of the Chosin campaign.

Additionally, a second team recovered one set of remains in Unsan County, about 60 miles north of Pyongyang. This area was the site of battles between communist forces and the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry and 25th Infantry Divisions in November 1950.

The 28-person U.S. contingent was composed primarily of specialists from the Army's Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii.

Since 1996, 27 individual joint operations have been conducted in North Korea, during which 186 sets of remains believed to be those of U.S. soldiers have

been recovered. Of the 88,000 U.S. service members missing in action from all conflicts, more than 8,100 are from the Korean War.

For additional information about POW/MIA recoveries, visit: <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo>

## 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/62P.htm>

### 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

### 2004 Family & Veteran Update Schedule

Date:	Location:
Jan 24.....	Nashville, TN
Feb 21 .....	Los Angeles, CA
Feb 24 .....	Honolulu, HI
Apr 2-3.....	Washington, DC*
May 15.....	Milwaukee, WI
Jun TBD .....	Washington, DC**
Jul 31 .....	Oklahoma City, OK
Aug 28 .....	Denver, CO
Sep 25 .....	Hartford, CT
Oct 23 .....	Portland, OR
Nov 20 .....	Orlando, FL

\*The Korean and Cold War Annual Government Briefings

\*\* The Southeast Asia Annual Government Briefing held in conjunction with the 'National League of Families' Annual Meeting

## GI Humor Still Brings Chuckles

Submitted by Joe Bryant,  
Harry S. Truman Chapter #135,  
Branson Holster, MO

In perhaps every war, GI humor has given troops some smiles in even the gravest of situations. World War II, for example, produced the ever-present graffiti of Kilroy and cartoonist Bill Mauldin's intrepid characters, Willie and Joe.

Many units in Korea had their own talented cartoonists, such as "Zieg" in the 31st Infantry Regiment of the 7th Infantry Division and "Dobbins" of the 40th Infantry Division.

In the 7th Division during 1952 a member of the 32nd Infantry Regiment "Buccaneers" penned occasional columns for the mimeographed regimental newspaper, "The Jolly Roger", which amassed an avid following throughout the division. They were reprinted in the division newspaper, "The Bayonet", and relayed to the people at home by news service correspondents covering the war.

This combat columnist used the pen name "Drew Pistol" for his tomes on weightier issues in his "Pusan Merry-Go-Round", a parody of columnists such as Walter Winchell and Jack Anderson. And, in the guise of a Korean-American Uncle Remus, he turned out Koreanized versions of fairytales under the byline of "Kimchee Malone".

These were the creations of 1st Lt. James D. Callahan, public information officer with the 32nd Infantry Regiment of the 7th Division. After rotating home in October 1952, Callahan served as PIO at Ft. Riley, KS.

Even 50 years later chuckles still erupt when reading his pieces, such as these:

## The Pusan Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pistol

### Amazing New Weapon

An item that has not yet come up at any UN meetings, but which, I predict, soon will be contained in a secret report of Communist Intelligence People, I was able to obtain a copy of mine.

The Red Paper was the result of a large scale espionage operation covering all of South Korea from Pusan to the parallel. It



reads in part:

Following no pattern and apparently placed with consideration of 360-degree radius of fire the UN forces, but predominantly the Americans, have located tubes of varying caliber. These are in areas occupied by troops. Apparently no ammunition has been received for use of these tubes yet, as none of our agents ever saw one fired.

That the Americans are worried that they might be removed is obvious by the fact that they are generally checked several times during the day by officers and enlisted men.

One of our observers, using a BC scope from a vantage point, reported that it seemed to be a ritual for almost every member of a unit to go out and examine this weapon the first thing in the morning. Some of the men are so anxious to make sure the weapons haven't been tampered with that they rush out in varying states of disarray. Upon satisfying themselves that the weapons are alright they seem to relax and return to their quarters.

We were able to remove one by stealth at night and attempted to determine the caliber of it. But before much could be determined it started to get daylight and our agents had to replace it before the regular morning inspection.

"Some of these tubes are capped, apparently to keep foreign materials out of them. Others are not capped. In some areas an attempt has been made to conceal the weapons from view by placing a canvas screen about them.

It is our intention to risk stealing one of

them and sending it to the Secret Weapons Section for close examination.

The Red Paper continued to state that as soon as feasible an official protest would be lodged claiming that these weapons violate the Geneva Convention. But first the Russians want to try and find out which covenant these tubes come under.

I am at a loss to explain what these weapons are but feel that the people at home should be informed of the nature of the instrument. It is foolish to attempt to safeguard this intelligence any longer as I predict our returnees will soon divulge to their friends all details of the equipment.

Let's take the wraps off these new weapons, and furthermore if we have them let's get some ammunition over here and use them.



Cartoon by "Dobbs" of 40th Inf., Div. is an ideal illustration of Drew Pistol's "Amazing New Weapon".

*(Thank you Joe for some humor. I will print your other story and sketch in another issue. Please put your full name and addresses on your letters and photos. When they get separated from envelopes and other documents it leads to being unknown by me who sent them in. Lucky I found your other story or you would have been JJB. Editor.)*

### "Graybeards" back issues for Sale

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sep-Oct 2000  | <input type="checkbox"/> May-Jun 2002  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov-Dec 2000  | <input type="checkbox"/> Jul-Aug 2002  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> May-Jun 2001  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sep-Oct 2002  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sept-Oct 2001 | <input type="checkbox"/> July-Aug 2003 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov-Dec 2001  | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov-Dec 2003  |

*Only 1 each available in back issues, current (2003) and last issue can be ordered in multiple quantities.*

These issues are limited so get your order in early. \$1 per copy plus \$3.85 postage. Make your check to KWVA National and state in message or note on check "For Back Issues." I suggest minimum orders of 8 issues. Mix your issues as you want. Send your orders to Editor. See address on page 2. Response has been very good for back-issue orders and has necessitated revising this message. Please check above listing for availability before ordering.

Only 1 each available in back issues, current issues (2002-03) can be ordered in multiple quantities. I will take orders for special functions on July-Aug 2002 issue for 50 copies at \$33 because of over-printing. Contact editor at 410-828-8978 for large orders and special prices.

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATOMIC VETERANS



### DO YOU KNOW?

There were over 1,000 Atomic Weapon Detonations between 1945 and 1992.

### DO YOU KNOW?

Over 100,000 military personnel took part, most exposed to ionizing radiation.

### DO YOU KNOW?

Today, many of these veterans are sick and dying from cancer. The government admits there are 21 cancers that can be caused by exposure to radiation.

Were you exposed or involve in the development of nuclear, thermonuclear and hydrogen weapons of war?

Are you aware there is an Ionizing Radiation Registry for all Atomic Veterans at your local VA.?

National Association of Atomic Veterans' (NAAV) focus is to help all exposed Atomic Veterans.

Contact: William Harper, National Commander, 9308 Navajo Place, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

Email: pbharper@mindspring.com

### I Remember Korea: Veterans Tell Their Stories of the Korean War, 1950-53

By Linda Granfield; Russell Freedman (Foreword by)

Clarion Books

ISBN: 061817740X; \$16.00



Hardcover;  
128 pages

**Illustrations:**  
Illustrated  
with black-  
and-white  
photographs

Carton Quantity: 28

Age Range: Young Adult (12+)

Grade Range: Grades 7+

**Subject(s):** JUVENILE NONFIC-  
TION: Juv Nonf - History -  
Military & War

**Description:** While current events have focused the public's attention on Korea once again, many veterans of the conflict that occurred there half a century ago worry that their time spent fighting in this "Forgotten War" will not be remembered or understood unless their story is

told. Award-winning nonfiction author Linda Granfield has collected the personal accounts of thirty-two men and women who served with the U.S. and Canadian forces in Korea during the years 1950-53 and has written her own introduction describing the main events of the war. The veterans in this book represent a variety of service areas, including medical, supplies, infantry, and naval, and their moving, sometimes graphic, recollections are illustrated with their own personal photographs. As commemorative ceremonies mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War this year, attempting to understand the human face of war is more important than ever. Timeline, glossary, bibliography, Internet resources, index.

*Prices subject to change without notice.*

### The Korean War being forgotten again

From: Gerald F. Merna  
<gmerna@adelphia.net>

To: WashPost, Letters to the  
Editor <letters@washpost.  
com>

Once again the 34,000 Americans killed and over 100,000 wounded in only three years of the Korean War are about to be relegated to the history books as casualties of "The Forgotten War."

Despite the fact that the Vietnam and Korean War Memorials are but a stone's throw apart, it seems that the millions of visitors to these two memorials need only be "educated" about the Vietnam War. Your report the "House Backs

Vietnam Memorial Center" (*The Washington Post*, Oct. 16, 2003) advises that an underground center costing an estimated \$10 to \$12 million dollars will be built to educate visitors about the Vietnam War by providing exhibits illustrating the history of that memorial and war. As a veteran of both of these wars it would seem to me that it would be fair and sensible to build a "joint" education center in the center of both War Memorials so that visitors to both memorials could be educated about the sacrifices made by veterans of both wars.

I also read this article in my hometown paper in Maryland

and I must say again I am amazed how the Korean War continues to be overlooked by our government. We do not have a National Charter and have tried for years to get one and receive many unfounded reasons why we are not worthy of being recognized to have a charter. Now, on top of that we learn that the Vietnam War Memorial will have an education center but no mention of the Korean War Memorial Education Center.

Is this the apathy of Korean War Veterans or our Government?

I understand we do have a foundation created to watch over our National Memorial as far as upkeep, etc. but when repair was needed it was done by a 2 million dollar grant authored by

Senator Sarbanes (D-Maryland).

Thank you Gerald for speaking up for the Korean War Veterans. I agree we should have a joint education center and our foundation, veterans and government should get involved.

We thank all who have helped with our memorial and charter and it is time again to renew our resolve not to be forgotten again.

E-mail the Washington Post and call the numbers below to request our Charter and Education Center. Editor.

Toll Free Numbers to the Capitol Switchboard and Congress.

1-877-778-9001, 1-877-762-8762, 1-888-762-8768 or 1-800-648-3516.

### Korean War Commemoration Committee Discontinued

To All KWCC Website Subscribers and Veterans:

The unfortunate time has come to say good bye to all of you. Effective 30 Sep 2003, the Korean War Commemoration Committee will be closing it's doors after 3 wonderful years of thanking and honoring our Korean War veterans. As the webmaster, I would like to thank you all for your emails we've received over the years. I received lots of advice as to what information you wanted to see on our website. I also receive many tearful expressions of gratitude for those who were touched by the many events that the committee organized. This has truly been the most rewarding assignment in my twenty-years of service.

Not all will be lost, the website will continue to be available for historical purposes only. There

will be no interactivity with the website. All applications will be shutdown and there will be no one available to answer your emails from the comments page; however, the information and educational material will remain for your use. Again, its been wonderful hearing from you all and remember, thank a Korean War veteran today.

"FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

Sandra A. Johnson, MSgt, USAF Superintendent of Operations DoD 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee <sandrajohnson2@hqda.army.mil> <www.korea50.mil> Tel: 703-602-6076 Fax: 703-604-0833

*(I know this is a little late but as you know The Graybeards has a deadline for printing each issue. This e-mail came to me a little late to include in the last*



issue. I have already responded to this letter within days of receiving it. I thanked Sandra and all at the 50th Commemoration Committee members for what they did over the past 3 years to remember our war and our veterans. The message was signed from all Korean War Veterans. I now

believe the office in Crystal City, VA may now be closed also. If anyone is still there it may take a while to get a response for I believe most of the staff is gone now also. You will not get a response from web page or fax but you may want to try the telephone number above and thank them if you wish. Editor.)

## Facts About the 1973 St. Louis Fire and Lost Records

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, DG 20420  
Media Relations (202) 273-5700

### Fact Sheet

The National Archives and Records Administration is the official depository for records of military personnel separated from the United States Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy. The records are housed in three locations: the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C., the Washington National Records Center in Suitland, Md., and the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Mo.

The NPRC contains records relating to:

- U.S. Army officers separated after June 30, 1917, and enlisted Army personnel separated after October 31, 1912.
- U.S. Air Force officers and enlisted personnel separated after September 1947.
- U.S. Naval officers separated after 1902, and naval enlisted personnel separated after 1885. U.S. Marine Corps officers separated after 1895, and enlisted personnel separated after 1904.
- U.S. Coast Guard officers separated after 1928, and enlisted personnel separated after 1914. Civilian employees of predecessor agencies (Revenue Cutter Service, Life-Saving Service and Lighthouse Service)

of the U.S. Coast Guard from 1864-1919.

### The Fire

A fire at the NPRC in St. Louis on July 12, 1973, destroyed about 80 percent of the records for Army personnel discharged between November 1, 1912, and January 1, 1960. About 75 percent of the records for Air Force personnel with surnames from "Hubbard" through "Z" discharged between September 25, 1947, and January 1, 1964, were also destroyed.

### What Was Lost

It is hard to determine exactly what was lost in the fire, because:

There were no indices to the blocks of records involved. The records were merely filed in alphabetical order for the following groups:

World War I: Army September 7, 1939 to November 1, 1912

World War II: Army December 31, 1946 to September 8, 1939

Post World Army December 31, 1959 to January 1, 1947

War II: Air Force December 31, 1963 to September 25, 1947

Millions of records, especially medical records, had been withdrawn from all three groups and loaned to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) prior to the fire. The fact that one's records are not in NPRC files at a particular time does not mean the

records were destroyed in the fire.

### Reconstruction of Lost Records

If a veteran is advised that his or her records may have been lost in the fire, he or she may send photocopies of any documents they possess to the NPRC, particularly separation documents. The address is National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. This enables the NPRC to re-establish files by adding those documents to the computerized index and filing them permanently.

### Alternate Sources of Military Service Data

In the event a veteran does not have any records in his or her possession, the essential military service data may be available from a number of alternate sources.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) maintains records on veterans whose military records were affected by the fire if the veteran or a beneficiary filed a claim prior to July 1973.

Service information may also be found in various kinds of "organizational" records such as unit morning reports, payrolls and military orders on file at the NPRC or other National Archives

and Records Administration facilities.

There also is a great deal of information available in records of the State Adjutants General, and other state "veterans services" offices.

By using alternate sources, NPRC may often be able to reconstruct a veteran's beginning and ending dates of active service, the character of service, rank while in service, time lost while on active duty, and periods of hospitalization. NPRC is usually able to issue NA Form 13038, "Certification of Military Service," considered the equivalent of a Form DD-214, "Report of Separation From Active Duty," for the purpose of establishing eligibility for veterans benefits.

### Necessary Information for File Reconstruction

The key to reconstructing military data is to give the NPRC enough specific information so the staff can properly search the various sources. The following information is normally required:

Full name used during military service

- Branch of service
- Approximate dates of service
- Service number
- Place of entry into service
- Last unit of assignment
- Place of discharge

### Graybeards Copies

The requests for extra *The Graybeards* to support printing of same was such a success, we will offer extra copies for every issue on a first-come first-serve basis. For future issues, if you wish to make sure your orders are filled, I must have advanced payment.

*The Graybeards* is a great tool for the chapters in New Membership and Tell America Programs. We request minimum orders of 5 at \$1 donation per copy plus \$3.85 postage.

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



To Fellow Korean War Veterans:

In my frustration on the Charter as we don't have enough co-sponsors, I have just received even more disturbing news. In as much as I have seen E-mails and other comments that the Charter has passed the Senate already.

This is far from the truth. We are now having the same problem in the Senate with S-478 that we have in the House. It again turns out to be a battle between democrats and republicans. In the past political party was not an issue. Now it is. In the Senate 16 co-sponsors the bill while 84 are not signed on because of the problems in the House.

This puts a strain on us now as we must work on our Senators as well as members of the House. The number of co-sponsors in the House now stands at 110. We still need 119 more.

I also cannot say it enough that your Congressman needs to sign on as a co-sponsor by calling Mr. Hoyer's office, speak with Katie Elbert at 202-225-

4131 and tell her they want to be a co-sponsor of HR 1043.

Now getting back to my opening statement, and I urge all that if you are not sure please check with me before making any comments as I will let all of you know the status of each Bill.

It is also disturbing to see E-mails going around from members of the so-called Ad-Hoc groups saying they have been writing their representatives and the Congressional Oversight Committee not to issue a Charter to the KWVA because we don't deserve one.

As we stand now so divided there are the future and younger Korean vets returning that do deserve one. I ask all of you to consider those who have served there since the Treaty was signed, most of them not even born when we were there.

Gentlemen, I urge you to work on your congressman ASAP.

One other note - I keep hearing that

the reason we can't get a Charter is because the large groups of veterans organizations such as the VFW, DAV, etc., etc. don't want us to have one. This again is far from the truth as I have written each one asking for support and the only one that has not responded in a positive way is the American Legion. Thanks.

Yours in Comradeship,

Blair

## 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 length kept to a minimum.— Editor.

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**Forbes Ad**

As the Wolfhounds were fighting their first battle on the 24th of July the NKPLA 6th Division had already slipped down the western half of South Korea and had reached the end of the peninsula.

Eighth Army (including the South Korean army) intelligence gathering the (G2) was in a state of confusion with the turmoil of the first weeks and the G2 sections were still in the process of being organized and coordinated with the various sources. There was inadequate liaison between Americans and South Koreans due to language difficulties, and lack of familiarity with each other. In short, much of what was known by the South Koreans was not known or was not considered solid intelligence by the Americans.<sup>1</sup>

The “order of battle” people were supposed to know where enemy units were but they had lost track of the crack NK 6th Infantry Division and on the situation maps were shown in reserve or unknown. It was known that enemy forces were in the southwest but they were considered to be thinly spread units of the NK 4th Division from the Taejon battle.<sup>2</sup>

The enemy drive was abetted by Typhoon Helene which resulted in heavy cloud cover and prevented aerial observations during the critical 21-22 July period.

Guerilla units, which surfaced after the invasion, added to the confusion by spreading terror and confusion among the populace.

Southwest Korea was covered by a police force in all of the towns and there was knowledge of the North Korean advance, but some previous exaggerated reports by the Koreans had led the Americans to consider their sources as unreliable. Discounting and interpreting the information as they saw fit came close to being a fatal mistake.

The 24th Division was in a state of disarray and had gone in reserve for rest and replacement of men and material. The Division's 34th Regiment had been so badly beaten, that soon it would be disbanded and the colors sent to Japan. Before the Division had a chance to catch its breath they were called out to stop this new threat.

# THE STORY OF HADONG

By CB Johnson

## The Hadong Tragedy

*July 21.* The 29th Infantry Regiment was the occupation force on the island of Okinawa, an island in the Ryukyu chain south of the island of Kyushu, Japan. On the 20th of July, it had received 400 filler troops from the states which brought the 1st and 3rd battalions to full strength and on this day the two battalions sailed from Naha on the Fentriess and the Takasago Maru, bound for Korea.<sup>3</sup>

Although the 24th Division had been pushed back steadily for over two weeks, Pfc John Kirby from Iowa, was told by his platoon leader that the enemy was just “a bunch of poorly armed peasants”.

Each Battalion was initially slated to be assigned to a regiment of the 24th Division in order to bring those regiments to the authorized three battalion strength. In combat, an infantry regiment normally would have two battalions on the front with one in reserve. The two battalion regiments were unbalanced with a choice of one or no battalion in reserve. The lineup was not suited for proper retrograde defense.<sup>4</sup>

The 29th did not have the battalion unit training needed for combat and first they were slated to receive 6 weeks of basic in Japan, but things were moving too fast and the orders were changed to Pusan where they were supposed to have a week or so of training in the field. As another handicap, 25% of the riflemen had less

then one week to know their leaders and their fellow soldiers and vice versa.<sup>5</sup>

*July 24.* While we were fighting our first big battle. The two 29th Battalions landed at Pusan. Again, the need was so urgent that the 29th was immediately sent west from Pusan toward Chinju. There was no zeroing of weapons for the replacement troops and some newly issued weapons still had cosmoline on them.

I was told by a veteran from the machine gun platoon of M Company that his water cooled machine gun (30 cal Heavy MG) was full of cosmoline and could not fire. While most 29th vets hotly dispute that this could have happened. I do believe the man who told me his story. Many books and accounts reported that weapons were inoperative due to cosmoline but in my research I found that only to be true in an isolated case or two.

Another widely quoted story was about the lack of zeroing of weapons. Probably about half of the men had fired on the rifle range with their rifles or machine gun. Although zeroing was pointed out as being a serious omission it was actually not that big of a deal. While enroute by sea, targets were thrown overboard and many men tested their weapons, in that manner, albeit with unknown ranges.

Anyway, most combat targets are camouflaged area targets. It was quite common for riflemen in WWII to go through many campaigns and never fire at an individual enemy. The early stages of the Korean War was different but still if one is firing over an unknown distance with windage being uncertain, the accuracy of a zeroed rifle falls off. (Aim on the low part a missed ricochet might get em.) If the enemy is close, say within one hundred yards. 90% of the time an “unzeroed rifle” will find its mark if the rifleman knows what he is doing. And in darkness, one cannot see through the peep sights anyway.

Test firing of mortars was not needed (indicated by one book). It's a simple tube with a fixed firing pin at the bottom. If its clean, it will work.

The 3rd Battalion under Lt. Col. Harold W. Mott, and the 1st Battalion

under Lt. Col. Wilson, would be attached to the 24th Division's 19th Regiment under Col. Ned D. Moore at Chiniu.

**July 25.** The two battalions arrived in Chinju the next afternoon and Col. Moore sent the 1st Battalion north to the Anui area. The 3rd Battalion was ordered westward on to Hadong, about 35 miles away, where Col. Moore said reports estimated 500 NK moving on Hadong.<sup>6</sup>

In the 19th Regiment Hqs. was the former Chief Of Staff of the ROK Army. Maj. Gen. Chae Byong Duk who had been relieved after Seoul fell. He had stressed the importance of Hadong to Col. Moore and the disgraced Gen "Fat" Char volunteered to accompany the 3rd Bn. and serve as a guide and interpreter.<sup>7</sup>

**July 26.** The Battalion moved after midnight with Col. Mott expecting to reach Hadong before daylight. He soon learned his travel estimate was unrealistic as the column struggled in the narrow roads through out the night. One exhausted jeep driver fell asleep at the wheel and the vehicle overturned into a ditch.

They stopped at Wonjon for breakfast which is only halfway to Hadong. That morning a truck load of wounded Korean Militia came by and said they were the only survivors from their 400 man unit at Hadong.

With no radio contact Maj. Tony Raibl, the Battalion Executive Officer, jeeped back to Chinju and presented the report of what he had heard and suggested that the 3rd Bn. just cover the road from Chinju and not attempt to reach Hadong.

In defense of Col Moore there was a tendency of the Koreans to exaggerate enemy strength and perhaps thinking thusly, he ordered the 3rd to continue on to Hadong.

Maj. Raibl having personally heard the account of strong forces and, knowing the situation, believed it to be a bad decision.<sup>8</sup>

Col Mott halted the tired Battalion for supper at Hoengchon about 3 or 4 miles from Hadong. The battalion set up headquarters tents and bivouacked there for the night. It was their first chance to get sleep of any length since landing.

### **No records show that the following patrol took place.**

In the evening at about 2100, the S-2 Officer Capt. Lewis B. Mitchell with Pvt's Jim Yeager and John R Toney of the

## **The "order of battle" people were supposed to know where enemy units were but they had lost track of the crack NK 6th Infantry Division and on the situation maps were shown in reserve or unknown.**

Reconnaissance Section, a jeep driver and a South Korean interpreter mounted a jeep and drove toward Hadong. The Executive Officer of King company, 1st Lt. Walter Rodman and three of his men were in a lead jeep to act as point guard for the recon patrol.<sup>9</sup>

As they slowly drove up the road, they observed single young men hair cut very short squatting beside the road in civilian clothes at periodic intervals. The jeep halted short of the pass and Yeager slipped out and scanned the mountainsides where he saw numerous, glows from cigarettes. They were quite convinced that there were enemy in large numbers about the pass.

Through questioning the local farmers, it was learned that there was a road block of from four to six men that would allow travelers to go West toward Hadong but they could not return as no travelers were allowed to move east (and give word of the forces in Hadong.)

The recon patrol pulled off the road to a small hut where Capt. Mitchell thru the interpreter questioned the old inhabitant. He told them that a large number of the NKPLA were all about the hills and in Hadong with tanks and self propelled artillery. Ominously the old man stated there would be a big battle tomorrow if they continued on.

Apparently convinced of a large enemy force in the area, Capt. Mitchell immediately turned around and they drove back to Battalion Headquarters about 0100 to report what they had seen and heard.<sup>10</sup>

(Yeager related that Col. Mott had said that there were only about 300 peasants armed with clubs and pitchforks causing trouble in Hadong and we were going to kick the shit out of them.)

**July 27.** The next morning lead elements of the 29th moved out at about 0700. There was supposed to be an air strike on Hadong at 0945 and an Air Force Tactical Control team was now with the 3rd Battalion to direct it but unfortunately the jeep mounted radio team had become inoperative (A quite common occurrence

on the rough Korean roads) and there was no other commo to higher headquarters.<sup>11</sup>

An indication of the lack of combat readiness was the small amount of ammo issued to the men before the engagement. Rod Schuneman had his cartridge belt full of (10 clips of 8 rounds each) and only one bandolier of 6 clips. Ordinarily there is no reason to ration the amount of rifle ammo given to the men. Rifle or Carbine ammo takes up very little space and except under extended circumstances there should always be a plentiful supply. A bare minimum should be at least two bandoliers but should be four or more. One of the silly things was that the Colonel and others began to unload the ammo truck after the fight started.

### **A Fire Fight Breaks Out (The Trap is Sprung)**

The battalion marched up the road in column with Love Company and a section from M Company's recoilless rifle platoon leading the way. L Company's CO was Capt. Sharra, an experienced WWII combat veteran. The men were marching at 5 yard intervals on each side of the road. When the company was about a half mile northeast from the pass Capt. Sharra saw what appeared to be a couple of NK squads coming down from the pass. The 75mm recoilless rifles fired on the patrol which then ran back over the pass.

According to reports written in Appleman's South to the Nakdong, Capt. Sharra hurried his company south to the pass and occupied the area with two platoons on the left and one platoon on the right: however, Rod Schuneman member of a L Company rifle platoon, told me that his group never reached the hill. He said that they were taken under fire from the hill on their right while on the road about three to four hundred yards short of the pass. Other members of Love company agreed with the book.<sup>12</sup>

At least a major portion of Love dug in on the ridgelines perpendicular to the road

Continued on page 26



# Reunion Showplace.....

## 92nd A. F. A. Battalion

“Red Devils” Annual Reunion at Branson, MO Sept. 7-8, 2003. 82 former members were in attendance. 62 are shown in photo. (No names given.)

*(Thank you Dick Lemmon for photo and letter.)*



## GHQ 1st Raider Company

GHQ 1st Raider Company at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Holiday Inn, Chattanooga, TN, on 9-11 2003. (No names given)

*(Thank you Buck Ballow for photo and letter)*



*(Thank you Mary Anna Roemke for photo and letter.)*

## 45th Infantry Divison

On September 8th the Korean War Veterans Assn., Indiana Chapter One hosted a reunion /dinner for the 45th Infantry Division while they were having their reunion here in Ft. Wayne. Approximately 60 members from both groups were in attendance and what a wonderful and fun time we had. It is truly a great blessing for us to share our friendships. As it was the same week of the 2nd anniversary of the 9-11 tragedy we thought it was an appropriate time to be together to count our blessings and to reflect back on those that were affected by this terrible tragedy.

## Anti-Tank Company, 5th Marines



**The Gentlemen:** Back Row left to right: Earl Witcraft, George Barrette, Norm Bodway, George Cowley, Bill Cormier, Ed Crom, Paul French and Leonard Deden. Second Row left to right: Gerry Ford, Jim Anderson, John Cronin, Richard Bennett, Bill White, Ed Small, Frank Curnow, Jim Begay and Gee Fuquay. Third Row left to right: John Henkel, Hugo Rosell, Bill Carroll, Buddy Boyd, Frank Astorino, J. D. Guarmere, Chuck Batherson, and Dan Bell.

### Have a Reunion?

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* for publication in Reunion Showplace!

**The Ladies:** Top Row left to right: June Begay, Joanne Guarmere, Claudia Small, Barb Batherson, Irene French and Marcy Crom. Second Row left to right: Karen Boyd, Phyllis Cronin, Millie Bodway, C.J. Barrette and Phyllis Bennett. Bottom Row left to right: Ann Sue White, Lolita, Margarita Cormier, Francis Deden and Ann Witcraft.



The Anti-Tank Co. 5th Marines had their 3rd reunion in Bloomington, Mn. Sept. 18-20 with 29 former members joining the party. Most of the guys hadn't seen each other since leaving Korea 51 years ago, so there was a lot to talk about. Ed.

### GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

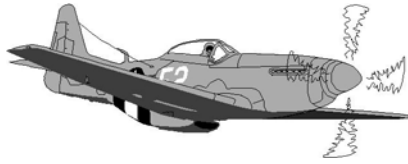
Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later than the second week of the first month of that issue. Example: Jan-Feb 2004 articles must be received by editor no later than Jan 9. We print on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have a backlog.— Editor.

Hoffman from the 75mm recoil gun section and his wife stopped by to see what was going on. It was nice meeting the couple in person because we always conversed by email. On Saturday evening we held our banquet. Some of the men showed slides that were taken during our time in Korea. These brought back many memories. Plans were made to have our next reunion in Nashville, Sept. 16-18 2004. We increased in numbers this year by 7. Since getting home I have found 4 more from the Co. The people are from the 3-year time frame of the Korean War. I am still trying to locate as many as possible.

*(Thank you Charles Batherson for photos and letter.)*



# South for the Winter



## *Myoshi's Inn, Tokyo*

November, 1950

In early November, 1950, the civil engineers gradually installed wood-plank floors in our tents and, finally, equipped each with a quaint-looking pot-bellied oil burner stove device which would cook anything within three feet of it's surface, but would leave the rest of the tent in it's normal sub-frigid condition. A shower facility of sorts was plumbed into the hot water system installed for the Mess tent and, if willing to stand long enough in line, with the cold wind blowing between the tent flaps, the sensation of a shower felt pretty good.

As the basic amenities were slowly acquired, and the community of Dogpatch became almost livable, it also became apparent that the luxury was too good to last ... the rumors began to circulate that we were slated to move once again, to another airfield, further north, to eliminate the long two-hour flight to the front lines.

Our first choice was the airfield at Wonsan, far up on the east coast. We had been treating that airstrip with some foresight during our attacks in the area; purposely avoiding any bomb damage to the runways and taxi strips. We even held off strafing the buildings ... with the idea that with luck, it might some day be our new home.

The second option, and not nearly as attractive as the first, was to move to the

beaten and battered airstrip near Pyongyang, the much-attacked North Korean capitol ... the airfield that was covered with debris, with nary a single building still standing.

It's easy to guess which site was selected for the 18th Group's next base.

The Marine Air Division was given the half-way decent field at Wonsan, while we were to move to Pyongyang. We reasoned that the 'powers that be' decided the 'culture shock' would be too great for the Marine's pilots ... coming down from the luxury of clean sheets and wardrooms aboard their aircraft carriers to mud floors and drafty winter tents. The decision gave me even more reason to press for a prompt transfer back to the Philippines.

The ground battles continued to make rapid strides toward the Yalu River, and the ultimate decimation of the North Korean forces appeared to be just a matter of time. But occasional sightings of enemy aircraft began to give us concern; we wondered why the few prop-driven YAKS were showing up, so late in the war. They were promptly shot down by our Mustang pilots, whenever they would show themselves, and on one occasion a pair of our guys were attacked by a pair of swept-wing MiG-15 jets as they flew along the south bank of the Yalu River.

The Russian-made jets overshot their

mark while attacking Lieutenants Morehouse and Reynolds, and our two pilots didn't hang around to ask questions. It was obvious that the MiGs were from the Chinese or Russian base at Antung, Manchuria, and their entry onto the Korean side of the river was, at that time, rather startling news.

Captain Alma Flake and Lieutenant Jim Glessner each shot down a YAK-9, and Moon Mullins knocked down two of them on the same mission, within two minutes of each other. We continued to wonder if the belated show of enemy air power was a last, final gasp of the falling enemy ... or were they just testing. There were hundreds of fresh new MiG jets just across the river in Manchuria ... known to us, and we knew we would be in deep, deep trouble if they chose to use them against us in Korea.

Rumors, and rumors of rumors persisted concerning how FEAF Headquarters was finally going to set up a rotation policy for pilots, once the war was declared officially "over."

After being in the Far East theater for more than 30 months, since 1948, and having been thrice-bitten by allowing my hopes to rise, only to have them dashed against the rocks of reality, I resigned myself to the simple hope of getting back down to the Philippines where, with luck, I could get orders for travel back to the 'States within a month or so. If everything worked right, I might even be able to get back to California by Christmas time.

My spirits were beginning to rise again, buoyed by the prospect of getting to some warmer weather when I heard that our Group CO, Col. Wintermute had told the 13th AF Commanding General at Clark Field that "we wouldn't need any more replacement pilots in the 18th ... the war was winding down so fast that the whole outfit would probably be pulled out in just a short time."

Our opinion of that kind of idiotic logic was short and to the point "Bullshit!!"

It took several days and many meetings amongst our remaining "old-timers" to convince Lt. Col. Bob Dow who, in turn, took it up with Wintermute. He finally agreed to keep the replacement pilots coming. Then, at last a small group of five "homesteader" pilots from Clark arrived

## Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

*Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,*

*Lt Col, USAF, Ret*



on 5 November, and my name was put on orders for transfer back to Clark on the 7th or 8th. Harlan Ball and my former neighbor, Bob Hinck, were on the same orders, all of us elated at the opportunity to get out of Korea before we were forced into another move to a much worse hole ... at Pyongyang East.

The Group was already beginning to pack their movable ground equipment ... our transfer orders came just in the 'nick of time'.

Preparations for my departure from Korea took but a very few minutes. With so few personal belongings, it didn't take me long to turn in my little stock of government-issue equipment: my parachute, flying helmet, pistol belt, holster and pistol, canteen, bedding, etc. Just slam the lid on my two footlockers, pull a tan uniform out of my canvas B-4 bag, stuff my dirty flying suit into one of the zippered pockets, pick up my printed orders and I was ready to go.

No goodbyes were necessary or were they expected; everyone remaining behind was honestly planning to join us at Clark Field within just a couple of weeks. Harlan Ball, Bob Hinck and I weren't going to wait for another opportunity ... we headed for the Base Operations tent immediately, and got onto the evening courier flight to Tokyo on 7 November.

"Bam, Bam, Thank You, Ma'am"... we had ourselves on our way before anyone could change their minds!

Only when we were airborne in the darkness over the Sea of Japan did we dare look at each other with a sigh of relief, and the honest belief that we had really made it out of the Korean War with our whole skins.

Our transfer orders had no reporting date for our arrival at Clark Field and as we came in on the approach to Tokyo's Haneda airport in our old C-47, we fantasized on the possibilities of going to the Philippines by way of Los Angeles or San Francisco. We burst our fantasy bubbles and came back down to earth to settle for an old taxicab to carry us and our dusty footlockers and bags into downtown Tokyo.

We stopped first at the University Club ... on the bare possibility that we might again succeed, as we had just a few weeks

**As we stopped in the courtyard, we were met by a little, round, grey-haired, grey-kimona'd "Mama-san" who gestured wide-eyed, saying "No, No, No ... no stay. One night only!"**

previously, and find a stray room or two. Unfortunately, we had no such luck. We then called the desk clerk at the Tokyo Electric ...the Company-grade officer's transient hotel, but they too were filled to capacity, and didn't have the slightest idea where we might find a room in the war-crowded city.

We called the Meiji Park hotel, located 'way out on the outskirts of town, and the clerk told us, sleepily, that even he couldn't do anything for us for at least two days. It was by then 4:00 AM on Wednesday, November 8th, and they didn't expect any vacancies before Friday the 10th.

Finally, exasperated and getting desperate, we asked the Japanese desk clerk at the University Club if he knew of any 'half-way economical', yet presentable Japanese Inns or Hotels where we might get a room for the night. He thought for a moment, then, tilting his head to the side, as if questioning whether he should even mention it or not ... he suggested that we might try the "Myoshi".

He said in his halting English, that it was 'very nice ... if it is still open'. We took this to mean: "...if the desk was still open at that time of the morning..." We didn't realize, at the time, that he meant: "If it's not Off Limits ". He then made a phone call, spoke in Japanese to the party on the other end, then came back to us nodding that the Myoshi had rooms and, yes, they would be able to prepare some breakfast for us. It sounded good; we asked the clerk to come out and give our taxi driver directions on how to find the place. Little did we know that every taxi driver in Tokyo knew where to find Myoshi's.

We drove, around on numerous narrow side streets, just out of central Tokyo for perhaps fifteen minutes, until finally we pulled through a bamboo covered gate and into a sheltered courtyard. The taxi parked in an area surrounded by neat, two-story frame buildings of traditional Japanese

construction ...almost like one of our 'stateside motel buildings, only more quaint. We could see no advertising signs of any kind, and assumed that it was more like a 'bed and breakfast' type of Inn. It looked good enough for a night or two, until we could get into the Meiji Park or one of the other U.S.-run hotels.

As we stopped in the courtyard, we were met by a little, round, grey-haired, grey-kimona'd "Mama-san" who gestured wide-eyed, saying "No, No, No ... no stay. One night only!" as we started to take our four dirty footlockers down from the roof of the taxi, and to pull our three large canvas B4 bags out of the trunk. She undoubtedly thought we were about to take up permanent residence in her little "Inn".

We were finally able to convince her that we were on our way from Korea, and were just going to spend the next day, until we could get an airplane flight to Manila. She was still skeptical, but finally showed us to three adjoining rooms in one corner of the Inn complex and, pointing to a smaller, adjoining building, saying: "Bath, there. "

The ground-level rooms were small, typical Japanese bedrooms, with straw tatami mats on the floor, a couple of ornately-embroidered cushions on the floor, a low night-stand with a single-bulb lamp, and a sliding-screen storage closet which contained a rolled, quilt-like "bed". It was quaint, but it was clean and warm, and a far, far cry from our dirty tents in Korea.

Within just a few minutes, while Harlan, Bob and I were sitting cross-legged on the cushions ...there were no chairs in the room, sipping a 'weather-cooled' whiskey and water from the bottle which Hinck had brought along, Mama-san brought in the first of three little short-legged trays, each of which contained a plate of two fried eggs, sliced ham, warm biscuit-like crackers, a cup and a kettle of steaming hot tea.

# Korean War Veterans Certificate

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

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

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



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

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

## Certificate Order Form

☐ I certify that I served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces in combat/support of the Korean War: 6/25/50- 7/27/53.

☐ I certify that I served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces in Korea (9/3/45 to present – if not during above period.)

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

**I would like the following information on the certificate:**

Rank (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

### Mailing Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip + 4 Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature and date \_\_\_\_\_

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

“Good bleckfus” she said, with a bow, then backed out of the little room. She brought the two additional trays, and the three of us purred contentedly as we sipped our highballs and enjoyed our delicious, home-cooked `bleckfus`.

Awhile later, when she came back to remove the trays, we asked if it was possible to take a bath right away, or whether it was too early, and there would be no hot water as yet ...? Often, in the Orient, the hot water was limited to certain hours, and we didn’t want to go over to bathe, only to find that there was no hot water. She said: “I see”, and shuffled off, returning a few minutes later, at 6:00 AM, saying “Bath OK”.

At that hour there was no other activity around the courtyard, so I stripped to my pants and shoes, and, picking up one of the bulky towels she had piled next to the door, slung it over my neck and headed in the direction of the adjoining building, thru the breaking dawn of the new day.

I was tired ... I’d been up for over twenty-four hours, but I couldn’t hit the sack until I’d washed some of the Korean grime from my body. I wondered what the bath facility would be like ... a little wooden tub on a rough concrete floor, with a small tile alcove for dressing ...? I really didn’t know what to expect. I did know, however, that there would be no shower ...the Japanese just hadn’t gotten around to such efficiency. I didn’t really care, just so long as I could scrape and rinse part of the residue from our long Korean camp out.

When I opened the door into a little wind-break alcove, screened from a larger room by a short wooden wall, I could hardly believe my eyes as I turned into the larger room. I found a spacious open area with floors and walls ceramic-tiled in a soft beige, with a darker brown trim. The room was warm and comfortable, and had not one tub, but two. One was the size of a small swimming pool, about 12 by 16 feet, with tiled steps leading down into the four or five foot depth. The water in this pool, clean and clear, was comfortably warm ... not too hot, not too cool. The other pool, also sunken below floor level, was somewhat smaller, perhaps six by eight feet, and about the same depth as the other. It’s water, however, was much, much warmer... the steam was rising from it’s clear surface.

“What an amazing facility”, I thought, “for such a small, unpretentious Inn”.

But then I thought no more about it as I doffed my pants and shoes, to bask in the luxury of a bath that, with the addition of a few dancing slave girls, would do justice to the old Roman baths of ancient days. Ball and Hinck came in after a few minutes, and the three of us soaked and soaked until, after thirty minutes in the hot tub, we were hardly able to climb out under our own power ... we were afraid we might have to call for Mama-san to give us a hand getting out!

Finally then, after a long tiring day, I crawled into my quilt-like bed about 8:00 AM, on the floor of our quaint little ‘Inn’ in Tokyo, and fell into a sound, completely relaxed sleep. I didn’t hear another sound until I felt a hand on my shoulder and looked up to see Harlan leaning over me, asking if I was going to sleep “all night”. I looked at my watch in the dim, fading light ... it was after 7:00 PM and the guys were ready to go downtown to the University Club for a good steak dinner. I’d slept through the whole day without moving a muscle.

Before leaving, we got Mama-san to agree that we could remain another night, then called a taxi to take us into town. After a sumptuous, leisurely filet mignon steak dinner, complete with fresh crab cocktail and a nice Cabernet Sauvignon wine, all served on fresh, white linen, with sterling silver cutlery ... in the University Club dining room, then followed by a series of Benedictine and Brandies in the lounge, while listening to a combo playing all of the old musical favorites of the past ten or fifteen years ... we decided that we had found the one, ideal way to slip out of the War Zone.

We had to ask ourselves: “Which is the fantasy world, and which is the real world? Was Korea real, and this fantasy, or was Korea the fantasy and this, in Tokyo, real ....?” It was obvious that we’d had too much to drink, because we could not agree on the answer.. we no longer knew what the real world looked like!

On our way out, after midnight, we called the Meiji Park Hotel to confirm our reservations for Friday, then went over to thank the desk clerk for finding us such a nice little local inn. He nodded, and smiled knowingly, and asked if it was

quiet. When we assured him that we hadn’t heard a sound all day, he said something like ... “and no MPs?” ... which we really didn’t understand; but we agreed “... and no MPs”. We then took a taxi back to Myoshi’s; the driver didn’t have to ask directions, he seemed to know just where it was located. We were back in our little beds shortly after 1:00 AM; it was still “nice and quiet,” and, as far as we could tell “... still no MPs. “

Awakening late the next morning, Mama-san fixed three more nice ham and egg breakfasts while we bathed and shaved. Then, after counting out a stack of Yen ...we really didn’t know its current rate of exchange, and really didn’t care, the quaint rooms, service and excellent baths were well worth whatever it would cost us.

Mama-san called a taxi to take us, with our four footlockers and three B-4 bags, over to the somewhat more drab surroundings of the Meiji Park Hotel.

The Meiji desk clerk, who spoke excellent English, asked where we’d spent the last couple of nights while waiting for his vacancies to become available, and when we said “The Myoshi Inn”, he broke into a broad, knowing grin. He said that he didn’t realize that Myoshi’s was open again. “It was closed down for awhile” he said. It was only after some questioning that he explained to us that Myoshi’s was, by far, “... the Best Little Whorehouse in Tokyo!” ... and it had been placed “Off Limits” by the Military Police just a few weeks before.

Mama-san was apparently trying to make ends meet by starting a little “Inn” of sorts.

Finally it dawned upon us the “why” of the sumptuous bath facility ... the knowing smiles from the University Club desk clerk, and the efficient, knowledgeable taxi drivers.

“Why”, we asked ourselves, “must we always be late, and the last to know.” Why couldn’t Mama-san have continued her usual business services just a little longer ...while we were there...?

In later years, when I would compare notes with other pilots who had been stationed in the Far East, inevitably the name “Myoshi’s” would filter into the conversation about Tokyo’s highlights, and I would



nod knowingly, and smile. I would never dare to add that I stayed there two full days and nights while it was "Off Limits" to U.S. military personnel, and there was not a single one of their fabulous beauties ... for which Myoshi's was noted, anywhere on the premises.

'Just the old, shuffling Mama-san and Papa-san.

Two days later, after more conventional forays into town to shop along the Ginza, and more delightful meals at the University Club each evening, we finally confirmed flight reservations to Clark Field, and took a bus out to Haneda Airport for an 8:00 PM flight to the Philippines aboard a MATS C-54, on Saturday evening, 11 November, 1950.

Despite Tokyo's many attractions, and the "no reporting date" on our transfer orders ...tempting as they were, they just could not keep us from getting back down to Clark Field. The three of us were convinced that a formal Rotation Policy would be announced as the Korean battles wound down, and if we weren't there to receive our new orders, we might just miss out on an early flight back to the United States.

However, since we had been out of contact with the war for almost a week, we were not aware that our troops were meeting ever-increasing resistance as they neared the Yalu River, and the fighting was becoming more brutal, especially in the mountainous northeast sector ...near the Chosin Reservoir. The battles had just about reached a bloody stalemate .

.... it was then that the massed hordes of Red Chinese troops crossed the Yalu River and entered the war.

*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: **Winter Ferry Flight 3/51**

Temporarily in the Philippines, Biteman ferried F-80s to Japan.

## Errata

In Sept-Oct Biteman story "Race to the Yalu" – 101st Airborne (two places) should have been 187th Airborne.—Editor.)

## HADONG from page 19

and the battalion waited for the air strike on Hadong scheduled for 0945. Much of the Battalion staff congregated with Col. Mott and Gen. Chae and his party at the pass overlooking Hadong about 1 1/2 miles away to the WNW. The road was dominated by a high mountain (which I will refer to as the "North" mountain) northwest (or on the right side of the pass). The road from Hadong approached the pass from the northwest along the base of North mountain.

Capt Sharra spotted unidentified troop movement higher on this mountain but Col. Mott said he had King Company moving up there. It would have been difficult for K to reach there from their column position behind Love in that short of time. Perhaps it was wishful thinking but it was the enemy (as subsequent events proved) waiting to spring the trap. Apparently they were waiting for the column to move and then cut it off. <sup>13</sup>

At about 0900 a column of approximately 200 troops came up the road from the direction of Hadong and like veterans, John Kirby's machine gun squad held their fire, while the enemy marched up the road apparently unaware of the American presence in the pass. (One trouble with the North Koreans was the poor communications between units.) The command group with their first experience of seeing enemy troops were unsure of their identity and Gen. Fat Chae challenged them in Korean. The forewarned enemy jumped in the ditches while L Company now ineffectively opened up. <sup>14</sup>

Jim Yeager's account from the 5th vehicle on the road (which I am inclined to be more than the official versions) said that Gen. Chae returned to his jeep and then all hell broke loose. Chae was killed in the initial flurry with mortar, machine gun and small arms fire coming from the camouflaged enemy on the North Mountain. Headquarters and M Company troops and some of Love men still on the road were brought under heavy fire and they dove for the scant cover off the road.

Now the trap was sprung. The actions showed that the enemy had occupied their position for some time and the recon patrol had been correct in their assessment.

The fire that killed Fat Chae seriously wounded Maj. Raibl and hit others in the Battalion staff. The air force's TACP jeep with its radio was destroyed (Which probably remained inoperative: we don't know.) and the Air Force Officer moved up North mountain to fight as a rifleman. Sadly a flight of strike planes arrived as scheduled but with no ground contact they flew away without attacking. What a difference they could have made! <sup>15</sup>

The men in the vehicles jumped out and took cover in the ditches. One courageous officer jumped on a 3/4 ton vehicle attempting to get its mounted 50 cal MG into action. In a matter of seconds he was struck several times and fell to the ground. (Perhaps the CO of M Company.)

Soon Col. Mott with blood on his face and nose came driving down the road like a mad man yelling "every man for himself. It's a trap!" <sup>16</sup>

## Command Actions

Shortly, Col. Mott with a slight wound and a foot injured while unloading ammo, had disappeared. With Maj. Raibl badly wounded and evacuated the Battalion S-3 Capt Flynn was now running the battalion and tried to bring order out of the chaos. He hurried back down the road to get help for L Company and sent an additional platoon from King to attack up the north mountain. Eventually, he reached the last company in the column where he ordered Lt Makarounis to move Item Company to a gap above Love. Item's 2nd platoon under Lt Chamberlain was to locate adjacent to K Company's left and the third platoon was to help fill the gap on Love's right flank. <sup>17</sup>

## Fighting on North Mountain

Some enemy positions were within two hundred yards to the pass, just above Lt. Morrissey's 1st Platoon. The enemy attacked down hill at the 1st platoon bayoneting two men but the L Company Platoon fought courageously and held their position. <sup>18</sup>

Initially the main danger was the fire coming down from North Mountain onto the men who had little cover along the road. The nearby enemy seemed to be arrayed for ambush with a 400 yard arc that focused down on the road curve short

of the summit.

Some of K Company tried to get above the enemy fighting the first platoon of L Company. The enemy positions were too extensive, too heavily manned and too well laid out.

Further down the road Yeager and Toney were directed by a master sergeant to go forward and turn up a little hollow on the north side and take up a firing position there. For several hours Jim and John fought from that position.

During their ordeal, a tall rather stressed out 1st. Lieutenant ordered Jim to attack that hill. Yeager replied that a "squad already tried and every man was killed" and to send up a mortar to knock out that machine gun that was sweeping the flat open field of about 200 yards.

In time a sergeant and two men showed up with a 60mm mortar and only about 6 rounds of ammo. They could not hit the machine gun nest and Yeager told the sergeant to cease fire because he might be hitting K Company. Then a salvo of 120mm mortar landed nearby and the pool mortar man pulled his helmet closer to his head and broke down crying with all the fight drained out of him. The machine gun was finally knocked out by a bazooka round.

By afternoon, about 15 survivors which included the Air Force Captain had gathered in a pocket on the north hill side. Yeager looked thru his binoculars and saw the mustered colored uniforms of the NKPLA all over the side. The group had been isolated for several hours and they decided to make a break for another hill. Some of the men made it back but the Air Force Captain stopped to catch his breath from running up the hill and squatted on his knees close to Jim. He was shot there - a brave man who joined a fight that he had the right to be back away from and no one would have said a word against him.

Lawrence "Larry" Lehr had joined King Company four months previously and had been made the gunner for one of the three light air cooled. 30 cal machine guns. At first his platoon was not involved in the heavy fighting but soon they were ordered to the high ridge of North Mountain. They began to receive rifle and machine gun fire as they advanced up the side of the mountain but only made it up to a small hogback leading to the main

**The next time they run out of ammo there was no chance to get any more and the squad leader told them to throw away the receiver and put a termite grenade on the gun.**

ridge.

They went into action but only had four boxes of ammo (250 rounds to the box). This didn't last to long and the ammo bearers managed to get back to the ammo point and obtain two or three more boxes. When the squad leader was gone searching for ammo incoming mortar rounds began to land in their midst. One of the squad was hit in the leg and a piece of shrapnel hit Larry in the butt but he was not about to go to the rear.

The squad got the word front Platoon Sgt. Thomas O. Hayes that Capt. Joseph K. Donohue, the King Company CO had been killed. There was a "shit pot full" of easy enemy targets for Lehr's machine gun and the riflemen were holding their own with not one man running. The new men in the company fought alongside - proving that these green American troops could stand the ground when thrown in a battle they were mentally unprepared for.

The next time they run out of ammo there was no chance to get any more and the squad leader told them to throw away the receiver and put a termite grenade on the gun. Just after that the squad leader was shot through the head. Larry, who carried a 45 pistol took the squad leader's M1 instead and continued to fight with that.<sup>19</sup>

### **The Reserves Are Committed**

Item Company led by Lt. Makarounis was at the rear of the Battalion column on the road behind the Heavy Weapons Company (M) and Battalion Headquarters Company personnel. From there they heard the shooting commence about a mile to their front. What were they fighting? Was it guerillas? The mortars that were firing - was it ours or theirs?

The first indication of things not going as predicted came when a Lt. and two men ran back from the fighting. The shaken M Company Lieutenant said "all hell broke loose" and their Heavy 30 MG had "no rifle protection to cover us and the NK overrun of our position". They had abandoned the MG to the uniformed enemy: definitely not a "bunch of peasants armed

with pitchforks and clubs."<sup>20</sup>

However not all the enemy were in a uniform. A Korean in the typical civilian apparel came walking toward the Heavy 30 MG manned by Gabriel Janusheske and other M Company men. He looked right at Janusheske and then drew a burp gun that had been concealed under his garment and shot the mesmerized GI from about yards away. The machine gun never fired one round; Gabriel said it was jammed with cosmoline.<sup>21</sup>

Lt. Makarounis called Battalion a couple of times to ask for instructions for Item Company but could get no response from the dispersed command. Finally a staff officer came by and told him to move his unit closer to the action. Lt. Robert L. Chamberlain led his platoon forward along the road and began to be hit with mortar fire. Makarounis recalled the company to their previous position. Again the Lt. called Battalion for instructions and once again received only the word. "Wait."

Finally, Capt Flynn acting as Battalion Commander in the absence of Col. Mott gave the order directly to the Lt. to move his Company forward to assist L Company by attacking the gap between L and K Companies. Since a previous move up the road had been met with heavy fire, a round about route was chosen to utilize the cover of the rice paddy ledges on the left side of the road. According to Makarounis that move was countermanded, but I believe his memory is wrong. The NK mortars began to take a toll on the men in the reserve positions and most of the Battalion trucks were turned around and driven toward the rear. The wounded Pvt. Lester Winningham was picked up and thrown on one of the trucks as it was pulling out.<sup>22</sup>

It appears some of the Item Company men did reach the North hill near the road. Pfc. Frank Myers of Item company related to having seen Jim Yeager who was on the hill. Frank also tells of observing three enemy columns moving down the valley east of the north hill headed for the previ-

ous Item Company position. This would explain how the Battalion was cut off to the rear and trapped in the rice paddies.<sup>23</sup>

### **Left of the Pass**

Some of L Company were on the lower ridge of Hill 115 to the left of the pass which also appeared to be where the Battalion command was (or what was left of it). The Battalion was in confusion. The only one running things seemed to be Capt Flynn (S-3) and he had left to give orders to the units on the road. At least to some extent, the radio net was working because Lt. Makarounis in Item company had made several contacts but there was no response from the staff.

Initially the enemy effort was focused on the road and the North Hill and L Company men on Hill 115's ridge line were holding there own against lighter enemy attacks. But their situation grew more serious as an enemy column which had been on the Hadong road, began to swing around their front.

John Kirby was an ammo bearer in the machine gun squad of the 3rd Platoon of L Company which was located near the pass. The squad leader Cpl. James Ward directed the MG fire as the enemy unit began a frontal attack from the south. Bullets and mortar shells coming down from North mountain added to their tenuous situation but the squad held their ground. One shell hit the machine gun emplacement knocking it out and blasting the ammo box beside Kirby's hole.

As the enemy held Love in place the North Koreans began to maneuver toward the right flank of the company front. Flat trajectory fire from the direction of Hadong began to impact on Love Company; but other units protected by the hill mass of the North Hill reported artillery shells sailing over their head and striking behind them.

### **The Enemy and Their Tactics**

Unknown to American forces until two or three days later the enemy was the veteran 6th NKPLA Division, under leadership of the brilliant Gen. Fang Ho San, which had slipped down the west side of Korea and now had turned eastward and was headed for the capture of Masan and Pusan. The Division was formerly a division in the Chinese Communist Army before being shipped home to Korea in 1949. There were veterans of years of

fighting the Japanese and the Chinese Nationalists.

(The following is pure conjecture which is drawn from other actions and logical conclusions based on time of certain actions, topography and normal NK tactics.)

The initial enemy on the North Hill appeared to be at least a company but was probably a battalion. The unit marching up the road from Hadong would be a lead company for a battalion that would lead the drive toward Chinju. Because of the road restrictions the Division had to attack in column of companies and battalions. The presence of 120mm mortar fire indicated a regimental presence in Hadong. As usual, there is a tendency to overestimate the size of an enemy attack force but it appears that the 29th battalion was fighting a regimental size force.<sup>24</sup>

After the ambush started, it took the enemy commanders in Hadong some time to give the orders and get their units moving. They sent one enveloping force (probably a battalion) north up a small trail that crossed a saddle northwest of North Hill. These units marched about one mile up the trail and crossed the saddle and swung southeast (east of North Hill) to envelope the 29th's right flank and cut the road behind them. This column would be the enemy that Pfc. Myer saw coming down the valley behind him headed toward Item's previous position.

The enemy column coming up the road sent at least one company around the 29th's left flank and engaged the L Company men on Ridge 115.

About two hours after the fight started, the NK regimental 120mm mortars began to fire from Hadong which appears likely to be a location of a Regimental Headquarters. The 29th Battalion had a tiger (regiment) by the tail and couldn't get away. But the tiger was getting scratched up pretty good too. It was the first hard fight the 6th NK Division had in the Korean War.

### **Situation When the Collapse Started**

On North mountain, Lt. Morrissey's L Company platoon had only about one third left and King Company had lost a lot of men and their CO.

The enemy held terrain on North mountain dominated the battlefield.

After fighting for several hours ammo was about to run out. The enemy outnumbered the 29th at least three to one by this time and had closed off the road to the rear.

The reserve company (Item) which could possibly have dug in and held the door open had been committed to "help out" L Company. The route of approach taken to hold down casualties became a trap when the enemy came down the hill.

Lt. Phillips of L Company reported to Capt. Sharra that he had found Col. Mott in a nearby foxhole. Phillips then carried Mott to Sharra's position and Mott told Sharra to take command and get the battalion out. Later a radio message from Col. Mott got through to Capt. Flynn and he ordered all of the remainder of the Battalion to pull back.<sup>25</sup>

### **The Tragedy Begins**

Capt. Sharra immediately sent word for L Company to pull out. The two platoons on the south side withdrew but Lt. Morrissey's platoon on the north side didn't get the word. According to some books L Company troops were supposedly loaded on trucks and sent back to Chinju. I frankly don't believe it happened that way at all. The road was cut leaving two escape routes. One was south to the ocean and the other was across the small river and around the hills to the trucks which were back at the battalion rear away from the fight. All of the L Company veterans that I talked to waded or swam the river or walked over the bridge to the south.<sup>26</sup>

Capt. Flynn was near the pass and sent word to Lt. Morrissey to pull his platoon down from the hill. There were only 12 men left. The platoon despite all odds against it had held on.<sup>27</sup>

Now one section of enemy poured across the road to occupy ridge 115 and raced along the ridge to cut off the Americans trying to escape across the river. The enemy that had been facing Love Company on the ridge came up to join the shoot.

The enveloping column coming down the valley east of North Hill occupied the low ground vacated by Item Company. They were now in an east-west line in an arc facing south preventing escape down the road.

Up on the North Hill in King Company a Lt. came running by and told Larry Lehr



and others that they were surrounded and and to "get out any way they could". A generally "out of control" rout ensued with no one in charge. The enemy pursued with GI's being cut down by small arms and mortar as they ran down the hill. Larry said: "At the bottom we started trying to run east down the road but ran into a hail of fire. Our troops were falling all around us."

Across the rice paddy field was a thick one or two acre stand of bamboo on a low hill overlooking the small river on the other

side. Some the men tried to run across the paddy dikes and were being "cut down like cordwood and only two of three guys made it to the bamboo". Larry and several others attempted to use the dikes for cover and slipped into the water covered rice field.

"We started half swimming, half crawling through the paddy which by this time was sloppy mud. We could hear and feel slugs hitting the bank above us and sometimes hitting the guys in the paddy. The guy in back of me took a round through the head and died instantly. He was pushed out of the way and we continued on."

"At the end of the paddy there was a fairly steep incline up out of the paddy to reach the bamboo stand. Although it was only about 50 feet the incline and the mud from the guys before us running up the slope made it very slippery and difficult to get any footing to make it to the bamboo."

"About half way up the incline the guy in front of me was hit in the back and was bleeding badly. I managed to pull him into the bamboo without being hit."

"I looked back at the paddy and the road beyond and I vividly remember seeing NKPA soldiers bayoneting our guys who were laying down." (presumably wounded and taking prisoner the guys who were surrounded and still upright.)<sup>28</sup>

A buildup of survivors from North Hill joined Item Company and some of L Company trapped in the rice paddies. There was perhaps one hundred in the vicinity of Lt. Makarounis. A creek bed ran southeast to the small river (Hoengchon gang) about 400 yards away. This seemed to be a possible exit route and large numbers of men began to use it.

Pfc. Cecil Clemmons a 17 year old

assistant BAR man in Item Company heard that Makarounis was going to surrender the company. Some one said: "You have a choice to surrender or make a run for it". The young Pfc. didn't understand the surrender, they still had weapons and ammo. He thought you were supposed to keep fighting; but the word was Makarounis wanted to surrender to save the helplessly wounded.

Clemmons saw the white flag waved as he headed for the river. The water was too deep to wade where he crossed and he almost drowned as the current pulled him downstream. He rode the current past on looking NK troops before he finally pulled out on the other side.<sup>29</sup>

The river was about 20 feet across and in some places upstream it could be waded, especially by taller men. Clothing, ammo and weapons were discarded by many in their attempt to cross the stream: even so, some of the men drowned. One thing that surprises me is that many times fleeing troops would throw down their weapons. Good grief man: it is the best friend you have, it's your chance to fight back; however, in many of the cases the man may have run out of ammo or his weapon was jammed with mud from the rice paddy that it would not operate. Mud in the barrel can cause it to split if fired. Still, the weapons should have been carried out if only to deny use by the NK or to clean up and use later. But who are we to condemn men who are in mortal danger trying to escape with their lives.<sup>30</sup>

Rod Schuneman, with his buddies, using the old move while I cover you and you cover me when I move technique were hard put to build a fire base and they drifted south to the small creek bed moving away from the enemy which had been in large numbers above them on the nearby hillside. His unit lost all cohesion from the shock. (Some spoke of officers "bugging out".) Rod and his buddies also crossed the same rice paddy to get to the Hoengchon River.

Rod (a careful meticulous kind of man to this day) took off his boots, tied the shoelaces together and placed them around his neck in an attempt to keep them dry (17 year old's mistake). He slipped on the bank and in grabbing for his boots, the M1 sling fell from his arm and in the deep water he lost both the

shoes and the rifle. On the other side he picked up another M1 and firing as he followed the river valley he expended almost all of his ammo.

Rod and his fellow survivors engaged in a fire fight across the river with the enemy as they retreated northeastward. Finally, they reached protection behind an unoccupied hill where the river turns northward. There they used a foot bridge and crossed back over the Hoengchon. They followed the road port northward to Hoengchon village where the survivors gathered around the mess truck. A nervous cook ordered them to not ignite the immersion heaters (where one cleaned his mess gear) because the "whoof sound it made (when it was lit) "might draw fire".

In a day or two Rod and the other shoeless men were issued replacement combat boots.

The firing suddenly diminished by the time Larry Lehr and his wounded buddy (whose name he never knew) reached the river bank. At their crossing location further up stream the river was more shallow and they waded across with no difficulty. They pushed on into the woody area where about 15 men had gathered around a clear mountain spring. A short, well organized acting Lieutenant came up to the men. Larry thinks it may have been Lt. Morrissey (the leader of L Company's platoon that had fought on the North Hill.)

The Lieutenant showed his leadership skills by pointing out that it would be more better to head for the "boonies" and the men agreed with him. So the group took to the more difficult wooded hills on their round about path.

Now, the young Lieutenant had a team brought together by mutual peril and a feeling of commitment to their own decision. No running away to be picked off alone. The decision was the only logical one to make, but instead of a gung ho "follow me men!" the Lieutenant had imparted a feeling of being part of a team. He was a smart man.

Lehr's buddy was bleeding badly from the back and they couldn't staunch the flow. Lehr started to pick him up but he wanted to be left at the spring. He said he couldn't make it any further.

"He thanked me for helping him but refused to go with us and insisted we take off immediately. The last I saw of him was

taking a drink from a canteen cup and gesturing for us to go on. I'm sure he died there." 31

Pvts John Kirby and Neal Vance and others from Love Company headed for the one escape route. In the valley between the two low hills survival became a matter of chance as the gooks fired into the fleeing groups from as close as 30 yards. Enemy groups had converged on the two hills overlooking the rice paddy next to the river and as the GI's ran or crawled down the ditch or rice paddy they were fired on from the left and right rear.

The majority of the men who died were found in this rice, paddy.

John Kirby was helping the badly wounded Pvt. Mariano Sanchez along and managed to get him across the river. Although John was a strong swimmer they came close to drowning as they barely reached the other bank.

Some of the men reported the NK just looked down on them with out firing as they made their way across the river. (Perhaps they had used up their ammo.)

About 100 of the men drifted down ridge 115 or its slopes to about one half mile down stream from the slaughter taking place at the rice paddy. There they crossed the road bridge and headed for the ocean under the direction of a South Korean interpreter.

Soon they came to a hut where some women had prepared rice in a large iron wok. At the direction of the interpreter, L Company's Pvt. Charlie Fesperson and others dipped into the rice for their first food after the grueling day.

They continued on to the ocean about 5 miles away. There a South Korean Navy (or Marine) man on duty yelled for a nearby fishing boat to come to shore to pick up the Americans. Upon his firing a rifle in their direction the fisherman complied.

The men loaded on but apparently as part of a bargaining agreement. Charlie had to give his 45 to the seamen (smugglers?). Charlie refused but an American officer came up to him and told him to go ahead. "It was part of the agreement" he said

Some of the survivors made it back to the battalion rear that evening. Later others were picked up by a 19th Regt patrol on the road to Chinju or entered the 19th lines west of Chinju.

About 80 American prisoners were in Hadong when approximately 11 were liberated two months and one day later by the 3rd Battalion of the 24th Infantry Regiment. 32

The other survivors suffering from malnutrition, many from wounds and/dysentery were marched to a Seoul POW compound. After the Inchon Invasion they were again marched northward to Pyongyang in what the prisoners called the "Korea Death March." Weakened or sick men unable to keep up were shot beside the road.

Lt. Makarounis escaped when the North Koreans evacuated Pyongyang but other prisoners fell in the "Tunnel Massacre" northeast of there. When UN pursuit drew close the captors attempted to annihilate all of the prisoners but some survived. Among them James W Yeager and John R. Toney from the Recon section of the 29th, 3rd Battalion Headquarters company.

### **A Small but Sweet Revenge**

There was still fight left among the Survivors. A squad of volunteers was formed from Item Company to return down the road for rear guard duty. Leading the group was the WW11 veteran Sergeant Adrian L. Bilbodeau. They loaded on a deuce and a half and drove back to the gap where the river and road came close together to curve around the end of a big hill. They backed the truck up to the hill for a fast exit to the road. Now properly loaded with ammo, they toted a 50 cal machine gun through the gap to cover the road coming from the battle site.

To support the 50 there were riflemen and a BAR (Automatic Rifle) team. Cecil Clemmons was the assistant to the BAR man Recruit Ernest Esslinger. The tall, slim pale eyed Esslinger was a man who never smiled or had anything to do with the others. A very capable BAR man, in time he loosened up to Clemmons but it was a working relationship. The cold eyes seemed to look right through a man and men kept their distance never attempting to get close to Esslinger.

Now it was the NKPLA's time to become overconfident and pay for it. Probably after looting and gathering of material from the battlefield a lead platoon of about 30 men flushed with success came marching down the road into the gun

sights of the GI's waiting in ambush.

The big 50 pounded and the BAR chopped away in 3 and 4 round bursts with Cecil feeding fresh 20 round magazines to Esslinger as they went about the business of wiping out the gooks on the road. Riflemen picked off individuals trying to escape but one slipped away and came through the bushes to a few feet from Sgt Bilbodeau. Spotting him the angry Sergeant while drawing his 45 exclaimed "Why you son of a bitch!" and shot the gook son of a bitch dead.

As the enemy troops began to build up to assault, the men discarded the disabled MG and hauled ass to the truck and sped away. Cecil said, "It felt damn good after what they had been doing to our guys."

At noon of the 28th a 3rd Battalion muster showed 396 men for duty; however, on August 1, 118 men and 3 officers reported in from the Pusan Replacement Depot to rejoin the Battalion. The missing in action (MIA) now totaled 349 men. Casualties had been over 50% in a fight at the enemy's selected ground.

Col. Mott was relieved August 15 "for medical reasons." Veterans of the debacle say "Without a doubt he should have been court martialed or at least busted" but he retained his rank. It was said he was a West Pointer. Many angry men call it a cover up.

318 American bodies were found in September 1950. Most of them near the river.

How could commanders despite the enemy's demonstrated strength in the preceding three weeks so underestimate the enemy capability as to deploy the 29th's 3rd Battalion in such a reckless manner? Some of the officers such as Maj. Raibl recognized the danger but were overruled or were ignored.

It may be that the American Officers and men in Japan and Okinawa had judged the enemy from the survivors they had seen in the defeated lands that they occupied - a devastated people living in poverty with few modern machines, speaking poor English and meekly submitting to the orders from the occupation forces.

Especially in the officer corps, a sneering attitude of superiority permeated the American view of the oriental. In those days, Americans tended to be much more

racist in their viewpoint than in the present day; and the Orientals were regarded as an inferior race that we could physically beat up on and that were not smart enough to match wits with the occidental commanders. So, how could they stand up to our army and air force?

A similar mistake was repeated in Task Force Kean and by September the leaders grew very cautious in regard to the NK. Buoyed by the Inchon Invasion and subsequent victories, the fault of under estimation of the oriental armies came forward again and contributed to a defeat of the UN Forces in November. Then a defeatist attitude prevailed until Ridgeway took control just before the new year and turned the war around by February 1951.

.....

**1** Military "Intelligence" under the G-2 or S-2 staffs is information that has been processed and evaluated to be deemed useful. The process is supposed to eliminate rumors or incorrect info. This does not mean that military "Intelligence" is considered to be a "for sure" judgment - many times it is under the classification of an estimate or possibility and will be tagged as such. It can be wrong as hell, such as the size of the Chinese Intervention in November or the size and quality of the North Koreans in the Cholla Nam do Province in late July 1950.

**2** Appleman. South to the Naktong. p211 - 212

**3** The rest of the Regiment remained as occupation troops in Okinawa which had a small but active communist group.

**4** In the hectic days of July the only American Regiment with three Battalions was our black 24th regiment.

**5** Battalion or higher training benefits the officers, headquarters (especially commo) and heavy weapons but the riflemen's job is basically the same for platoon or regiment level.

**6** Appleman. South to the Naktong. p 216

**7** Ibid

**8** Ibid

**9** The patrol activities were related by James Yeager in a letter to the 29th Regiment Association entitled The Truth About What Really Happened at Hadong and in a letter from Col. Rodman in Feb 1996. There is some conflict between the two accounts as to time and members of the patrol.

**10** Ibid

**11** Appleman. South to the Naktong. p 216

**12** Ibid

**13** Yeager

**14** Appleman. South to the Naktong. p 217

**15** Ibid

**16** Yeager

**17** Appleman. South to the Naktong p 218 - 219: 3rd Bn. July-Aug historical report. There is conflict between Applemans account from an interview with Maj. Flynn and the historical report which has the Bn. moving out at 0600 and securing the high ground 1/2 mile from Hadong. I believe Applemans account is more likely.

**18** Appleman. South to the Naktong. p 218

**19** Letter from Larry Lehr to Yeager.

**20** Taken from a taped conversation with ex-POW Lt. Makarounis by Merle Miller.

**21** Related to me by Janusheske in Phoenix 1994. He said the MG had been recently issued and had cosmoline inside. He arrived in Okinawa on the USS Walker in time to be sent to Korea. Many vets (sensitized by wrongful criticism) say that was a lie; but I do not believe that one could say that no weapons had cosmoline in them unless they had inspected all weapons themselves. I assume he was correct.

**22** Recorded Conversation by Makarounis to Merle Miller after Lt. escaped from captivity in North Korea in October. 1950.

**23** John Toland In Mortal Combat p 116 - 117

**24** Also over estimation makes the units and their commanders look better in their reports.

**25** Appelman. South to the Naktong. p 219

**26** Ibid.

**27** Ibid. p 220

**28** Larry Lehr letter to Jim Yeager. Jan. 1995

**29** Telephone W/ Clemmons Nov. 1995

**30** Appleman. South to the Naktong. p 220

**31** Larry Lehr letter to Jim Yeager 1995.

**32** Jim Yeager, Lt Makarounis and Applemans South to the Naktong. p 576

*(Thank you CB Johnson for a great story of the early days of the Korean War including the confusion and lack of communication. I held on to this letter for a while because it was so long and the poor copy made it hard to scan. Anyone that served in the first 9 months of the war knows full well that your story is very close to the truth. No one knows all the facts but enough was seen that would allow one to realize that most things that happened was not the way it should have been. I hope to print the letter from James Yeager that backs up some of the story and also the revenge for Hadong written by you. Editor.)*

## A Loved Ex-POW Goes Home



George and his lovely wife Caroline.

By James R. Kiser  
611 N Overbrook Drive  
Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32547

I am writing about the death of one of my POW friends. Lt. George Shedd was with the 3rd Infantry Division as well as the 7th at some point. He was captured in North Korea near the reservoir on 3 December 1950 and he spent 2 1/2 years plus as a POW and was released on 25 August 1953.

**He was captured in North Korea near the reservoir on 3 December 1950 and he spent 2 1/2 years plus as a POW and was released on 25 August 1953.**

George Shedd was born 25 October 1926 in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. His dad was also a military man for his full career. After the war George was a member of the Army Reserve until 1964 and retired as a Major.

He worked in the furniture business in Mobile, Alabama and was very active in the community. George was a member of the Civitan Club of Mobile and was involved in Boy Scouts as well as a member of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church vestry.

George Shedd was a top notch citizen and he left a loving wife, Caroline, and two fine kids, George P. "Geep" Shedd, Jr. and Lil Shedd Bowah all of Mobile as well as 7 grandchildren. We'll miss our old friend.



# Images of Korea



Hubert reading his mail Korea 1950.



I & R Platoon crossing Han River 1950.



Hubert's temporary living quarters.



Soldiers keeping refugees back 1950.



ROK Soldier posing for picture.



Hubert & Strong's tent Korea 1950.



Hubert & his buddy Strong 1950.



Section Sgt. & Hubert 1951.



Hubert ready for Patrol N. Korea.



Hubert resting by Co. water trailer.



I & R Platoon getting ready for Patrol.



Just finished Chow Korea 1950.

**Photos from Herbert G. Nixon, 13706 Tech Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70818-2951**

I served in Korea from July 1950 to August 1951. I was with the 2nd Inf. Div., 38th Regt. These pictures were made during that time.





Drying peppers near U Jong Bu.



Harvesting Rice 1954



38th Regt. Hqs 2nd Inf. Div. 1953.



82nd Engineer Theater 1954.

### Photos from T. J. Miller

We were in Sasebo waiting to land in Pusan when the truce was signed. Arrived in Korea on July 29, 1953.



Part of old barracks from WWII (Japan Hqs) outside Seoul



Sign 82nd Engineer 1954.



Abandoned Rail Yard from WWII outside Seoul (U Jong Bu.)



Seoul 1953 or 1954.



Abandoned RR cars outside Seoul from WWII.



"Old Baldy" November 1953.



Korean girls hunting for cray fish or something 1954.



**Photos from Janice Feagin Britton,  
500 Spanish Fort Blvd.,  
Spanish Fort, AL 36527-5018**



Group of Army Nurses were caught in a relaxed post as they awaited transportation at one of 5th Air Force's installation to the Korean War front. Most of them, awake for 2 hours or more, welcomed the brief opportunity to grab some shuteye. The nurses, one of the largest groups to be airlifted to Korea represent a small part of the multitude of personnel being flown via C-54s, C-119s, C-47s and C-46s by "the 5th Air Force, to the battle scarred peninsula.



Gunfire was still rattling in the hills overlooking the field when U.S. Far East Air Force planes began landing on the airstrip at captured Wonsan, on the North Korean east coast. First flight nurse into North Korea field was Lt. Janice Feagin of Montgomery, AL who flew in to aid in air evacuation of sick and wounded.



The flight nurse attends patient prior to take off.



The flight nurse adjusts blanket as she attempts to make this patient in body cast more comfortable.



Cargo from Japan, 50 gallon drums of gasoline are offloaded from this C-54 by Korean laborers.

"Bataan" personal ship of General Douglas MacArthur, completes the air evacuation of Korean wounded GIs to a 5th Air Force installation in Japan.







An Air Base in Japan — Capt. Lillian Kinkela, flight nurse who has accompanied a plane load of sick and wounded UN personal being returned from Korea, chats with one of her patients as he leaves the transport. The two broad smiles worn by patient and nurse offer proof of the mutual respect existing between them. Capt. Kinkela from Richmond, CA is a member of the 801st Medical Air evacuation Squadron. This trip marks her 100th air evacuation on planes of the Far East Air Forces' 315th Air Division.

Operation "Kiddie Car" — The flight nurse and aeromedical technician are busy loading "Korean Moppets" aboard a C-54 Skymaster. These orphans were flown to safety in southern South Korea, along with hundreds of other orphan children when Seoul fell to the Communists.



Toys—universal language for kids are clutched in happy hands by Korean war orphans on the island of Cheju-do, 75 miles off the south coast of Korea. More than 800 orphans from war torn Korea are housed on the island sanctuary where they were flown by airmen of the Fifth Air Force. Recently the Republic of Korea Air Force took over sponsorship of the orphans from the Fifth Air Force but bundles by the hundreds continue to pour into Fifth Air Force for delivery to the kids. Shown with a group of happy children are three Fifth Air Force airmen and the new director of the orphanage. Left to right are: S/Sgt. Carl Sokolitsky, Orlando, Florida; Mrs. Whang On Soon, newly assigned director of the orphanage; Cpl. James W. Lucas, Appalachia, VA; and Cpl. Thomas P. Cabaniss, Union, South Carolina. March 1951. The kids look good as they were in the orphanage for about three months when this picture was taken.



Orphans bedded down for the trip south away from harm.



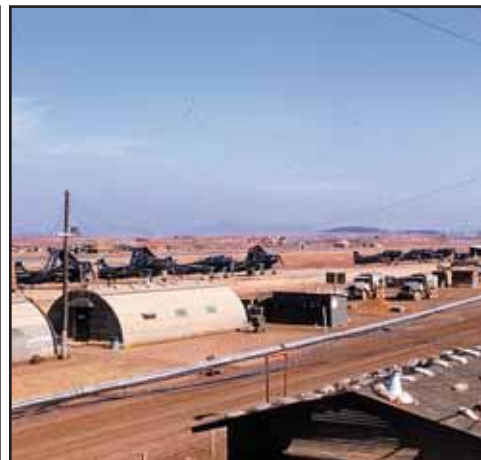
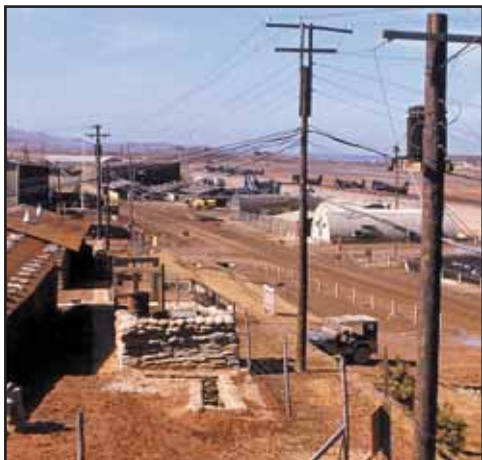
Enroute to Korea — Like any good trooper, Capt Lillian Kinkela, flight nurse of the Far East Air Forces 801st Medical Air Evacuation Squadron, has learned to catch "forty winks" when she has the opportunity. She is aboard a C-54 Skymaster of the 374th Troop Carrier Wing, airlifting combat supplies and passengers from Japan to Korea. Capt. Kinkela will be in charge of a plane load of sick and wounded UN service personnel on the return flight to Japan. This is the 100th mission for this attractive nurse from Richmond, CA.



Aboard an Evacuation Transport Capt. Lillian Kinkela, 2712 Grant Ave., Richmond, CA., flight nurse of the 801st Medical Air Evacuation Squadron of Far East Air Forces 315th Air Division (Combat Cargo), has a cheery word for one of her patents as she adjusts a bandage. Since the start of the Korean War, the attractive young "Angel of Mercy" has flown more then 100 evacuation flights, has saved lives by administering oxygen, blood plasma and other professional duties.

*(Thank you Janice for the great photos and your heroic service. You were a welcomed sight for all including me that flew on your transports to the hospitals in Japan. I will print the remaining photos in upcoming issues. Editor.)*





Photos from William G. Parish,  
38724 Glenmore Dr.,  
Fairmont CA 94536-6842  
Tel: 510-797-3249

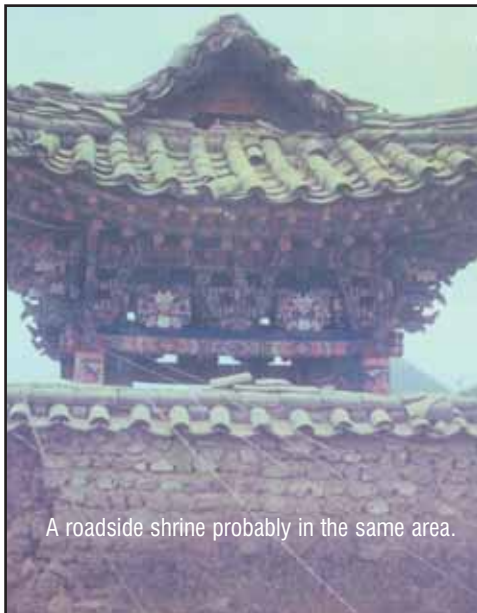
Photos of K-6, Korea, taken in 1953. At that time it was the Air Base for MAG 12, 1st Marine Air Wing. I was a Ltjg, USNR serving as their Dental Officer. Photos are self explanatory.







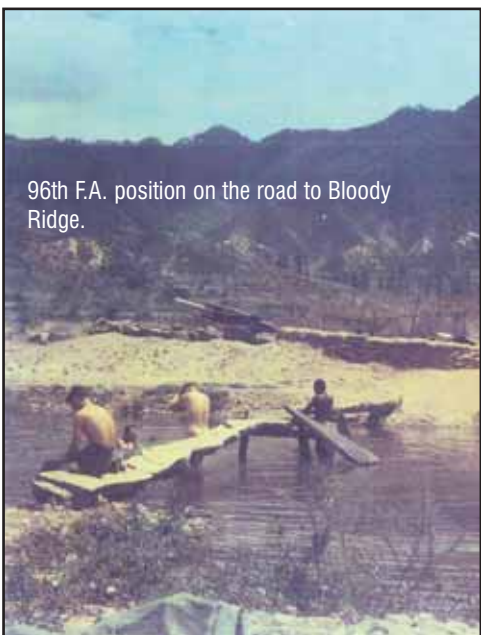
Bivouac of 8221st A.U. north of Yanggu in October 1951.



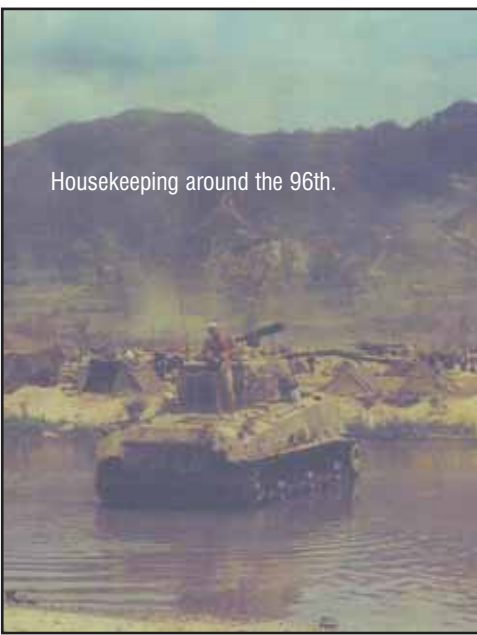
A roadside shrine probably in the same area.



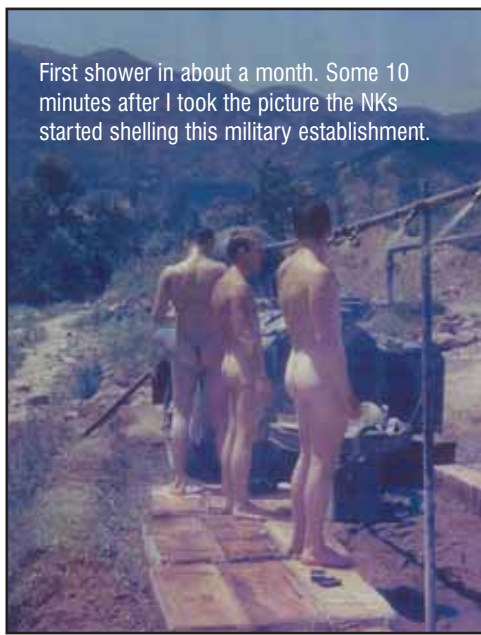
Korean laundry maidens around June 1951.



96th F.A. position on the road to Bloody Ridge.



Housekeeping around the 96th.



First shower in about a month. Some 10 minutes after I took the picture the NKs started shelling this military establishment.



Sign of B Battery of the First F.A. Observation Bn. with which our outfit bivouacked around June 1951.

### Photos from George B. Pakkala, 10401 Wystone Ave., Northridge, CA. 91326

All of the pictures were taken in connection with the Bloody Ridge and Heartbreak Ridge campaigns.



USO Show with Betty Hutton about the same time.



"Moving up."





## I wear my fatigues everywhere

I was with Co. G, 31st Inf. Reg. 7th Inf. Div. when the Korean War broke out. In Sept. 1950 we made the Inchon landing. Later I made Corporal and was sent to Co. I and then went to the Chosin Reservoir.



Fred J. Connolly at Korean War memorial, Penns Landing, PA

For the past 50 years I have raised the flag at many public buildings to mark my anniversary of service. In August 2002 I went back to Fort Dix and raised the flag at Sharp Hall Headquarters on the 50th Anniversary of my separation from service. In June 2001 I participated in the Dedication of the Korean War Memorial in Atlantic City. On 20 October 2001 I received the Gloucester County Military Service Medal. In June 2002 I participated in the Korean War Memorial Dedication in Penns Landing, PA. In January 2003 I participated in the Dedication of the new Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Monroe, NJ. On March 6, 2003 I was awarded the New Jersey Meritorious Service Medal. I am hoping to take part in the Korean War Armistice Day commemoration in Washington DC and to marching on 11 November 2003 at the Korean War Veterans Welcome Home Parade in New York City.

I am proud to wear my fatigues and medals to all ceremonies. I will be 72 years old in June 2003 and I am still ready to serve my country. My wife, Marie, said I never left the Army. She's right - and I never will.

God bless our country and our men and women in service.

Fred J. Connolly  
2 Cedar Drive  
Turnersville, NJ 08012

## Need detail of actions of 5th Cav.

My mother's brother, Michael Galetie served with the U.S. Army during the Korean War. The information listed below was gathered from his headstone. PFC 5 Cavalry, KIA Sept. 18, 1950, BSM-PH. What battle was his unit involved in. Please give me as much detail as possible. Contact Paula Hnatew, 416-13th Ave., Scranton, PA. 18504-2202.

## New Korean War Memorial in Georgia

The Korean War Memorial Committee in Augusta, Georgia, is planning to erect a memorial in Augusta, and dedicate it in on or before Memorial Day, May 31, 2004. The memorial will honor Korean War Veterans from the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA), which includes sixteen counties in Georgia and five counties in South Carolina. The Memorial Committee is seeking the names of everyone from the CSRA that served in the military in Korea, Korean Waters, or Korean Air Space between June 25, 1950, and July 27, 1953.

The CSRA consists of the following Georgia counties: Burke, Columbia, Emanuel, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington and Wilkes; and the following South Carolina counties: Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Edgefield and McCormick. We want the names of veterans whose home of record was in the CSRA during the Korean War, veterans who now live in the CSRA, and veterans who were living in the CSRA at the time of their death. We would like to have the veteran's name; whether they are deceased; county (of residence, during the Korean War, presently, or at the time of their death); whether the veteran was KIA, MIA, or was a POW; branch of service (during the Korean War); rank or rating (during the Korean War); unit or ship in Korea; dates served in Korea; and date of birth. We would like to have the information no later than December 31, 2003.

We are not asking for contributions. The expenses of erecting the memorial will be paid for by Mr. Eugene Chin Yu and his wife, Jonie, owners of Commercial & Military Systems Company, Inc., of Augusta. This is their way of thanking the American servicemen and women for saving the Republic of Korea from communist rule. We may be contacted at Korean War Memorial Post Office Box 6234 North Augusta, SC 29861-6234 or e-mailed to <KoreanWar1950@netscape.net>. Harold W. Harmon, Captain, USNR (Ret), Committee Chairman.

## Hearing Loss and the "Presumptive Period"

By Glen P. McCormick, Ph.D. Chief, Audiology and Speech Pathology Service (Ret.) West Palm Beach, Florida and Henry L. Moreland, Ed.D. Florida Community College at Jacksonville (Ret.) Jacksonville, Florida

Veterans within the state of Florida have, for many years, filed claims for service connection for hearing loss and/or tinnitus that were well grounded, declaring that their problems stemmed from noise exposure in the military. Florida's only Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Regional Office (RO) has steadfastly denied far too many of those claims, stating that the veteran's claims were "not well grounded" and that the veteran missed reporting the hearing loss within one year of discharge; the denials usually went on to state that "Your hearing loss was neither incurred in or aggravated by military service, and your current hearing loss, some 50 years after-the-fact, can not be blamed upon your military experiences". This report will deal with these

blatantly erroneous charges by the RO.

For many years it was in vogue for the RO to state very simply that a veteran's claim was "not well grounded". Seldom was it made clear what part of the claim was not well grounded, and it was even rarer for the veteran to receive direct explanations or help in making a claim well grounded. For a relatively short time, the RO's indicated that they had NO responsibility in clarifying issues for the veteran or for assisting him in making a claim well grounded. Only recently, through the efforts of several of our leading veteran service groups, did the courts state emphatically that every veteran was entitled to know specifically what part of his claim was "not well grounded", and that it was indeed the responsibility of each RO to be of every assistance to a veteran in order that a claim would become well grounded. Fortunately this "not well grounded" explanation has lost favor with the rating specialists, and with their supervisors... but only because veterans organizations demanded it.

Americans in general, and veterans in particular, have accepted the fact that noise damages hearing. An acute acoustic event is known to damage or destroy hearing in one or both ears instantaneously. This happens rather often in the military. It is also accepted that chronic exposure to damaging levels of noise leads inevitably to decreased hearing acuity. It is doubtful that any jobs in America are noisier than foundry jobs or the military. Fortunately OSHA now oversees the hearing health of America's workers and is ever vigilant in industry to protect workers from exposure to damaging levels of noise. The military, unfortunately, did not protect service men and women from damaging levels of noise until well after the Korean War, meaning that the survivors of WW II and the Korean War were very likely to have sustained cochlear damage while in the military that did not reach socially handicapping levels until the veterans were forty years of age or older. Thankfully, our military now insists on ear protection for its troops whenever such protection is possible.

Whenever a RO concludes in a Letter of Denial that ...your hearing loss was neither incurred in or aggravated by noise exposure in the military ... the RO is stating clearly that it is contemptuous of a veteran's "right of entitlement"; it is stating that the RO is contemptuous of well accepted medical facts; and it is also stating that it can make such a bold though incorrect statement because no one in authority can effect a change in the independence of that RO. In other words, the denial letter is telling America's veterans that each RO has been allowed to function as a "Government Within Our Government". To date no head of the Department of Veterans Affairs has been/become strong enough to make the RO's change their contemptuous ways. It is the veterans themselves who have suffered financially, physically, and emotionally as a consequence of this weakness in leadership,

When an RO stipulates that a veteran's hearing loss "some fifty years after the fact" can not be attached to earlier noise trauma while in the service, that conclusion by itself points out that one of two things is happening: 1) The rating examiner responsible for the statement is too ignorant of modern physiology to know better, or 2) The rating examiner is following orders blindly, regardless of what he/she might know personally. An ignorant rating examiner should be fired; a rating examiner who blindly follows incorrect orders at the expense of the veteran should be

fired, along with the person/persons who stipulated that "you will say this or else". If this recommendation sounds extreme, one should consider the fact that the needs of deserving veterans are at stake.

The presumptive period for reporting the existence of a hearing loss has been established by the VA as within one year after discharge. This one year grace period was promulgated by someone pulling a number out of a hat, or by some non-clinician who needed simply to fill in a blank on a government form. At any rate, there appears to be no scientific basis for the presumptive period to be set at only one year since health workers familiar with the degeneration of hearing as a result of noise exposure largely agree that it is entirely likely that the degeneration of hearing as a result of noise exposure lasts over a lifetime, going from bad to worse. In short, noise induced hearing losses most often come from chronic exposure to high-level noise and expand insidiously, progressively and can not be ameliorated by existing medical/surgical means. When a veteran is exposed to damaging levels of noise in his/her military career, he/she was exposed to something that was summative ... meaning that every exposure to that noise added to the earlier insult. These are well accepted facts regardless of what an RO might attempt to state when it says that: ... your hearing loss some fifty years after the fact can not be linked to noise exposure in the military. Since noise exposure is summative, that is precisely why a hearing loss typical of veterans from WWII and Korea can be linked to their earlier noise exposure.

Most adults have heard something about the tiny hair cells in the human ear that are central to the process of hearing. Actually these microscopic hair cells 'float' upon a membrane that waves when responding to sound, and the waving motion of the supportive tissue pulls and stretches the imbedded, battery-like hair cells so that they discharge their energy into the auditory nerve, resulting in the perception of sound. Unfortunately, as in the case of either acute or chronic noise, the wave motion can be too intense and the tiny hair cells are stretched and pulled to such an extent that their moorings are damaged. This is the start of what is known as a sensorineural (i.e. nerve) type of loss. Thus the hair cells themselves can be distorted or damaged; their capillary roots become loose or unattached giving rise to lack of blood carrying oxygen; and eventually the microscopic parts in the complex of cells die. As the various types of cells die, they produce toxins that gradually lead to an ever-increasing amount of tissue damage. Thus, what starts as a mechanical injury becomes, over many years, a mechanical/chemical/electrical problem that is known as a noise induced hearing loss (i.e. NIHL). For veterans in particular, this is demonstrated as a kind of hearing impairment wherein lower frequency sounds are heard, but higher frequency sounds are missed. That is why veterans so often say they have trouble understanding their grandchildren, wives, in movies, theatres, restaurants or church, or whenever the background noise is sufficient to 'mask' speech signals. It is basically not so much a problem of hearing sound; it is a problem of correctly understanding what one hears ... especially speech.

Recommendation: If any veteran has been denied a service connection, the denial of which is based upon the issues of "not

Continued on page 42



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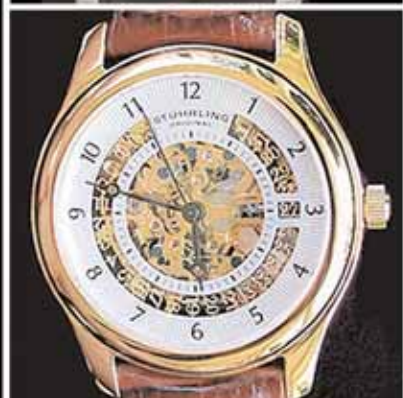
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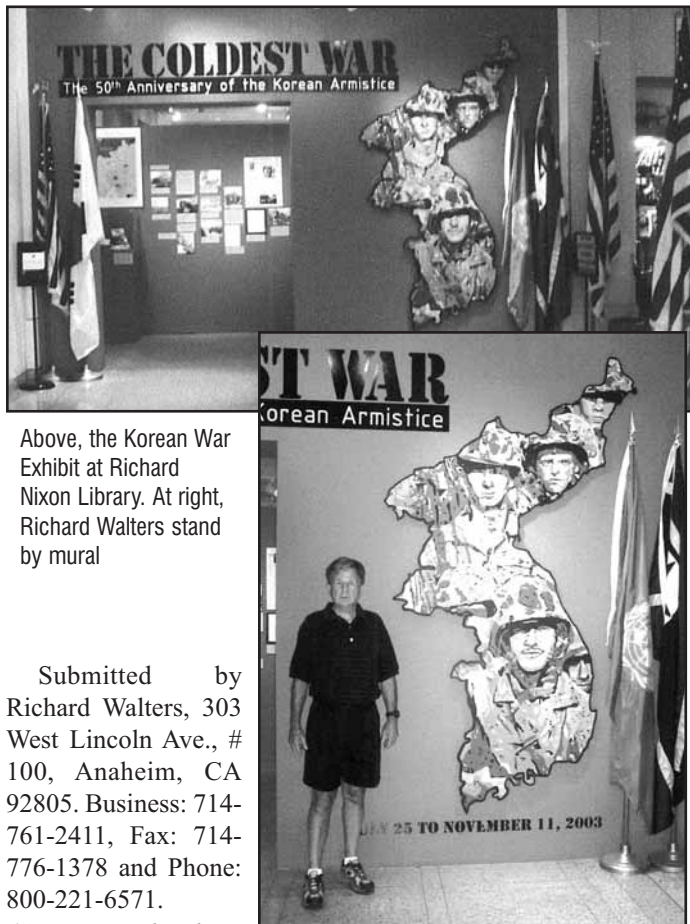


well grounded” or with the stipulation by the RO that... “your hearing loss some fifty years after the fact can not be blamed upon noise experienced while in the service” ...., then that veteran should immediately go to a Veterans Service Officer and re-file his/her claim for hearing loss sustained while in the military. Nerve type hearing losses secondary to noise in the military are very real, very injurious to the quality of life, and deserve to be considered properly by our RO.

Dr. McCormick spent twenty three years working with speech/hearing impaired veterans in VA medical facilities. Retired from clinical work, he is currently a member of the KWVA, Americanan Veterans, the VFW, and serves as Commandant, Martin County Marine Corps League, Detachment 1045, Stuart, FL. Glen P. McCormick, Ph.D., 5006 SE Devenwood Way, Stuart, FL 34997. Tel: 772-288-4002 or E-mail: <glenjudymcc@msn.com>.

Dr. Moreland is a retired psychology professor with credentials in mathematics, history, counseling and guidance, and psychology, and is a member of the AL and KWVA, Chapter 200, Jacksonville, FL. Dr. Henry L. Moreland, 2360 Lakeshore Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32210. Tel: 904-384-2031 or e-mail <moland73@yahoo.com>

## Richard Nixon Library Korean War Exhibit



Above, the Korean War Exhibit at Richard Nixon Library. At right, Richard Walters stand by mural

Submitted by Richard Walters, 303 West Lincoln Ave., # 100, Anaheim, CA 92805. Business: 714-761-2411, Fax: 714-776-1378 and Phone: 800-221-6571.

(Sorry Richard I received this information too late for printing in an earlier Graybeards. The exhibit closed on Nov. 11, 2003)

## Called to serve again in the Korean War

On 25 June 1950 troops from communist-ruled North Korea invaded South Korea. The *U.S.S. Cotton* was called upon again as the United States and 15 other members of the United Nations went to the aid of South Korea.

The *Cotton* was re-commissioned 3 July 1951 at Charleston and returned to the Atlantic Fleet. After conducting training operations in the Caribbean and acting as plane guard for several carriers out of Mayport, FL, she sailed from her home port of Newport, RI 18 May 1953, under the command of Commander Walter J. Roundtree, for a tour of duty in the western Pacific and Korea. After stops at Balboa, Panama Canal Zone; San Diego; and Midway Island the *Cotton* arrived in Japan and tied up at Yokosuka in Tokyo Bay for seven days.

On 29 June 1953 the *Cotton*, along with the destroyers Daly DD519 and *Smalley* DD-565, departed to join TF-77 in Korean waters. For several days the destroyers provided plane guard duty for the carriers making air raids on Korean soil. On 6 July the *Cotton* received orders that she was to engage the enemy. She departed the carriers and rendezvoused with the cruiser *USS. St. Paul* on 7 July. Upon arriving at Kosong they proceeded to shell gun emplacements, supply lines, storage areas and other targets.

The *Cotton* and the *ST. PAUL* then proceeded north to the perilous Wonson Harbor, the site of the longest siege in history. There they destroyed radar sites, storage areas, and truck convoys as well as scattering troop concentrations. On the second day return fire from shore installations scored one hit on the *ST PAUL* (no casualties). The *Cotton*, though under fire was not hit. At this point the battleship *New Jersey* got into the act with her 6 inch guns and the shore batteries were silenced.

On 13 July the *Cotton* returned to the bomb line at Kosong and resumed shelling the afore mentioned targets with great success. On 15 July the *Cotton* rejoined TF-77 for two more days of screening duty, then rest at the port of Sasebo, Japan.

On July 26 after over 3 years of bloodshed an armistice was signed in Korea at 10:01 am. It was later learned that the *Cotton* was the only destroyer from DesDiv-302 to face the enemy. The *Cotton* continued to operate in the area participating in anti-submarine warfare training.

On 25 September the crew's pride in the *Cotton* was confirmed when Task Force Commander, Admiral Hickey, transferred to the *Cotton* by high-line to present the ship with the DesLant Battle Efficiency Plaque for fiscal year 1953.

Elroy Brant  
PO Box 8189  
New Bedford, MA 02742-8189

*Brant was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon – Congratulations)*

## Korean War Vets Reunited After 52 Years

John Sinnicki, Gene Boyle and Ed Hoth, all former Marines from Bayonne's 21st Inf. Bn. recently reunited at a “Last Hurrah” Banquet for American Korean War Veterans held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Arlington, VA. Joining Boyle was his grandson Cpl Bob Win, stationed at Quantico, VA.





Pictured from left: John Sinnicki, Gene Boyle, Cpl Rob Win, Boyle's grandson and Ed Hoth. Except for Cpl Win, they are former Marines from Bayonne's 21st Inf. Bn. Sinnicki and Boyle recently reunited 52 years after they served in Korea together.

Boyle and Hoth also attended a reunion of their outfit, the 2nd Bn., 1st Marine Regt., 1st Marine Div., held the same week at the same hotel, where they were presented with the Freedom Medallion.

The Freedom Medallion is a gift from the people of South Korea to show their appreciation for those who fought to liberate them.

The last time Sinnicki saw Boyle was on Sept. 12, 1951, when Gene took over John's foxhole on hill 749 in Korea. Gene, with the 2nd Bn., 1st Marine Regt. replaced John who was with the 1st Bn., 7th Marines. The last word of advice John gave Gene was to keep his head down. Unfortunately, Gene was wounded the following day and was evacuated to an Army MASH unit for 30 days after which he rejoined his outfit.

Boyle currently resides in Anaheim, CA and is a retired police detective from the Anaheim Police Force. All former Marines from Bayonne's 21st Inf. Bn. are planning to meet at the Chosin Few Reunion, scheduled to be held in Nashville in 2004 at the Sheraton Nashville downtown hotel.

## We bring back the past



Restored TBM Grumman Avenger now at Mid Atlantic Air Museum, Reading, PA



I enlisted at 17 right out of high school from my home town of Hornell NY. Since early 1998 I and about a dozen other Vets have helped Jack Kosko (WWII radio/operator on a TBM Grumman Avenger aboard the *USS Langley*, CVL-27) restore his own TBM.

He donated it in April to the Mid Atlantic Air Museum, Reading, PA. We expect to have it flying before the end of the year. Our ages range from about 68 to over 80. At nearly 72 I'm one of the "kids", just like when I joined the Army in 49. We are looking for another project-gotta keep busy. We would be looking for any additional help (volunteers) -no experience necessary -just have to like old airplanes.

Richard D. Santora  
207 East Heather Rd.  
Bel Air, MD 21014-5331

## Renaming a Mountain to Honor Our POWs/MIAs

Hon Ben Nighthorse Campbell, 679 E. 2nd. Ave. Suite B, Durango Colorado, 81301

Dear Senator;

My name is Bruce Salisbury. I am a retired air Force Msgt, living in Aztec, New Mexico, but tied by my heart to Colorado. Like you, I proudly wear the Korean War Service Medal.

I was born in the little coalmine town of Mount Harris, Colorado in 1930, and we lived in northern Colorado, mostly at grandpa's ranch near to Hayden, until my parents brought us to Durango, in 1935. We lived, schooled, and grew up in Animas City, until 1941. As a child, I remember riding the "Galloping Goose" from Durango to visit Dad, when he worked in the mines at Rico.

Continued on page 67



# Chapter Affairs

## Hawaii Chapter #1

The commemoration of the July 27 Armistice of the Korean War in Hawaii began with the Mobile Display at the Windward Mall in Kaneohe, Oahu. The five day exhibit, which ran from June 27 to July 2, featured maps, charts and Army and Marine photos. A big hit was the authentic "A" frame (chige), which was brought in from Korea. Brochures and buttons were distributed to the more than 1,000 people who took in the display.

The weekend of July 25-27, 2003 was filled with five events staged by the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Commission in honor



Hawaii Civil Air Patrol cadets display the Welcome Home Parade banner as they prepare to lead the parade through Waikiki on July 27, 2003.

of Korean War veterans.

The first event on Friday, July 25, was the placing of American flags by Korean War veterans at the 700 plus graves of the Unknown Soldiers at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). This was followed by a statewide reunion luau at the DAV facility in Honolulu. The event was an authentic Hawaiian luau with lots of food, Hawaiian music, hula dancers and all the cocktails one can drink. It was fun time without any speeches.



Korean War Veterans Association, Hawaii Chapter #1 parade through Waikiki on the morning of July 26, 2003. After 50 years, Hawaii's Korean War veterans finally got their very belated parade.

On Friday, July 25, 2003 nearly 400 Korean War veterans and their guests feasted at an authentic Hawaiian luau. There were no guest speakers. Food, music and refreshments were the order of the night.

On Saturday morning, July 27, the much belated "Welcome Home Parade" for Hawaii's Korean War veterans was held in Waikiki. With Dennis Fujii, PAO for COMPAC, spearheading the event, veterans either marched or rode in vehicles past two reviewing stands on Kalakaua Avenue through Waikiki. Marchers of KWVA HI CH. # 1 had to respond to the stiff command of





“Stomach in, chest out,” by former Drill Sergeant Louis Baldovi. Fujii remembered there was no welcoming parade when veterans returned home from the war and felt that the parade would be a fitting closure for the commemoration period. Korean War veteran and former Army Chief of Staff General Fred C. Weyand was the Grand Marshal of the parade.

That evening veterans from all over the state gathered at the Korean War Memorial in Honolulu for a candlelight vigil. Thirty candles were lit at dusk by Charles Aresta, Henry Ahlo, Floranio Castillo and Jack Hirai followed by the reading of the 456 KIAs whose names are inscribed on the memorial. The solemn event was a declaration of “Remembrance” of Hawaii’s heroes.

The culminating event for the commemoration weekend was a tribute to Korean War veterans at the Waikiki Shell. A steady down pour of forty minutes before the start of the show did not dampen the spirits of the 500 Korean War veterans and guests present. Entertaining were the 111th Army Band and chorus with

Korean War veteran Clayton Murakami points to the Commemorative sign. More than 1,000 visitors took in the display over a 5 day period at the Kaneohe Windward Mall on Oahu. June 27-July 2, 2003.



Participation in community volunteer projects kept Hawaii’s Korean War veterans active and motivated. June 27 to July 2, 2003.



The Chosin Few Aloha Chapter, 5th RCT Hawaii and KWVA HI CH. #1 pooled their resources to put on the Mobile Display. Elementary school students appeared to have a keen interest in the presentation.



Korean War veterans of KWVA HI CH #1 pose after placing American flags on the graves of the Unknown Soldiers at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). Buried there in a special section are remains of 863 unknown soldiers. July 24, 2003. Photo courtesy of Francis Yasutake.



A crowd estimated at 500 gathered at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific ( Punchbowl) on the morning of July 27, 2003 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice. Unless noted otherwise, photos courtesy of Louis Baldovi.

many accompanying vocalists and the Korean Halla Pai Huhm Dance Studio. The keynote speaker was the Consul General of the Republic of Korea, Heung Sik Choi.

Featured was "The Veterans' Memoir," which was a video presentation of readings from the book "A foxhole View" by Louis Baldovi. While the excerpts were being read, photos and film footage of the war were shown on a jumbo screen. The evening came to a close with "A Daughter's Tribute" by Pam Sandridge about her father, Korean War veteran Alfred Los Banos. Kudos to Pam Sandridge and Col. Michael Rawlins for making this event a memorable one.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the hospitality room which was open throughout the weekend. A penthouse, provided at minimal cost by the Ohana Waikiki Village Hotel, was the focal point for Korean War veterans. After each event the call was, "See you at the hospitality room." Drinks, food galore and merriment went into the early morning hours.

The Commemoration of the Korean War Armistice in Hawaii was certainly a successful one.

*(Thank you Louis Baldovi and Aaron Pollick for photos and letter)*

## Miami-Dade Chapter #110 of Florida



Miami-Dade County, Florida declared Korean War Veterans Week by proclamation delivered July 24, 2003. Pictured are: left to right; Dick O'Connell, Chapter Member; County Commissioner, Dennis C. Moss; Miami-Dade Chapter #110 President, Ainslee R. Ferdie; Chairperson of the Board of County Commissions, Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler.

*(Thank you Ainslee R. Ferdie for photo and letter)*

## Mendo-Lake-Sonoma Chapter #274 of California

A new Korean War Veterans Association chapter has arisen in the tri-county area of Mendocino-Lake-Sonoma in California. The inspiration of Amos Moss of the rural town of Ukiah, he and Rick Ostler, the Chairman for the Korean War Commemorative Community for Lake County, decided that the effort should be dedicated to the Commemorative Community 50th Anniversary celebration.

The words of Dick Chaney rang in Moss' and Ostler's ears when volunteers Paul Ferreira, Waldron Vorhees, Lowell Stone and Roy Smith proved, "help is on the way". This group contacted Chapter Formation chairman, Jerry Lake and soon they were off and running.



Above, Seated, L to R, Waldron Vorhees, Lowell Stone 1st Vice Pres., Rick Ostler, Sec., Standing, left, Amos Moss, Pres., Paul Ferreira, Chaplain.

At right, KWVA Chapter Charter.



Recruitment became a major problem, not because of the usual reluctance of veterans to get involved, but because of the rural topography. "Neighboring" cities were as much as 60 miles away. But, due to the vigorous recruitment efforts, sufficient numbers were assembled to establish a staff and fulfill requirements for a chapter. Chairman Lake was able to validate the Chapter on March 4, 2003.

President Moss expressed his gratitude to the chapter founders and stated, "It was the zealous dedication of the few early members that brought the task to fruition. I'll always be grateful for their loyalty. We now have launched a proud unit for the KWVA."

Ostler, who was on patrol with his twin brother Larry in Korea and watched as he was shot, stated solemnly, "While I had the Commemorative Community in mind, a tribute to my brother was also a primary motivation."

*(Thank you Richard Ostler for photo and letter.)*

## Johnnie Johnson Chapter #115 of Ohio

George Bingham has been honored twice this year for his service to his country. He was a Korean War POW for three years. The first honor was being the Grand Marshall of the Lima Memorial Day Parade which celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Korean War. The second honor was having Representative John Williamoski (Ohio House of Representatives), Elida VFW Post, Allen County Commissioners, and American Township Trustees, plus an audience full of Korean War Veteran buddies of George's, see a street named after him (George Bingham Drive) on 29 June 2003.

He grew up in the Elida area, entered the Army, served in Korea, POW under most harsh and difficult conditions, and assisted in



keeping a record of deaths of hundreds of American POWs, an act which helped the families of those men to find closure and deal with their losses. Instrumental in the founding and continued success of the Lima KWVA. He served as it's First President.

Lima Chapter KWVA takes great pride to count George as a friend and comrade and thanks him for his courage and leadership.



**Above:** George and his wife on the reviewing stand. (Military man and wife not named.)

**Below:** George and street sign named after him. (George Bingham Drive)  
(Thank you Wilbur L. Hurd for photo and letter. George you are special and I am proud to know you.)

## Greater Chicago Chapter #25 of Illinois



Chapter Officers 2003 to 2005. Shown seated L to R: Niels Larsen, Pres., Michael Pruchnicki, 1st VP, Leonard DeFabio, 2nd VP, Don Glasell, Treas., Standing L to R: Bill O'Brien, Sec'y., Charles Regas, Chaplain, Bill Stenberg, Sgt. At Arms, and Bill Glennon, Ass't Sec'y.



Chapter Color Guard at Chicago Memorial Day Parade. Shown L to R: Joseph Gatz, Don Glasell and George Krug.



Chapter Color Guard lining up at Chicago Memorial Day Parade.



Chicago Memorial Day Parade, Korean Group Touring U.S. in Parade.

(Thank you Niels Larsen for photos and letter.)

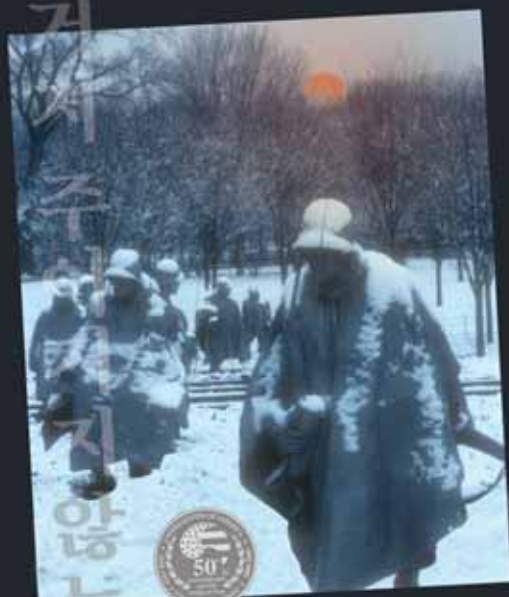




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In 1950 the United States fought with other UN forces against aggression with North Korea to help the people of South Korea. We thank the men and women who fought in this war. They gave us freedom and peace. We will never forget those men and women who gave us much in time of war and let us

*Peace to Remember... Freedom is Not Free*

**B.** Actual size is 18" x 24".

The bottom of the poster print features a listing of all the units and agencies that participated in the war. Includes official Department of Defense and AP photographs.

## OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

A salute to the men and women in service to America



**B.**

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Copy features names of crew, quote from President Bush, and brief history of the shuttle. Design approved by NASA and includes their official logo.

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A SALUTE TO HEROES



**C.**

Actual size is 18" x 24"

**D.** Actual size is 24" x 36".

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**D.**

This limited edition commemorative print honors those military personnel from the United States and the other UN nations who joined together with South Korea to fight against the invading Communists from the North.

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## KWVA Waterford Chapter #227 of Wisconsin

On July 27th there was a commemoration held for the 50th Anniversary of the cease-fire in Korea. This ceremony was held at Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery, located in Union Grove, WI. As part of the celebration approximately 30 Korean War Veterans received their Korean War Service Medals from a member of the Korean Consulate. They were also honored with a commemorative plaque from the Korean Association of Milwaukee, WI. Dan Omelina was Master of Ceremonies, Grant McMillin (7th Div.) Guest Speaker. (Grant was captured at the Chosin Reservoir and spent 32 months as a POW) and our nine member Color Guard. After the service, the Chapter planted a tree in memory of all Korean Veterans who served.



TOP: Color Guard marching to ceremony location are left to right: Julius Mianeki, Bob Almaraz, Bill DeBock, Tony Cifaldi, Jim Becker, Ed Slovak, Frank Faculjak, Smokey Scholzen, and Bob Boulden.

BELOW: Tree planting ceremony. (Thank you Jim Becker for photo and letter.)

## Adirondack Chapter #60 of New York

Saratoga County and our Chapter celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Ending of the Korean War. Although the official date of the ending of the Korean War isn't until the 27th of July, the Chapter got an early start on the celebrations, with the help of the Wilton-Saratoga, NY Elks and Saratoga County. The events really started around Memorial Day with parades in the various cities of this area honoring Deceased Korean War Veterans. Our Chapter participated in most all of these parades.



The picture is from the Chapter Gala Party on the 13th of June. Pictured left to right are Gene Slavin founder of our Chapter, Harley Coon, president of the National KWVA and Bill Shaw president of our Chapter.

On May 31st, at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center a concert sponsored by the county board of supervisors featuring the United States Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus performed in honor of the Korean War Veterans. The Chapter was the color guard. Main speaker was U.S. Congressman John Sweeney. Between 4,000 and 5,000 were in attendance. Fireworks completed the evening.

June 12th saw a Korean War Panel Discussion at the Saratoga Library, with Chapter members there to answer questions.

Friday June 13th, The Chapter held a Gala Party at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs. Roger Calkins acting as Master of Ceremonies welcomed National KWVA President Harley Coon. Mr. Coon was presented with a proclamation from the City of Saratoga, and a gift from the Chapter.

The next day, the 14th a parade was held in Saratoga sponsored by the Wilton-Saratoga Elks honoring all Korean War Veterans. You might say our welcoming home parade that we never had. Harley Coon was Grand Marshall. The parade consisted of nine divisions with about 2,000 marchers. The crowd was estimated about 35,000. The Chapter was color guard for our division. Many Korean War Veterans marched, and transportation was available for those who couldn't. Also, the Korean Community members marched with the Chapter in the parade.

On June 21st the city and county sponsored a 12-piece dance band at the City Center to honor the Korean Veterans, and what a night it was. The Chapter was very well represented, as well as many more Korean Vets from the area.

From the 15th of July until the 20th, the Chapter has a display at the Saratoga County Fair with memorabilia from the Korean War on exhibit. Three Jeeps, an Army 3/4-ton truck and an Army ambulance jeep from our deceased member Francis Sabatino's collection, plus bazookas and small arms, machine guns and grenades are on display. The chapter has been giving out pins and literature about the Korean War and answering questions.

All in all the Chapter has been quite busy, but enjoying every minute of it. We still have activities coming up such as the parades in Bennington VT, and Schuylerville NY. We will keep the memory of the Korean War alive, and never again let it be known as "The Forgotten War".

(Thank you Gene Slavin for photo and letter.)



## Chorwon Chapter #48 of New Jersey

On April 22nd the Chapter received a Certificate of Appreciation for volunteer work at the Paramus Veterans Home. Shown sitting are Bob Bramley and Walter Bilz. Standing are Warren Dartell and Walter Stubs. Walter Stubs and Walter Bilz also received individual awards.



Riding in Van Jerry DeCicco, George Behringer, Red Mosley, Bud Shutz, Arthur Warmbrand and Gil Nersesian.

(Thank you Warren Dartell for photos and letter.)

## Texas Lone Star Chapter #76



In June 2003 Samsung Semiconductor held an open house in Austin for selected VIP guests to announce a \$500 million dollar expansion to their Austin, Texas facility. President George Bush "41" was the key speaker. Below is a picture of President Bush with some Korean War Veterans. Shown L to R are: Sal Gambino, Don Napp, President Bush "41", Carlos Ballard, John Brieten and Charles Laird.

(Thank you Carlos Ballard for photo and letter.)

## Rockford Chapter #272 of Illinois



Judy and Lou Suit represented Chapter 272 at the 100th anniversary stop-over in Rockford of the Harley Davidson owners.



Ed Fehmian and Warren Dartell carrying Banner. Jim Farrell in the center calling cadence in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Pearl River, New York On March 23rd.



Color Guard Left to Right: Bob Bramley, Walter Stubs, Walter Bilz, and Glenn Wershing.



## St. Lawrence County Chapter #284 of New York



The chapter for three days had three events going on at one time. We had a three stand Korean War display, we sold the Rose of Sharon, and had a membership drive. People were very receptive to the display. We have placed the display in schools and other places. The weekend was very successful. In the picture starting from the right is myself Reg Mott, Commander, Howard Despaw, Treasurer, Dick Kirkey, 1st Vice, and Ray Sweeney member. *(Thank you Reg Mott for photo and letter.)*

## Quiet Warrior Chapter #133 of Indiana

50th Commemoration of Korean Armistice July 26, 2003 at WWII Victory Museum & Kruse Classic Car Museum. The program was as follows:

Master of Ceremonies James C. Grizzle Air Force Retiree, Color Guard Posted the American Flag and Department of Defense Korean War Commemoration Flag, Pledge of Allegiance by Kenneth Kurtz Army Veteran, National Anthem by Annette Lanle, Korean National Anthem played on trumpet by Poskie Sim, Invocation by Marcos Botas Marine Veteran and President Quiet Warrior Chapter of Korean Vets, Thank you to the WWII Victory Museum by James C. Grizzle, Remarks by Chief Council Republic of Korea Mr. Seijoong Kwon and Phillip A. Shaul for Sen. Richard Lugar, Keynote speaker Frank Littleton Retired U.S. Navy and President of the Indiana Council of KWV Chapters. Remarks by Korean



KWVA Chapter Color Guard.



KWVA Chapter Booth set up

Community Representative Mrs. Richard Baird Korean Immigrant and wife of Retired Army Officer, Postal Commemorative Stamp presented by Harold Spiess Army Veteran and Postal Service, Announcements by James C. Grizzle, Missing Person Ceremony by John M. Rutledge Army Veteran. Stories from Korea program by Dick Loney Army Veteran, Korea Just Before the War Walter Martin Army Veteran, Early Days of the Ground War Art Flotow Army Veteran & Air Force Retiree, The Frozen Chosin Reservoir Everett T. McFarland Marine Veteran and Former President of the "Chosin Few" Veterans plus Pete Chang and Chief O'Neil, The Air Force in Korea Mel Aldridg Air Force Veteran, The Navy along Korean Coastlines Francis La Plant U.S. Navy Retiree, The Horrors of a Pueblo Crewmember as told to Dick Loney by a former co-worker, Recent Times on the DMZ Pam Ripley U. S. Army Retired.

*(Thank you Dick Loney for photos and letter.)*

## South Central Wisconsin Chapter #245



Our chapter members provided the rifle escort during the presentation of the colors during the Memorial Day program, 2003, at the Wisconsin State Capitol, Madison, WI. Chapter President Norm Moen, third from left, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Gordon Faust, center of photo, and Don Koch provided the rifle escort. Clem Baker, KWVA member, is seen in the white shirt to the right of the photo. *(Thank you for photo and letter.)*

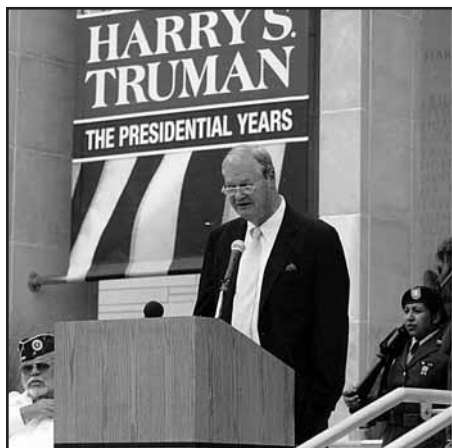
## Missouri Chapter 2

“Conflict and Consequence: The Korean War and its Unsettled Legacy.” June 25, 2003 - January 5, 2004. Opening Ceremony, Sunday, June 29, 2:30 p.m. The exhibition focuses on the personal experiences of those who were caught up in the war, through their letters, diaries and their recollections. Video and audio recordings of veterans recounting their time in Korea play in several locations throughout the exhibition gallery. President Truman also discusses his own thoughts about Korean War policy in a video program, while some of his most private thoughts are captured in the letters to his wife Bess and in his periodic diary entries.

*(Thank you Jack DeLap for photos and letters)*

**RIGHT:** National KWVA Director, Jack DeLap and Congressman Ike Skelton at the speakers stand.

**BELOW:** Congressman Ike Skelton and Council General Kyu-Choo of South Korea.



The Honorable Takao Shibata Consul General representing Japan, National KWVA Director Jack DeLap, Past Commander Missouri Chapter 2, Library Director Michael Devine, The Honorable Ike Skelton, Council General Kyu-Ho Choo of South Korea and The Honorable Karen McCarthy.

## Brevard County Chapter #210 of Florida

As guests of the Florida International Festival, our members and their wives, joined hundreds of other veterans attending the London Symphony Orchestra POPS Concert held July 26 at Daytona Beach's Ocean Center. The concert's program theme was "A Patriotic Celebration". The orchestra, joined by the U.S. Army's Fort Meade "The Soldier's Chorus", presented famous patriotic marches and other selections, songs honoring the armed forces of America and Great Britain. All attending veterans were introduced as a group by Mr. Eric Kunzel, Conductor. House lights were turned on and spotlights were focused on the veteran groups. We received a standing ovation. Ironically, or by design, our KWVA Chapter was seated in Section 210!

On July 27th, as part of this nation's declared celebration of the 53rd Anniversary of the Ending of the Korean War and Signing of the Cease Fire, Some Chapter members and their wives and friends attended services at the Merritt Island First Baptist Church. All attending Korean War veterans were recognized and honored and received a standing ovation. Following the church services, our Chapter had its annual gathering at a



Congresswoman Karen McCarthy, National KWVA Director, Jack DeLap, Congressman Ike Skelton and three members of Missouri Chapter #2.



Annual gathering of Brevard Chapter at a local restaurant. The photo includes the President Julius Farago (seated fourth from the left) and his wife and other chapter officers, members and wives."



local restaurant where a luncheon and additional follow-up celebration ceremonies were held.

(Thank you Charles W. Hackney for photo and letter.)

## Cape & Islands Chapter 1 of Massachusetts



**ABOVE:** On July 26th our Color Guard and Honor Guard presented the Colors at Fenway Park before the Red Sox/Yankee game. Honor Guard member Lee Kenney threw out the First Pitch to the delight of the crowd. (He sold hot dogs at Fenway in 1936)

**RIGHT:** The 27th of July was observed at our Memorial in Hyannis with hundreds of people listening to five of our members telling "how it was" - fifty years ago. Shown here is Chapter Commander Lloyd Sherwood, 3rd I. D., and Bugler Al Madden, WWII, Korea, and Viet Nam.

(Thank you Stan Jones for photos and letter.)



## Oregon Trail Chapter #72



Governor of Oregon, Ted Kulongoski signs the Proclamation Declaring, July 27th 2003, as the "50th Anniversary, Commemoration of the Cease Fire in Korea", remembering Oregon Korean War Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice. Participating in the signing are (l to r) State Senator John Lim, Orville, Herman, Bob Pierce, Don Cohen, Governor Kulongoski, Korean media representative (unidentified), Winifred McBride, Oregon Trail Chapter President, Ron Anderson and Vice president, Troy Kyle.



Cease Fire Commemoration Ceremony at the Oregon Korean War Memorial: One of the featured speakers at the ceremony held in Wilsonville, OR was Major General Alexander Burgin, Oregon Adjutant General.



Some of the crowd which was estimated at around 800 Veterans and their families.

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

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One of the surprises at the ceremony was when Coast Guard Warrant Officer David Long flew a large Chinook helicopter to the event, then later he and his family presented to his grandfather, William Bailey, the medals he had never received for his service in Korea. Mr. Bailey had been a prisoner of war.



"Taking off", the Chinook helicopter piloted by Warrant Officer David Long returns to base.



Warrant, Officer David Long, shown reading the statement honoring his grandfather.



Members of the "Chosen Few" salute, alter placing a wreath on the Oregon Korean War Memorial.

*(Thank you Clint Huffman for photos and letter.)*

## Manasota Chapter #199 of Florida

The Manatee County Veterans Council along with school teachers and principals attended the annual school appreciation breakfast at Bradenton's Freedom Elementary School. Invited guests included county war veterans who have been active during the past year in presenting their military experiences to the district's school children in classroom appearances.



Our chapter members who attended the event are (l - r ) George Staudt, Dora Frierson, Don Courtney, John Fiala, Manatee County Superintendent of Schools and Dan O'Connor.

Bradenton was the site of the Department of Florida's 8th annual state convention in May. State President, Jacob Feaster said over 175 delegates, their spouses and guests attended the 3-day event. Bill Field, past president of Manasota Chapter 199, the host chapter, said the keynote speaker was Major General Nels Running (USAF retired). DoD 50th anniversary of the KWCC in Washington, D. C.





Department of Florida President Jacob Feaster (right) discusses convention business with Bill Field (center) of Chapter 199 as delegate R. J. Paek looks on.



Women of the South Korean Cultural Foundation entertained the delegates with songs and folk dancing. (Left) The Rev. Se Y. Yi presented the invocation in English and Korean.



Attending banquet were two South Florida delegates from Miami-Dade Chapter 110 (L to R) A. J. Camoesas and Ainslee Ferdie, Chapter President.



During an evening of convention entertainment, Dick Roehr of Chapter 199 is shown with his wife. Beside her is Dick Kennedy, also of Chapter 199.



Following a memorial service in the cities Veterans Monument Park, some of the delegates gathered for a group photo.

The largest gathering of Chapter Veterans of west central Florida was assembled in Bradenton to commemorate the 1953 cease fire. The elaborate dinner-dance featured local governmental officials, community leaders as well as guests of the local veterans. The event was held at the Kirby Stewart American Legion Post 24.



**LEFT:** Rabbi Barbara Aiello of Bradenton's Temple Beth El presented a memorable and poignant invocation.

**BELOW:** Guests opened the ceremonies with a tribute to the republic by singing "America the Beautiful," led by Chapter 199 member Dick Kennedy at the podium with 199's commander Gene Gillette beside him.



The keynote address was presented by Col. Charley Price (U.S. Army-retired) who served as the Director, External Affairs, Florida Dept. of Veterans Affairs. Price served with the 187th Airborne RCT in 1951 where he received a battlefield commission to 1st Lieutenant.



## Thousand Islands Chapter #113 of New York



Our Chapter would like to submit this picture of Donald Corbine Russell of our Chapter who spent 3 years POW in Korea.

Quote: In December 1950 his group hit a road block and was surrounded, being a medic he had no way of fighting back, and was taken prisoner. The prisoners were marched for three months until they reached the camp. A circular perimeter surrounded by barbwire. They tried to get you to study their ways and habits. They worked you real hard. In August of 1953 he was released and walked across Freedom Bridge from North to South Korea. He said they were all naked but he thought he could jump over the moon. Men like Donald Corbine and of those who paid the supreme price have not been forgotten.

*(Thank you John E. Sawyer for photo and letter.)*



Meals were served in a crisp military style by junior ROTC Army cadets from the local Bayshore High School.

*(Thank you Chapter #199 for photos and letter.)*

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## To the unknown soldiers

These men fought in foreign wars and came home alone  
One by one they arrived.  
But, as they did they came home to a larger family  
Then the one they left behind.  
For they came home to America and to the American people.  
They came to our hearts and to our souls.

For these men are  
The unknown soldiers.  
Unknown but to God.

This monument symbolizes:  
The sacrifice for freedom  
The hope

For those men who are still missing  
For those yet to come home to us from

These foreign lands.

For those families who still do not know  
And for the sons, daughters and other family  
Members who still wait for those left behind.

Those in power called these wars - a Conflict.  
What they called Conflict - we called - War.  
For these men the war has not ended, but has just begun.  
A new war that was started as the old one ended for them.  
A war not as we know it.

But a war for an identity.  
An identity that will allow these men  
To be at rest and eternal peace.

*Bob Sharrard*

*Written by a Korean War Veterans son  
that served in Korea 1993 to 1995*

## A Grandmother's Prayer

*Written by  
Elinore Lorraine Walker  
Copyright 1998 Library Of Congress*

Listen Servicemen and women...

DO NOT FEAR

GOD is setting.....very near  
Our dear country..... you had to defend  
You had to leave your family and friends

YOU ARE VERY BRAVE INDEED

To fight for our country....

In time of need

Ask your HEAVENLY FATHER.....

IF HE WOULD PLEASE ....

Bring you back home .... safely  
I'm a senior citizen and cannot go

But I'm sending my prayers

AND I WANTED YOU TO KNOW

You're on my mind.... each and every day  
You left everything behind.... what a price to pay  
YOU ARE ANGELS IN EVERY WAY!!!!!!  
GOD BE WITH YOU,,,,,EACH AND EVERY DAY

## ORIENTAL SUNSET

Them drawing of night from the East,  
Creeping upon the most glorious sunset  
that I shall ever see;  
A blazing sky, a ball of fire,  
Setting in the Japanese Sea.

A ship full of men,  
Heading for home,  
With thoughts of buddies,  
Who will never see home.

The wake of the ship,  
On a mirror like sea:  
Your face in the waters,  
Bidding, "Return my love to me."

The battles are over,  
The long nights soon will be;  
And I will be home,  
With my love for all eternity.

Thru the long months, I've waited  
For this moment to be,  
When I would sail home  
To my love, true to me.

Stars in the East, Sun in the West,  
Ship on its course;  
Speeding me home from the wars,  
To my wife, soon to be.

My only regret is,  
Perhaps she will never see  
A sunset as glorious,  
As this one is to me.

John R. Davis  
Heavy Mortar Co., 17th Inf.

## KOREAN WAR VETERAN'S STAND TALL

We are the ones, that caused the Communist To Fall.  
It wasn't President Reagan that tore down the Wall  
It was the blood of the Korean War Veterans,  
That caused it to fall.

We made sure it would never be raised again,  
Although we lost about 34,000 men.  
We lived like animals in that far off land,  
We knew a lot of us would never see home again.

We survived 40 below zero and monsoon rains,  
Some of us had wounds with gangrene had set in.  
We went threw hell in that far off Korean land  
We lost a lot of buddies, they were never seen again.

As we are getting older and dying every day,  
Maybe God will help us,  
Join our "BUDDIES" in HEAVEN one day.

Stand Tall, Korean War Veterans,  
To me you are the tallest of all Men  
May God be with you all, AMEN

*From an old wounded 7th Cavalry man.  
Copyright: Ed Beam  
Staff Sergeant, USA*



# Korean Battlefield Tours for 2004

## **"Second to None": 2nd Infantry Division Battlefield Tour:**

**April 7 - 16, 2004**



Sponsored by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division Association and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division Korean War Veterans Alliance, this tour will visit battlesites of the "Indianhead" Division, including the Pusan Perimeter, Massacre Valley, Twin Tunnels and the village of Chipyeong-ni, the Punchbowl (Hills 1179 and 1243), Heartbreak and Bloody Ridges, the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys and the OP Line of Resistance along the Yokkok-chon River Valley, including Old Baldy. We will also visit the active-duty 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, now stationed at Camp Casey, in Tongduchon, north of Uijongbu. All are welcome on this tour.

## **Joint Battlefield Tour for the 40th and 45th Infantry Divisions:**

**April 21 - 29, 2004**



We commemorate the Korean War Service of the two Federalized National Guard Divisions, the California (40ID) and Oklahoma (45ID). All Vets - Guardsmen and Regular Army Veterans of these two Divisions, as well as all other Veterans - are welcome on this tour. We will visit battlesites of both Divisions, including sites in the Iron Triangle (this is the Chorwon and the Kumwha Valleys), the Yokkok-chon River Valley (this area includes Old Baldy, Pork Chop and T-Bone Hills), the Punchbowl, Heartbreak Ridge and Sandbag Castle. We will also visit Kapyong, site of the KATUSA Monument and the Kenneth Kaiser High School (built by the 40th Division during the War) where we will visit with the students and staff. All are welcome on this tour.



## **The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division:**

**September 29 - October 6, 2004**



Sponsored by the Society of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, this tour will visit Incheon, Seoul, and the Uijongbu Corridor, and spend two nights and three days in the Chorwon Valley, visiting 3rd Division battlesites including White Horse, Jackson Heights, the Boomerang, OP Harry, the cities of Chorwon and Kumwha, etc. All are welcome on this tour.

## **The 7th Division Association:**

**October 8 - 15, 2004**



Sponsored by the 7th Division Association, all are welcome on this tour, which will visit the Incheon 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 20 - 29, 2004**



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.



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

## Ohio Remembers



The village of Gibsonburg, Ohio (Sandusky County) has erected and dedicated the memorial shown in photo to all our area servicemen living and deceased. Each veteran has a 2" x 7" bronze plaque imbedded on a brick wall. It includes names, branch of service, years of service and theater.

The white stone section is for those who paid the ultimate price in action.

Facing the wall is a Korean War Era Chaplain kneeling with a M-1 Rifle with a bayonet stuck in the ground topped with helmet cast in bronze.

The memorial is dedicated to the veterans of the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf to present day and future wars (if needed). Sculptor Jim Havens.

*(Thank you James F. Rusher for photos and letter.)*

## Massachusetts Remembers



The Town of West Brookfield, MA will dedicate its new War Memorial on November 8, 2003. The monument honors the veterans of West Brookfield of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf War. It features this inscription: "IN HONOR OF THE

MEN AND WOMEN OF WEST BROOKFIELD WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY AND IN SPECIAL MEMORY OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES." It is located on the town common in the center of town.

*(Thank you Robert Rutter for photo.)*

## New Jersey Remembers

This 27 July 2003, the borough of Mount Ephraim, New Jersey dedicated a Korean War monument at its Veterans Memorial Triangle. A joint effort of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6262 and American Legion Post 150, the long overdue addition was well received by residents and representatives of local and county veterans organizations.

As VFW Post Commander and KWVA member, I was honored to give a tribute to the town's only recorded casualty of the Korean War, my boyhood friend and Air Force Cpl. Samuel H. Rainey. Cpl Rainey, an aerial gunner, was

Right, combined photo of World War II and Korean War Memorials.

Below, newly installed Korean War Memorial. Cpl. Samuel H, Rainey, USAF was only loss from Mount Ephraim, NJ.



VFW Post 6262 Cmdr J. Lorenz eulogizes Mount Ephraim Korean War loss. AL Post 150 Cmdr H. McCormick is next to him.





On left, American Legion Chaplain M. Bedard leads dedication prayer. Cdr J. Lorenz and Cdr H. McCormick in background.

Below, American Legion Rifle Squad firing "Salute".



lost on 28 March 1952 during a B-29 raid to North Korea when an engine fire prompted the bail-out of five of the aircrew over the Sea of Japan. Four of the five (including Rainey) died of exposure in the frigid waters.

Sam Rainey and I enlisted together in July 1950 and had consecutive USAF serial numbers. Separated after Basic Training, I served in Korea with the 608th AC&W Sqdn (K-53, Paengnyong-do, a forward radar detachment) from Dec 52 - Nov 53.

Our small South Jersey town also lost fifteen sons in World War II.

*James B. Lorenz, KWVA Life Member*

*(Thank you James for photos and letter. I must add a comment for all future members and mailers. Our magazine is the Official magazine for KWVA. We want to print everything in all sections from our members and chapters first about the Korean War and DMZ Veterans. We value all these other veteran associations and many of us belong to them. We thank them for honoring our veterans and our war. I am concerned about the continued mailings of letters and photos from officers of these associations without any mention of the KWVA Chapters or membership, including photos showing no one wearing our KWVA hats and/or Korean War Veteran caps. I will do my best to print most sent to me in this category but only when I see some reference to a KWVA Chapter or an identification to those shown as veterans of the Korean War and a member. A line in the letter of "Korean War Veterans Honored" will not be enough. Only your monument and the fact that you are a KWVA member as stated allows me to print these photos and text. Editor)*

## Arizona Remembers

The Veterans Memorial located on the East side of the Main Library in Glendale, Arizona is one of the most unique and symbolic memorials in the country. The completion of the memorial is a journey of dedication, commitment and tenacity. The involvement of community members, city employees, the Glendale Arts Commission and Glendale's Mayor and City Council have all played their part in creating a memorial that the community and the state can embrace and call their own. Finally, the vision of a gifted artist and



his team completed the process, creating a work that provides a space of contemplation and reflection.

### How It All Began...

The Veterans Memorial project goes back to January of 1997 when local veteran, Wayne Crusinberry, President of the Glendale Veterans Memorial Association, approached the Glendale Arts Commission with a proposal to help fund a memorial dedicated to all veterans. The Commission agreed and the East side of the Main Library located at 5959 West Brown Street was chosen as the project site.

In April of 1998, Bob Manzetti, also a local area veteran, offered to donate salvaged pieces off of the *USS Arizona* to incorporate into the memorial.

In June of 2000, a "Call to Artists" was distributed nation wide. Seventeen artists responded. In October of that same year, the Glendale Arts Commission selected artist Joe Tyler's concept. The Commission and Mr. Tyler presented the proposal to Mayor and City Council in January of 2001. The project was given a hearty thumbs up and the project began.

### What Does it all Mean?

The memorial honors all veterans of the Armed Forces and those auxiliary groups who selflessly defended the United States of America during times of peace and war. The five-pointed star pathway defines the setting for five welded steel trees, one for each branch of the service. The intertwined limbs of each sculptural tree are symbolic of the combined support of the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and the Coast Guard in the national defense of the United States of America. The leaves in the sculpted canopies represent the thousands of veterans who have served, are currently serving and will serve in all branches of the armed forces. The center obelisk features recovered pieces from the *USS Arizona*.

"It is an honor and a privilege to have been involved in the design and fabrication of this artwork and I humbly dedicate this memorial to the American servicemen and women-past, present and for all time to come." Artist, Joe Tyler

In the center of the Veterans Memorial, stands the steel obelisk. Utilizing donated pieces of salvage from the *U.S.S. Arizona*, the artist has chosen to highlight the events of December 7th, 1941 as an example of all the battles fought throughout our history that have resulted in the loss of American service men and women.

The sculpture on the front of the obelisk is the artists' depiction of the battleship silver service pattern commissioned for the U.S.S. Arizona. The silver featuring the figure of a mermaid, rising above a shield and surrounded by Saguaros was like no other. Early in 1941, the ships of the United States Navy were "stripped for war" and anything onboard the ship that was not needed to fight a war was removed. The silver was placed in storage in Bremerton, Washington and missed the destruction of December 7th. Several pieces of the silver service currently reside at the Arizona State Capital Museum.

Salvaged pieces from the *U.S. S. Arizona* have been attached on the two remaining sides of the obelisk. These pieces are from the potato locker area of the ship, exterior section, port side. The rings are sections of the *U.S.S. Arizona* memorial flagpole erected on March 7, 1950. The memorial flagpole was replaced in 1993 and the original was donated to the Glendale Arts Commission to incorpo-

rate into the Veterans Memorial.

Artists: Joe Tyler, Scott Cisson and Sylvana Anderson

### Artist Statement

By Sylvana Anderson, Creator of the Mermaid, Veterans Memorial

### Echo: Liberty of the Deep

"Echo, as you may recall, is a character from mythology (not a mermaid). She was in love with Narcissus, who was in love with only himself. She pined away for him until there was nothing left of her but her voice (like there is nothing left of war but pained memories). An 'echo' is also used by the navy to detect items under the sea (much as the mermaid 'Echo' keeps vigil over the men buried in its depths).

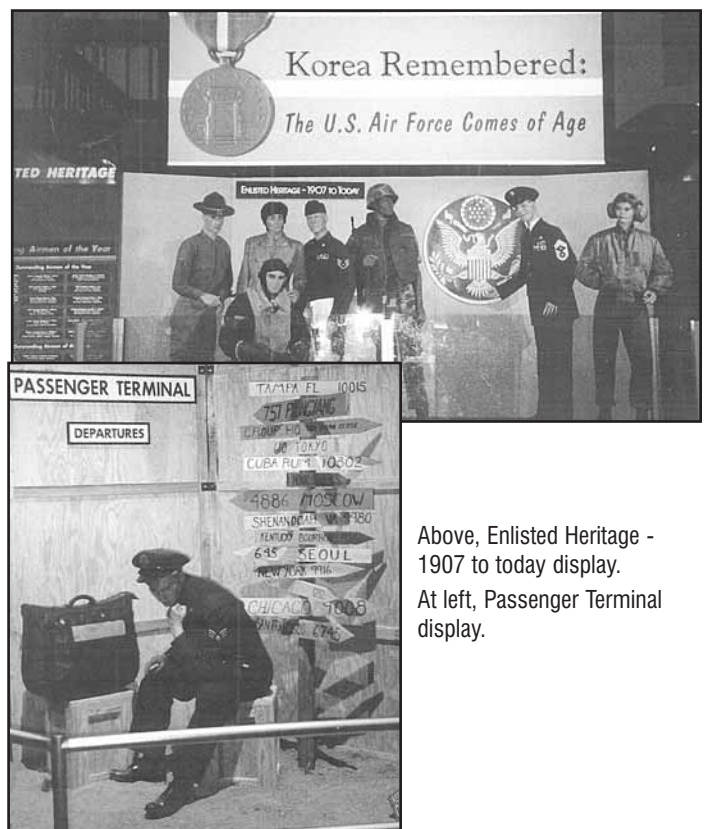
What I tried to do was capture the moment when the ships were being bombed in the harbor, and gently combine that visual with the spiritual and emotional place it landed the veteran's of that war, and our country as a whole, from that point on. While I see Echo swimming toward the surface of the harbor to save the lives of our men-her pain and terror mixed with a broken heart-I also see her as an eternal 'vigil of prayer', pleading to the Almighty for the souls of those lost, for the broken families, for the sorrow felt by our nation.

I am honored beyond measure to be able to offer the gift of Echo, Liberty of the Deep to the Veterans, not only of the U.S.S. Arizona, but of all ships: sea, land or air. I am humbled by the courage of those who are willing to put their lives on the line for the freedom we know as Americans."

(Thank you Kenneth Markstrom for photos and letter.)

## Ohio Remembers

### 50th Commemoration Events held at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio.

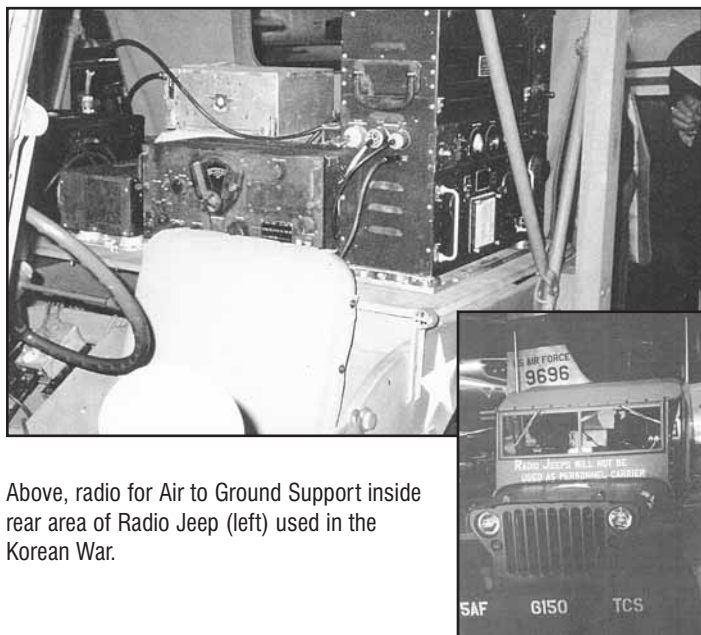


Above, Enlisted Heritage - 1907 to today display.  
At left, Passenger Terminal display.





**Top:** Korean War Air War display. **Center:** Korean War Jet Combat display.  
**Bottom:** Saber Jet display. (MiG Alley)



Above, radio for Air to Ground Support inside rear area of Radio Jeep (left) used in the Korean War.

# Taps



All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace. (Deaths which occurred over 6 months ago are not listed.)

## Arizona

★ Harry A. Conner

## Connecticut

★ Albert Castiello

## Florida

★ Kenneth Cutler

## Georgia

★ John Alonzo "J.B." Young, Sr.

## Indiana

★ Francis E. Withrow

## Hawaii

★ Sidney Raphael Springer

## Kentucky

★ Joseph Hagans  
★ Albert C. Schneider

## Maryland

★ George L. Cottman

## Massachusetts

★ Bobby O. Bishop  
★ Robert Frasca

## Minnesota

★ Curtis A. Greer

## Mississippi

★ Walter L. Salassi

## Nebraska

★ Sam L. Kellogg

## New York

★ George E. Bowker  
★ Robert Cardone  
★ Edward T. Hammond  
★ Edward Lown  
★ Salvatore Masiello  
★ Nelson R. Panazzolo  
★ Joseph H. Rivard  
★ James L. Smith

## North Carolina

★ James E. Allred

## Ohio

★ Bob Eugene Barnett  
★ Robert B. Cambell  
★ Joe W. Driscoll  
★ Louis J. Filaccio  
★ Grover R. "Red" Simmons

## Rhode Island

★ Gilbert Darling



T6 Aircraft used in conjunction with Radio Jeep to locate Enemy ground locations. (Thank you Hershall E. Lee for photos and letter.)

# 'Marine's Marine' Laid To Rest

By Bill Hendrick, Staff Atlanta Journal-Constitution September 9, 2003

They trooped in past the fag-draped coffin containing the body of Gen. Raymond Gilbert Davis, clad in his beloved dress blues with the blue-ribboned Medal of Honor clasped tightly around his neck. Many of the old Marines wore their dress uniforms, too, including more than a dozen generals who traveled from Washington to pay final respects to the man who, until his death Wednesday at age 88, was the most decorated American alive.

White-haired men, some in wheelchairs and others holding



Removing the medals before closing the casket.



Salute to a fallen hero.



Eulogy Former Marine Commandant General Robert Barrow USMC (Ret)



Approximately 150 autos on three interstate systems. Every single entrance ramp was blocked off for the forty-five mile ride to the cemetery



Transporting the casket.



"Going Home"



Honorary Pallbearers: Front left-Mr. Harvey Barnum MOH, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Reserve Affairs. Extreme right: Major General Livingston (Ret.) MOH.



Taps



General Michael Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps presenting the folded flag to the General's widow, Knox.



canes, dabbed at tears as Davis was eulogized by retired Marine Gen. Robert Barrow, 81, who described Davis as "the finest man I've ever known, a Marine's Marine. I loved him," he said, choking with emotion. More than 400 people packed the pews in the sanctuary and balcony of Davis' church, Conyer's First United Methodist. Hundreds more watched the funeral on television screens set up in nearby churches and a city building.

Wayne Kerr, representing the family, thanked U.S. Sen. Zell Miller, who was in the first row of pews to the right of Gov. Sonny Perdue and the left of U.S. Rep. David Scott, for nominating Davis for the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and said the general "left an example few of us can follow." Barrow joked that had Davis been alive in "the War Between the States, William Tecumseh Sherman would have never gotten into Atlanta."

Men who had known Davis during his service in World War II, the Korean War or in Vietnam brushed at tears when two young Marines walked in slowly and stood rigidly on each side of the coffin. One faced the casket, saluted, and bent over the body, carefully removing the Medal of Honor from Davis' neck and placing it on an 18-inch red velvet sheet, held by the other serviceman. They both saluted and marched out. The medal was transferred to a mahogany box and given to Davis' wife of 62 years, Knox Davis, at the grave site at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in College Park. The flag that had draped his coffin was presented to her by Gen. Michael Hagee, commandant of the Marine Corps. Seven riflemen fired a salute after the casket arrived, borne on a horse-drawn caisson.

## Hero at Chosin

Davis, who won the nation's

highest medal for heroism at the Chosin Reservoir in bitterly cold conditions, was the most decorated Marine of his generation. He was one of 94 men — three Georgians — to win the Medal of Honor in the Korean War. His chest full of awards also included the Navy Cross, the nation's second highest decoration for bravery, two Silver Stars and the Bronze Star with Combat "V" for valor.

In his autobiography, Davis told how he led about 700 Marines into what some considered a suicide mission at Chosin. Told to hold a key mountain pass to relieve a stranded rifle company and open the way to the sea for two Marine regiments, Davis led his men through eight miles of icy terrain against overwhelming Chinese forces. Davis said a sheen of ice covered his face and the bodies of all of his men. Davis was wounded in the fighting, which lasted from Dec. 1 to Dec. 5, 1950.

The general also led a division in the Vietnam War, then retired in 1972 as assistant commandant of the Marine Corps he joined in the 1930s.

A native of Fitzgerald in South Georgia, Davis graduated from Tech High School in Atlanta and Georgia Tech. He spent his last years living in Conyers, still active when he died. He spoke often to schoolchildren and had been scheduled to make a speech Monday in Marietta.

The church was full of veterans from all branches of the military. Tommy Clack of Conyers was there in his wheelchair. He lost three limbs in Vietnam. Also there were frail men who ran up and down icy hills with Davis in Korea in December 1950. Two

other Medal of Honor winners were in the church: retired Marine Maj. Gen. Jim Livingston, 64, who made the trip from New Orleans, and Harvey Barnum, assistant secretary of the Navy.

Mack Abbott, head of the Atlanta chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, led a half-dozen members of his organization, to which Davis was scheduled to speak on Sept. 27.

"I loved that man, I always did," said Abbott, holding the hand of his wife, Alice. "He was the greatest Marine in history."

## South Korea represented

That was a common refrain, from veterans of other nationalities, too. A contingent of South Korean Marines sat in silence in an adjacent auditorium. Louis Lin, 72-year-old chairman of the Republic of China Veterans Association in Atlanta, was spokesman for a half dozen members of his group, which he stressed represented Taiwan, not Communist China. "General Davis came to us on Aug. 30 and made a speech," Lin said. "It was his last speech in public. He was our hero." When the funeral ended, Hagee walked just behind the casket as it was carried by seven young Marines to a white Cadillac hearse. Marines lined both sides of the street, saluting as the casket was placed inside. As the hearse inched away, Boy Scouts saluted, as did elderly residents of Conyers. "We're all just overwhelmed," said Miles Davis, one of the general's sons. Miles Davis, 57, was wounded twice in Vietnam. His Purple Hearts were pinned on by his father. "We knew he had a lot of friends," he said Monday, "but

we had no idea how many and how strongly they felt about him."

Members of a group called the Chosin Few for the place Davis made famous drove long distances to honor him. Harry Bruce, 75, who was a Marine sergeant in those "terribly cold days," said driving from Conroe, Texas, was the least he could do. "Thanks to General Davis, a lot of people are alive today who wouldn't have been had it not been for him," he said.

## Colleagues' tributes

"He was the last of the generals, the last of the old breed." — Retired Marine Master Sgt. Eric English of Blairsville.

"I always enjoyed shaking his hand because I knew I was touching greatness." — Mike Breedlove, a Conyers land planner working with a veteran's foundation on a memorial to Georgia veterans.

"Thanks to General Davis, a lot of people are alive today who wouldn't have been had it not been for him." — Harry Bruce, 75, of Conroe, Texas, a sergeant at Chosin Reservoir in Korea, the action for which Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor.

"He told you exactly what he thought. But, hell, he earned the right." — Warren Park, Marine veteran who knew Davis through a Henry County VFW post.

"I loved that man, I always did. He was the greatest Marine in history." — Mack Abbott, head of the Atlanta chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association — Compiled by Michael Pearson and Bill Hendrick.

*(E-mailed to The Graybeards by Ed Buckman.)*

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*My reason for printing this story and photos is because Gen. Davis was so highly respected by all veterans and I believe most could not attend his funeral. Thank you James Conway for photos and letter. The Davis family also approved me to show these photos to the veterans by e-mail. They also approved what was done in the Sept-Oct Graybeards issue after it was printed. We thank the family for being so understanding. —Editor.)*

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# 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 605/6736313.



Am looking for **Lt. Christian Rupp**, **Lt. Wayne Seeley** and **PFC James Bess** who were in Able Co., 180th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div. Contact Louis Baldovi at e-mail <vtoyb@gte.net>



Looking for Korean Vet **John Paterson**. I know very little about him. The only information I am sure is that he stopped in France before he went to Korea because he is my Dad. That was in 1950. Contact Johnny Deslandes at e-mail <jdl@mail.pf>



Any information from Korean War Veterans that may have known **Cpl. Charles H. Shippen**, Company E, 8th Cav. Regt., 1st Cav. Div. Contact Francine Shippen Worthington, 5746 Lafayette Rd., Medina, OH 44256. Tel: 330-722-8287. Charles was captured at Unsan, North Korea. November 2, 1950.



Seeking Korean War vet I met near the snack area of the Doubletree Hotel in July during the recent 50th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, who informed me about a medic in "G" Co., 180th Inf. Regt. named **Valentino** who tended to a wounded officer. Contact Patrick "King" Sbarra "G" Co., Combat Medic at telephone 609-884-6652 or fax 609-884-7216 or e-mail <kingjane@bellatlantic.net>.



Served at **Pearl Harbor from Sept. 52 to Nov. 54**. I am looking for anyone that was on YO-78 during that time. Contact John "Birdog" Redshaw at 2155 Robins Lane S.E. Spc 24, Salem, OR 97306-2738 or e-mail at <wredshaw2001@yahoo.com>.



Looking for information on **Pfc. George Silverblatt**, B Co., 38th Inf. Regt. 2nd Inf. Div. Contact Dallas W. Mossman, Sr. (Sorry I do not have his address on letter nor the envelope. Please send info to Vincent A. Krepps, Editor. See page 2. I will pass it on to Dallas. I know his address is somewhere in my files.)



I have been searching for years trying to locate **ROK soldiers** that was attached to our platoon. Five were attached to the 1st Platoon, Co. E., 7th Regt., 3rd Inf. Div. I do not know their names but they were known as numbers 32, 39, 44, Archie and Kim. See photos. They called me New York Sergeant. Contact Patrick Filidoro, 255-11 87th Drive, Floral Park, NY 11001.

Being in the 630th Engineers LE Co. I would like to put together a history of the 630th, I have obtained some information from books, the internet and from certain past members. If any one who was in the 630th Engineers LE Co. in WW II,



Clockwise from top left, ROK 39; ROK Kim (left) and ROK 32; ROK 44; and ROK Archie.



Korea or Vietnam would like to give me any information, such as, when they arrived in the outfit, where the company was located, your job, "MOS", any TDY to other outfits and where, dates, etc. your buddies. Also just when did the 630th leave Korea and where did it end up in 1954 or 1955. E-mail me at <frogger@mybizz.net> my name is Floyd King, Northwest dragline operator. I was there in 1952.

## Proud Korean War Vets Display Tags



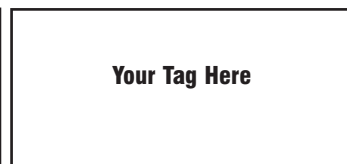
Luther Moyers, Jr.



Robert S. Hull, Sr.



Richard J. Fichbach



Korean War Veteran





Sheep Mountain, east of Lizard Head Pass, Colorado, on Hwy. 145. Choice for name change to Mount Kiamia.

At this time, I am trying to make a change in Colorado, even though I am now living in New Mexico. I want Colorado to change the name of a mountain!

Colorado has 33 mountains named "Sheep Mountain", and many other mountains with double digit amounts, same names. Bald, Red, Black, Horse, Green, and many other mountains share names. There is even a mountain named after a dead horse.

I propose that one of these mountains be renamed "Mount Kiamia," to honor all of America's killed-in-action / missing-in-action (KIA / MIA). The word "kia" is Hawaiian for, spike-high point-nail (or) prominent place. The word "mia" is Spanish and need not be interpreted for you. Together, these two languages have a liberal translation of "My High Place".

My mountain of choice is that sheep mountain east of Lizard Head Pass, on hwy. 145. Standing in the parking lot of the trail-head for Lizard Head Peak, one can admire the 13,188 ft. sheep mountain, and imagine it bearing the name of Mount Kiamia, and a parking area and appropriate monument there.

In my heart, this monument will salute all of America's KIA/MIA, and for myself salute one of my great grandfathers, who fought for the Yankees, during the Civil War, and the other great grandpa, who fought for the Rebel forces. It will reflect my cousin Irvin Clifford Salisbury, who's body was lost at sea, as he flew a B-17 toward Greenland, during WW2, and for my cousin Roy Harris Anderson, Jr. who disappeared in North Korea, in 1950, and for MSgt. Gray Pinto Pete, and, Sgt. Jimmie Jumbo, from San Juan county New Mexico, still MIA in Korea.

It might be healing for others as well, to have a place to go and think about those they have lost. So many people cannot go to Hawaii, to see the Monument to those lost in the Pacific, nor to New York, to stand at the Monument dedicated to those lost in the Atlantic, nor to any of the Battle Monuments Commissions overseas cemeteries, around the earth, but they might travel to a mountain in Colorado, dedicated to all our KIA/MIA, and be able to afford the trip.

This monument might be healing, for those who's warrior did not return to them, and, though I have a few ideas as to what it

might look like, prefer that the mountains, the solitude, the quiet of that area be the major monument. Let people come to Colorado, (where God goes on vacations), where the spirit of our Native Peoples is part of these mountains, and let them feel peace in their souls. For myself, I will whisper a prayer, for my great grandma Salisbury, and for great grandma James, both Native Americans, and bless them for the warriors they have raised to fight for our Nation. All my brothers and all my male cousins served in our Armed Forces.

I do not want to ramble on, but there is so much to recommend such a mountain/monument. Who knows? Perhaps some day, this monument will be a place where those who have lost loved ones, killed and missing in our wars, can come and drop a "dogtag" onto the pile of stainless steel identification tags, until the dog-tags themselves, become a mountain.

Not knowing the future, I hope that Mount Kiamia becomes a reality, and if it does, Senator: I will meet you at Mount Kiamia!

Bruce L. Salisbury

PO Box 744

Aztec, NM 87410-0744

*(A great Idea and many will support you. Write or e-mail United States Dept. Of the Interior, Reston, VA 20192. The following is a reply to Bruce from Charles G. Groat, Director US DOI:*

*Incidentally, you may be interested to know that in 1999, the U.S. Board considered and approved a proposal to name an unnamed summit in the Chugach Mountains, north of Anchorage, Alaska, for the Nation's Prisoners Of War and Missing In Action. The name Mount POW/MIA was made official for Federal use on October 14, 1999, and has since become the focus of the Alaska Veterans Memorial. For additional information on the summit and its name, you may wish to visit the following Web site: <<http://users.erols.com/muggsy/MtPOWMIA>>. We are forwarding a copy of your proposal to the proponent of that name, in case he wishes to offer any insight or an opinion.*

*Thank you for your interest in the geographic names of Colorado. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Roger Payne, Executive Secretary for the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, either by mail at the address above, by telephone at 703-648-4544, by fax at 703-648-4549, or by e-mail at <[BGNEXEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNEXEC@usgs.gov)>. Write or call now while we still have time. Thanks Bruce. This editor (Graybeards) also has a POW/MIA twin brother in North Korea. Alaska is a long way to go. Colorado would be better for us easterners.)*

## Honoring our Veterans of The Korean War

Saturday, July 26, 2003 was quite a day for approximately 1000 veterans and their families. On that day the Board of Freeholders and my Office of the Clerk presented medals honoring all of those men and women who served this country during the period of the Korean War. Almost 1600 current Camden County residents who were registered with the clerk's office were eligible to receive this beautiful and specially designed medal. Letters of invitation were sent out to all of those individuals who qualified, inviting them to participate in a special ceremony at Campbell Field in Camden, NJ. In situations where veterans are



Mr. Harley Coon, President KWVA and Lt. Col. Al Bancroft (USMC Ret.). The Col. was instrumental along with members of the Thomas Daley Jr. Chapter of South Jersey in arranging this ceremony. Of course the county government, the freeholders, were primarily responsible for the medals and the ceremony. Capt. Andy Jackson, Thomas Daley Jr. Chapter of South Jersey.

no longer with us, medals were presented posthumously to family members. Nearly 5,000 people attended the 4 p.m. ceremony. A number of veterans and their families arrived early for the event, showing up as much as two hours before the scheduled

start time despite the rather warm temperatures.

Harley Coon was the keynote speaker that afternoon. Mr. Coon served on the front lines in Korea for 5 months until Chinese forces overran his unit and he was taken as a prisoner of war. He spent the next 33 months in a prisoner of war camp. In his address to the veterans and their families, he told an emotional story of what life was like as a prisoner and how he buried so many of his comrades-in-arms who were also taken as prisoners. Although it was over 50 years ago, Mr. Coon found himself once again choked up with emotions as he retold of the horror and about the lack of proper clothing for the environment in which they had to fight. Every veteran honored received a two-inch round silver medal with a deep blue circle in the middle of the medal. The image of the Korean peninsula appears to be raised out of the middle of the blue field with the words "Korean War Service Medal" over the image of the Koreans in an outline-type font with a lighter blue color as a fill-in color inside the letters. The medals were attached to a light blue ribbon. Each veteran or his family member had the medal presented by one of the veteran or guest presenters who attended. With all the pomp and circumstance that these veterans deserve, they had the opportunity to see sky-divers from Ft. Bragg jump from 10,000 feet above the stadium and land in the outfield. The last jumper came down with a huge American Flag measuring 33 feet x 66 feet and a smaller POW flag attached below with 50 lbs of weights dangling beneath them as they negotiated their way through the winds off the river and around the Ben Franklin Bridge. It was a remarkable sight to see and just a small way for us to say again, THANK YOU!. Camden County did not forget it heroes of the Korean War.

Camden County Clerk James Beach

*(Thank you James Beach and Thomas Jackson for photo and letter. Your chapter, Camden County and all named are true Americans and honoring our Korean War Veterans will not be forgotten. Sorry your medal photo was not clear enough to print. Editor.)*

## LOOKING FOR COMBAT BUDDIES?



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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 \* msglga@aol.com  
NATIONAL XMAS REUNION 8-11 DEC, 2003**

## Korean War Vet relives past including another serving of S.O.S.

On the way home I stopped at the restaurant shown in photo and pondered over a reunion with the Dept. of Arizona I had just attended over a serving of SOS. This was the same breakfast I had after



Restaurant served up SOS to Korean War Vet.



landing in Korea.

The highlight of the reunion was to unite with a buddy Fred Cox from the 51st Signal Bn., T & T Co. in which we both served while in Korea.

David Bradbum  
PO Box 1  
Willow Creek, CA 95573.

### On a slow Boat from Korea

I returned home from Korea on the USS Gen. C.C. Ballou. We left Inchon on Feb. 22, 1954 and docked in Staten Island, NY on 29 March 54. Thirty-four days at sea on a crowded troop ship that traveled 11,327 miles. First we docked in Hawaii then on to Balboa at the western end of the Canal Zone. Some of our time was spent aboard ship while docked at these ports. We did a lot of reading and playing cards. Even though some of us did get off the ship but due to the heavy drinking we were not allowed to do that again. We also left a few men behind. Some of them had to fly home and they beat us back. I served with a Tank Co., 14th Inf. Regt., 25th Inf. Div. from early Jan. 1953 until my long trip home by ship. My wife Clare and I had the best military reunion ever last July with the KWVA in Arlington, VA at the DoubleTree Hotel. Robert L. Porvaznik, 3414 Thomas St. Whitehall, PA 18052-3541..

### Another slow Boat from Korea

I was aboard the USNS Stewart that traveled 12,500 miles and arrived in the good old USA in Oct. 1953. A similar stop-over as those in Robert Povaznik story and another printed in a past issue of Tony Kondysar. We stopped at Pearl Harbor, HI, Panama City, Columbia, South America, Puerto Rico then on to New York. Got off ship and went to Camp Kilmer, NJ then on to bus to the airport. By plane to O'Hara Field then a final stop at Ft. Sheridan where I started my journey to Korea. Anthony J. Dalla Costa, 3714 188th Pl., Lansing, IL 60438-3881.

*(I am glad you all got home and I hope this will be the last ship home story. We have printed at least a half dozen of these stories so please no more. They are beginning to all sound alike. It looks like Puerto Rico Veterans returning home caused the long journey. I had to cut short some detail of each journey because most was standard and expected. Great stories but please no more needed. Editor.)*

## ☆☆ OFFERING ☆☆

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

## Reunion Calendar

### March 2004

**USS Hawkins DD/DDR 873**, March 21-25 at St. Augustine, FL. Contact Pauline Butterworth, 4260 Jones Road, Macon, GA 31206-0144. Tel: 478-788-9339

### April 2004

**1st Marine Div, 7th Marine Regt**, 2nd Bn, Easy Co. (Korea - 50-54) April 4-6 in Tunica, Mississippi. Contact: Troy Watson. Tel: (972) 716-9928 or Email: <tsw8433@yahoo.com> or Chuck Tidwell. Tel: (843) 650-7082 or Email: <Chubar84@aol.com>.

**3rd AAA AW BN.(SP)**, April 21-23 at Pigeon Forge, TN . All Korean War Veterans of this unit are invited. Contact Jim Goff, 500 Jefferson Ave., Hopewell, VA. 23860. Tel: 804-541-7667 or e-mail <j.W.goff@worldnet.att.net>.

### May 2004

**H-3-7 Marines** (1950-1955) Korea, May 5-9 will hold its annual Brotherhood & Survivors Association Reunion & Meeting at the Quality Hotel Suites at Courthouse Plaza, Arlington, VA. Contact Bob Nichols, 5517 Williamsdale Ct., Seminole, FL 33772 Tel/Fax: 727- 392-2886 or e-mail to <jarheadh37@ij.net>

**67th Tac Recon Wing** with supporting units, including the 11th, 12th, 15th, and 45th Tac Recon Sqdns. May 6-9 at Bayside San Diego Holiday Inn, 4875 North Harbor Drive San Diego, Calif. 92106-2394. Contact Ben Hardy, 9443 E. Heaney Circle, Santee, CA 92071-2919. E-mail <cptdlittl@aol.com>.

The **Howe Co., 3rd Bn., 5th Marine Div**. May 12-15 in Denver, CO, at the Denver Marriott West Hotel. For more information, registration details and membership information contact Chuck Rapp, 2181 So. Estes Street, Lakewood, CO 80227, Tel: 303-986-6998, Fax 303-986-2008.

**U S Army - 73rd Tankers Assn.** (1947 to 1997 all included). May 17-20 at Pigeon Forge , TN.. Contact Curtis Banker, 44 Westcott Road, Schuyler Falls, NY. 12985-1940. Tel: 518-643-2302 or E-Mail: <dmbanker-curtis@northnet.org>.

### June 2004

**AP TRANSPORT GROUP:** USS Generals: Mitchell-AP114; Randall-APII5; Gordon-AP117; Richardson-AP118; Weigel-AP119; Stewart-AP140; Greeley-AP141; Hodges-AP144; Taylor-AP145; Hase-AP146; Breckinridge-AP176 USS Admirals: Benson-AP120; Capps-AP121; Eberle-AP123; Hughes-AP124; Mayo-AP125. and USS Monticello-AP61; Pres. Monroe-AP104 and Golden City-AP169. June 10-13 in Newton, MA. Contact Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Ln, New Hyde Pk, NY 11040 Tel: 516-747-7426 or e-mail <sunnycfu@aol.com>

### August 2004

**H-3-7 Marines** (1950-1955) Korea, August 11-15 will be at the 1st Marine Div. reunion, at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D. C. Contact Bob Nichols, 5517 Williamsdale Ct., Seminole, FL 33772 Tel/Fax: 727- 392-2886 or e-mail to <jarheadh37@ij.net>

### 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>

### October 2004

**U.S.S. Oglethorpe** AKA 100, Oct. 7-10 2004 in San Diego, CA Contact Ron Williamson at Tel: 908-475-4435 or E-mail <mistyl @epix.net>.

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## BOOK REVIEW from page 9

some of his own experiences while serving in Korea with the Counter Intelligence Corps. Also included are a timeline, glossary, bibliography, Internet resources, and index.

### Jacket

Jacket photographs: (front) Near Haktong-ni, Korea, an infantryman whose buddy has been killed is comforted by a fellow soldier. Nearby, another soldier fills in casualty tags to record the dead, August 28, 1950. (Sfc. Al Chang, U.S. Army. Courtesy of National Archives & Records Administration, Maryland)

Clarion Books, 215 Park Ave. South, New York, New York 10003

Web Page: [www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com](http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com)  
*(136 pages of personnel memories from those that served in Korea in different years. Every story has a special touch of remembering hardships, remembering friends, remembering loved ones, remembering buddies lost and remembering the hardships of the Korean people including the enemy we fought against. Great photos of past and present history. The book can be purchased at your local book store and on line at sites such as <[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)>. For bulk rates call 1-800-225-3362 or 1-800-597-6127. Cost for one hard cover book is \$16 and less on line or bulk orders. Prices subject to change without notice. Great for schools and librarys. A must book for every veteran or the family of a veteran. Editor.)*



## Never Die 999th FAB

By Tracy L. Sperr

### Author

My name is Tracy Lynn Sperr, I am 35 years old, born in Monroe Michigan, November 30, 1967. I am married to Joseph Allen Sperr and I have three wonderful children; Robert Paul 16, Samantha Kay 14, and Tyler James 12. Our family also includes 3 dogs; a miniature pinscher named Tank and 2 chihuahuas named Chelsea and Chiquita, along with 2 cats; Kalley and Angel, a hermit crab named Hermie and a tarantula named Spike. I am the daughter of a Korean War Veteran. For the past two years I have compiled information of the war and the 999 Armored Field Artillery Battalion, which my father was a member. The books should

be ready the first week of July, and them men should have theirs by the 50th anniversary. I did this as a small token of appreciation to honor the Triple Nine 'Never Die' for all the sacrifices and horrors they suffered to ensure my freedoms and liberties.

This is to honor my father and his comrades as a memento to cherish for the rest of their lives. I have not charged the men for they have never put a price on all they've given me. I just want them to know the 'Forgotten War' is forgotten no more. I know many of the men subscribe to your magazine and I would like to express my sincerest appreciation for each member of the 999 for allowing me to do this for them. Sincerely; Tracy L. Sperr, 5567 Central Drive, Monroe, MI. 48161-3677. Tel: (734) 384-9775. E-mail: <[t1sperr@aol.com](mailto:t1sperr@aol.com)> or <[Hsperr@aol.com](mailto:Hsperr@aol.com)>.

### To Never Die Members

I want to express my greatest appreciation to the 999 Armored Field Artillery Battalion members for allowing me to put this book together. Every story, every photo are treasures I will cherish for always. Each of you will hold a special place in my heart for as long as I live. I am very blessed for each of you because you have touched my life in a way I will never be able to express. I hope this will forever be a reminder to you, that someone does care about you and truly appreciates you. You will no longer be forgotten.

I thank you for the drive to keep me going to a finished book. Your encouragement and support are invaluable. Your kind words and constant consideration for me are as equally invaluable. You have made me feel as part of your families;

I believe we should always respect our flag and those who fought for it, and I believe we should never take either one of them for granted. Besides being with my children and husband, I like to paint and write. I've only written poetry, but I've always wanted to write a book. Each of you I thank for allowing my first book to be yours.

The greatest gift I've received, besides your friendship and trust throughout this project, came from Colonel Hawker in April of this year, as he's given me the title of an Honorary Member of the Triple Nine Armored Field Artillery Battalion, which I

will wear on my heart and in my soul, very proudly for the rest of my life. Tracy  
*(Triple 9 members, shame on you if you do not contact Tracy and thank her and get this book full of history and photos. This book sure makes me wish I was a member. Editor.)*



## Red Dragon – Faces of War II

### The Editor

A native Oregonian and a youthful worker in lumber camps, I became the "Falling Partner" of a WWI Infantry Veteran. As we fell the big douglas firs, he told me of his experiences in the AEF. On enlistment I opted for Inf. as my branch of service. The Army had other plans. Chemical warfare basic training in 1942 was followed by ASTP at Georgia Tech. A TDY stint at the WAAC training center at Daytona Beach resulted in transfer to a RR Bn. destined for Northern Assam in India

Request for transfer to 5307 Comp. Unit (Prov), a unit known as "Merrill's Raiders" was approved in time to take part in the closing days of the fight for Myitkyina. The 2nd Burma Campaign opened the Burma Road into China. Our unit, now the 475th Inf., was transferred to China. As a T/Sgt I was assigned to Chinese Combat Command training Chinese troops. Commissioned in the closing months of the war. I came home Nov. 1945 to finish college.

After WWII and a stint as a chemist for Aramco at RAS Tanura in Saudi Arabia, I was recalled to active duty on draft resumption in 1948. Assigned to 4th Inf. Div. at Ft. Ord as a training officer, I later completed Ft. Bliss Missile School in time for posting to Korea.

Arrived in Japan in July 1950, assigned as a platoon leader to HM Company, 31st Inf., then as ship loading officer, I came ashore at Inchon. Service as platoon leader and Company Commander with Heavy Mortar Company included the Inchon Landing, Chosin Reservoir and the Yo-Yo War of 1951 through the Iron Triangle battles. Korean service was completed by 4 months duty as Asst. S-3 with the 31st Inf. On return to the U.S. in Nov. 1951, I was assigned duty as Asst. S-3 at Sandia Base, returning to civilian life in 1954. I spent the



rest of my career as a corporate hired hand.

Arthur W. Wilson

## The Book

There are over 600 photos in the book, many of them provided by men who authored the 216 vignettes. This book winds up our 'soldier's' history of the Korean War. Order from Artwork Publications, Norman L. Strickbine, R.R. 2 Box 2191, Thayer, MO 65791. Tel: 417-264-2190, Fax: 417-264-3842, E-mail: <norms@tek-web.com>. Or Arthur W. Wilson, 8335 SW Fairway Dr. Portland, OR 97225. Tel: 503-297-2045, Fax: 503-297-5163, E-mail: <artwilsn@easystreet.com>

*(The stories are great and the photos will take all back to the 50's. You may even see yourself or someone you know in the photos. Hard bound with protective cover. The Price per copy that I see on the book is \$36.95 plus \$5.00 S & H.. I suggest you use the Ad and form in this issue to order and get the veteran discount of \$26.95 plus \$5.00 S & H. Forms for ordering are in print. This is a must read book and also a must have as part of your library on the Korean War. Editor.)*



## Koreas Sleeping Ghosts

By Lt. Lee H. Miller

### The Author

Lt. Miller was born in Ashland, Ohio in 1926. During World War II, he was stationed at Camp Attaberry, Fort McClellan, Fort Dix, Fort Oglethorpe, and finally Camp Shelby, where he was being prepared for the invasion of Japan. He was promoted to army staff sergeant at the young age of 19, but the war ended before he was deployed overseas.

When hostilities intensified in Korea, he was called up from the reserves and stationed at Fort Sheridan and Fort Benning. As a 2nd and 1st lieutenant in the Korean War, he served as a rifle platoon leader in I Company, 31st Infantry, 8th Army in 1951-52 and fought on the famed Heartbreak Ridge. Bill Mauldin, the famous cartoonist and war correspondent, bunked with him for a time and wrote articles about his platoon.

More than four decades ago, my father, Lee H. Miller, sat down at an old typewriter to write the book you're about to read. A few years had passed since he'd returned as

a 1st Lieutenant from the Korean War - enough time, he thought, to give him some perspective on what had happened to him there.

Possessing a keen memory, he set out to write a book about war that was very different from so many he had read. While working long hours and raising a family, he stayed up until the wee hours of the morning for two years working on a manuscript. After completing it, he spent a couple of more years tweaking the novel with a publisher.

The book was on the verge of being published in the late 1960s when the Vietnam War turned nasty, and the sentiment of many in the American public turned harshly against the U.S. military.

In this climate, the publisher decided against printing the novel. My father was extremely disappointed, and he buried the manuscript away. Being only a child at the time, I didn't even know the book existed.

But by the late 1980s, and especially following the Gulf War, the attitude of Americans toward the military changed dramatically. Encouraged by this, my father planned to again pursue publication of his book when he retired in September 1991. But almost immediately after retirement, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died 5 months later, never realizing his dream of seeing the novel published.

Several years after his death, my mother gave me his original manuscript. When I read it, I was astonished to learn what my father had seen and endured while in Korea. I decided then and there that I wanted to fulfill his dream and get the book published. I felt as if I'd opened a 50-year time capsule from one of the bloodiest wars in American history, a war that most Americans know little about.

You will follow my father, portrayed by Lieutenant Pete Mullins, as he confronts these dilemmas. Most of the incidents in the book actually occurred - we know this from his handwritten accounts in a journal he kept during the war, from photographs he took, and from information provided by some of the men with whom he fought. Korea's Sleeping Ghosts recounts the experiences of real people who fought in Korea.

He wrote this book not only to tell of his experiences, but to serve as a tribute to the

men and women with whom he served, to those who died or were wounded on the battlefield, and to those who are still missing.

Keith H. Miller, 4624 Bayspring Ln., Raleigh, N.C. 27613 E-mail: <glaekenvonbur@yahoo.com>.

## The Book

### III The Enemy Lives Here

Hill 851 was a bleak, jagged mass of rock that looked, from above, something like a boomerang. It was forbidding from any angle, especially when its nearly sheer sides were covered with

ice. It was known to television viewers in the States as Heartbreak Ridge.

The Regiment occupied Hill 851 around the first of December in a 'night relief,' an old military maneuver used to promote secrecy and deception. It involves two large groups of soldiers sneaking in opposite directions over a piece of impassable terrain in the dark, usually during a blizzard or a heavy rain. What usually happens is that the two outfits run together and everybody gets completely lost, then the whole crowd mills around for three or four hours, shouting, swearing, and occasionally shooting at each other, and if the enemy gets mixed up in the mess, well, that's his problem.

George Company executed the movement in classic style. It was a good night, around zero with a blinding snowstorm. After everyone was loaded with seventy pounds of gear, the order came to move up. While it was only 851 meters straight up, the actual distance was more like four miles, and where the trail was not knee-deep in snow, it was a sheet of ice.

With remarkable accuracy, the displacing unit chose exactly the same route coming off, and the advance elements met about two-thirds of the way up. There then ensued a great thrashing about on the trail, people started falling off, and this produced a fearsome clatter from men and equipment bouncing off the rocks below. The troops would have gotten rather discouraged if it had not been for a couple of observers from the Pentagon.

Altogether, it took ten hours to get into position, which was par for the course. That is, it took the lead elements ten hours. Members of the rear elements straggled in for two or three days, and it was said that

part of the outfit got scrambled up with a Korean work gang and never arrived at all.

Once on the Hill, Captain Evans sought out the forward observation trench, then sent for Mullins. (This one story goes on for another 15 pages with many experiences common to the Korean War Veteran but reading it will bring you back to your own memories. Names are changed but one story is about Metz twins.)

*(270 pages of a heroes story that was never told until his son finished his dads wishes started decades ago. As a veteran of that war I am proud that you honored your dads wishes and I fully expect many veterans out there will purchase the book and enjoy every word as I did. Ordering information as follows. Word Association Publishers 1-800-827-7903 or <orders@wordassociation.com>. Softback: \$14.95, Hardback: \$24.95 <www.koreasleepingghosts.com>. Editor.)*



## Unforgotten

By D. J. Meador

### The Author

Author Daniel J. Meador, the James Monroe Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of Virginia School of Law, recently served as director of a Senate commission studying the appellate court system. Formerly, Meador was an assistant attorney general for the Department of Justice and the dean of the University of Alabama Law School. He also attended the University of Alabama and Harvard Law School.

In addition to writing numerous books on scholarly legal subjects ranging from the executive branch of the U.S. government to the East German legal system, he is the author of the novel *His Father's House*, also published by Pelican.

*Unforgotten* follows the success of that equally ambitious, critically acclaimed first novel, which has been optioned for motion-picture adaptation.

In this book, I have tried to convey some of the extreme hardships and reversals in the war and the sense of ambiguity about its outcome and to end on an upbeat note encouraging remembrance, i.e., that a war that was forgotten be "unforgotten."

### The Book

Suddenly a half-dozen grenades exploded down toward Third Platoon. "My God,"

Grimes exclaimed, "now we're gonna get it!" Ridley took off at a run. "Hutchens! Where's Hutchens?"

"Here, sir." The first sergeant stepped forward, his breath luminous in the bright moonlight.

"Get over there and find out what's happening."

John, back with his platoon, looked down the long slope to their front and thought he saw shadowy figures moving amid the rocks and scrub trees two hundred yards away. "Sewenski," he called in an urgent voice, "look! Are my eyes playing tricks or are those men down there?"

"No tricks. This is it." Without hesitating a second, Sewenski ran along the line, issuing muffled commands: "Everybody up! We got trouble!"

He came back to John. The ghostly figures milled around in the shadows. John whispered, "I think we ought to hold fire. It's too far. What do you think?"

"Right," Sewenski said. "Let's watch it."

A cloud passed across the moon, darkening the scene. The figures became obscure in the gloom of the distant trees.

This is it. Sewenski's words played back through his mind. This is it, . . . this is it. This was the moment he had imagined a hundred times, the moment for which he, an infantry lieutenant, had come ten thousand miles. His mouth was dry. His stomach felt queasy. Blood was pounding in his ears. His breath was short and rapid.

He lay flat behind a low pile of rocks, his numbed finger on the frigid trigger of

his carbine. Stay in control. Stay calm. Maybe talking would help. "Sewenski, are all the men ready?"

"Yes, sir. I moved the KATUSAs between the Second and Third squads. They were on the end."

At that instant a bugle sounded from somewhere out in the valley below. It was that same chilling sound: "Ta-Ta ta-Ta ta-Ta."

"Here they come," said Corporal Donovan in a hushed voice. He was crouched behind a pile of rocks a few feet from John.

The figures grew larger and more numerous. The cloud passed, and the landscape was again lit with a near-daylight brilliance. Coming up the rugged slope at a run were at least a hundred Chinese.

Grimes came running along the line. "Open fire! Let 'em have it!"

*(This story goes on for many pages and the chapters that follow tell his experiences in the Korean War and also how the war enters into the private life of John Winston.*

*A great novel that covers the experiences of war and how lives continued to be affected after return to private lives and on into our retirement years. 397 pages of great stories that many Korean War Veterans experienced and remember today.*

*The book may be obtained through any local bookstore or by calling 1-800-843-1724. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Armistice, the publisher is making the book available at a special reduced price of \$6.95. That is an extraordinary bargain, considering the price of hard bound books these days.)*

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## Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library Elects New President



William F. O'Brien

By acclamation, the Board of Directors of the K W V N M & L elected William F. O'Brien as its President. Mr. O'Brien is a charter member of the Board of Directors and has continued to serve, most

recently as 1st Vice President. Mr. O'Brien, a successful retired businessman in the Chicago area, brings considerable business experience to the table. In addition, he currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Hometown Fire Protection District, which provides him extensive experience in the function, operation and responsibilities of Board of Directors.

Mr. O'Brien immediately presented a "Plan-of-Action" focusing on 3 fronts:

1) Completion of Phase I of a 3 phase "Building Plan," and the immediate launch of Phase II;

2) Hiring an Executive Director;

3) Expanding the Board of Directors to ensure national representation.

### 3 Phase "Building Plan"

Phase I has been completed with the

establishment of temporary quarters since 2001 for the Museum and Library and with the acquisition of the land for construction. The temporary structure hosts a large number of visitors every year and includes a very small part of our current growing collection of equipment, government and personal documents connected with the Korean War.

Phase II can now be commenced since plans are in place for our site being annexed to the City of Tuscola. This is essential to provide the required infrastructure necessary for the extensive build-out of the complete Museum and Library complex, plus offering major site construction costs savings. With the annexation plans in place, the construction of the first permanent building is scheduled for completion by the summer of 2004.

Phase III will consist of completing construction of all the permanent structures. Plans for this phase will be detailed in later issues.

### New Executive Director

At Mr. O'Brien's first board meeting he recommended that an Executive Director be hired. To date, the overall operations, especially fundraising, and implementation of short and long-range plans have been conducted through the various board committees. However, with the initiation of the building phase, its complexity and requirement for daily management, it was deemed necessary to bring on board an Executive Director.

Mr. O'Brien recommended hiring Larry Sassorossi, who is well known to the Board of Directors. He not only has extensive experience in fundraising and day-to-day management, but also, over the past 3 years, has provided consulting services to the board on a "per-project" basis. Larry's credentials include being an experienced Executive Director for civic and community organizations, and he has been a fundraiser for one of Illinois' largest social agencies and Paul Newman's "Hole in the Wall" camps, among several others.

### Expanding Board of Directors

The third priority, outlined by Mr. O'Brien, is expanding the Board of Directors to reflect greater national representation. Recently appointed is Mr. Neil D. Hurley of Missouri; and also, Mr. William Mc Swain, from Texas, is serving as liaison to the Korean War Veterans Association. Additionally, we are in the process of soliciting a representative from DMZ organization to join our board.

The Board of Directors continues to invite others to volunteer to serve. Anyone interested in being considered, please contact Sharon Corum, Executive Secretary, KWVNM&L, PO Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953-0016. Phone 1-888-295-7212.

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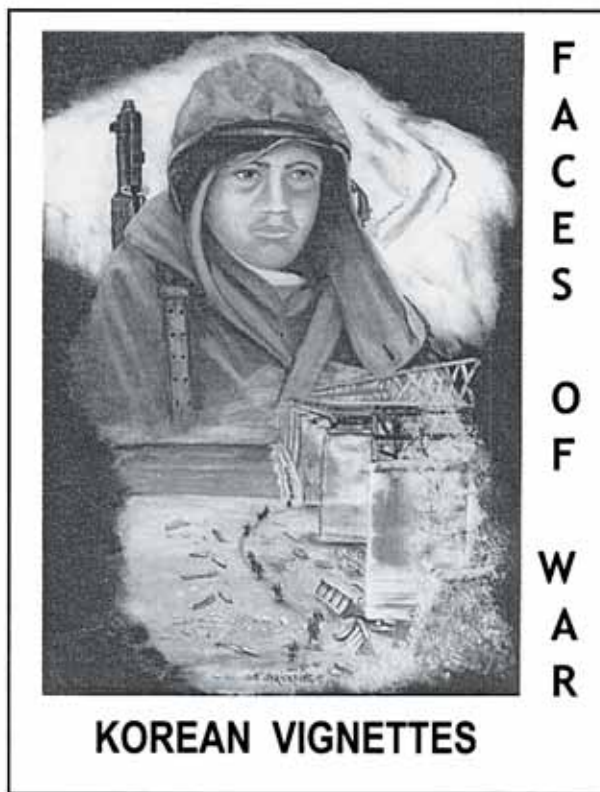
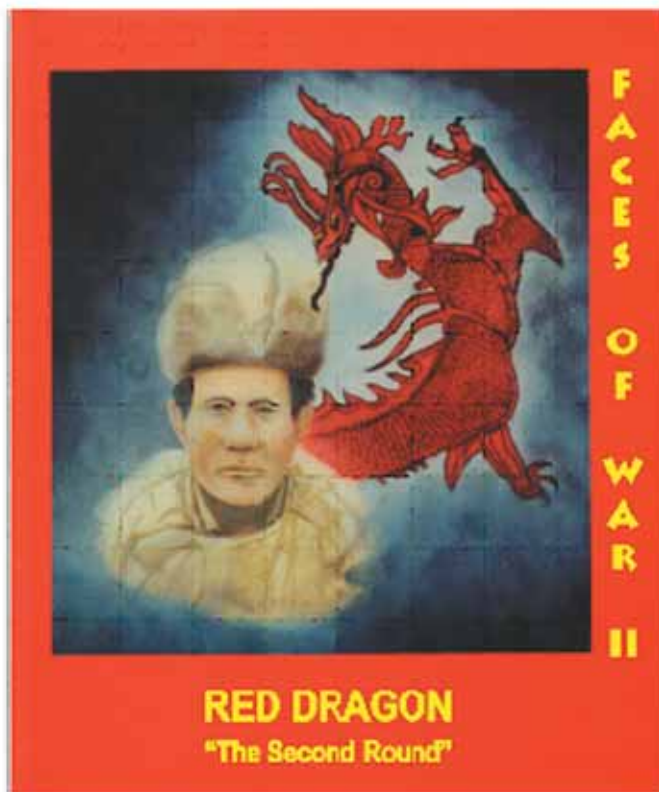
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Dedicated to and in memory of  
Gen. Raymond G. Davis M.O.H. (U.S.M.C. Ret.)  
Robert Ortega, Former Sgt. - U.S.M.C.

See details of funeral ceremony on page 64

## Christmas in Korea

By Kevin M. Wolff

During my tenure in Korea I spent Christmas on the front in an infantry company and from those memories resulted in the wood carving I created several years ago. At the urging of Korean War buddies I wanted to make this available to you for your Christmas 2003 issue.



Kevin Wolff at E-mail <wolffcarvers@frontier.net>

## Memorial Photos Needed

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

I will also send that photo on to our webmaster to place on our KWVA web page. Please do not send photos you want returned and please no newspaper clippings. —Editor

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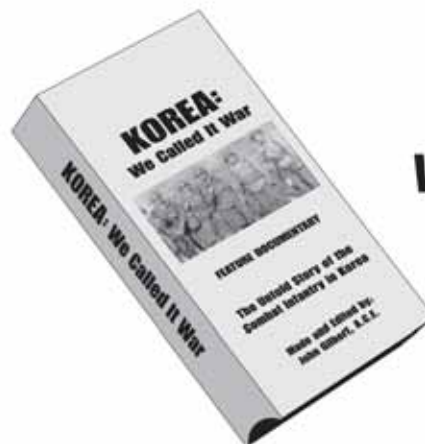
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**Special Notice:** If your chapter collects your national dues for transmission to national, please send your dues to them. This will assist your chapter in determining which members are in good standing.

If your chapter does not collect your national dues, send your dues payment to: KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210.

Incidentally, if you move (or just head South for the winter) always notify us of your address change at least three weeks

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## To expedite your mail...

■ Vincent Krepps gets everything regarding *The Graybeards*.

■ Nancy Monson and Lynne Eldridge (Membership Office) get everything regarding dues, address changes, etc. This office also provides new Chapter CID numbers.

■ Thomas Gregory gets other financial matters.

■ Jack Edwards gets all requests for chapter formation.

Addresses for all of the above are on the inside cover of this magazine. Sending it to the Membership Office only slows your request down as we must then forward it to the appropriate person for handling.

## Important Notice to Chapters

**Please include your chapter ID (CID) number on all applications and communications.** Be sure to use the new membership application with the new (1999) dues amounts. If you don't know your CID number, drop the membership office a note and we'll be happy to provide it to you. Be sure all information is filled out on a new member application—zip code, area code, unit of service, etc.

We have developed special forms which can be of assistance to you in submitting dues payments, reporting address changes, etc. If you would like a set, please drop a note to the Membership Office.

It's important not to abbreviate on a membership application—you may know what "P'sville" is, but we don't—we then have to take additional time and look it up by the zip code. Another item sometimes missing is the telephone area code.

We are still in need of information regarding some chapter officers. Be sure that you keep the Membership Office advised when you elect new officers.

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# Korea 50 Years Ago



In Sept. of 53 we began hauling any scrap wood we could find so we could build an orphanage.

Construction began with great enthusiasm.



Local Koreans helped with the project.

It is beginning to look like a building.



Now it is beginning to look like an orphanage.

When the Korean war ended the men at K-8 learned about the orphans who gravitated to our garbage dump to scrounge for food and about how many of the orphans died each day.



Jim Lamson and friend in front of office building. I do not have photos of the finished orphanage as I returned to the States.

## Building an orphanage after the cease fire

Photos from James Q. Lamson, 520 South Main Street, Plainwell, MI. 49080, E-Mail: [mmamaggie33@hotmail.com](mailto:mmamaggie33@hotmail.com)

*Thank you James for photos. James was with 3rd Bomb Group in Korean War. -Editor*

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