

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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The Graybeards

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Remembering our Korean War Chaplains

Part III (Continued from March-April *Graybeards*)

The United States Army Chaplaincy 1950-1953

Serving the Army on the Move

Trying to describe briefly the movements of U.N. forces during the months following the Inch'on landing is like trying to describe a yo-yo while in use. Chaplain William E. Paul, Jr., United Lutheran, offloaded at Inch'on on 15 September with the 328th Ordnance Ammunition Battalion. His subsequent travels over the Korean terrain give some picture of the rapid changes in the War's front.

Chaplain Paul and his unit, providing support to the 7th Infantry Division, moved southeast to hook up with Walker's Eighth Army. He eventually continued all the way to Pusan — over 200 miles away. By the latter part of October, however, he participated in an amphibious landing at Wonsan, 300 miles north on the eastern coast of North Korea. From there he marched to Hamhung but, because of the Chinese intervention, moved south to Hungnam and proceeded, again by sea, nearly to Pusan. Once more he moved north. In the process he was reassigned to the 24th Infantry Division Artillery. Hospitalized with the flu and delayed in locating points along the way, it took him 17 days to get to the unit. Even when he finally left Korea in September 1951, it took him 20 days via Japan, by ship and aircraft, to return to the States.

The U.N. forces that broke out of the Pusan Perimeter and drove north in the fall of 1950, met heavy resistance before they hooked up with the X Corps north of Osan in late September. Like a hammer meeting an anvil, however, the two forces crushed the NKA units caught in between. One of the fastest drives from the south

was made by the ROK 3rd Division which pushed up the east coast and arrived within 5 miles of the 38th Parallel on the last day of the month.

There was some debate whether to cross the Parallel because of concern over possible reactions from China and Russia. After receiving no replies to calls for surrender, however, the U.N. forces pushed on into North Korea. ROK troops, often without adequate supplies and frequently moving on bare feet, made an incredible dash north and captured the port city of Wonsan, 75 miles north of the Parallel, by 10 October. Walker's Eighth Army moved across the border on the west and captured the North Korean capital, P'yongyang, by mid-October. On the 26th of that month, X Corps troops made a mass amphibious landing almost due east, at Wonsan, on the opposite coast.

Meanwhile, a massive airborne drop was made by the 187th Airborne Regiment near Sukch'on and Such'on, north of P'yongyang. MacArthur had hoped they could rescue American prisoners who it was assumed would be moved northward and, at the same time, cut off North Korean officials and enemy troops. Among the paratrooper-chaplains were Francis L. Sampson, Roman Catholic, and Holland Hope, Methodist. Both were seasoned combat veterans of World War II. Sampson, as a matter of fact, twice survived capture by the Germans following airborne jumps in Europe.

Chaplain Hope, suffering from a fractured vertebra he incurred from the jump, was accompanying the 187th Regimental Combat Team. Hearing that men of "I" Company in the 3rd Battalion had been cut off, Hope, a recognized marksman, organized a rescue force from "L" Company. Following the chaplain, the men fought their way in to recover the dead and wounded. For this feat, Chaplain Hope was later awarded the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, and one additional, unprecedented award for a chaplain — the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

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FRONT COVER: Cover photo, typical Korean village of the past, courtesy of Glen Ed White

President's Message



Harley Coon
President, KWVA

The time has come to say farewell to our membership from your outgoing president. I can only say that it is a great honor serving the Korean War Veterans.

The KWVA has had many accomplishments during the last six (1998-2004) years. Our membership is at an all time high and our finances are in the black and The Graybeards has increased to 96 pages. This was achieved through the hard work of the following Board members and Officers during this period.

Officers

1st Vice presidents Jack Edwards and Ed MacGill, 2nd Vice presidents Ed Grygier, Dot Schilling Wenzel, Ken Cook Treasurer, Thomas Gregory, Jim Martin, (deceased) Dan Nicholas (deceased.) Secretary, Howard Camp, Ed Markart (deceased)

Directors

Jack Edwards, Ed Grygier, Bill Van Ort, C.J. Rittenhouse, Tom Clawson, Richard Danielson, John Settle (deceased) Dorothy Shilling/Wenzel, James Kerr, Bob Morga, Oreste Tramonte, Ray Wells, James Jones, Theodore Trousdale, Bob Morga, Dick Adams, Ken Cook, Joseph Pirrello, C. J. Rittenhouse, Jack De Lap, Larry McKinniss, Don Byers, Jerry Lake, William Mac Swain, Warren Weidhahn, Michael Mahoney, James Ferris, Judge Advocate Sherm Pratt, Chaplain Irvin Sharp, Reunion Co-Chairman Jack Cloman, Blair Cross (deceased) Washington D.C. Affairs, Finance Committee Treasurer, Thomas Gregory, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary Howard Camp, Chairperson Dorothy Wenzel. James Jones, and Joseph Pirrello, Revisit Korea Warren Weidhahn.

The members named and unnamed that served on the various committees are to be commended for their fine work. There has always been discussion some agree others

disagree but they always came to a gentlemen's agreement.

Editor

The one person that was instrumental in the success of the KWVA is our editor Vince Krepps. Vince has always tried to get the Korean War Veterans chapters recognition through the Graybeards. Vince would only print the stories that were in the best interest of the KWVA. Vince wanted fact not fiction.

Membership

The membership has increased, 6,000 new members during the last six 6 years. Jerry Lake, Sam Naomi and Jack Edwards along with other members working on the membership committee deserve all the credit. We have an increase of 400 Korean Ex-Prisoners of War join KWVA. We are all in our 70's and a lot of us won't be around too many more years. As we fade away so will remembering the Korean War.

Activities

I have met in the last six (6) years President Clinton, President Bush and The Honorable Jessie Brown, The Honorable Togo West, and The Honorable Anthony Principi, Secretaries of Department of Veterans affairs. All five (5) held the KWVA with the greatest respect. The KWVA worked very close to the Department of Defense DPMO

POW/MIA Office.

The highlight of the KWVA was the Maryland Chapter posting the colors for a future president.

There are the actors from Hollywood, Bo Derick, Piper Laurie, Penny Singleton, (Blondie of Dagwood fame 92 years old in Seoul, S. Korea 2000) and Terry Moore. All of these actress entertained the troops during the Korean War.

We have had world wide exposure in Australia, South Korea, and the Philippines. There were several members interviewed on national television for the 50th commemoration. There is not enough room or time for me to tell about all the places I have been and the speeches I gave representation the Korean War Veterans.

If there is any advice I would give the next president that it would be visible and let people know of the Korean War Veterans Association. I can foresee growth in the KWVA but it is going to take a lot of work.

The president represents 50 states and over 250 chapters—a lot of travel is required.

There are several good candidates running for office, but there are a few that have never attended an executive council meeting or membership meeting.

If you have received your *Graybeards*

Continued on page 6



Jay Hidano (left), Dick Kaneko (center) and Harley J. Coon at Hale Koa Hotel Honolulu, Hawaii.

Military Shop - 4 color

PRESIDENT from page 2

with ballot and have not voted I have endorsed the following members to be reelected to office. They have the experience and are dedicated to KWVA. Jack Edwards for president, Don Byers for 1st Vice President, Mike Mahoney 2nd Vice president, Directors Ken Cook, Harley J. Coon, Jack DeLap and Paul Sutphin. I have worked with these people and they have done a good job.

The most important person I want to thank is My Wife Sylvia. There are times she could not go with me. She was always in my thoughts. Because of her understanding we celebrated our 50th anniversary.

God Bless,

Harley

KWVA Officers, Board and Committee Meeting

Best Western Executive Motel
2401 Needmore Road at Interstate 75
Dayton, Ohio 45414
(937) 278-5711
www.bestwestexexec.com 1-800-528-1234

July Meeting Agenda

- July 24, 2004
Committee members check in.*
- July 25, 2004
9:00am - Work session for committees.
- July 25, 2004
Board members check in.*
- July 26, 2004
8:30am - Executive Council meeting
8:30am - Opening ceremony.
8:45am - Auditor report.
10:00am till 12:00 noon - Committee Reports By Laws, Resolutions, Membership / Chapter Formation
12:00 till 1:30 - Lunch
1:30pm - election results.
4:00 pm - Pass the Gavel.
5:00pm - Farewell dinner cost to be announced later if interested
- July 27, 2004
Incoming President agenda
- July 28, 2004
Check out.

If you are flying into Dayton airport please send us the time, flight number and airline. We will pick you up at airport. The motel is approx 2 1/2 mile from airport

We can finalize recommendation for by-laws and resolutions to be passed on to next administration.

NOTE: We have 30 rooms blocked off. Call Motel to make room reservation.

According to the by-law the reelected or new officer take office at 12:01 July 27.

The C P A will notify the candidates of the results.

**Not mandatory to attend.*

Please RSVP if you will attend by notifying Howard Camp, Secretary (address on page 2 of Graybeards).

Harley

Remains of U.S. Soldiers Found in North Korea

Nineteen sets of remains believed to be those of American soldiers missing in action from the Korean War were recovered by two teams of U.S. specialists and will be repatriated to U.S. control at Yongsan Military Compound in Seoul on May 27.

The joint remains recovery work is the result of negotiations with North Korea led by the Defense Department's POW/Missing Personnel Office. The remains will be returned overland across the demilitarized zone for the first time since 1999. The Honorable Jerry D. Jennings, who led the negotiations with North Korea, will be the ranking Department of Defense official participating in the repatriation.

A joint team operating near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea recovered 12 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 seven sets 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 Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Hickam AFB, Hawaii, where the remains will be flown to begin the forensic identification process.

Since 1996, 28 individual joint operations have been conducted in North Korea, during which more than 200 sets of remains believed to be those of U.S. soldiers have been recovered. Of the 88,000 U.S. servicemembers 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>, or call DPMO at (703) 699-1169.



Editor's Pen

Vincent A. Krepps (Korea, 2nd I.D. 1950-1951)

My devotion and efforts to provide you, the membership and readers, a magazine that remembers the Korean War, those that fought in that war, including those that still defend the freedoms enjoyed today in Korea, and most of all to those that paid the supreme sacrifice. Below was my statement made in 1997. No one had a complaint then.

Rules to follow:

I will avoid letters that are negative toward our association and the veterans that fought in the Korean War. Thanks for caring.

Vince Krepps

I am in my 6th year, so I guess you agreed with the above rule. After two (2) years of reading some nasty e-mails from those that have an ax to grind I must respond with this 'Editor's Pen' for two reasons as follows:

1: *To say goodbye and thank the veterans of the Korean War and DMZ veterans.*

It is very hard to say goodbye to something or someone you love. I have been honored to tell the history of the Korean War with your stories and even some of mine. I have done my best to print most but I know some have been omitted due to length, unreadable, newspaper stories and a host of other reasons. The photos and other sections printed or not printed follows the same guidelines explained above. I am very proud of your events and efforts to Tell America in your home states provided to me by thousands of photos and text. Your Memorials in your states makes all Korean War Veterans proud and all are beautiful. No Service Medal will ever be above the deeds you have all done to remember the fallen or those that served. Many times in reading your letters, stories and the Taps list has required me to get very emotional but it was more important to get your messages out to others. Lastly I thank each of you for the support you have given me over the years and in some way I

Please do not mail or e-mail any more articles, advertisements or photos to me. I have enough for the July-August issue and what is left over will be mailed to the new editor.

hope you know my heart has a place for all of you.

2: *To give those that are happy with the association as it is and wish to keep it that way my opinion on how to do so.*

Several past and present officers, also members or ex-members that will remain nameless have circulated their views on President Coon's and others actions over the past few years including mine. Seeing several Executive Boards, Presidents and Editors in action during these past 10 years I have not seen anything new. All have had their detractors and dissenters. During President Coon's years in office he has restored our association to financial health and has established KWVA as a veterans organization of high standing. I must admit *The Graybeards* is the best Korean War veterans magazine there is.

President Coon was given a slate of major problems. This required stepping on some toes and making changes. As usual stepping on toes and making changes caused those that were in some way related to the problems to rally and attempt to block President Coon's actions and even in some cases disrupt scheduled meetings, agenda and the business of our National Association including this election.

To make a long story short, in order to keep the KWVA's business going several of these dissenters were relieved of their duty for the "Good Of The Order" of your association. Needless to say they did not go quietly, they only found a support group to continue the disruption. We now have a whole gauntlet of innuendos. These dissenters are not even 1/4 of 1% of our membership. Their innuendos are also false.

Now to my feelings or opinion.

I will stop here and also throw the ball into your court. With your vote you can decide the board that will and should carry on the business of commemorating you our members and veterans of the Korean War and DMZ Veterans through 2004 and years to follow and your magazine (opinion free).

I suggest you vote for the following:

- President - Jack Edwards
- 1st Vice President - Don Byers
- 2nd Vice President - Mike Mahoney
- Directors - Harley Coon, Ken Cook, Jack Delap and Paul Sutphin.

I will be the Editor of *The Graybeards* through July-August 2004 issue. Everything that I have done over the past 6 years plus will be the same up to the September-October issue. Commitments I have made to advanced copies orders and advertisers will be filled. The new editor has also agreed to keep this promise. I do not know the commitments beyond expired contracts as of this date. You must read the Sept-Oct issue for additional commitments by the new editor. Please do not mail or e-mail any more articles, advertisements or photos to me. I have enough for the July-August issue and what is left over will be mailed to the new editor.

The address of the new editor is:

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Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Tel: (806) 563-6149 email:
E-mail: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Thanks for being such great members and veterans. Thank you for the donations over the years. They are still needed and will be turned over to the Treasurer. I am sure the new team will keep *The Graybeards* at a high quality working with those officers and directors mentioned above. I cannot promise anything beyond that.

God Bless,

Vincent Krepps,
Editor, *The Graybeards*

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: Sept-Oct 2004 articles must be received by editor no later than Sept 10. We print on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have a backlog.— Editor.

Korean War Veterans Memorial—The Video



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



Lead Scout

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



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

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

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

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

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



THE VIDEO

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

TO ORDER THE VIDEO

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

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

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

THE MUSIC

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

VETERANS' ACCOUNTS

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

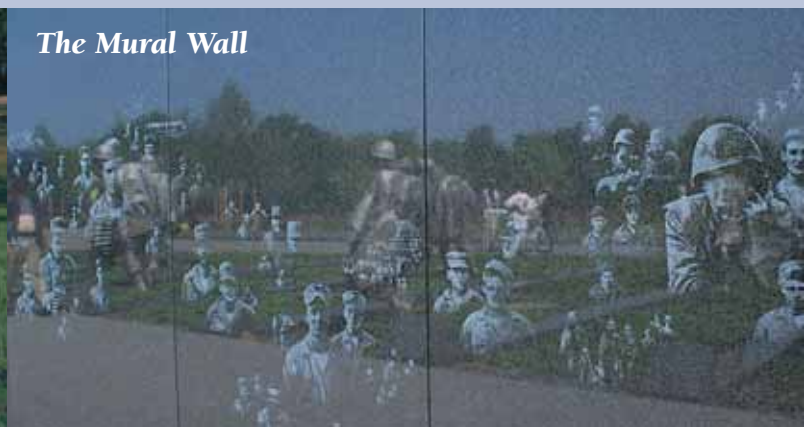


U.S. Army Chorus



The Advance Party

The Mural Wall





To: Fellow Korean War Veterans and all Veterans

Memorial Day holds a special place in America, or Memorial Day should hold a special day in the lives of all Americans, old and young alike. It is Memorial Day that honors all of our Veterans, in all wars and conflicts, who gave their all for you and for all Americans. This year Memorial Day has a special meaning for our World War II Veterans as their Memorial will be dedicated this Memorial Day weekend. We should be involved in remembrance and reflection at this time in our lives and history as we continue to have our armed forces making the supreme sacrifice for freedom.

When you read this in the *Graybeards*, Memorial Day will have passed. Hopefully you and every Korean War Veteran were present for a Memorial Service to honor our heroes of yesterday and today.

The month of May is an important month in the life of Veterans across America. This month will be special to our WW II Veterans as their long awaited Memorial that opened for viewing to the public on Thursday, 29 April, just one month to the day, the Memorial will be officially dedicated with the fanfare that this wonderful Memorial deserves and for the WW II Veterans and their families, along with those who supported our armed forces on the home front, they will have their time in the limelight they deserve so well.

We join with them and all Americans in their special day as we remember the meaning of this Memorial and the sacrifices that our armed forces and the American people made during the five years of WW II.

The Memorial is large and it is designed to compliment the Memorial Mall and the open space of the Memorial provides a clear view from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial as was possible prior to building the Memorial.

The Memorial is divided by 2 sections, the European Theater and the Pacific

Theater. The columns that represent the states and territories of the United States are impressive as is the water falls and reflecting pools. The Freedom Wall with the 4,000 gold toned stars represent the more than 400,000 Americans who gave their lives. President Harry S. Truman said it best with these words inscribed on the Memorial, "Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." There is a WW II registry database of Americans who served in uniform and at the home front. Access the registry through the Memorial website, www.WWII Memorial.com. The website will tell you more about the Memorial project.

A word about Veterans Day, 11 November 2004 in our National Cemetery at Arlington. The Veterans Day National Committee (VDNC) met on Friday, 7 May 2004 at the Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., to discuss this year's Veteran's Day and Ceremony. The poster for this year was chosen to be printed and distributed to all VSO's.

Security perimeter will be increased to the main gate of Arlington Cemetery at Memorial Drive. Security will be tight - very tight. Veterans Day Host 2004 will be the VSO, Non-Commissioned Officers Assn. The Ceremony is open to the public. Ceremony is at 11 AM. If you plan on being in the D.C. area and attending the National Ceremony at Arlington, make your plans early for accommodations in the D.C. and Arlington, VA area will be filled rapidly.

A word about our Charter, from Bob Banker, Chairman, KWVA Federal Charter - The Maryland Chapter #33 KWVA has implemented their planned

effort to acquire the Federal Charter this year. A committee has been formed entitled, "The Blair Cross Federal Charter Committee" with nine members from the Chapter. The committee members were first allocated the task of contacting all Chapter Presidents with certain states to request their participation and cooperation. The Chapter Presidents were then asked to telephone their Representatives and follow up with either personal visits or letters. They were also asked to report on their success. We, in turn, will personally contact their Representatives by visiting their offices in Washington, D.C. to promote the co-sponsorship of HR 1043.

First, I am pleased to say that we have received overwhelming support across the country from the Chapter Presidents in this endeavor. Second, I am also pleased to report the wholehearted support of the National Officers and Directors, who not only gave us their approval for this project, but have been making direct efforts to contact their own Representatives. We are grateful for the activity from all concerned. When we commenced this effort there were 112 co-sponsors. HR 1043 now has 127 co-sponsors with another 8 who have given us their commitment.

We made our initial visit to The Hill on May 10th and we plan to make bi-weekly trips for the duration of this session. Your individual help, of course, is of the utmost importance. We all have a stake in this mission and no one should consider themselves exempt. Please contact your Chapter President if you have any helpful information and that person should contact his committee member who, in turn, will pass this along to us for action.

To borrow a phrase from another, with your help, we will take HILL 1043!!

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.

Jul-Aug 2004Jul 16
Sept-Oct 2004.....Sept 10

Nov-Dec 2004.....Nov 12
Jan-Feb 2005Jan 14

Despite MacArthur's hopes, unfortunately, the major objectives of the airborne operation were lost. Many of the NKA had already retreated farther north. Far more tragic, 73 American prisoners were found murdered in one of the great atrocities of the War.

Sampson and Hope eventually moved south to P'yongyang and, while there, helped minister to POW's. Sampson collected rosaries from his men for use by the NKA Catholic prisoners. Later he wrote, "I was struck by the strange twist wars can make of things. These Christians had been forced into the Communist army; now here they were using the rosaries belonging to the men they had been shooting at only a few days ago."

Chaplain Sampson, who became Chief of Chaplains in 1967, was the momentary victim of a common plight in the War — someone stole his jeep. Undaunted by the experience, he announced to some British Catholics, after serving Mass at a neighboring English tank unit: "Now if any of you men can procure a jeep for me, from any source of your choice, I will give that man a jug of soluble coffee, a bottle of wine, and absolution." In 20 minutes, a British sergeant delivered a new vehicle. It not only had the previous markings painted out, but also a fresh new "Chaplain" sign emblazoned on the front.

Chaplain Joseph A. Dunne, Roman Catholic, replaced Sampson in the 187th Regiment when the latter returned to Japan. While Sampson, an avid tennis player, was temporarily serving at the Tokyo Hospital Annex, he met and became good friends with another player named Yuri Rostovorov. Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) agents soon informed the chaplain that his friend was, in fact, the Chief of the Russian Secret Police in Japan. They wanted Sampson to regularly report his conversations with the Russian, but the chaplain refused such an arrangement as being totally inappropriate for a clergyman. The friendship continued with the CIC's knowledge and word came one day that Chaplain Dunne, seriously wounded by a land mine in Korea, had been brought to the Tokyo hospital. Rostovorov asked to join Sampson in a

visit to the wounded priest and, while there, was obviously moved by Dunne's quiet composure to severe pain. "A little over a year later," wrote Sampson, "the Washington department of the CIC arranged a meeting between Rostovorov and myself. He had found his way into the democratic camp, and ... he told about the deep impression Father Dunne's Christ-like suffering had made upon him."

Suffering Under The Chinese Intervention

Americans had become optimistic about the War when the U.N. forces seemed to be finishing their work. Many U.S. units anticipated withdrawal to Japan. What appeared to be the end of the fighting, however, was actually only the beginning of some of the bloodiest in Korea. The sudden change came with an unexpected intervention by Chinese Communist Forces (CCF), who crossed the Manchurian border and led a new offensive against the U.N. lines.

Initial fighting between the U.S. and CCF forces began near Unsan, roughly 60 miles north of P'yongyang. During the first days of November, the 8th Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division, especially the 3rd Battalion, suffered heavy losses. Chaplain Emil J. Kapaun, Roman Catholic, a veteran of the Burma-India Theater in World War II, was with them. Years before, Kapaun had confided to a high school friend in Kansas that he wanted more than anything to be a martyr. Asked once why he refused to wear gloves while working in a farming harvest, he replied: "I want to feel some of the pain our Lord felt when he was nailed to the cross."

Kapaun had served in the 1st Cavalry for some time and suffered through early defeats with fellow Chaplains Donald

Carter, Arthur Mills, and Julius B. Gonia, Baptist, who replaced the wounded Mills. Carter remembered how Kapaun found a bicycle after losing his jeep in the early days "and covered our units as few other chaplains I know."

The chaplains of the 8th Regiment agreed to rotate among the battalions; near the first of November, Chaplain Carter, living with the 3rd Battalion held in reserve, exchanged places with his friend, Kapaun, in the 1st Battalion. Carter wanted the priest to "enjoy a day or so away from the tension where the heaviest attack was expected. Ironically, it was the 3rd Battalion that received the full force of the Chinese assault and Kapaun's martyrdom started to be a reality in the evening of 2 November 1950.

The battalion was nearly wiped out during the severe battle. CCF soldiers captured Kapaun while he was with a group of over 50 wounded he had helped gather in an old dugout. Ordered to leave many of those for whom he had risked his life, Kapaun and a few ambulatory wounded were forced to crawl through the battlefield and were later imprisoned. For 6 months, under the most deprived conditions, he fought Communist indoctrination among the men, ministered to sick and dying, and literally stole food from the enemy in trying to keep his fellow soldiers alive. Eventually, suffering from a blood clot, pneumonia, and dysentery, he died there on 23 May 1951.

Chaplain Emil J. Kapaun, Roman Catholic, was the first of several Army chaplains to suffer in captivity. A mere 2 days after his capture, another chaplain fell into the hands of the Chinese. Kenneth C. Hyslop, Northern Baptist, was with the men of the 19th Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, who were attempting to stop the Communist drive south of Unsan near Anju. The 6-year veteran of Army service received the Bronze Star earlier for remaining with wounded who were cut off and eventually leading them back to friendly lines. Hyslop was captured on 4 November. Primarily because of internal injuries as a result of mistreatment by his captors, he died of starvation 38 days later on 12 December.



Chaplain Kapaun was the first of several Army chaplains who suffered in captivity.

Chaplain Kenneth C. Hyslop, Northern Baptist, died in captivity of starvation due to internal injuries and mistreatment by his captors.



Kapaun became one of the popular heroes of the Korean War and was referred to as “the man whose story best sums up the glory of the Chaplain Corps.” At a memorial service honoring Kapaun in 1954, Chief of Chaplains Patrick J. Ryan, Roman Catholic, relayed the feelings of former prisoners:

Men said of him that for a few minutes he could invest a seething hut with the grandeur of a cathedral. He was filled with the spirit of Christ. In that spirit he was able to inspire others so that they could go on living — when it would have been easier for them to die.

In the citation for the Legion of Merit, posthumously awarded to Chaplain Kapaun, were references to the “courageous actions” of a man who “considered no menial task beneath him.”

In November the War’s front became somewhat lopsided. While the Eighth Army was along the Ch’ongch’on River on the west coast, elements of the 7th Infantry Division in the X Corps had penetrated all the way to the Yalu River on the east. The Chinese in the west temporarily drew behind a screen of the NKA. MacArthur, meanwhile, had ordered bombing raids on the Yalu bridges in an attempt to prevent Chinese reinforcements from entering Korea from Manchuria.

Despite the entry of Chinese forces into the war, the Eighth Army resumed its advance toward the Yalu on 24 November. The next day, the Chinese opened an offensive of far greater strength than their initial attack, forcing the Eighth Army into a deep withdrawal. The 2nd Infantry Division, last to leave the Ch’ongch’on River, attempted to withdraw over a road that led through a narrow pass bordered by high hills south of the town of Kunu-ri.

Chaplain John J. Murphy, Roman Catholic, was with the 68th AAA

Battalion as they passed through the 2nd Division and down the pass — surprisingly without serious incident. Murphy recalled seeing “Oriental soldiers” in the hills as they moved through the defile; he and the others were assured that they were probably ROK troops. Shortly after his unit left the pass, however, the “Oriental soldiers,” actually Chinese forces, opened up with a heavy barrage on their main targets now entering the draw and, on 30 November, one of the worst battles of the War raged in the area. Chaplains John E. Cannon, Baptist, Samuel R. Simpson, Methodist, and James C. Carroll, Roman Catholic, were in the 38th Regiment of the 2nd Div. During the course of the battle the unit lost nearly 50 percent of its men. Simpson was a 44-year-old veteran of World War II. In a convoy trying to rush a Chinese roadblock set up on the 2nd Division’s withdrawal route, he was cut down by enemy fire.



Chaplain Wayne H. Burdue, Disciples of Christ, was one of the nearly 4,000 casualties of the tragic ambush at Kunu-ri.

On the very same day, Chaplain Wayne H. Burdue, Disciples of Christ, with the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, was taken prisoner by the Communist forces. Burdue was 39 years old and had first entered the Army in 1942. Later reports indicated that he died in prison on 31 July 1951.

Chaplains Simpson and Burdue were just two of the nearly 4,000 casualties of the tragic ambush at Kunu-ri.

Twenty-three years later, while Chaplain Carroll was serving as Post Chaplain at Ford Hood, Texas, he received a letter from a retired sergeant. What the sergeant lacked in English grammar and spelling was more than compensated for by his moving message.

.....

Dear Sir:

You are probably the only Chaplain in the hold Army that I can remember his name ... To let you know who I am, I was the one

that jumped on you when we were ambushed at Conrea Pass. You sure did have a great influence on my life that day in Korea. I have never forgot how cool and collective ‘you were when everybody was getting killed all around us. You said “the Lord is with us and will get us out of this mess” which he did. You were the calmest person that I have every known.

After Korea, I started trying to find out in my own mind why you were so cool that day. Well I found it sometime late. I became a Christian. I am a Deacon and Sunday School Superintendent of my Church. Thanks very much ...

.....

Three days before the Kunu-ri engagement, other Chinese forces hit the X Corps far to the northeast where sub-zero temperatures covered the land with ice and snow. MacArthur ordered a withdrawal by the Corps to the port at Hungnam for evacuation. Unfortunately, an envelopment by the Chinese forced the units in the Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir area to fight their way out to the evacuation points.

Chaplain Martin C. Hoehn, Roman Catholic, serving with a portion of the 31st Regiment of the 7th Inf. Div., was later awarded the Silver Star for his heroic service and encouragement to the wounded.

In the same unit, Chaplain James W. Conner, Episcopalian, was lost in the fierce fighting. The former priest to churches in Puerto Rico was listed as missing on 1 December 1950 — exactly 2 years from the date of his entry on active duty. Chaplain Conner was never found and was eventually declared as “Presumed Dead.”

A Navy chaplain, serving the Marines in the area, wrote a magazine article later in which he accused the 31st Regiment of cowardice. He claimed that some 400 soldiers had feigned wounds and frostbite in order to be evacuated — leaving the 1st Marine Div. completely cut off. The article gained publicity in other periodicals and the Department of the Army issued a public denial of the story. A personal letter, presumably of protest, was sent to the chaplain from the Secretary of the Navy. Although the accuracy of the chaplain’s accusation may never be known, the



Chaplain Lawrence F. Brunnert, Roman Catholic, was the last U.S. Army chaplain taken prisoner in Korea.

reports indicated that the wounded from the 31st continued firing at the enemy while lying on trucks awaiting evacuation.

In the same action, the day after Chaplain Conner was lost, Chaplain Lawrence F. Brunnert, Roman Catholic, in a sister unit, part of the 32nd Regiment was taken prisoner near the infamous Changjin Reservoir. Repatriated prisoners testified to Brunnert's devoted, though brief, service after his capture. He was the last U.S. Army chaplain taken prisoner in Korea and, tragically like the three who preceded him, he also died in captivity. Returned prisoners indicated that he died of wounds on 20 December 1950. For 6 days the 1st Marine Div. fought southward from the Reservoir. Finally, on 9 December, a relief column from the 3rd Inf. Div. met them outside of Hungnani. The immense evacuation had already begun. The Air Force and Navy moved 110,000 troops, 98,000 refugees, 350,000 tons of cargo, and 18,000 vehicles out of the area by Christmas Eve.

The cost in lives caused by the Chinese intervention had been extremely high. The extent of those casualties can be measured somewhat by the tragic realization that six U.S. Army chaplains, nearly half of those who died in Korea, were lost in that 1-month period — four of them within 3 days.

Mixing Sweat and Blood With Korean Soil

When Chaplain Frederick H. Ogilvie, Southern Baptist, reported for duty with the 7th Infantry Division, it appeared as though the Division's Chaplain Section was preparing for the Olympics. Ogilvie was a former Baylor University football star. He joined Chaplains Benton S. Wood, Christian Science, former captain of the Harvard swimming team; James M. Bragan, Baptist, and John W. Betzold,

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Orthodox Presbyterian, outstanding baseball players; Martin Hoehn, a talented skier, and Division Chaplain Maurice E. Powers, Roman Catholic, a boxer. For the moment, however, it appeared as if none of them were on a winning team.

Chaplain Betzold, like many others, had once stood on the banks of the Yalu River, but during the bitter 1950 winter he was moving south in the rapid "bug out," as the soldiers called it. A land mine destroyed a communications truck near the head of his column. Betzold rushed forward with the others, fearing the worst for the driver. They spotted him, clothes in tatters, calmly searching the brush by the road. "I've found it!" he suddenly shouted to the stunned observers, as he held up a piece of wood with a few strings hanging limp. They were the shattered remains of his beloved guitar. "His humor saved the day for us," Betzold said; then he added soulfully, "at least that part of it."

The incident seemed characteristic of the winter mood into which scores of chaplains tried to bring the spirit of Hanukkah and Christmas like a smile on the face of tragedy. The victorious had again become the defeated in a sudden twist of events. Somewhat symbolic of the course of the war, General Walker was suddenly killed in a freak accident. He died while driving to the front to decorate a group of soldiers — including his own son — when his jeep collided with a ROK Army truck.

U.S. emotions were straining at what some were beginning to call a "pointless war." It was difficult for many to accept the political expediency of limited action in which thousands of Americans were giving their lives. The "U.S. Fighting Man" was chosen as Time magazine's "Man of the Year." "It was not a role the American had sought either as an individual or as a nation," said the periodical. "The U.S. fighting man was not civilization's crusader, but destiny's draftee." A chaplain working in a replacement depot

said that many of the religious conversions at his station were based on fear — "Who would not be scared to face those ruthless and godless communists?" Meanwhile, General MacArthur's disagreement with the policy-makers' conduct of the War was becoming increasingly apparent.

By this time, Chaplain Ivan Bennett, in his dual capacity as Far East and U.N. Command Chaplain, was supervising nearly 270 chaplains representing a variety of nations. Frank Tobey, as Eighth Army Chaplain, was the senior cleric in Korea. Interestingly, 67 of his chaplains were civilians — seven U.S. auxiliary chaplains (former missionaries) and 60 ROK chaplain-volunteers. Beginning in late January and into the spring of 1951, they joined their men once more in the regaining of formerly occupied ground.

Lieutenant General Matthew Ridgway, Walker's replacement, launched several attacks and reoccupied Seoul by 16 March. To block an NKA withdrawal route, the 187th Regimental Combat Team made another airborne assault — this time at Munsan, nearly 175 miles below the area they had captured 6 months earlier. It was during this operation that Chaplain Joseph Dunne, whose quiet composure to pain had influenced Chaplain Sampson's Russian friend, was seriously wounded. Dunne, who was later retired for disability, received the Silver Star for his heroic service in the area.

On 5 April near Chunchon, almost due west of Munsan, Chaplain Leo P. Craig, Roman Catholic, was vesting for afternoon Mass at the 99th Field Artillery Battalion of the 1st Cavalry Division. An exploding land mine injured a soldier about 70 yards away and Craig, shedding his vestments, rushed with some others to aid the man. As they knelt beside the soldier, someone stepped on a second mine and Chaplain Craig, along with seven others, was killed by the blast. The former Cincinnati priest had died after less than 2

years in the Army. By the next morning, when prayers were being recited over the chaplain's body by the Division Chaplain, Harold Prudell, the story of Craig's death was being filed in a news story by the priest-correspondent, Patrick O'Connor.

Six days later, despite their knowledge of some of the disagreements involved, many Americans were stunned by a brief announcement released by President Truman through his press secretary. "With deep regret," it began, "I have concluded that General of the Army Douglas MacArthur is unable to give his wholehearted support to the policies of the United States Government and of the United Nations in matters pertaining to his official duties I have, therefore, relieved General MacArthur of his commands and have designated Lt. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway as his successor"

Chaplain Francis Sampson described Ridgway as a "soldier's soldier" and compared him to Washington at Valley Forge "who met the supreme test in one of his country's darkest hours." Meanwhile, Lieutenant General James A. Van Fleet was rushed from the States to assume Ridgway's former job.

Obviously, many chaplains were becoming increasingly, if not wearily, familiar with the Korean terrain. Because of the constantly changing front and the rapid movement of units, some chaplains had to travel more than 50 miles between the elements of their "congregations." A chaplain reported that to get to one of his units required flying for 1 hour, riding a boat for 1 1/2 hours, and driving a jeep for another 1/2 hour. The constant traveling, however, brought many of them in contact with the needs of the local people and inspired their involvement in soliciting and distributing supplies from Stateside churches.

Two Communist offensives during the last of April and the middle of May resulted in heavy casualties for both sides along the 38th Parallel. On 18 May, Chaplain Carl P. Oberleiter, American Lutheran, with the 5th Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, had stopped by the Command Post of Lieutenant Colonel Richard L. Irby's 2nd Battalion near Uijongbu. Irby, who was about to confer with the division commander at the time, noticed

Oberleiter's jeep move onto the shoulder of a road to by-pass another vehicle when suddenly it detonated a land mine. Shrapnel ripped into the chaplain, severing an arm above the elbow. After evacuation, Oberleiter nearly died but, through the concerted efforts primarily of an Army nurse, he managed to survive. After spending months in military hospitals, he was retained on active duty, despite his handicap — due in part to his obvious morale-building influence on other patients. The cheerful chaplain, however, shared a different reason with the soldiers. While dwelling in sub-consciousness, he told them, he had presented himself at the gates of heaven and dutifully turned over his "201 File" (Personal Records) for inspection. After the review, unfortunately, he was refused admittance and sent "below." Once more the file was perused and again the chaplain told that he didn't qualify for entrance. Asking in frustration where he could possibly go, he was told: "Generally in such cases, we simply retain them on active duty."

Chaplain Leonard F. Stegman, Roman Catholic, and David M. Reardon, Reformed, were awarded Silver Stars for their brave services on 20 May with the 15th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. Both had left an aid station to assist in evacuating the wounded from the field under intense enemy fire. Reardon, who was wounded in the process, refused to leave until the last man was recovered. He commented in a later acceptance of a civilian award: "My thoughts of those days are fresh with memories of splendid and heroic acts of my comrades whose sweat and blood is mixed with the soil of Korea."

Enemy advances were soon spent and

General Van Fleet began pushing back across the Parallel. On 27 May the 19th and 21st Regiments of the 24th Infantry Division flanked a Communist-held hill near the border. Chaplain John J. Murphy, now with the 19th Regiment, had spent some previous time with fellow Catholic Francis X. Coppens of the 21st Regiment. When Murphy attempted to contact his friend by field phone on the 28th, he was shocked to hear that Coppens had been killed the night before. Communist forces had stormed down the hill on the side held by the 21st Regiment; Coppens and Chaplain John B. Youngs, Bible Presbyterian, were occupying the same tent at the time. As machine gun fire riddled the canvas, Youngs dashed out for cover under a vehicle. Coppens, however, who had been quietly reciting his rosary, was cut down by the fire. Although the Massachusetts' priest had been on active duty from 1945 to 1947, his second tour had just begun in September 30, 1950. Chaplain Coppens was the tenth U.S. Army chaplain-victim of a war that was less than 1-year old.

(I have removed some of the detail prior to June 1950 due to space and that most of us know how and why the Korean War started. There were 4 long pages of history of our chaplains serving the troops in Korea.

This story by no means wishes to diminish the heroics of any Chaplain from any branch of service in war or peacetime. They were and still are the special people we looked up to keep our sanity in order to do our Duty to God and Country. May God Bless them all. If you want to read all pages go to <http://www.usachcs.army.mil/Korea/BattleforKorea.htm> The final page will be printed in the July-August 2004 issue. —Editor.)

Check Your Mailing Label

Membership Number
First two letters reflect membership type

Membership Dues Expiration Date. The example shows a dues date of January 1st, 2005

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DELIVERY POINT BARCODE	

Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Chairman if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4)**, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

Important: If barcode does not extend across full label, your zip code does not have 9 digits and your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

KWVA National 20th Annual Reunion ★ ★

The Reunion Committee are pleased to announce the site selected for our 20th Annual Reunion.

After review of several hotels, their locations, costs, etc the reunion committee members selected The Hilton Hotel in Knoxville, Tennessee. The address is 501 W Church Ave, Southwest Knoxville, TN 37902-2591.

There were many reasons for choosing this hotel but the most important one was location. It is very near to many historical areas, business areas, major airports, great shopping and eateries.

We hope you will start your planning to join your fellow veterans and friends in September 2004 at our 20th Annual Reunion. Thank You.

Reunion Committee Members

Location

★ Center of the downtown business district, 12 miles/20 minutes from McGhee Tyson Airport with easy access to I-40 and I-75

★ Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge and Sevierville, the ideal place for both art enthusiasts and outlet shoppers, Dollywood Theme Park and the beautiful Great Smoky Mountain National Park, are all within a scenic 45-minute drive

★ Oak Ridge, the site where the Atom Bomb was developed, is a 20 minute drive and offers science and energy related tours

★ Access to the Knoxville Convention Center via covered walkway across Henley Street

★ Adjacent to the University of Tennessee Conference Center

★ Walking distance to the Knoxville Convention Center, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Federal Building, University of Tennessee, Neyland Stadium, Thompson Boling Arena, the Old City, which features many restaurants, clubs and antique shops, World's Fair Park, Market Square, Courthouse and the Riverfront Development

★ Walking distance to many historical and cultural events, such as the Knoxville Museum of Art, the East Tennessee Historical Society Museum, Blount Mansion, James White Fort, the beautiful Tennessee Theatre and the Bijou Theatre

★ Historical and cultural events nearby are turn of the century homes such as the Mabry-Hazen House, Ramsey House and the Crescent Bend House, the Beck Cultural Museum which features Knoxville's African-American heritage, McClung Museum, the Knoxville Zoo, the Gateway Regional Visitors Center, Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, Ijams Nature Center and the Tennessee Riverboat Company where you can enjoy a cruise on the Tennessee River's "Star of Knoxville."

Accommodations

★ 317 spacious, comfortable guest rooms, including 7 Luxury and Executive Suites. All guest rooms are newly renovated as of winter 2003. Each suite includes a hidden wall bed for additional sleeping capacity.

★ Exercise room, Business Center, Gift Shop, seasonal outdoor pool and sundeck and YMCA access privileges

★ Prepare your palate for traditional American Cuisine and International delicacies in "The Market Cafe"

★ Relax in the trendy and refined atmosphere of our expanded lounge, "The Orange Martini"

★ Enjoy a high-quality whole bean coffee or a rich-brewed Italian style espresso beverage in our Starbucks Coffee Shop located on the lobby level

★ Room Service - enjoy quick service with a complete menu selection from the comfort of your room

★ Meeting and Banquet Facilities - with over 14,000 square feet of flexible meeting and banquet space and seating from five to 700, allow our staff of professionals to assist you with planning your important meetings and social events

Special Features

◆ Each guest room features a coffee maker, hair dryer, iron, ironing board and 27" television. Our two concierge level floors, as well as our suites, offer a 32" television

◆ Two, two-line data-port telephones with in-room voice mail allow you to receive calls while on the line

◆ 27"/32" remote control color television with complimentary; ESPN, ESPN2, Weather Channel, TNT, TBS, CNN, CNN Headline News, Cartoon Network, HBO, CNBC, Fox News, ABC Family, Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, History Channel, A&E and local channels including; ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, PBS, WB/UPN

◆ Laundry valet service

◆ Non-smoking guest rooms available upon request

◆ Zip out check-out and USA Today

◆ Complimentary Wireless Internet

Directions

Hilton Hotel in Knoxville, Tennessee.
501 W. Church Ave, Southwest Knoxville, TN 37902-2591
Tel: 865-523-2300

★ **Traveling North on I-75 or East on I-40**
or.

★ **Traveling from the Airport taking I-29 North (Accoya Hwy) to I-40 East**

◆ Take I-40 EAST into the Downtown Knoxville Area

◆ Take exit #388

◆ You will exit off the interstate to the right - stay left

★ Sept. 22 - 26, 2004 ★ ★ ★ Knoxville, TN

- ♦ Go through the tunnel to Henley Street
- ♦ Go to the second traffic light (at Church Avenue) - turn left
- ♦ The Hotel is one (1) block up on the left

★ Traveling South on I-75 (I-275 South):

- ♦ Take I-275 South to Knoxville
- ♦ Follow signs for 441 South/Henley Street
- ♦ Go through the tunnel to Henley Street
- ♦ Go to the second traffic light (at Church Avenue) - turn left
- ♦ The Hotel is one (1) block up on the left

★ Traveling West on I-40:

- ♦ Take Exit #388A (James White Parkway) - this will exit left
- ♦ Take first exit off of James White Parkway (at Summit Hill)
- ♦ You will come to a stop sign at Summit Hill - turn right
- ♦ Go to the fourth traffic light (Locust Street) - turn left
- ♦ The Hotel is three (3) blocks up on the left

Activities

★ Wednesday, September 22

1:00pm - 6:00pm Reunion Registration open
Hospitality Room open

★ Thursday, September 23

7:30am - 8:30am Reunion Registration open
9:00am - 2:00pm **City Tour/Lunch Cruise**
(description follows)
2:30pm - 4:30pm Reunion Registration open.
Additional hours will be posted at
the reunion if necessary.

★ Friday, September 24

7:00am - 8:30am Full Breakfast Buffet
8:30am - 11:30am Board Meeting
9:00am - 3:45pm **Ladies Tour** (description follows)
1:30pm - 5:00pm General Membership Meeting

★ Saturday, September 25

7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast (fruit, cereals,
yogurt, breads, juice, & coffee / tea)
8:45am - 4:30pm **Museum of the Appalachia/
Oak Ridge** (description follows)
6:00pm - 7:00pm Cash Bar
7:00pm - Banquet begins

★ Sunday, September 26

Farewells and Departures

Tour Descriptions

City Tour/Lunch Cruise

Thursday, September 23

Enjoy a guided driving tour of Knoxville, historic capital of the Southwest Territory. Stop at the McClung Museum to see one of the country's finest exhibits of American Indian artifacts recovered in the southeastern United States. Other points of interest include the World's Fair Site of 1982, Alex Haley Square, the University of Tennessee campus, and the Gateway Regional

Visitor's Center. Lunch, featuring baked chicken, will be onboard Star of Knoxville Riverboat. Enjoy a relaxing sightseeing cruise down the Tennessee River on an authentic 325-passenger stern wheel riverboat.

*9:00am board bus, 2:00pm back at the hotel
\$58/Person includes bus, guide, and lunch cruise.*

Ladies Tour

Friday, September 24

Board bus for Pigeon Forge, the friendly resort nestled in the Great Smoky Mountains, and host to more than ten million visitors a year. Learn the history of this area and how it has developed into one of the country's finest vacation spots. On the way, we'll stop at Douglas Dam Overlook for a beautiful view and then some free time at Sugarland's Visitation Center. For lunch and shopping, we'll head for Tanger Five Oaks Outlet Mall. You'll find everything from Samsonite, Reebok, and Isotoner to Oneida, Polo, and Liz Claiborne. There's something for everyone, and there's plenty of room on the bus for your purchases! Leave your man at the hotel for the business meeting, while you take his wallet to Pigeon Forge! On the way back, we'll see Dolly Parton's statue in her hometown of Sevierville, Tennessee.

*9:00am board bus, 3:45pm back at hotel
\$31/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch on your own.*

Museum of the Appalachia/Oak Ridge

Saturday, September 25

Begin the morning with a drive to the Museum of Appalachia located in Norris. This nationally acclaimed farm/village complex pays tribute to the early pioneers who settled the Big Valley of east Tennessee in the 1700's. The sixty-five acre museum includes dozens of authentic log structures, a large display building, an extensive craft and antique shop, and the Appalachian Hall of Fame. Enjoy the self-guided tour, some gift shopping, and a great lunch with entertainment. The buffet lunch consists of BBQ pork, chicken, rolls, slaw, beans, iced tea, lemonade, and cookies. During lunch watch and listen to the live band playing music of the era and area! After lunch, embark on a brief driving tour of Oak Ridge, home of the WWII Manhattan Project, on your way to the American Museum of Science and Energy. This is one of the world's largest energy exhibits presented through interactive displays, films, and live demonstrations. Learn the story of the Manhattan Project, code name given to a massive wartime effort, which produced the world's first atomic weapons. Oak Ridge was built in 1942 under cloak of great secrecy during WWII. The city went from 3,000 residents to 75,000 almost overnight and three manufacturing plants were constructed to develop a technology that ended the war. Your visit will include a self-guided tour of the museum and time to browse the gift shop.

*8:45am board bus, 4:30pm back at hotel
\$60/Person includes bus, guide, admissions, and lunch.*

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices. Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.

KWVA ACTIVITY REGISTRATION

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before August 20, 2004. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.

PO Box 11327

Norfolk, VA 23517

ATTN: KWVA

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Date Received _____

Inputted _____ Nametag Completed _____

	Price Per	# of People	Total
TOURS			
CUT-OFF DATE IS 8/20/04			
Thursday: City Tour / Lunch Cruise	\$58	_____	\$ _____
Friday: Ladies Tour	\$31	_____	\$ _____
Saturday: Oak Ridge / Museum of Appalachia	\$60.....	_____	\$ _____
MEALS			
Friday: Full Breakfast Buffet	\$14.....	_____	\$ _____
Saturday: Continental Breakfast.....	\$11.....	_____	\$ _____
Saturday: Banquet (Please select your entree)			
Roast Prime Rib of Beef.....	\$30.....	_____	\$ _____
Chicken Marsala	\$28.....	_____	\$ _____
MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE			
Includes reunion and administrative expenses.	\$7		\$ _____
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$ _____

Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

PLEASE PRINT

Name (for name tags) _____ KWVA Member # _____

Branch Of Service _____ Pow? _____ Spouse Name _____

Guest Names _____

Street Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Disability / Dietary Restrictions _____

In Order To Participate In Tours, Would You Require A Wheel Chair Lift On The Bus? _____

(Please Note That We Cannot Guarantee Availability).

Emergency Contact _____ Phone. (____) _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____ Are You Staying At The Hotel? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are You Flying? ☐ Driving? ☐ Rv? ☐

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined below. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday–Friday, 9:00am–5:00pm, Eastern Time** (excluding holidays). Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain your cancellation code.

Cancellation and Refund Policy for Armed Forces Reunion

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$5 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cutoff date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non refundable AFR registration fee. Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays. Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

HOTEL REGISTRATION

KNOXVILLE HILTON KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, 865-523-2300

The Knoxville Hilton is located at 501 West Church Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37902-2591 in the center of the downtown business and shopping district, only twelve miles from McGhee Tyson Airport. Connected to the Knoxville Convention Center by a covered walkway and just 1/2 mile from the University of Tennessee campus. The Knoxville Hilton offers 317 spacious guest rooms each with coffee makers, iron/ironing board, and hair dryers. Relax in the hotel's outdoor pool or health and exercise room. Enjoy the facilities of the neighboring Y.M.C.A including indoor pool, racquetball, jogging track and massage. Handicapped accessible and non-smoking rooms are subject to availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your hotel reservation. Parking for guests staying in the hotel will be complimentary. Check in time is 3:00pm; check out is 12:00pm. The Market Cafe serves steaks, chops and chicken. Room service is available.

Transportation services are provided by Airport Express Shuttle (Chariots of Hire) for \$12/pp one way or \$16/pp roundtrip. Their booth is conveniently located in the baggage claim area on the lower level. Please come directly to the booth upon your arrival.

The nearest RV park with full hook-up is the Knoxville East KOA about twenty miles from the hotel. The park recommends reservations be made immediately. For information, directions and reservations please call (800) 562-9693.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair while at the reunion, Lincare rents wheelchairs by the week. They are located about three blocks from the hotel and will deliver for a charge. Call (800) 524-7499 to make a reservation about two weeks in advance.

Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.

Cut Out Form Below and Mail to The Hotel



KWVA HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

Group Code: KWV

Reunion Dates: September 22 - 26 2004

Name _____ Sharing Room W/ _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Tel. Number (____) _____ Hilton Honors#, _____

Arrival Date _____ Approx. Time _____ Dep. Date _____ # Of Rooms Needed _____ # Of People In Room _____
Handicap Access ☐ Smoking ☐ Non-Smoking ☐ King Bed ☐ 2 Double Beds ☐

In the event room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned.

RATE: \$89 + tax (currently 17.25%) for one or four people in the room. Rate will be honored three days before and after reunion, based on availability.

CUT OFF DATE: 8/20/04. Late reservations will be processed based on space/rate availability.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 72 hours in advance. Call 865-523-2300.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

☐ AMEX ☐ DINERS ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) _____

Mail to: Hilton Knoxville Hotel, 501 West Church Ave., Knoxville, TN 37902, Attn: Reservations

Heartbreak Ridge Korea March 24, 1953

LOST ON PATROL

By Samuel F. Gann

On the evening of March 24, 1953 an eight man patrol left the M.L.R. for an evening between enemy lines. A medic was the last man on the patrol I asked if I could have a weapon, the lieutenant in charge said no according to the Geneva Convention a medic could not have a weapon only an Hio Bag I was not very happy about that. We were told to whisper to the man behind us as we were moving out It was getting very dark.

I heard a noise and wandered into a group speaking a language I did not understand. I do not know if they were South Koreans, North Koreans, or Chinese.

Finally after what seemed like eternity, I whispered are you there no one answered. So I moved out trying to find someone. I heard a noise and wandered into a group speaking a language I did not understand. I do not know if they were South Koreans, North Koreans, or Chinese. No one understood what I was saying either. After what seemed like hours a man in broken English, asked if my name was Gann. Before I said yes, I thought here goes the interrogation. I finally said yes. He told me two men from Charlie Company were coming to get me. You talk about thanking the Good Lord, I did.

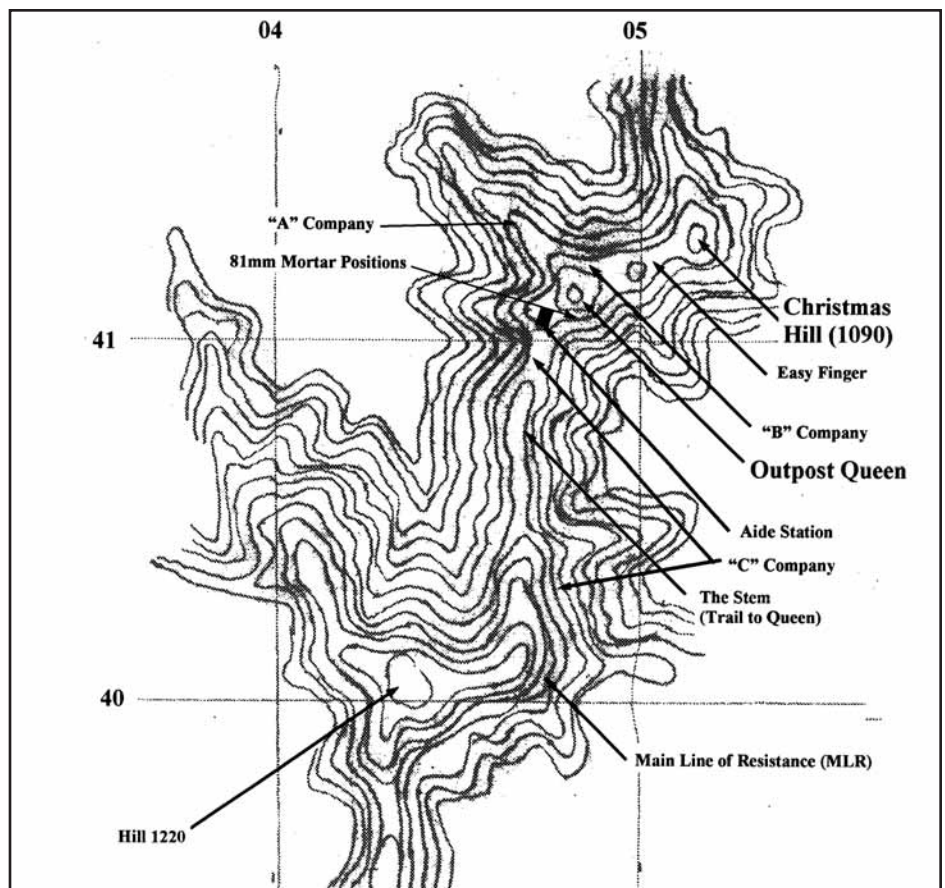
After the men from C. Co. came, they told me to walk between them on the way back. After getting back to C Company I walked the trench back to Able Company, getting back to my bunker. My medic Buddy Bill Hoatson was so happy to see me. He had a small calendar that he marked March 24, 1953 as Damn Sam Day. Today at 74 years old I am still haunted with that night.

Samuel F. Gann, 2201 E. 65th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220. See book Christmas in July. Ad in this issue.

A copy of the map of the Outpost, near Christmas Hill.



Taken at the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, Washington, D.C. 2003. Shown Left to right, Harris Hollin, Florida; John McLain, Tennessee; Wayne Pelkey, Vermont; Andrew Antippas, Virginia and Bill Delkeds,, New York



Does anyone remember him?



George Leslie Swearingen is shown in middle of photo. Corporal Swearingen was a member of the 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. He was seriously wounded by an enemy missile in South Korea on September 15, 1950 and returned to duty on September 20, 1950. He was Killed in Action while fighting the enemy in South Korea on February 22, 1951.

By Joanne Chmura

Mr. Krepps,

Enclosed is all the information I have concerning my father, Cpl. George L. Swearingen, who was KIA in Korea, 2/22/1951. I have sent for, but have not yet received any military records. I know he was with the 5th Cav. Reg., 1st Cav. Div., but I do not know what Co. he was in. He was stationed at Ft. Riley, Kansas prior to being sent to Korea. I was told this picture was in his pocket when he was killed. He is the one in the middle. At the bottom of the original letter, the writing said he was killed at Tokchang, on hill 201. He was in a temporary military cemetery at Tanggok, and is now buried at Paola, Kansas. I was hoping the picture or letter might jog someone's memory. I have enlarged the original letter hoping to read a name tag, but no luck. Thank you for your help. I can be reached at: Joanne Chmura, 104 King Arthur Court, Hot Springs, Arkansas, 71913. 501-767-4743 or <Joanne@cablelynx.com>. I am praying that there is someone out there who may have known him. There is a great void in a child's life when they lose a parent and par-

ticularly under such circumstances. Again thank you and anyone else who may be able to help.

Joanne Chmura

.....

June 30 Korea

Dear Mrs. Swearingen:

Received your letter this morning and believe me I was quite surprised at the moment, but it all came to me, that Sgt. Copeland had gave you my address. I don't usually like writing about any of the men that has served with me but things happen here that no one can understand except the Lord above us and its just his ways and says that have taken place in the last six months I've been here.

I'd like to relieve your mind on the subject of your son's suffering, he didn't, it happened so fast, it really confused all of us even our officers in charge. If I remember correctly your son had just came in from Japan few days prior having a rest and recuperation leave. Its a shame he couldn't of stayed longer but its faith that brings such

happenings about, that is what I believe and most of the rest here are thinking the same way.

If I can I will try and explain in detail the day before and to the day of your son's death. We started out, your son was the radio operator for our platoon. It rained most of the day and plus the snow and all of us was pretty miserable, your son also.

We was pinned down, a few times in the march to our objective which, I didn't know until we came up on it. We made an attack on it and overran our objective, but had to with draw, that wasn't all, that nite we were all freezing, wet clothes, bedding wet and a strong wind, it sure was unpleasant no sleep that nite believe me, had no-opposition that night though.

Next morning was greeted by a hot meal, was sure good, dry cigarettes, and all. We all said it was crazy to go back, but we did, called an air strike on the hill, we took day before, because they, the Chinese had moved back into position during the night - after the air strike, we rushed the hill, took it and the next one also, we thought we had them on the run, we did but, they were just one, step ahead of us.

We set up on a hill all old men in the company, can well remember (201) was the no. of it, as I stated we set up positions and mortars came in. It sure was a terrible sight, but I can say your son didn't suffer, that day and he was taken off the hill immediately after. He was killed instantly by the mortar.

I wasn't to close to your son, I did know him and we all got around and chatted about home quite seldom and he must of had some very nice parents and he was always talking of his family and showing pictures. He sure was proud though I guess everyone is that way by nature. We are across the 38th in North Korea, about seven miles.

A Buddy,

.....

(Thank you Joanne for caring. You are a special daughter. I am sure all veterans are proud of you. Those are not name tags in photo, they look like unit citation ribbons. I hope you will find more help. God Bless, Vince Krepps, Editor.

Hawaii's Korean War Museum

By Kyle K. Kopitke

Hundreds of volunteers from around the country donated thousands of hours to make the February 20th opening of the Korean War Museum in Hawaii a success.

The Museum features 38 Galleries, each covering a different theme about the Korean War. The impressive 58 foot long "Frozen Victory" mural was painted by the famous South Korean Artist Andy Pak from Pusan, South Korea in honor of his relatives who served in the ROK, and the American Liberators. The trip was sponsored by Soon Burnham in honor of her relatives in the ROK, and again, to honor the American Liberators.

The Museum is at the forefront in correcting history. Instead of teaching that the war was a "forgotten war," the Museum teaches that the Korean War was a victory for freedom during the Cold War.

Several statues fill the Museum, which include a statue of Crown Princess Masako of Japan, holding her daughter Princess Aiko. This statue symbolizes gratitude to the Japanese Nurses who took care of our wounded soldiers in Japanese Hospitals.

The Dream of Reunification statue set, features statues of South Korean Presidents Syngman Rhee and Roh Moo-hyun raising the Reunification flag of Korea.

Display cases, military vehicles, memorabilia, personal effects, photos, posters and paintings fill the Museum to overflowing. Each week new items come in the mail, or are brought in by Veterans.

Under the Dome of the Rotunda of the Korean War Museum, is a beautiful hand painted American Bald Eagle; also hanging from the Dome is the 48 Stars and Stripes of the Korean War. The back of the Rotunda features a 20 foot by 20 foot beautiful Stained Glass Window Overlay. On the marble walls will go the names of the 30,000 plus KIA during the Korean War. Check the nkwm.org Website for details and updates. Forty feet to the ground under the American Bald Eagle, are the South Korean Presidents.

Another set of walls will have the names of those who served and came home alive (like you).

The Museum teaches that the Korean War was a pivotal victory for freedom during the Cold War.



Great photo of Rotunda (with Korean Presidents)



Crown Princess Masako holding Princess Aiko

If you are buying a new car, instead of trading in your old one, please consider the Korean War Museum Car Donation Program. Details on the website at nkwm.org. Board of Trustee George Tracy, the son of a Korean War veteran, runs a sec-

ond website for the Museum about the details of the war is at nkwm2.org.

Kyle K. Kopitke, the Founder of The Korean War Museum said, "The Museum is a National Treasure, honoring the Gallant



Korean War Veterans Association National President Harley Coon, reflects in the POW Gallery at the Korean War Museum. President Coon spent 33 months as a POW during the Korean War.



Generation of Americans who sacrificed so much for freedom during the Korean War. They are our heroes." Mr. Kopitke can be contacted at kkopitke@hotmail.com.

You can also write to them at:

The Korean War Museum, 235 Kellogg Street, Wahiawa, HI 96786

The Museum is as much a Temple, as it is a Museum. People not only learn about the war, but Veterans come and find respect, and peace.

Two weeks before her death, Mrs. Douglas MacArthur called and said, "I know Douglas would be so proud of your efforts"

Two years ago, the late Raymond G. Davis (USMC MOH) wrote this about the Korean War Museum: "While the Korean War Memorial on the Mall in Washington D.C. is a fine tribute to our Korean War Veterans, it does not tell the full story of their valor, heroism and sacrifices for freedom. The Museum will provide a teaching and learning environment for posterity; it will be a place where Korean War Veterans, and those that have served in Korea since the war ended, can bring their children and grandchildren and teach them the principles of freedom and liberty."

Each week the Museum sends out a Weekly Update E-Mail called, "The Cause." If you are a real Korean War junkie; send an E-mail to kkopitke@hotmail.com to be added.

Lifetime Pass: A Lifetime Pass is \$20. Victory Lifetime Pass is \$100.

Reunion Showplace.....



My name is Albert Torres, this is the unit I served with in Korea in 1951 and 1952, (the 68th AA Gun Battalion). My wife and I have attended two of our reunions. This one took place October 2001 in Branson, MO. It was a lot of fun seeing men that I had spent time with in Korea. Albert is the one to the left of the picture with the big white hat with his wife standing directly in front of him.
(Thank you Mary Anna Roemke for photo and letter.)

Small Arms Training



Photo taken by 15AAA AW Bn. surgeon. Cpt. Clarence Farrar of Tennessee. and provided by Joseph W. Russo, 901 Schlissler Dr., Florence, NJ 08518

CPL Joseph Russo (19 years old) from Trenton, N. J., Medical Airman assigned to A Battery 15 AAA AW BN SP, 7th Inf. Div. – Chorwon Area – October 1951, gives necessary updates and boosters of immunization to Gun Crews in different division areas. Battalion surgeon said it would be okay to immunize the little Korean boy. He was an orphan mascot of one of the platoons. They kept these little guys along with them as long as the combat situations allowed, really mostly just to feed them.

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 contri-

bution 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 May 8, 2004)

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USS Essex-CVS-9, LHD-2 Inc.
VFW Post 9927 Kettering, Ohio

In Memory of:

Cpl. Albert C. Bosma, 45th I.D.
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"Owned and operated by a Korean War Veteran"

Book Review



Doubleclutcher

By Wells Lange

Author

Wells Lange served in the Korean War as a lieutenant in the Puerto Rican 65th Infantry regiment. Upon his retirement from the army he helped Fitzsimons Army Medical Center and veterans organizations develop an amputee skiing program to rehabilitate disabled veterans. Lange and his wife Polly live in Niwot, Colorado, where they raised six children.

The Book

When North Korea attacks South Korea in June of 1950, Sergeant Daniel Hatcher, an African American from a poor Alabama family, is deployed to Korea in the all-black 24th Infantry Regiment. Captured by the North Koreans, he meets Lieutenant Fred Schmidt, a Caucasian West Point graduate, and a member of an elite all-white ranger unit. Survivors of both units arrange an escape and stay together to continue the fight into North Korea. The intervention of the Chinese Peoples Army inflicts many casualties on their unit, and Hatcher and one of his men survive to participate in the evacuation of Hungman Harbor. The intensity of the fight against the North Koreans and the Chinese taught Caucasians, Puerto Ricans, and African-Americans to depend on each other for survival, resulting in the desegregation of the American armed forces before the end of the war.

Story

Approaching the farmhouse where the Korean family with the two daughters lived, Daniel saw the bodies of the two Korean parents lying on the ground. As he drew closer, two North Koreans picked them up and tossed them into the well. The two girls weren't in sight, but the North Korean soldiers hanging around the house were eating rice and joking with each other. He was reluctant to think of what had probably happened to them.

Daniel watched to see how the North Koreans were treating the first men to arrive at the CP. The North Koreans were separating out the three non walking wounded and laying them out against one of the farmhouses. The walking wounded were being

searched and made to sit down with their hands on their heads.

He saw that as each squad arrived the North Koreans took away their weapons and lined them up in a single rank, now and then administering a punch with a fist or a blow with a rifle butt. They made the Americans remove their field equipment and drop it at their feet. Then three North Koreans moved down the line, systematically searching each man, taking wrist watches, occupation money, family photos, or anything else that caught their fancy. Finished with searching each man, they fell on the field packs, pulling out the contents and either tossing them aside or keeping whatever they wanted. Candy bars and other edibles from home were quickly snatched up and stuffed into their pockets.

Meanwhile the ROKs had been separated and backed up against one of the houses, where the North Koreans took to beating them with their fists. The prisoners with rank on their sleeves were separated from the others, and Lassiter found himself sitting on the ground between the first sergeant and Kornegay with his hands on his head.

Nudging Daniel with a rifle butt, the North Korean put him with the privates and PFCs. Then realizing that he was the last one, an NCO entered the house that had been the command post. A North Korean officer appeared in the doorway and strutted around, arrogantly looking over the prisoners. He barked an order, and the North Koreans shouted and administered blows to get their prisoners on their feet and on the road to Haman. They had gone less than fifty yards when they heard small arms fire back at the farmhouses. Daniel looked back and saw that the three seriously wounded men had just been executed. He prayed for their souls, even that of Jackson, who had shot himself. Daniel bore him no malice; he had been a victim of circumstances that had been beyond his control.

They marched toward the east, the North Koreans striking with rifle butts anyone who lagged behind. When their guards needed water, they took the canteen of one of the Americans.

An hour passed and they turned off on a cart track. After proceeding some 200 yards

they entered a draw and came to what Daniel recognized as a battalion CP, with tents and vehicles still in place. They passed a group of commissioned officers guarded by a single North Korean. Daniel recognized the company commander and Lieutenant Wills among them. Beyond them was a second group of NCOs. Short of a command post tent were close to fifty prisoners of the battalion. A squad of North Korean soldiers was guarding them while another twenty or so of the enemy lazed around the area. Their guards yelled, attacking Daniel and the others with butt stroke and fist to join this group. Daniel ended up in the second row, just behind Haskins.

An officer wearing a U.S. pistol belt and smoking a cigar came out of the CP tent and looked the prisoners over. Another North Korean officer, also wearing a U.S. pistol belt, came out of the tent and had two of the North Korean soldiers bring out a field table and two metal chairs. He swaggered along the line of prisoners, looking them over. Stopping in front of the largest group, he pointed to Moon's Red Cross armband and medical kit. "You medical?" Moon stood up. "Yes sir." "Come." He took Moon by the arm and walked past the CP tent, returning a short time later alone. He was now carrying a thick stick about two feet long.

Seating himself at one of the chairs, the officer called over an NCO. The other officer joined him at the table while he gave the NCO some orders and motioned him away. The NCO stopped in front of the NCOs and beckoned at the first sergeant, indicating that he should report to the officer. The first sergeant got up and went over to the table and saluted. "What is your name, and your organization?" the officer asked him in English. "Master Sergeant Wilbur Morris, RA 18-" The officer interrupted. "I asked your organization!" he shouted. "Sir, I am only required to give you my name, rank, and serial number." "You refuse to tell me your organization?" "Yes, sir. The Geneva Convention says-" the other officer slamming the stick down on the table silenced him. He shouted an order to the NCO, who took Sergeant Morris by the arm and led him away. The NCO gestured to a North Korean soldier

Continued on page 84

Images of Korea

Photos from
Albert McAdoo
7506 S. Mascott St., Tampa, Florida 33616



11/16/52 — Color Guard 5th RCT & Co Col. Lee Alfred, 40th Div. Band Memorial Parade



11/16/52 — Inje, North Korea, 5th RCT, Co. E, 40th Div. X Corps , Tall Sgt. with light pants, John Kiernan, Oyster Bay , L.I., N. Y.



11/16/52 — Inje, North Korea Co.E, 5th RCT, 40th Div. X Corps Memorial Parade, Lt. Ken Ebner, C.O., Co. E, 5th RCT W.P. 1950

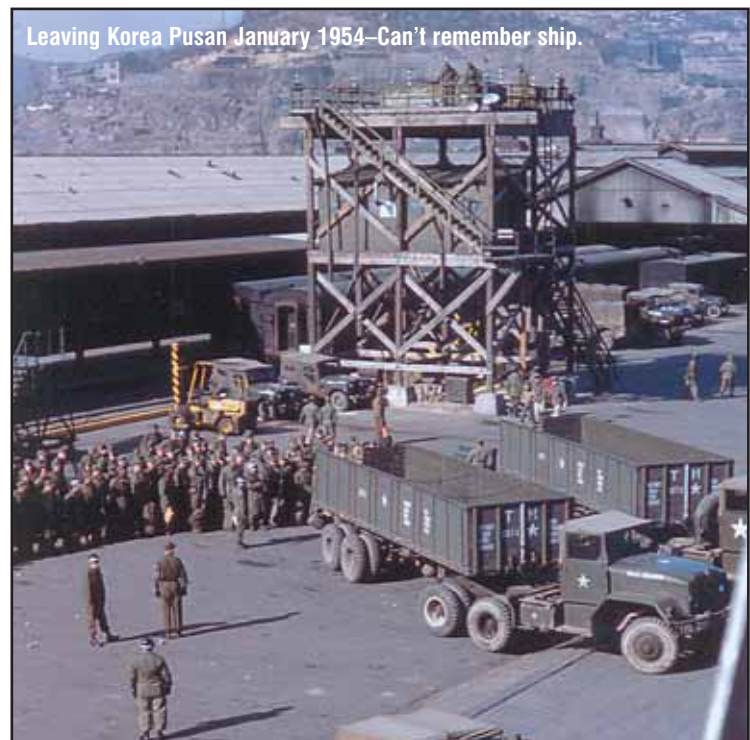
R&R debarkation — Seoul 1953



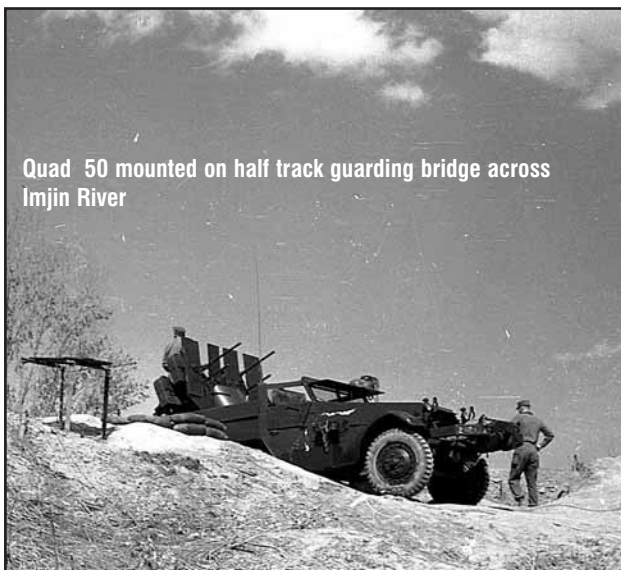
Helicopter at 44 MASH 1953



Leaving Korea Pusan January 1954—Can't remember ship.



Quad 50 mounted on half track guarding bridge across Imjin River



Photos from
Wayne A. Doenges
932 W. Circle Dr.,
New Haven, In. 46774-2154



Wayne A. Doenges at 38 parallel sign on Rt. 30 about 3 miles south of my company, 618 Medical Clearing Co.

Photo from
John H. Pitts
PO Box 1597, Clinton, SC 29325



73rd Tank Bn., C Co. attached to 1st R.O.K. Division. Pitts and tank crew picture taken in '51 or '52 N.E. of Chorwon (standing on ground L to R) Lt. John Pitts, Sgt. Swindle Cpl. Norman. In turret of tank is Sgt. Seward, and sitting on side of tank is Cpl. Large.

Photo from
Frank Fontano
40 Whaley, Bethpage, New York 11714.



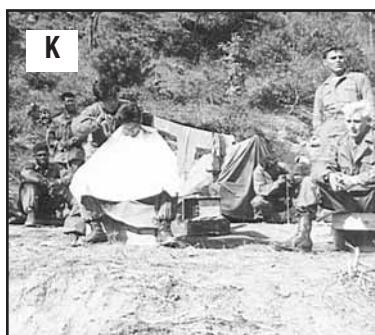
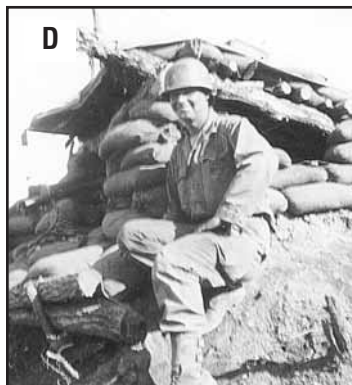
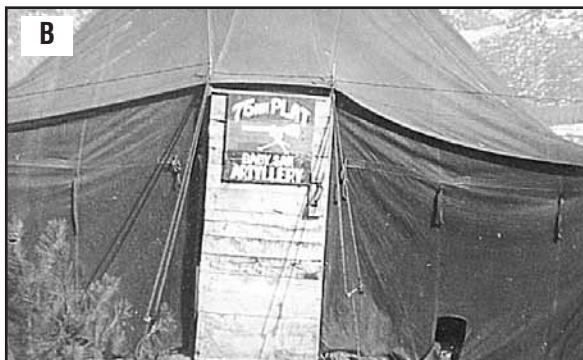
Left: July 25, 1953.,2 days before the Korean War ended. I was on Boomerang Hill with the 2 Inf. Div.I was a B.A.R. man. K. Co. – 9th Inf. Regt.

Right: Photo taken when I was on guard at the D.M.Z. October 2, 1953.

Photo from
Bernard L. Young
219 Merrywood, Muncie, In. 47304



Temple on outskirts, Seoul, Korea – August 1952.



- A. Jeep with unknown on left Milton Friesenhahn right holding Co H banner.
- B. Artillery tent.
- C. Milton Friesenhahn.
- D. Milton Friesenhahn behind sandbagged bunker. Bodies were stacked like cord wood at bottom of hill.
- E. Tent with snow.
- F. Korean civilian helper.
- G. Dugout bunker Koran civilian, Milton Friesenhahn with Thompson machine gun.
- H. Mess tent down in valley.
- I. Dugout bunker.
- J. Milton Friesenhahn in front of tent 40 degrees below zero.
- K. Barbershop GI style.
- L. Milton Friesenhahn with mortar rounds.
- M. GI on left was shot through head. Talked about what he was going to do when he got home . Milton Friesenhahn on right.
- N. Milton Friesenhahn with machine gun.
- O. Unknown with company jeep.
- P. Milton Friesenhahn in machine gun bunker.
- Q. Sign on other side that says LUCKY CHARM make through 3 times. Milton Friesenhahn headed for Japan then home.

Photos by: **Mel Bennett, 2566 W. 234th Street, Torrence, CA 90505**



Photo by: **Irwin Brawn, 2287 Howes St., Merrick, NY 11566**



Photo that I took on July 27th, 1953. It shows the men of HQ Co., 32nd Infantry Regt., 7th Division hearing the news at 10AM about the truce that would take effect at 10PM that night. Our CO, a captain, is holding the orders that we were to follow. What is remarkable about the photo is it shows the expressions on the faces of the men. The GIs took the news very solemnly. There were no cheers or shouting. Everyone thought to themselves---thank God it's over and I will go home.

I would like to tell you something about the photo that you printed dated July 28th, 1953. At that time I was the intelligence sergeant for the 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Division.

No patrols would go out that day or night and everyone would just hunker down in their bunkers awaiting the cease fire. We were not allowed to fraternize with the enemy or even meet them in no-mans land.

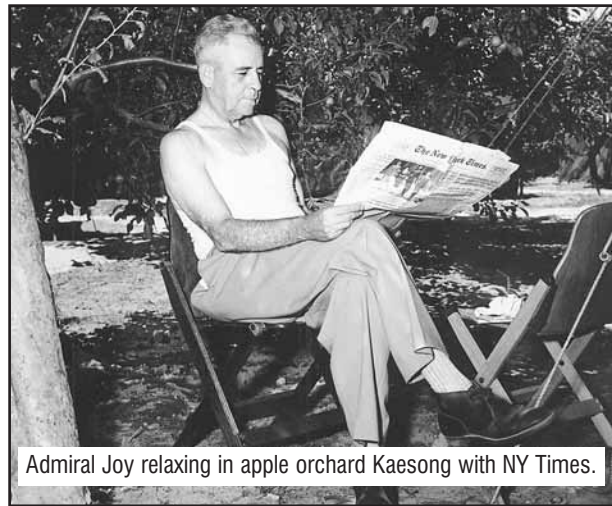
The ROK artillery that night fired a massive artillery barrage right up to the 10 PM deadline and then a sudden stillness descended over the MLR. Lights went on and the Chinese began to play music over loud speakers.

The next day we packed up all our gear and moved south to an area near Uijongbu. However on July 28th, there were a few GIs who decided to disobey the orders and they decided to meet the Chinese.

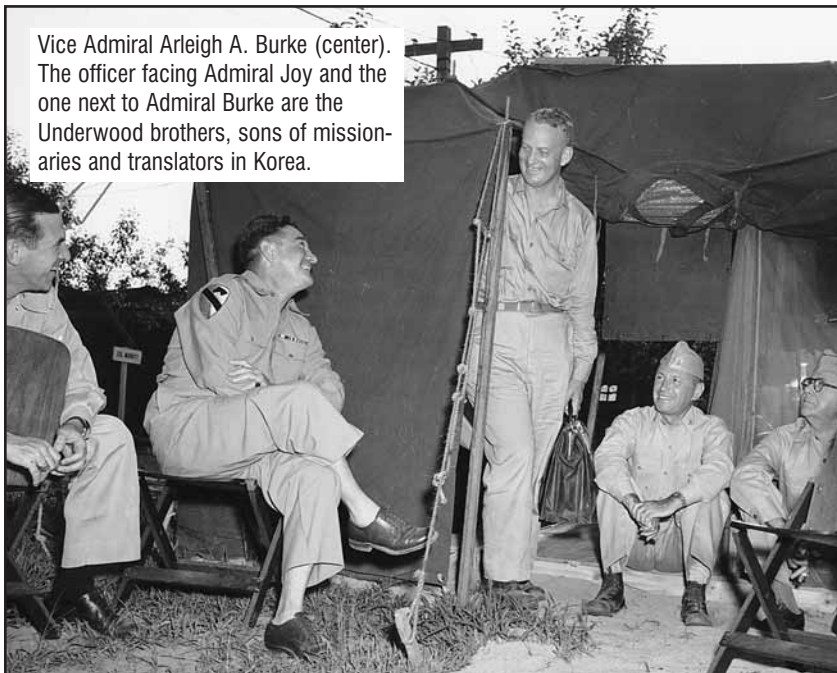
The Chinese had erected banners (note signs in your photo) and were encouraging the Americans to come over and greet them. The soldiers who met the Chinese as shown in the photo were arrested by the MPs when they returned to our lines



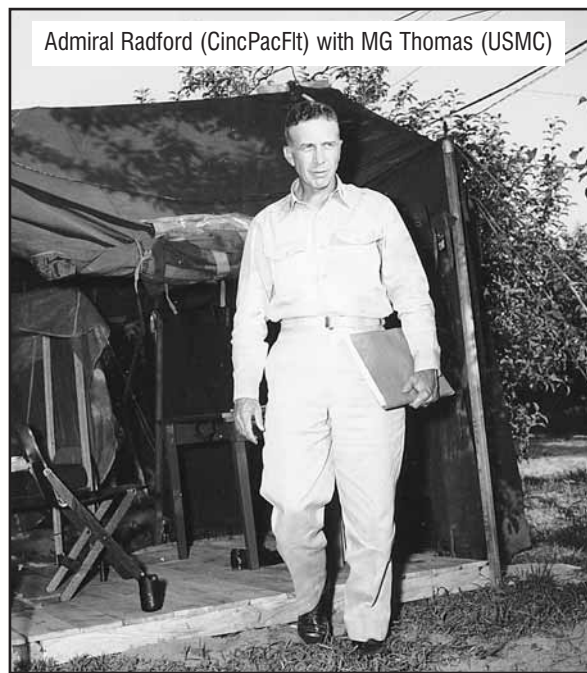
General Ridgway and
Admiral C. T. Joy.



Admiral Joy relaxing in apple orchard Kaesong with NY Times.



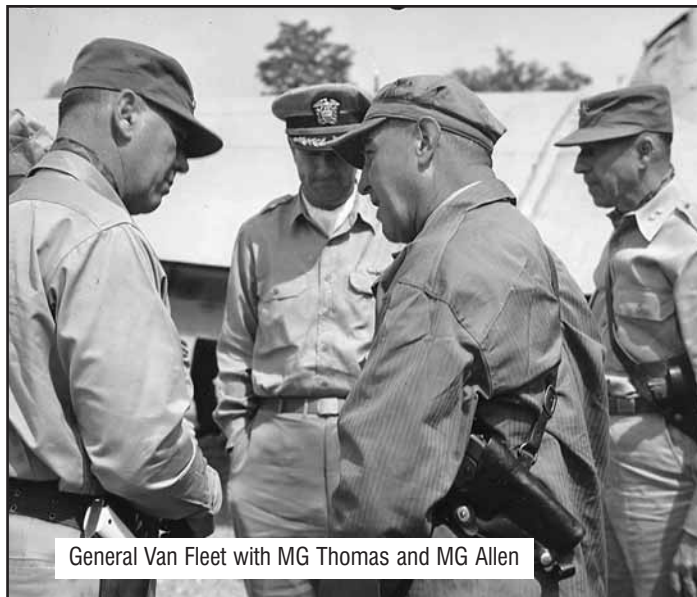
Vice Admiral Arleigh A. Burke (center).
The officer facing Admiral Joy and the
one next to Admiral Burke are the
Underwood brothers, sons of mission-
aries and translators in Korea.



Admiral Radford (CincPacFlt) with MG Thomas (USMC)



Major General Hodges (EUSAK)

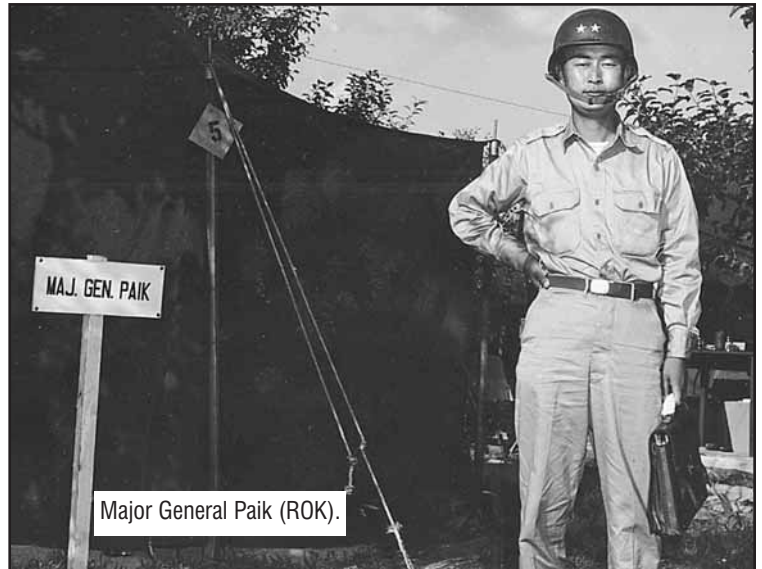


General Van Fleet with MG Thomas and MG Allen

Photos from
Thom Hendrickson, 13541 Wentworth Ln., Unit 108E, Seal Beach, CA 90740-4657



Major General Craig (USAF).



Major General Paik (ROK).

During WWII I served aboard merchant ships as an U.S. Navy Armed Guard Signalman.(1942-45). In July 1950 I reenlisted in the Navy and was sent to Commander Naval Forces Far East (COMNAVFE) Headquarters. In January 1951, I was assigned as liaison personnel to Eight Army Korea headquarters (EUSAK) in Taegu. We moved from Taegu and set up headquarters in Seoul where I maintained the war-room charts of daily activities of all the forces. I was also a courier and driver for many flag officers to Panmunjon and Kaesong as we set up the armistice facilities there.

Photos taken by USN photographer 1st class Cooper and sent to me at my request.



USN Signalman Hendrickson (w/hat front of pole) in signal tower, Yokuska, Japan September 1950

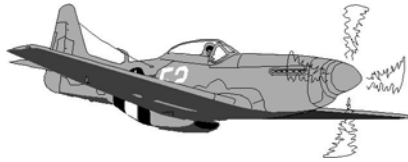


Thom Hendrickson
(EUSAK Taegu, Feb.
1951).



Thom Hendrickson today getting Korean Service Peace Medal from Lee Sang-Hoon Gen. ROK Ret.

Fuselage Tank Fiasco



A Switch in Time

May 1951

South Korea is a truly beautiful country, especially in the springtime ... with the trees just turning green and a few blossoms beginning to pop out.

From the vantage point of our rear support base at Chinhae, (K-10), on the water's edge at the South coast, in mid-May, 1951, it proved a real study of contrasts ... it was so hard to realize that just an hour's flight time to the north, the Communists were in the process of launching their new attacks, the start of the major Chinese Spring Offensive. The new attacks were not unexpected ... only a question of which sector they would strike first.

I was not concerned whether there would be enough missions to keep me busy when I returned to K-16, Seoul City Airport after just a day's rest at Chinhae, but I did begin to wonder what we might expect with the more frequent contacts with the Russian-built MiG-15 jet fighters. They had recently been encountered along the Yalu River, close to their sanctuary in Manchuria, where our F-86 Sabres had been meeting and beating them in high-altitude dog-fighting for several weeks, but in May, 1951, they had also begun to show up as far south as Pyongyang ... in the area where many of our F-51 Mustang interdiction attacks were taking place.

The MiG-15s had made a few brief, but thus far unsuccessful attacks against some of our low-flying Mustang flights, but at that time they had not ventured as far south as the front lines, nor had they yet made any attempt to harass our ground troops. But if they should, the air war in Korea would immediately turn out to be a "whole new ball game".

We kept the North Korean airfields in a continual state of disrepair by bombing them each and every day, but, still we could see evidence of their use. Pyongyang East, our short-term advanced base during November '50, and Sinuiju, specifically, showed definite evidence of use, but we could never find any sign of mechanical equipment or aircraft in view.

On Saturday, 19 May '51, I was off very early flying Lead in a flight of two, heading for the central sector, where we were to search about 50 to 75 miles behind the lines for signs of resupply movement. We left before dawn, loaded with two napalm bombs, six rockets and full fuel and ammo.

Our F-51D model Mustangs had an 80 gallon internal fuel tank mounted inside the fuselage behind the pilot's seat; when full, this tank's five hundred twenty-five pounds moved the airplane's center-of-gravity (CG) so far aft that the aircraft became dangerously tail heavy. Any sud-

den rearward movement of the control stick could make the tail 'tuck under' ... go further down than intended.

Our normal procedure to alleviate the tuck-under hazard while in the combat area, was to plan our flights to either short-fill the fuselage tank if the extra range was not required or, on longer missions, to first use about sixty gallons of the fuel from the fuselage tank on the way to the combat zone ... getting rid of approximately 400 pounds of aft-CG weight, leaving the fuselage tank's fuel level at about 20 gallons, which, in turn, would allow the CG to move forward to the ideal 'over-the-wing' position. We would then switch to our external drop tanks, if carried, or to one of our two internal wing tanks, saving the remaining twenty gallons in the fuselage for a final Reserve'.

On this particular early dawn mission, carrying napalm fire-bomb tanks instead of external drop tanks, we found ourselves in the steep mountain valleys around Chorwon just as the sun was coming over the horizon. We slowed our speeds to about 200 mph for better visibility, and descended quietly onto the flat valley floor, criss-crossing in loose combat formation to look for truck traffic. As we'd near a ridge of hills, we would add just enough throttle to maintain our slow speed as we topped the summit and drifted back down to the adjacent valley floor.

We'd been doing this for perhaps twenty minutes, hopping over the hills from one valley to the next, without finding much in the way of targets, when finally, as I neared the end of a long, deep and narrow valley, 'just ready to add power to climb over the oncoming ridge, my wingman called to say that we were being fired upon by troops from under a clump of trees.

I was too close to the ridge to make a turn back, and traveling too slowly to do anything but continue straight ahead, so I called the wingman and told him to go back and hit the troops; I'd meet him over the next ridge of hills.

With that, I pushed my throttle forward but, instead of the expected surge of power, all I heard was the 'spit' and 'sputter' of a dying engine... then silence, as my engine quit at that most inopportune time.

I reviewed my uncomfortable situation

Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,

Lt Col, USAF, Ret

in the flash of a second

“...I might have been hit in the engine, but that would not have caused it to quit so suddenly”

Meanwhile I was looking out ahead at a little flat spot on the side of the hill where I might be able to belly-land the airplane. From there I had already made up my mind to jump out, running, toward a little wooded ravine I could see in the distance... I had my escape route all planned in just those few brief seconds as my propeller began to windmill.

I checked my airspeed indicator, and slowing to gliding speed, I lowered half flaps to improve my glide, then looked around the cockpit for any clue to the source of my engine problem ... I then remembered the two heavy napalm bombs still shackled under my wings and, instead of taking the time to select and arm the bombs by use of the electrical switches on the lower instrument panel, so they would explode on impact, I reached quickly down to the floor near the left edge of my seat, grabbed and pulled the two Manual Bomb Release handles. The sudden removal of almost 1500 pounds of dead weight caused a slight but welcome climb, and I had to readjust my pitch attitude to maintain the best glide speed.

I still had my six big five-inch HVAR rockets under the wings, but there was no way to eject them in a Safe mode; it was either “Fire them or Keep them” ... a serious omission in the design of the F-51s armament system. I presumed that they would be torn off in a belly landing and, hopefully, would not explode or set fire to any leaking fuel.

With the napalm tanks gone, and my glide speed back under control, I was finally able to take my eyes from the airspeed indicator to resume my search of the cockpit for the cause of my problem, then I saw it....

There, between my ankles, near the floor ... the fuel tank selector handle seemed to almost jump up and hit me between the eyes ... the pointer was still set on FUSELAGE tank ... that was it! I had stupidly let my fuselage tank run completely dry, instead of switching at the 20 gallon level as I'd intended to do. The engine was simply out of fuel.

My hand shot down to the selector con-

trol, wrenched the four-inch handle to the Left Tank detent, not knowing whether the engine would ‘catch’ immediately, or if I had real trouble, and would have to set it down on the terraced hillside. Then, I waited, and waited, with my heart wrapped solidly around my tonsils, adrenalin pumping, as my glide continued toward the little terraced patch of open rice paddy.

Finally, after what seemed an ‘eternity’, a smoky sputter came out of my exhaust, then another.

I pulled the throttle back to keep from flooding the engine ... it coughed again, weakly. Then, just as I started to flare-out my glide for a belly landing in the rice field, the engine caught again, I pushed the throttle rapidly ... but smoothly, “to the firewall”, and the sputter changed to a steady roar as I rushed forward ... just above a stall, toward the rapidly-rising ridge of hills.

My speed accelerated just enough to keep me climbing faster than the hills were rising until, finally, I staggered, on the feather-edge of the stall, across the crest of the hill and was able to lower my nose ever-so-slightly to pick up flying speed.

With a great sigh of relief I watched as the hilly terrain dropped away, leaving me with a safe flying altitude.

I called my wingman to ask how he was doing ... but I was too embarrassed at my stupid oversight to say anything to him about how close I'd come to losing another airplane, and having to attempt that long, dangerous walk through a hundred

miles of enemy territory back to our lines.

He reported that he had made one skip-bombing pass to napalm a truck found under the trees, but couldn't see any sign of the troops who had been shooting at us earlier.

I suggested that we give it up and work closer toward home (...so my nerves could settle down); we could look for rail targets along the way, or even come back later in the afternoon if anything in the area looked promising.

We landed at Seoul's K-16 airstrip, both still carrying our rockets and, after stopping at the far end of the runway to allow the armorers to re-install the Safety Pins, taxied back to our parking area.

I thoroughly enjoyed our coffee and doughnuts while waiting for the ships to be refueled and the bombs to be reloaded;

I specifically asked for just 20 gallons of fuel in my fuselage tank ... no more, no less.

That had been my 79th Korean combat mission and, like my 69th, when I'd had a wing tank start burning after being hit by ground fire, was another “hairy” one; but this time it was my own damned fault ... the enemy ‘hadn't laid a glove on me!’

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: **Capt. “Snowflake” Grisham**
Combat was ‘additional duty’ for this weather man

Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____

Department/Chapter _____

Home of record _____

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Other _____

Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by _____

Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: Membership, P.O. Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210

A BUDDY DOWN

(Dedicated to John McClain)

In the trenches of Korea he was there
As a medic who gave us his utmost care;
Doing all he could to help us survive,
His only goal - to help us stay alive.

A late night call brought bitter news,
For once we can walk in the medic's shoes;
A buddy is down, body ravaged by pain -
It shouldn't happen to our John McCain!

He only asked that we understand
That life for him was not as planned;
That we have to go when it is time,
He is a friend, both yours and mine.

We feel helpless when cancer strikes
A man we all respect; and the likes
Of a man who stood by us over there
Is only asking for a prayer.

He asked that we just let folks know
He was proud to serve as a G.I. Joe;
And in his pain remembers us all,
As his life enters an early Fall.

When the only help we can give is prayer
To let him know that we truly care;
Let us not forget nineteen fifty-three
When he was there, for you and me.

I'm sure that in Heaven there's a place,
Where all pain and sadness are erased;
The journey is hard and not without fear
As we each make our way home from here.

God bless you, John, and your family
Who have come to mean so much to me;
We will not forget the man you've been,
Someday, somewhere - we'll meet again.

Countrymom
2/25/04

7th Infantry Bayonet Division

Porkchop Hill

We are the fighting bastards of Porkchop Hill the Chinese know us well
There were many of them from the C.C.F. that we have sent to hell

On Old Baldy too we killed some too and sent them into hell
We're the battling bastards of the seventh and they know us well

In Siberia too we killed a few and salted them away
We're the fighting men of the seventh and we are here to stay

We fixed bayonets of Porkchop Hill
Went to the C.C.F. for the kill

Only ten came back alive
It was sad the rest all died

I was one of the ten that came back then
And I will not forget the rest of them

We wear the patch of the hour glass and our time is running out
We are the battling bastards of the Bayonet Division
and that's what we're all about

With courage and pride we served our time and now must fade away
So like old soldiers we never die and as the sand that shifts sifts thru the hour glass
We will just fade away and leave our mark in history of the past

Joseph Szepessy
93 Ellen Avenue
Hudson, NY 12534

In Want of Youth

Ah, that innocent distant year
when my buddies were so near.

We play upon the fields in light,
under the trees' cover at night.

No disorder or drugs abound
our gleeful thoughts of joy are sound.

Respect for God and law come first;
no distrust, no fear, only thirst
for knowledge, comradeship, and truth,
the world at war in want of youth.

Our nation endured the loss
when friends were laid beneath the cross.

Now, we share secrets, long suppressed
of our war years gone unaddressed.

George Popp
Sent in by daughter, Rebecca Popp

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

The Forgotten Battle of the Forgotten War

Christmas in July is the story of a forgotten battle in Korea, told fifty years later by twenty of those who fought it. They left for war as boys from all parts of our country. They returned home as men, changed forever. The telling of this story has released many of these old soldiers from the nightmares that plagued them all these years, and it has revitalized them as they recall and relive their youth. The reader "goes back" with them on patrols in pitch black nights, listening to every sound, and is with them in their trenches as they fight this critically important, though forgotten, battle to beat back hordes of advancing Chinese troops in what was to become, until recently, a generally "forgotten war." Not previously told, this is a moving story of fear and courage related by those who knew it best - and lived it day by day.

In brief commentaries about their lives since Korea, these men of greatly diverse backgrounds, display the same courage, commitment and American spirit they showed 50 years ago.

Christmas in July provides rarely seen data intended to preserve a basis for future historians and other writers to create an authentic voice.

Please take the wonderful opportunity to learn more about this often overlooked time in our country's military history. The authors of this living history have generously agreed that all profits will go to fund research for a cure for Fragile X Syndrome, the leading known cause of mental retardation.

TESTIMONIALS

"I am honored to have been the architect of the Korean War Memorial and proud to know one of the GI's in *Christmas in July* who is an acquaintance from our city of Barre, Vermont."

Frank C. Gaylord, Architect, Korean War Memorial



45th Infantry Division

"The young men in this story exemplify the spirit of answering one's call to serve their country. They were ordinary boys who became extraordinary men much sooner than they anticipated. In this Christmas Hill battle account, they describe unforgettable memories of horror and terror. As boys, they proved they could become the men who defended our nation's honor."

Brig. Gen.(ret) Alan H. Noyes

"Fifty years ago in Korea, while we fought together in the fierce battle for Christmas Hill, most of us did not know each other, yet our lives were in each other's hands. At last, through *Christmas in July*, we have met, and I feel privileged to have served beside these courageous Americans."

Harris Hollin, President, Conquer Fragile X Foundation; Author, The Power of Honor

Order Form—Christmas in July, "The Forgotten Battle of the Forgotten War"

All profits from the sale of this book will be donated to Conquer Fragile X Foundation for research projects. This 215 page paperback book is available at \$15.95 + S&H: \$4.00 first copy + \$1.00 ea. above one copy.

Special offer for 5 books plus: \$12.75 each with free S&H

Please send me ___ copies of *Christmas in July* Book/books \$____ S&H \$____ Total \$____

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Phone _____

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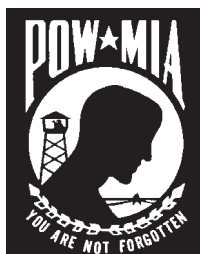
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Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

KOREAN WAR/COLD
WAR DOCUMENT
FAMILY RESEARCH

NEWS RELEASE from the United
States Department of Defense

No. 311-04
IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Apr 12, 2004

Remains of U.S. MIAs to be Recovered in North Korea

The Department of Defense announced that U.S. and North Korean specialists began preliminary work today in North Korea to prepare to recover the remains of Americans missing in action from the Korean War.

For the first time since these operations began in 1996, supplies and equipment were transported across the demilitarized zone to U.S. recovery teams.

This arrangement was made through negotiations led by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office in February. And, for the first time since 1999, U.S. remains, accompanied by recovery team members, will return across the demilitarized zone (DMZ) at the end of each operation.

In late 2003, U.S. and North Korean negotiators scheduled five operations for 2004 in Unsan County and near the Chosin Reservoir, both sites of major battles and heavy losses of U.S. servicemen.

This marks the ninth consecutive year that U.S. teams have operated inside North Korea, bringing home some remains of the more than 8,100 soldiers missing in action from the war. Specialists from the Joint POW/Missing Personnel Command have recovered more than 180 remains since 1996 in 27 separate operations.

This year, the recovery work will be split between the two sites for a schedule that will extend between April and October. Twenty-eight U.S. team members will join with their North Korean counterparts for each of these approximately 30-day operations.

More than 88,000 Americans are missing in action from World War II, the Korean

War, the Cold War, the Vietnam War and Desert Storm.

NEWS RELEASE from the United
States Department of Defense

No. 311-04
IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Apr 12, 2004

U.S. POW/MIA Office Hosts Russian Archivists

The Department of Defense announced today that the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office will this week host a historic meeting between key Russian and U.S. archivists examining the issue of American POWs and MIAs at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) at 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Md.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs Jerry D. Jennings, invited the Russians in 2003 to discuss technical areas important to the effort to locate materials in the Russian archives about unaccounted-for American servicemen. He is also acting American chairman of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs.

The three-day conference begins Tuesday and will feature presentations by Jennings as well as by the Archivist of the United States Gov. John W. Carlin. Additionally, NARA experts in the preservation, handling, storage and release of historical materials will lead discussions with their Russian counterparts.

A delegation of ten Russians is expected to attend, including Chief of Archival Services of the General Staff, Col. Sergei A. Ilyenkov, and Col. Vladimir V. Kozin of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Other Russian attendees will represent the Ministry of Defense; the Central Archives of the Navy; the Military Medical Museum and Archives; and the Archives of the Border Guards. U.S. archivists representing governmental and private collections also are expected to attend.

The conference will examine issues of declassification of military and political documents; technical aids to improve the operation of a modern archive;

Korean and Vietnam War documents held in Russian archives; and other issues of importance to the American effort to account for missing U.S. servicemen.

A small team of U.S. POW/MIA specialists working full time in Moscow recovers documents from Russian archives and conducts other research across the country to clarify the fate of Americans still missing from several conflicts, to include World War II, the Korean and Cold Wars and the Vietnam War.

Keeping the Promise to America's Korean War Service Members

By Larry Greer
*Director of Public Affairs
Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office*

The official Department of Defense news releases you see elsewhere in this issue of *Graybeards* give a public accounting of our work to bring home the fallen heroes missing in action from the Korean War.

By the nature of the information we report to the public through the news media, there is often little space available to tell about the "why" of our mission. This column, graciously offered by the KWVA and by Vince Krepps, editor of *Graybeards*, may help us do just that.

We are well underway now with our 2004 operations inside North Korea. For the ninth consecutive year, our teams of specialists are working in distant locales of that country and given that they are the best in the world at what they do, they're bringing your comrades home again.

Some may wonder, "*Why* do you do this?" After all, other countries do not invest anywhere near the manpower and resources the United States does to bring our missing home again. This may not always have been the policy of the U.S. government, but it certainly is now, and all of us involved in this mission feel a strong commitment to you, to your fallen comrades and to their families.

To us, you are not a statistic. You are a name and a face. You are a son or daughter, a widow, a brother. Even though we are part of a large government agency, we take special care to listen to you, individually and collectively, and to be as responsive as we can. All of us involved in this mission are

saddened when we're not able to give you a complete picture of the progress on your case. But, rest assured that we push the issue as hard as we can to learn as much as possible about each and every case. The ultimate goal, of course, is to identify and bring home your comrades.

Many are already home. Some 800 are buried as "unknowns" at the Punchbowl military cemetery in Hawaii. Another 200 were turned over to the U.S. by the North Koreans between 1990-94, though that number may not be absolutely accurate. And, the remains of more than 180 persons have been recovered by our teams working inside the DPRK since 1996.

We have applied some of the latest scientific techniques to identify all the remains, but of particular note is the 800 in the Punchbowl. Several Korean War MIA remains have been disinterred there as our scientists sought to obtain DNA samples from these remains and match them with DNA from family members. Unfortunately, some of the chemicals applied to the remains when they were first buried seem to be blocking the extraction of DNA. Our specialists are confident though that, with input from the rest of the U.S. scientific commu-

nity, this problem will eventually be solved.

We often say that our mission is like a detective case, and the evidence is more than 50 years old. Success, however, breeds success and we continue to move forward and provide answers to you and to the families of our MIAs.

We know our task is a daunting one, but we've made a long-term commitment to repay what this nation owes you: A full and complete accounting of those warriors who made the ultimate sacrifice. We *will* keep that promise.

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>

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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
Jun 24-26	Washington, DC**
Jul 31	Oklahoma City, OK
Aug 28	Denver, CO
Sep 25	Hartford, CT
Oct 23	Portland, OR
Nov 20	Orlando, FL

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

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Back in the mid-1980s I read an article in a surveyor's magazine called, "Surveying under Fire." At the time I worked for a company called Wild Heerbrugg, Inc., based on Long Island, New York. I had been with the company for some seven years by then. My job at Wild was that of an equipment-systems trainer for dealer personnel selling the products and for end-users not familiar with Wild equipment.

The article reminded me of a time thirty-plus years before when I surveyed under fire using similar Wild equipment. It reflected on the experience and times of surveying under fire in all the wars up to that time. The Army Topographic Engineers (Surveyors) made maps in the Revolutionary War for General Washington. Certainly once West Point got going academically in the early 1800s, the cadets had to have gotten some exposure to surveying and mapping techniques that would enhance their skills as engineers. Those skills would prove their worth on the fields of battle in their future assignments.

But this author left out Korea. I thought, "Here is another writer who just skated right over us, again." To understand and appreciate what units like the 8221st, Army Unit did in Korea is to look back at history through the larger end of the telescope.

Fort Belvoir, Virginia served for many years as the home of the Army's Topographic Engineers. Back in the late 1940's and in the 1950's the schools at Belvoir also turned out construction surveyors and related tradesmen for the Navy CB's, the Marines and Army engineer battalions. At Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the home of the Field Artillery School of the Army, there was a school for artillery surveyors and related technical courses. Fort Sill was also the home of the 1st Observation Battalion, which included in its ranks surveyors, meteorological technicians, and range and flash people. Those folks were also schooled and trained at Fort Sill. Officers from West Point, OCS and ROTC programs were also schooled and trained at Sill to be Forward Observers and field artillery leaders. At Fort Bliss, Texas personnel transferred to the newly formed missile and rocket launching units were schooled and trained in special surveying

The Combat Surveyor of Yesteryear

By CW3 Michael C.J. Kaminski, USAR Ret.

and related courses. Anyone in the military who came out of one of these schools with a certificate of completion or a diploma usually secured a good duty assignment with an established unit on location anywhere. The really good student graduates ended up at one of the school as an instructor.

Fortunately—or unfortunately—I did not attend any school at Belvoir or at Bliss, but did graduate from the Artillery Survey School at Fort Sill in April of 1949, while a member of "A" Battery, 18th Field Artillery Battalion in 1948-49. I became a "Topo Man" (MOS 1230) through field experience with the 29th Topographic Engineers in the Philippines. My secondary MOS (1577) was that of an artillery surveyor. That all happened before the

Korean War started in 1950.

My other claim to fame as far as military experience is concerned is that I enlisted in 1947 in the old "Brown Shoe" Army with O.D. color boxer shorts for underwear with buttons, no fly zippers or Velcro on the trousers, the buttoned down Eisenhower jacket, the balloon pocket fatigue pants, the old style field jacket with buttons down the front and on the cuffs, and the two-buckle top leather combat boots. Oh! yeah and we had the helmet liner and piss-pot to protect our heads. It was used for everything from a latrine in an emergency to a wash basin in the field. We cooked in it, hammered in tent pegs with it, used it as a weapon on occasion, and even stashed our valuables in it. Yep, that is another whole story compared to the type of military clothing and equipment issued today.

Speaking from experience, I know that architects dream and make plans. Engineers dream and build great works. Surveyors measure and just dream! All three of the career fields are intertwined along the way, and each profession has a working knowledge of the others. At Fort Belvoir and the other locations the training and instruction was chain-linked to related careers, i.e. computing, surveying, cartography, construction and engineering. However, like any school, military or civilian, once you got out and into reality, experience on the job is the best teacher.

In Korea we all learned some reality lessons about our career field under adverse conditions. There was a war on, not just training exercises. This was for



SFC Mike C.J. Kaminski with Wild T2 prepares for a Sun Azimuth Observation to check a line direction (1951).

real. We learned quickly to suspect everyone we came in contact with outside the confines of our own bivouac area. We never forgot basic training and school instruction, we just kept it all in the back of our minds as we adapted to the conditions at hand. In Korea we learned quickly that you could not: a. outrun a bullet; b. predict exactly where an artillery or mortar shell would land; c. easily figure out the maze of a minefield (theirs or ours); d. find where booby-traps were set; and e. know who amongst the civilians was friend or foe.

Henrich Wild (pronounced Hinereck Veld) of Switzerland designed his first survey instrument (a theodolite) near the end of the 19th century and built the forerunner of the world famous WILD T-2 (which we used in Korea) in 1905. Wild served in the Swiss military for a time and understood its needs as well as those of civilian surveyors. Compared to survey instruments of the day, his theodolite design was revolutionary and a peanut in size compared to other instrument designs. Anyone proficient in the use of Wild's theodolite could run circles around those using transits and transit-theodolites. The T-2 was stable, easy to set-up and operate, and accurate.

In the United States, survey instrument makers like Gurley, Brunson, Dietzgen, K & E, Berger and David White were the kings of manufacturing equipment for architects, building-contractors, engineers, and surveyors. Some of these manufacturers actually started up in the 1700s and 1800s. During the early 20th century, few American surveyors, either military or civilian, used Wild instruments. That would change slightly after the First World War and dramatically after World War II.

At about the time Wild's T-2 was becoming popular with end-users in Europe, the U.S. military was beginning to recognize the need for surveyors to be considered in the planning and execution of military operations. Therefore the position (MOS) of a military surveyor in combat support was most likely re-considered and put into a T.O. & E (Table of Organization and Equipment).

Back in the Civil War, with cannon balls flying through the air in every direction and rifle fire crackling and popping all over, there were field surveyors out and about measuring with steel tapes, transits and plane tables. Balloons were used for

reconnaissance and surveillance of battlefields and enemy positions. Recon patrols were dispatched. Hills, mountaintops, tall trees, towers served as observation posts. All sorts of techniques and skills were adopted to get a feeling for unfamiliar and un-charted territory before an action took place.

The surveyor managed to collect enough field data to create a map of the intended battlefield. He had the time, in most cases, to get the job done. However, it was next to impossible to deploy enough survey personnel and equipment to gather sufficient data about a particular area in the time needed to plan large-scale maneuvers or actions. So, the reality of the times dictated new approaches to solve the requirements of military map making.

As battlefields got larger during World War I, weapons were improved and transportation equipment was modernized. The scope of warfare changed dramatically. Time became a critical factor in the preparation of maps on a scale compatible for battle sites. The techniques used in surveying with the equipment available were not good enough to get the job done in time for action planning. The goal of terrain analysis for tactical planning is to have an updated, detailed map or photos of the area immediately.

World War I instigated one of the newer approaches to map making. Air reconnaissance and aerial photography became the hallmark for making maps. As early as 1910, cameras capable of taking in large ground areas were being tested. In the last year of World, War I aerial photography had been improved to the point that certain survey methods used to generate large-scale maps became obsolete.

Large-scale tactical maps remained necessary tools for battlefields. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) led the way in this new technology. In the 1930s it not only experimented with aerial photography techniques and equipment, but also duplicated field maps prepared by conventional methods in Quantico, Virginia area near the Marine base. Finally, before the 1940s began, the head-shed of the Army decided that Topographic Engineer Battalions would be assigned to work closely with combat surveyors.

The mapping demands of World War II would create the need to take another look



Note – 10th Corps, Patch is upside down (1952)

at the role of the combat surveyor and the support he needed. The primary ingredient for an accurate topographic map is reliable basic survey control in both the horizontal and vertical planes along with the classification of terrain features. Combat surveyors do not have time nor is it their mission to collect sufficient data to create topo base maps. They do under certain circumstances have time to "take off" from existing survey control to gather data for mapping a local area or to establish control stations for the use by the artillery, heavy mortar platoons, rocket launching units, tanks, and missile batteries.

In Korea, the 8219th, A.U. of IX Corps and the 8221st, A.U. of X Corps directly supported the combat surveyor. At times they were the combat surveyors when they often brought survey control down to the firing battery level. In the case of the 8221st the primary mission was drastically altered during its first eight or nine months in Korea because the tactical situations fluctuated so much. The Survey (Tope) Section did the surveys. The Meteorological (Metro) Section sent up balloons with a radio-sonde to gather weather data. However, more times than not the unit was on the move. Sometimes it seemed like we were going in all four directions at the same time. Both sections of the unit worked together as one on several missions. It was not that surprising to have a survey team in the field with a radio-sonde technician, a computer type and a chainman. As a team they could be

Continued on page 69

Haman and the 29th's Revenge for Hadong

The 3rd Battalion was officially declared to be part of the 27th Infantry Regiment on the 4th of September but for all practical purposes, it had been functioning as part of the 27th Infantry since the 4th of August. It was still in the rebuilding state after the horrible defeat at Hadong on the 27th of July. Some replacement personnel including officers had been drawn from many miscellaneous sources. One example of filler personnel was Jim Moore who had been a tanker in the 24th Division. After losing his tank the protesting young man was ordered into the line by an infantry Lieutenant and found himself in Item company with no transfer orders or records. He remained a Wolfhound until he was wounded and evacuated in March.

Others came from units in Japan that had been stripped for the shortages in the 24th Division and the 29th Regiment. Army stockades had been emptied of all but the most serious offenders and some of those men became among the best of the fighters.

At first the battered and half strength 3rd Battalion received the softer missions while it was recovering from Hadong. Originally, the 29th had been on a par with the regiments in Japan but the action and losses at Hadong had reduced it into a shell of its former self.

On the 15th of August, the Executive Officer of the 1st Battalion, Major DeChow had been placed on TDY to command the 3rd Battalion. The 1st Battalion enlisted men were not unhappy to see this highly unpopular officer transferred.

September 1 - With the penetration of the 24th and 35th Regiment sectors by 6th & 7th NK Divisions, the 3rd Battalion was moved to a reserve blocking position at the road junction of Chung ni about two miles NW of the Division Headquarters on the outskirts of Masan. After arriving there at 1730, they dug in to an uneventful night.

Beside the Engineer Road 5000 yards to the northwest of the 3rd Battalion, Lt Bob Hill, who had just returned from the hospital with bandages still on his head, was ordered to make some use of the disorganized 24th troops. Lt Hill picked out some capable looking senior NCOs and

By CB Johnson

they gathered about 75 men to form a defensive perimeter around the 1st Battalion CP. It was fortunate for the command group as this informally organized troop, acquitted itself in defense against the infiltrating enemy and succeeding in driving them from the surrounding hill. Col. Champney's 24th Regt command post (to which the 1st Battalion

was attached) was just across the road from our 1st Battalion CP. ¹

September 2 - Enemy infiltrators attacked the 24th Regimental CP and some of the supporting artillery batteries and it became clear to Col Michaelis and others that a large NK force was in the hills just west of the "Horseshoe Turn". At 1540, the 3rd Battalion was called for help. From this day forward, the 3rd Battalion would carry their share of the load. ²

The men marched up the MSR and cleared the enemy from the area of the Horseshoe Turn. Combat engineers from C Company of the 65th Engineer Battalion were placed in position to protect the artillery units.

On the way to the Horseshoe, Item company had received sniper fire from the hill beside the Horseshoe. The sniper position (62 cal. antitank rifle) was spotted and the sniper killed. Pfc. Cecil Clemons (see Hadong chapter) had the duty to run comms wire from the 60mm mortar section up to the OP (observation point) with the 1st platoon. As he unreeled the wire, he came across a NK hiding in a little ditch (an apparent member of the sniper party). He probed the gook in the rear end with his bayonet and yelled to the 1st Sergeant, "Look what I found here!"

The 1st Sergeant yelled back, "Don't kill him! we want him alive." They grabbed the NK strapped him on a jeep hood and hurried back to S-2. He appeared to be the first prisoner captured in this area and helped to identify the 6th NK unit.

Knowing the 6th NK Division units could be the perpetrators of the atrocities they had witnessed at Hadong, the 29th men were not in the mood for taking pris-

oners.

September 3 - The 3rd Battalion began an attack to eliminate this two Battalion sized (estimated) NK pocket that was between the Engineer Road and the Masan-Saga (MSR) road. The eastern limit was the Horseshoe turn from where the attack started with Love Company on the left and King Company on the right. The tough Engineers of Charlie Company were placed on the left of the assault force to augment the half strength battalion. A platoon of B Company, 89th Tanks were attached for support. ³

Today the 29th men were fighting an old enemy from the Hadong battle and the troop numbers facing each other were about the same ratio as before; however, there was a big difference in the supporting weapons available. This time there was a 4.2 mortar platoon and a tank platoon (89th) attached to the GIs whereas the NK had only the light mortars and a limited supply of munitions.

Now the 29th were the attackers and they had a well defined objective to destroy the enemy on the hills in front of them. They also carried the memory of their buddies from the 27th of July and their hearts hungered for revenge. At first they pushed the enemy battalion steadily westward but resistance began to stiffen.

The assault troops moved fast and it was difficult to keep track of them and three shells from 'friendly' artillery hit among the forward elements, wounding several.

In the afternoon the caged enemy struck back with an estimated force of over 1000 and once again the 29th men were taking heavy casualties. One enemy group drove a wedge into Love company. Item company and the Engineers counter-attacked and drove the enemy from this penetration. ⁴

An enemy group of five slipped inside the Item company perimeter and tossed grenades at the Americans. The seasoned GIs quickly wiped out the intruders.

During the hard fighting, the Battalion had thirteen officer casualties. Among those was 1st Lt Elwood James, the King company commander, who was killed leading his men in the assault and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

At Hadong King company's commander, Capt. Donohue, had also fallen. 1st Lt Walter Bodman again took over the company but his tenure was a short one as he was shot through calf of the leg and evacuated. He turned over command of the 40 odd men to Lt Forrest E. Asher.⁵

The enemy force had proved to be larger than had been estimated and the rest of the B Company tanks were added to protect the right flank of the 3rd Battalion and the artillery along the MSR.

The P-51s and Marine Corsairs joined the fray and with their help, the battered and bleeding 29th was on top of "Engineer Hill" at the end of the day. But the gooks were worse off as the defeats on this day forever removed their slim chance of taking Masan. What a difference the air support made from that terrible time at Hadong!

September 4 - In the morning, Item and King companies struck early and fast. In Item company's assault, they surprised NK in their holes eating bowls, of rice. With no shots fired by the surprised gooks, they wiped 20 with none escaping.

The riflemen, tanks, artillery and mortars poured it on the NK pocket and forced them out of their dug in positions and now the isolated and cutoff enemy was savagely and repeatedly struck with napalm and strafing from the air. The survivors began to flee back to their home base by 1030. It was an organized and controlled retreat but they had to pass through the gap between the 35th and the 27th 's B Company. Less than 300 made it back to their lines. (This was the group previously described in this chapter.)⁶

The 3rd Battalion stood on the hill overlooking Koman ni and the crossroads town of Sago. With the help of the Engineer company, the rifle companies composed of only 40 to 70 riflemen had defeated 6th NK Division units totaling well over 1000 men. They had their revenge two times over.

The heroic attack on the 2nd and the stand during the night of the 2/3rd by Capt Jung and the B Company men had sealed the doom for this penetration by preventing a following column from joining them. With the unexpected entry of the 27th Battalions, Gen Pang was not only out gunned he was also far out manned.

The retreat of the enemy battalion did

not mean the Haman area was clear of enemy. The 3rd Battalion turned their attack southward and secured the north south ridgeline overlooking the Haman valley from the east.

The 3rd Battalion of the 29th Regiment officially became the 3rd Bn of the 27th Wolfhound Regiment. The event was unknown by the tired riflemen and made no difference in their minds.

September 5 - The Battalion was in Division reserve east of Haman and cleared the grounds against light resistance.

Cecil Clemons was on a patrol that was sent down into the Hainan valley in search of a 24th Regiment eight man patrol that had not returned. They found their bodies grouped together at the base of the hill near Engineer Road. Each had been shot through the head. For both sides, this early September was the most brutal of times.⁷

September 7 - With the available 3rd Battalion, it was decided to turn them loose on, "Old Baldy" Hill 665 which was also called Battle Mountain or Bloody Knob. It was the northernmost of the very tall peaks which included Pilbong (743 meters) and Sobuk (738). This point had good observation east, west and north. Old Baldy was fought over about twenty times by the 24th Regiment and the 27th didn't do any better in their three day try.⁸

The Blue Battalion (3rd) began ten days of fighting while the Red and White Battalions (Except for Able Company) were on a comparatively easy street. For the next week and a half, the combat scale tilted heavily toward "old Blue".

The 24th Regiment's 3rd Battalion had abandoned the Old Baldy slopes and now the 24th 's King and Baker companies were to follow the Wolfhound Battalion to occupy the peak upon its capture. The attack did not start until 1500 which was too late to expect to reach the peak against enemy resistance. It was about a four hour trip from the base to the top with no fighting. The battalion ran into resistance on the steep slopes and had to stop for darkness part way up the mountain.⁹

September 8 - The attack resumed with the Engineer Company C again participating in the assault. The terrain and the enemy prevented a successful conclusion and Blue dug in 1000 yards short of the objective.

After eating the rations brought up by the choggi train, Cecil Clemmons and others from I Company placed rocks in empty C ration cans and strung them on wires about 50 feet in front of their perimeter. A torrential rain had begun to fall on the battlefield and Cecil Clemons and his buddy stretched a poncho over their foxhole. The man on guard would stick his head thru the poncho opening while the other tried to grab some shut eye in the muddy hole.

At about 2130, the alarm cans jangled and Cecil's squad cut loose with rifle and grenades. Their shots were answered by the intruders and a full scale fight developed on the ridgeline. Artillery gave close in support and within an hour, the surprise attack had shot its wad and the rain had let up.¹⁰

September 9 - In the morning enemy bodies were found near the alarm cans and over 20 bodies were counted as they moved up the hill. On a 1 KIA to 4 WIA ratio, it appeared they had inflicted about 100 casualties on the enemy in their aborted attack.

Capt Lewis B. Mitchell (the former Bn. S2 officer) led Item Company toward the peak of Hill 655 where they were joined by Love Company and they closed to within 5 yards of the enemy lair. The peak was honeycombed with dug in positions among the huge boulders and crevices. The enemy came out of their hiding places and drove the two companies back from the crest.¹¹

In the afternoon, the 3rd Battalion backed down the ridges to the previous night position, while artillery, mortars and air struck the peak. The enemy counter attacked with small scale probes, mortar and artillery; but Blue hung on.¹²

Item Company had four KIA and 21 reported WIA's including Capt. Mitchell. One of the KIA's was the supply sergeant. Sgt. Bilodeau. Adrian Bilodeau had been given the supply job because of his age, but the company was so shortanded that Sgt. Bilodeau was leading the choqqi train onto Old Baldy. At about the same time, EM who were over 35 were withdrawn from the line companies and sent to rear jobs. (Sgt. Bilodeau was the one who had led the ambush party at Hadong.)

All of the munitions expended in the last three weeks on Hill 655 had torn the

Continued on page 90

Chapter Affairs

York County Chapter #178 of Pennsylvania

50th Commemoration July 27, 2003. We had about 800 plus at the ceremony which was held at the West York High School Football Field.

(Thank you Ronald W. Busser for photos and letter.)



Salute to Fallen Comrades



Korean Drum and Dance Group



Mash Unit and Crew

Korean and American Wreaths Laying (14)



Barry Shepp Director of Veterans Affairs York County and Master of Ceremonies and Korean Choir & York Chorus.



Part of our York City and County People

National Anthem and Pledge to U. S. and Korean Flags





553rd Army National Guard Band

South Lake County Chapter #188 of Florida

Our Chapter on 10-02-2003 hosted their 4th annual Veterans Day Classic Car Show. The show was directed by Joe Madeline. The show included: A low fly over and missing man formation by Korean Vintage Aircraft. South Lake High School's ROTC Drill Team presented the colors. The Honor Guard gave a 21 gun salute and taps was played to honor fallen comrades. There were over 200 show cars registered and drew in 2000 attendees. US Congresswoman Ginny Brown Waite gave out Korean and War Service Medals to 50 veterans. The proceeds from this event are used to award scholarships to the local area high schools to be used by under-privileged children. Contributions are also made to very needy veterans and local charities. The Grand total which was raised for this event was \$8000.00 before expenses. The event was held at the Citrus Tower in Clermont Fl. This is the only major event held in South Lake County honoring all veterans.

(Thank you Charles V. First for letter and photos. Sorry too many photos to show all, should have taken group photo. Car photos are beautiful but also too many to show.)



Joe Madeline M/C- Chairman, Opening of show



Ginny Brown Waite U.S. Congresswoman's speech



Charlie First Chairman Collections lines up with Chapter members.



Veterans lined up to get medals from Congresswoman Waite. They are Marty Abromiwtz, Carol Becker, Charlie First, Alton (Rube) Morehouse, Isiah (Hatch) Hatcher, Maxine Parker, and John A. Carpinelli.



Volunteers Left to right, Marty Silverstein, Carol Becker, Charlie First, Micki Blackburn

Imperial Valley Chapter #102 of California



KWVA Chapter #102 members who participated in a local parade winning first place of Veterans Organizations Division.

(Thank you N. O. Benavidez for photo and letter.)

Department of New Jersey



On November 8, 2003 the Sussex County Board of Freeholders of Newton, N. J. gave a salute to military veterans of the Korean War. The veterans were greatly honored to be part of this occasion, paying tribute to the men of the Forgotten War. Left to right, Kenneth Benson, Hector Caferatti, Joseph Barczak, and John Paga.

(Thank you Joseph Barczak for letter and photo.)



The Wreath was presented at the NJ Korean War Monument by the KWVA Department of NJ Commander Robert B Kenney (Left) & KWVA Department of NJ Judge Advocate Thomas M McHugh (Right). at the 50 Anniversary of the Korean War, in Atlantic City NJ.

(Thank you Thomas McHugh for photo and letter.)

Central New York Chapter #105

On September 19, 2003, the mayor of Syracuse, N.Y. (Matt Driscoll) and Onondaga County Executive (Nick Pirro) issued a proclamation making the third Thursday of the month POW/MIA Day. In attendance was State Senator John DeFrancisco and the KWVA Color Guard.

(Thank you Ed Grala letter and photos.)



Front row: Left to right: NY State Senator John D. DeFrancisco, Syracuse Mayor Matt Driscoll Onondaga County, Executive Nicholas Pirro. Second Row: Tony Vaquero, Doris Porpiglia, John Reidy, Dave Allen, George Warfield, and Ed Grala.



CNY KWVA Color Guard Front Left to Right: Bill Burns, Barry Lashomb, Garry Rockburn, George Warfield, Gordon Storrings, Pete Doyle, Ed Craig, Bruce Ackerman, Fran Ezzo, Jim Ferris, Jim Brant, Sal Buonocore, Len Boisseau, Tony Vaquero, Reg Rawls, Dick Houser, CG Capt Ed Grala.... Rear Norm Flum, Bill Broadner, John Reidy, Bernie Moran .. Not in Photo Dave Allen (Bugler) who played to the Colors.



(Syracuse) Korean War/Vietnam Memorial – Veterans Day 2003. K. Dave Allen – Playing “Taps” and Grace Ackerman with hand over heart.

Chorwon #48 of New Jersey



Members of Chapter and VFW Post 6192 helped serve Thanksgiving dinner at the Paramus Veterans Home in Paramus, New Jersey.



Walter Stubbs serving Thanksgiving dinner.



George Leonic serving Thanksgiving dinner.



Kitchen staff of the Paramus Veterans Home.



Paramus Veterans Home residents having Thanksgiving dinner.



Families of veterans having Thanksgiving dinner.



On November 9, 2003 the Chapter Color Guard Participated in the Salute to Veterans Concert. The Chapter carried the colors of the five branches of service, which was presented as the band played the song of each of the services. The American Flag was presented by the Ridgewood Concert Band. In Photo Left to Right are Andrew Demes, Walter Stubbs, Commander Ed Halvey, Walter Bilz and Robert Bramley.



On December 8, 2003 The chapter delivered Christmas Gifts at The Paramus Veterans Home. Shown in Photo Left to Right are John Valerio, Chris Halvey, Ed Halvey, Warren Dartell, Dolores Dartell and Walter Stubbs. (Thank you Warren Dartell for photos and letter. Photos by: Wini Bramley.)

Central Indiana Chapter #259

Our Chapter President Tine Martin Sr. and other members renovated this trailer for the Veterans Day parade in Indianapolis on November 11, 2003. We presently have 80 Korean War Veterans enrolled in our Chapter including the Commander of the American Legion Post #470 which allows us to hold our monthly meetings there. We formed in August 2000 and have grown scientifically since then.

(Thank you George Ellwood for letter and photos.)



Veterans Day Parade Nov. 11, 2003, Standing in front of float left to right Jack Beaty, Everett McFarland, and Ernie Condra.



Photo taken on 11 Nov., 2003, at the Veterans Day Parade, downtown Indianapolis, IN. Shown from the left are chapter officers and members (VP) Bob Sanders, (Pres) Tine Martin, (Member) Curtis Willis, (Sgt-at-Arms) Jack Beaty, (Historian) Don Hall, (chaplain) Amos Board. Photo courtesy of Mrs. R.C. Sanders. *(Thank you Jack Beaty for photo and letter.)*



Left to right Robert Sanders, Don Myers and George Ellwood in his Navy Chief's uniform and also wearing his Korean Veterans cap.

Queen City Chapter #195 of Colorado

Chapter participated in the Fall festival Parade commemorating the Korean War in Denver, Colorado. The parade was followed with a Memorial Ceremony in the Veterans Memorials Park, by the state capitol in Denver.



-Parade From Left to Right the following members: Raymond Ogaz, Calvin Kiel, Don Simmons, Charles Kammerer, Robert Nelson, Louis Renoux, Kenneth Camell (US Flag) Francis Jolines, Ben Hogan, Nancy Millensifer, Leo Thielen, Frank Montijo, and Bill Dowell.



Nancy Millensifer, Raymond Ogaz, Louise Renoux.



Color Guard with state capitol in the background. Shown are Charles Kammerer, Kenneth Camell, Francis Johnes, and Frank Montijo

In December the Chapter participated in the O'Connell Middle School Korean War Veterans Remembrance Day activities. The school and students conducted a Memorial function with the veterans. It was followed by a social in the school cafeteria. The Korean War veterans related their experiences and interacted with the students and teachers. The Chapter hopes to expand and continue participation in various school history classes and activities and thereby informing the younger generation of the Korean War and our experiences.

(Thank you Kenneth E. Camell for letter and photos.)



School Visit, L to R (Back) Calvin Keil, Frank Montijo, Nancy Millensifer, Don Simmons, Leo Thielen, and Walt Walko. (Front) Students, Ted Melvani, and Phil Cleary.



Frank Montijo, Amona Adams, Jenica Swift and Don Simmons

Delaware Chapter #1

During the build-up to the war in Iraq, a Rehoboth Beach Delaware radio station on a Thursday started to promote a pro U. S. A. Rally in this seashore resort town on the following Sunday. The station -WGMD- was deluged with calls of support. The station made a few calls itself. One of the first was to Chapter #1 President Russ Cunningham. They asked if Chapter #1's Honor Guard would act as Color Guard? The answer: Yes. Second, would Cunningham give a brief pep talk? Answer: You Bet! Three days later, more than 3,000 patriotic folks appeared, dressed in red, white, and blue, and carrying flags of all sizes and a multitude of signs of support for the U.S.A.,

President Bush, and our military men and women. The American Legion and the Jr. , ROTC Color Guards joined us.

The crowd was a real cross-section of the community. The old and the young, farmers and businessmen, vacationers and residents all gathered to sing patriotic songs, wave flags, and chants of "U. S. A.-U. S. A.-U. S. A." were deafening. When Cunningham opened his remarks with the question- "Are there any Americans here?" the crowd answered with a thunderous roar and the flags and signs danced above the crowd. Needless to say, there was no coverage by the state and national media. Which should not be surprising.



Russ Cunningham addressing a "Support the Troops" rally.



A cheering crowd responds with sea of waving flags.



Delaware National Guard Commander Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala congratulates Farrell, Koopman and Reeves.

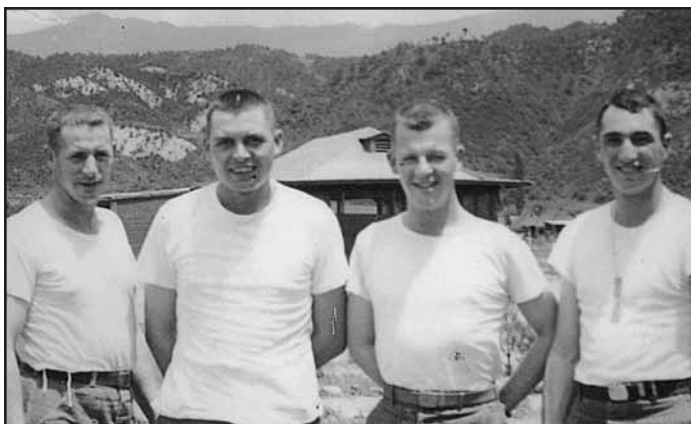
(Thank you Russ Cunningham for letter and photos.)

The Delaware Korean War veterans hosted a Flag Day Ceremony at Veterans Cemetery, paying tribute to Old Glory and those who served under its banner since 1777. Chapter President Russ Cunningham was the speaker. Following a short talk, the KWVA men demonstrated the proper protocol for retiring an American Flag. President Cunningham then honored three chapter #1 veterans with the President's Distinguished Service Medal for their work within the chapter, service to Delaware Veterans, and as part of the groups Tell America Program. Major General Frank Vavala, Commander of the Delaware National Guard, participated throughout the entire program.



Delaware support the troops. Rally featured Color and Honor Guards of the American Legion #48, KWVA, and Marine Jr. ROTC. (Photo by Sandro V. Cuccia)

Reunited Aviators



On July 27, 1953, four army aviators catch some sun, waiting for nightfall and the end of the fighting. The four Harold Martins, John Chamber, Francis McCormick, and Russ Cunningham had collectively flown more than 400 combat missions over and behind the front lines in small, single engine L-19 Bird dogs. Martins was killed in an air crash shortly after. Cunningham (Rehoboth Beach, DE) and Chambers (Huntsville, AL) returned home in December. The High ridge behind is the rim of the Punchbowl.

L-19 Bird dog was flown by Francis McCormick. Enemy ground fire hit and severely damaged the right wing.



Fifty years later the pair had a joyous reunion, and recently met at the Korean War exhibit in Dover, Delaware. They have been unable to locate McCormick.



Charles Parlier Chapter #24 of Illinois

Presentation of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star to one of our members over 50 years late.



LEFT: 1st Lt. Steven Toussaint of the 66th Infantry Brigade read the orders of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. **RIGHT:** Lt. Col. Michael Shelby, the brigade's executive officer and Richard Baughman,, recipient.



Lt. Col. Michael Shelby, Richard Baughman, Dave Mayberry, President of Korean Veterans.



Members of the Charles Parlier Chapter #24 attended the medal presentation.



Front Row, Quagliero and Casserly. 2nd Row (left to right), Ferrarini, Atheras, Commander Onorevole, Cohen, Picarelli, Jr. Vice Commander, Bruzgis, and Ret. Col. O'neil.. 3rd Row (left to right), Dinzes, Sposa, Burkert and Van Brunt.



Richard Baughman and cake.

(Thank you Glenn Thompson for letter and photos. Photos by Ruth Thompson.)

Taejon Chapter #170 of New Jersey

50th Anniversary Commemoration Signing of the Korean War Armistice, July 28, 2003.

Our chapter attended the ceremony at Atlantic City, New Jersey commemorating the end of hostilities in Korea.

Taejon Chapter Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole paid tribute to Chairman William Burns for arranging the trip and festivities all day. KWVA New Jersey State Commander Robert Kenney was one of the many speakers. Taejon Chapter Color Guard commanded by Captain James Lomauro was honored by being one of two Honor Guards in the Presentation of Colors. One of the guest speakers was Ambassador Wonil Cho, Consul General, Republic of Korea.

The most touching moment for all was singing the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, taps and singing "God Bless America" which brought tears in the eyes of many Korean War Veterans. After dismissal Taejon Chapter members enjoyed touring the grounds of the New Jersey State Korean War Monument.



Taejon Chapter Finance Officer, Thomas Falato.



Kenneth Green and Anthony DeCondo.



Bronze Star and Purple Heart holder Russell Street (left) and Past Commander John Meuser.

St Charles County #186 of Missouri

Veteran's Day Parade in Branson, Missouri, November 2003.



Taejon Chapter Color Guard, Left to right Captain Lomauro, Burns, Ferrarini, Sposa, Burkert, Atheras, VanBrunt and Commander Onorevole.



Apache "Chief" Korean War veteran at Veteran Day Parade in Branson, Mo.



Keynote Speaker General Alfred Gray, U.S.M.C. Ret. Former Commander of Marine Corps, Korean War Veteran., Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole and wife Cathy



Taejon Chapter Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole, KWVA N. J. State Commander Robert Kenney, Republic of Korea Consul General-Ambassador Wonsil Cho, and State Judge Advocate Thomas McHugh. (Thank you Louis Quagliero for letter and photos.)



ABOVE: Harry S. Truman Chapter, Korean Veterans at Veterans Day Parade in Branson, Missouri.

LEFT: Korean veteran, a member of the Wyandotte Tribe from Wyandotte, Ok. At Veterans Day Parade in Branson, Missouri.

Hawaii Chapter

Veterans day

A flourish of events on Tuesday, November 11, Veterans Day, brought closure to the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration period. The events began at 10:00 a.m. at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) with Honolulu's Mayor Jeremy Harris' Veterans Day Ceremony. Over a thousand veterans and guests were in attendance as Mayor Harris paid tribute to America's veterans.

At 1:00 p.m. Hawaii's governor Linda Lingle addressed an audience of over 500 veterans and guests at the Kaneohe Veterans Cemetery. Following the laying of a wreath by Governor Linda Lingle, a representative from each veterans' organization placed a floral lei beside the wreath. A fly-by by a squadron of helicopters brought the event to a close.

At 5:00 p.m. aboard the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor, another Veterans' Day ceremony took place on the USS Missouri hosted by the USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc. Louis Baldovi, of KWVA Hawaii Chapter #1, was the Keynote Speaker of the event.

The day's culminating activity took place in the evening at Washington Place, the home of Governor Linda Lingle, where Korean War veterans were dinner guests of the governor.

However, Korean War veterans were not given a rest. Not to be outdone, the Korean community of the U.S. & ROK Alliance hosted a reception for Korean War veterans at the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki on Thursday, Nov. 13, where Governor Linda Lingle was the Keynote Speaker. Korean dancers and singers provided the entertainment for the evening. The highlight of evening came when Louis Baldovi and Robert Hamakawa led a group of Korean War veterans in a rendition of the Korean Spirit Song.

Other News

The 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Commission, provided the leadership that made the three years a worthy period in remembrance of the war and its veterans. The members of the commission were: Honorary Chairpersons Governor Linda Lingle & Consul General Heung Sik Choi; Advisors General Frederick C. Weyand (Ret.) and General David A. Bramlett (Ret), Louis Baldovi, Floranio Castillo & James Santos; Ex-Officio MG Robert G. F. Lee; Chairman, BG Irwin K. Cockett, Jr. (ret); Vice-Chairman Robert Hamakawa; At Large Mildred McColgan, Nick Nishimoto, Charles Chang, Robert Talmadge and Richard Higa, Sid Springer, Royce Ebesu, and Abel Cravalho.

Chapter News

On the November 7, 2003 the Ch. #1 held its annual installation banquet. Taking the oath of office were, Jack Hirai-President, Vice-President, Herbert Schreiner-Secretary and Richard Higa-Treasurer. Korean Consul General Heung Sik Choi thanked the Korean War veterans for their sacrifices in the Korean War.

On Saturday, December 6, the chapter paraded for the 6th successive year in the Annual Kaneohe Christmas Parade. The chapter placed second in the category of Best Senior Marching Unit. At a luncheon, member Cal Hiraoka accepted the award in behalf of the chapter. In parades over the past 6 years, the chapter has placed First, Second and Third. Not bad for some old fogies.



ABOVE: Korean War veterans of the Wyandotte Indian Nation at Veterans Day parade in Branson, Missouri.



LEFT Members and wives of Ohio Chapter #108 of Korean Veterans at Veterans Day Parade in Branson, Missouri.

BELOW: Korean Veterans from Ohio Chapter #108 in Veterans Day Parade in Branson, Missouri.



Settle Inn, Branson, Missouri, where Korean War Veterans have reunion every Veterans Day. (Thank you Curt Farley for letter and photos.)



Ch. #1 President Jack Hirai presents a gift to Korean War veteran BG Irwin Cockett, who retired in December as Director of the Office of Veterans Services. Both were infantrymen in Korea in August of 1950. Photo courtesy of Derek Inoshita, DoD.



Members of Ch. #1 lobbied and petitioned state officials to rename the H-2 Interstate Freeway the "Veterans' Memorial Freeway," in honor of veterans of all wars. Photo courtesy of Louis Baldovi.



Keynote Speaker Louis Baldovi of Ch #1, addresses a gathering on the USS Missouri on Nov. 11, Veterans Day. Photo courtesy of USS Missouri Memorial Assn.



Marching unit of the Chapter #1 prior to the Annual Christmas Parade in Kaneohe, HI. The unit placed second in the Senior Marching Unit category. Photo by Louis Baldovi.



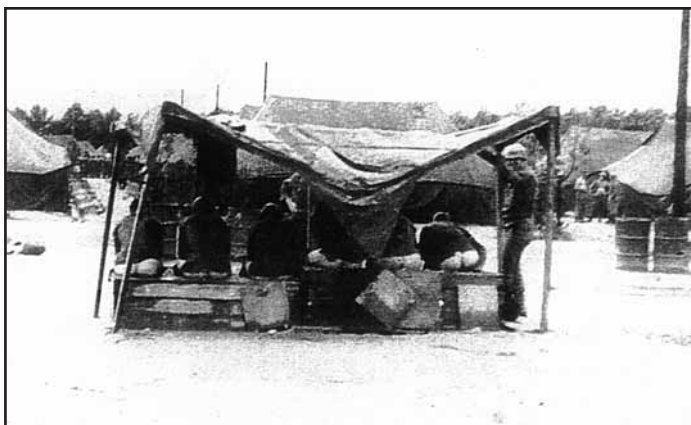
Jenny Qina, Korean Deligate, Col. Rowling and other attendees in group photo.



The "Tell America" team of Ch. #1 following a presentation to the University of Hawaii ROTC unit. Left to right in their white uniform: Louis Baldovi, Moses Pakaki, Robert Hamakawa, James Takane, Thomas Tanaka, Floranio Castillo, Col. (Ret.) Bert Nishimura & Nick Nishimoto, Ex POW. Photo courtesy of UH ROTC Public Relations.



Attendees and Gen. Lee (I think per name tag.) in group photo.



The men who crap together, fight together. Photo courtesy of Herbert Rorrer, 45th ID. The letter states "Vince, for your eyes only. I thought this was a classic photo of the Korean War, something very different. If you feel this photo is inappropriate, trash it or keep it for a souvenir. (Louis I saw this view from all angles in the 40's & 50's inside barracks and in the field. I am glad you did not send the urinal photo. That I could not print. Today's Military with females hopefully is different but I will print it to bring back the military we veterans remember many years ago.)"

(Thank you Louis for the photos, letter and super donation.)

Manasota Chapter #199 of Florida



During the Veterans Day Service in Bradenton, Florida, CW4 (Ret) Donald L. Courtney was named Manatee County Veteran of the Year for 2003-2004. Don is a life time member of KWVA Chapter 199, Bradenton, Florida.

(Thank You Don Courtney for photo and letter.)

St Law. Co. KWVA Chapter #284 of New York

On July 27th, 2004 our Chapter sponsored it's first parade and had memorial services for the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War. We had only been Chartered 8 months at the time. We were supported by the VFW, American Legion, Marine Corp League, Navy Club, DAV, and the AmVets.

All Military units are from Massena, N.Y. Food and refreshments were served at the AmVets Post 4 following the event. The parade, the ceremonies, and the festivities were a great success for our first endeavor.

We are quite proud of what we accomplished that day and hope that we can continue so that we will not be forgotten again.



On the gazebo, is myself, Commander, Reg Mott, and to my right is Howard Despaw, Chapter Treasurer and Cecil Deshane, Chapter Chaplin. In the background are our Honored Guest and Commanders of all participating Military Units. *(Thank you Reg Mott for Photo and letter.)*

SSgt Archie Van Winkle Memorial KWVA Chapter #288 of Alaska

The chapter held a Charter Presentation Ceremony at 7:00 PM Tuesday 20 January 2004 at VFW Post 1685. Twenty members of the first Alaskan KWVA Chapter were present at the meeting. The Charter Chapter membership, which includes members in Juneau, Soldotna, Fairbanks and Wasilla with 34 charter members. Also Posthumous Charter members are the 10 Alaskans killed in the Korean War.

The focus of the Chapter will be "Keeping the Memory Alive" of "The Forgotten War". It's members will be available to present talks to students and civic organizations about the Korean War. Why "Freedom is Not Free". Chapter meetings will be held at VFW Post 1685 in Anchorage. All Korean Veterans are invited to attend or write P.O. Box 200142, Anchorage AK 99520 for an application. Officers Are: Berkeley J. Ide – President; James Willey – Treasurer; Gordon J. Severson - 1st Vice President; Russ Walker - Judge Advocate; William D. Devine – Secretary; Robert J. Wienhold – Historian; Fred Scharper – Membership; and E. Dean Coon – Education.



Mr. William Devine, a Charter member of the National KWVA made the presentation to Chapter organizers, Mr. Berkeley J. Ide, Mr. Gordon J. Severson, and Mr. Fred Scharper, accepted the Charter on behalf of the members and all Alaskan Korean War Veterans.



Some of the Charter Members at the Chapter Charter meeting. Shown are: Lester Mann, Robert Wienhold, Frank Pagano, Jesse Godinez, Harry Lee, E. Dean Coon, Berkeley J. Ide, and Fred Scharper.

(Thank you Dean Coon for photos and letter.)

KWVA Ventura County Chapter #56 of California



Nov 12, 2003 we had a Veterans Day event at MUPU School. Chapter members shown in photo. (Thank you Chapter #56 for photos.)



On Veterans Day 2003 our chapter went to Korean War Memorial. Shown in photo are Rudy Arellano, David Lopez, Henry Marvin, Marvel Sulazar, Frank Torrez, John Compos and David Garcia.

Submissions to The Graybeards

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

Greater Cleveland KWVA Chapter #69 of Ohio

On November 9th at 10:30 a.m., a brisk and sunny morning, the Chapter members and families gathered to dedicate their newly placed monument at the Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio. Beginning the ceremony, the Color Guard processed along the Memorial Pathway accompanied by a military musical salute "To the Colors". After the Colors were presented, everyone stood at attention while waves of the National Anthem drifted through the sunlit trees. The program centered around poems written by veterans of the Korean War. Several grandchildren of the president, Paul Romanovich, read the poems. They then gave a prayerful tribute to Old Glory as they folded the flag again and again, finally into its symbolic triangular shape. Bob Johnson, treasurer, presented a memorial wreath at the site while "America the Beautiful" played in the background. The president then officially transferred the monument over to the watch of the Western Reserve National Cemetery's director and staff. The ceremony closed with the Retiring of the Colors to "God Bless America". Following the dedication Chapter 69 hosted a luncheon at The Country Kitchen in Seville, Ohio.



Ceremony at monument with chapter members and families.

(Thank you Patricia Romanovich for photo and letter.)

Chapter 153 of Florida



Installation of officers (right to left): Department of Florida President Jake Feaster, Past President Tom Gaffney.

Union County KWVA Chapter #53 of New Jersey

On July 27, 1989, at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, 15 Korean War veterans from New Jersey, signed a petition for a chapter charter. The New Jersey Chapter's list of officers included Ed Hoth, Joe Poggi, Vic Gerst, Richie Alexander, Tag Jensen, and Bill Cavanaugh. Membership in the first New Jersey Chapter grew rapidly, causing the need to form additional chapters.

At present time there are 16 chapters that make up the Department of New Jersey. Chapter 53, led by Commander Richie Alexander, has focused its mission on volunteer work at the New Jersey Home For Disabled Veterans at Menlo Park. "There's nothing more satisfying, than to get a smile on some of those faces at the veteran's home", says Commander Alexander. We do a monthly bingo with cash prizes and refreshments and do special parties for the holidays. This past Christmas, every veteran at the home received an envelope containing cash that they could use at the commissary shop. Chapter 53 also provides a variety of entertainment.



The newly constructed New Jersey Home for disabled Veterans at Menlo Park. Chapter 53 works here year around.



Chapter Commander Richie Alexander presents a gift of appreciation to volunteer John Nagy, who has performed at the last 9 chapter Christmas parties at the veterans home.



Officers 2004, right to left President Bob Balzer, 1st Vice President Charles Carafano, 2nd Vice President Don Smith,, Treasurer Frank Nicolo and Secretary Ed Brandt.



Officers Ladies Aux #153 Left to right President Pat Marinelli, 1st Vice President Pat Batissa, 2nd Vice President Bev McKay, Secretary Helen Saccente, Chaplain Fran Nicolo, Historian-Trustee Mary Gaffney.



American Legion Post #127 – Commander's Ball – President and Past President honored. (Thank you Charles Carafano for letter and photos.)

John Nagy, a Chapter volunteer, plays another Johnnie Cash song for the guys.



Left to right: Edwin Maunakea. President of Don C. Faith "MOH" Chapter #222; Jim Smith, President of Victoria Chapter #223. J. D. Randolph, President of Chapter #270 Standing is Carlos Ballard Department President, Donald Napp. President of Texas Lone Star Chapter #76, Salvador Gambino, Department 2nd Vice President, Charles Laird, Department Secretary, Lee Henderson, Department 1st Vice President, Marvin Dunn, President of General Walton Walker chapter #215, Virbel Trotter 1st Vice East Texas Chapter #286. Over 100 KWVA National members attended this meeting.



Chapter 53 members George Malsam and Richie Alexander with several of the wheel chair warriors, waiting for the next song.



Left to right: Chanhee "Johnny" Joe, Vice President of Samsung Austin Semiconductor, Martha Ballard, Texas Lone Star Chapter, Sung Lee, President of Samsung Austin Semi-Conductor, Carlos Ballard, President, Department of Texas KWVA. (Thank you Carlos for photos and letter.)

Greater Richmond Chapter 143 of Virginia



Chapter 53 doing the Christmas Bingo Party with plenty of cash as prizes. (Thank you Richie Alexander for photos and letter. Hope this is not too old. I have no date.)

Dept. of Texas

The first annual meeting of the Department was held September 12-13, 2003 in Austin, Texas. The meeting was hosted by Samsung Austin Semiconductor Corporation.



Korean War Veterans Chapter 143 adopted road in Henrico County, Virginia for litter clean up. Two signs, one at each end of road. From left, Jim Jones, Wally Wampler, Jim Adkins, Jim Jamison and Ned Jones. (Thank you Jim Adkins for letter and photo.)

Ventura County #56 of California



Posting of flags on our 50th Anniversary. Left to right Frank Torsez, Manuel Salazar, Robert Berwudez and Gilbert Cubrava.



Ventura County Supervisor Kathy Long presenting 50th Anniversary Proclamation to Commander David Lopez and L.M. Leonard Ortiz.
(Thank you Chapter #56 for photos. (Names very hard to read and no indication who sent photos.)

Rockford Chapter #272 of Illinois



Members of various Illinois Chapters shown meeting at the March Quarterly State Meeting held at Tuscola, IL above.



Rockford Chapter 272 officers visited the Chanute Air Force Base Museum in Rantoul IL on their way home from the IL State Quarterly meeting in March. (Thank you Jack Philbrick for photosr.)

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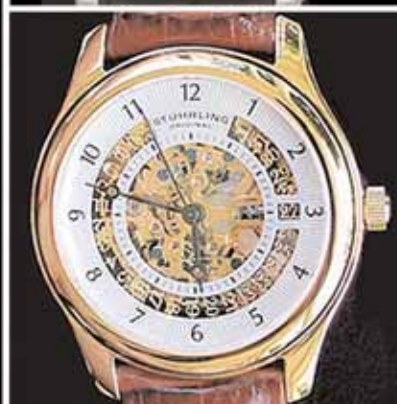
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It was the end of November, 1950, when the elements of the victorious Hour Glass Division moved up to the Pujon Plateau, deep inland from the North Korean east coast. The rugged terrain added to its severe conditions with the help of freezing wind and bitter coldness. The day before when we left Hamheung a soft wind was blowing, but we were now 2400 feet above sea level and it snowed four times that day.

All pine trees and even the grass was stacked white with snow and frost. The morning frost was as visible as snow fall. This sudden unpredicted change of weather gave us real hazard but not enough to stop our advancement. Besides, all the GIs were looking forward to being back home by Christmas. This might have cheered them up. Anyhow, we continued to advance to the north as scheduled. Marines, well equipped with winter gear, greeted us at Hagaru-ri where the Changjin Reservoir¹ stretched northward.

I was no longer with the Korean Army. I had been seconded to the First Battalion, 32nd Regiment of the U. S. Army. Finally we bivouacked at the north tip of the Reservoir on the afternoon of 27 November. So far we had passed the (so-to-speak) no-man's land except for encountering a few Chinese. The battalion aid station was set up promptly by GI medics and ROKAs. Individual pup tents were also set up by 2200. I crawled into my sleeping bag, prayed for my family, and fell asleep for another night.

"Dr. Lee, wake up! Dr. Lee!" A voice interrupted my sleep. It was a ROK medic named Chisai. I automatically (Ed. -- immediately?) heard "rat-a-tat."

"Chinese," Chisai told me. "How and why are they here?" I asked myself.

I hurried down to the Aid Station, where I found Captain (Dr.) Navarre and other aid men dressing wounded GIs and ROKAs. Everybody was working as usual even though strained. The fighting was getting fierce rapidly.

A lieutenant was seriously wounded and he was hopeless by the time Dr. Navarre and I rushed to his place. A Catholic Father was soon taking our

Dr. Yong Kak Lee at the Chosin Reservoir

By Dr. Lee
(As told to Dr. Birney Dibble)

This story was told to me by Dr. Lee Yong Kak in the summer of 1952. We were both stationed with Easy Medical Company of the First Marine Division near Munsan-ni. He had just shown me -- in Seoul -- where his father-in-law and cousin had been assassinated in the courtyard of the almost new Presbyterian church. We sat in a cool spot while he told me about his experiences at the Chosin Reservoir, which, incidentally, he always called the Changjin Reservoir.

The story was so riveting that I asked him to write it down, which he did several weeks later. I kept that original crudely written manuscript until I got back to the States, then transcribed it word for word.

So what you have here are the exact words of a Korean doctor assigned to an American Battalion Aid Station in November and December of 1950.

In a postscript that might also be interesting to your readers, after the war Dr. Lee came to the States for a four-year surgical residency at the U. of Colorado. I was in surgical residency at Cook County Hospital in Chicago and he visited me there twice. I still remember taking him to a White Sox ball game and the many puzzled looks and questions he had about the game!

He returned to Korea and became one of the most prominent surgeons in Korea. For instance, he did the very first kidney transplant in Korea.

I visited him there in 1981 and received the RED CARPET TREATMENT. I was also in Korea in 2001 and was able to talk to him on the phone but his health did not allow a personal visit.

J. Birney Dibble, M.D.,
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Eau Claire, WI 54701
E-mail <dibble@discover-net.net>
Tel: 715-1832-0709

places.

The night was passing very slowly. It was 0300 of the 28th when we realized the increasing casualties were filling up all spaces in the tent and we had to put them in a mess tent. A part of Able company was wiped out. One of the wounded told me, "We killed and repulsed the first wave. Hand to hand fighting was started and we were finally completely outnumbered."

Suddenly the artillery support ceased. What happened with them at this utmost urgent period?

But I could hear the mortar officer clearly shouting, "Fire!" Then the continuous firing lasted till dawn. An ROK stretcher bearer was killed while he was picking up a wounded. The first victim from our Aid Station.

Meanwhile we had to evacuate those wounded back. But there was no way out. The sole route was blocked by the enemy. All available space was then to be used for a ward. After the long wait for daylight the day broke.

The roaring sound on the sky was of our fighter-bombers. A big smoke went up over the hill which was only seven hundred yards away. The Chinese had infiltrated so close. The fighting was getting fierce rapidly. The first day of defense was successful. No line was completely broken through. We dug in deeper and prepared for the coming night. The Aid Station was busy all day dressing the newly brought GIs and ROKA casualties. The dressing material was running short. But there was no way to get another supply!

Several CCF were brought in. They looked funny. They were all so young to be a soldier. I treated a wounded CCF with a leg wound. I asked in Chinese, "How many battalions attacked us?" He answered, "Three regiments attacked this unit. The rest of them I don't know anything about."

Three regiments attacking one battalion! What kind of tactic is this, I thought. Brother, we are gonna have another big fight tonight.

Night started. I thought, how are we gonna evacuate those wounded? When are we supposed to have reinforcements? How long can we hold out without supplies? Sporadic firing started and it soon became a full-scaled fight by 2200.

All of our medics were tired physically but our spirit was at the highest peak. New casualties were dressed and put into the other vacant tent. The situation was different from the last night: while the fierce fighting was on, several parts of the defense line were cut through. We had to send up the remaining unit to fill up this line.

About dawn our eastern flank was greatly endangered. Baker Company was called to block this part. Enemy bullets started to fly over the battalion aid station. A brave lieutenant with his men succeeded in repulsing the enemy from this point. Meanwhile our manpower declined to the dangerous point very rapidly. Obviously it was impossible to hold this area another night.

Dr. Navarre relayed us another order from Lt. Col. Faith: "We are moving out." Technical Sergeant Anderson rapidly organized aid men to load all casualties on trucks and ambulances. The morning of the 29th our fighters were overhead again and they strafed enemy so that our fighting elements could be relieved from the line and be ready to protect our convoy heading southward. Before leaving this area, we sent the last dispatch of aidmen to bring our wounded back while our air strike was on. Most of them later on brought casualties but a few of them failed to return. There was no way to find what had happened to them.

Our convoy started to move with the daybreak. Even though our fighters cleared our forward area, there still was an enemy fire squad hiding in the woods and they pinned us down. After our men of the rifle company wiped them out we moved again very slowly. Battalion Aid was collecting casualties on the road.

More than once we were exposed to enemy fire. Staff Sergeant Scoville was rushing toward the wounded when he was hit in the face and jaw by a sniper. He was a tall blond man and a very swell guy. But he was not more able to talk when he was being dressed.

I could see four hundred enemy dead around the railway; to every five or ten of the enemies there was one of our GIs or ROKAs.

It was almost noon when we were finally able to join the third Battalion of the 31st Regiment, after five miles of retreat. But where is this Third Battalion? I could only see the deserted valley. The former Battalion Command Post area was covered with dead bodies, both of ours and theirs.

The rail bed along the margin of the artificial reservoir formed a sort of embankment playing role of defense line. Obviously this was used for last stand.

The rail bed was covered with dead Chinks by the hundreds. Some of them were on this side. Here and there I could spot GIs and ROKAs intermingled with the pile of CCF. They had fought till the last and prevented CCF from overrunning us. Some of them were still holding M2 carbines in their hands.

Gradually I could realize the factual happening of the last two days. Numerous CCF marched in column. The first element encountered us immediately and attacked us. The rest of them bypassed us, reached our rear outfit and attacked them. This way the artillery support suddenly stopped.

Here I could see some artillery pieces turned over and burned. This last stand was done by those saving GIs and ROKAs of the Third Battalion, 31st Regiment. Five

hundred yards northeast of the rail head they were, firing at escaping Reds. Those Reds beyond our sight were taken care of by our fighter bombers.

For awhile I walked around the area. There were so many Chinese dead here and there. I couldn't walk five steps without stumbling over enemy dead. I could see four hundred enemy dead around the railway; to every five or ten of the enemies there was one of our GIs or ROKAs. Most of the CCFs had old-typed combat shovel made in the U. S., presumably transferred from Chinese Nationalist Army years ago. (When Mao Tse-dong defeated Chiang Kai-shek.) Some of them had Tommy Submachine guns.

Now it was time to prepare for another night's stand. We knew the enemy would put more manpower tonight than before. We ran out of ammunition and food. At 1300 the air drop commenced, the first air drop I had ever seen. Yellow, blue, red and white parachutes were poured down from flying box carts (sic). Meanwhile, Col. Faith assembled the remaining people of 1/32 and 3/31 and organized one battalion. There were enough people left to build a battalion.

Dr. Navarre promptly set up a new battalion aid station in the ditch of rail road. We had to expand the ward, however very crude, with tent covers to keep casualties. Col. Faith came by to the Battalion Aid and comforted the wounded.

"Dr. Lee, you took very tired," he said.

"No, sir, I'm as fresh as you are," I replied and he laughed wryly.

Late in the evening Pfc. Hahn (ROKA) returned. He was one of those missing when we moved out in the morning. He said, "Two of us climbed up a hill to get a wounded man. When we found a dead soldier we saw five Chinese closing up. Apparently they didn't see us. We waited until they closed up and fired. Three of them fell down. But two of them fired back with burp guns. By the time we shot all of them one of us was found to have been shot to death.

When I got back to the base there was no trace of my outfit. I walked back alone. The air strike threatened me several times, however it suppressed the enemy so that I could have a chance to get back."

The night of the 29th fell. Fighting immediately got fierce. Casualties poured in through the night. A few of the aidmen were wounded. Bullets were going over the Aid Station. Dr. Navarre and GI aidmen however remained busy in the tent taking care of casualties.

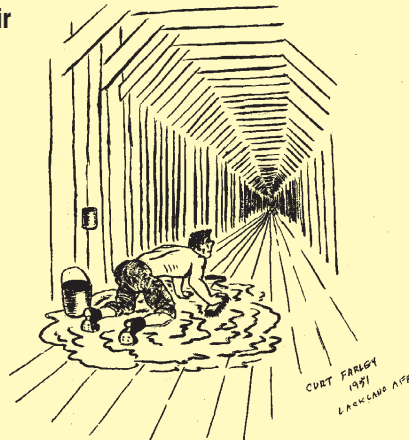
The next morning we found that our perimeter was intact. Another air strike and air drop were continued all day long. We hadn't had hot chow for three days. Only frozen C-rations were available. No

Continued on page 62

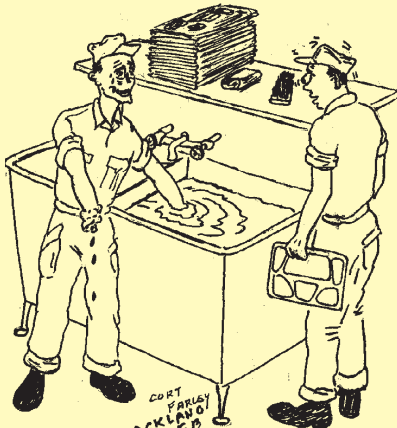
Military Humor

Curtis Farlwy, KWVA Department of Missouri, drew cartoons while in the Air Force from 1951-9155.

"LIFE AT LACKLAND"



"IN THE AIR FORCE YOU'RE GIVEN THE JOB YOU'RE BEST SUITED FOR"



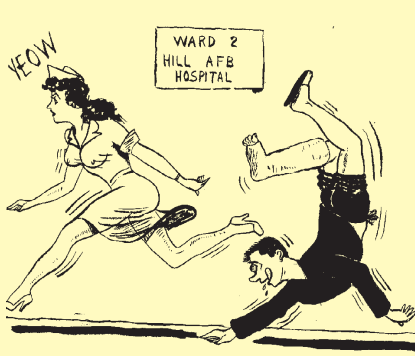
"MAN! THAT G.I. SOAP IS STRONG!"



"I KNEW THAT FLYBOY STUFF WOULD GO TO BROWN'S HEAD!"



"PLEASE, COULD I HAVE SECONDS?"



"YES, I'D SAY FARLEY WON'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE BED FOR A WEEK OR SO"



Department of Missouri members, Neil D. Hurley, Lee Hull, Joe McMahon, Bob Markam, Bob Rath and Bob Meeker

(Thank you Curtis J. Farley, Jr. for photo, cartoons and letter.)

Korean-American Artist Honors Chapter Members

Korean American artist Gary Kim met members of Nassau County Chapter #1 at a ceremony held by Arumdaun Korean Church to honor veterans. He wanted to thank these veterans for saving his country.

Mr. Kim has only been in America 5 years but has painted 35 portraits of veterans. It has taken him 3 years to finish this project.

Mr. Kim says he wants the American people to know how the help given to his country 50 years ago has meant to him and to his country. Korea is only free today because of these brave men & women.



(Thank you Joe Carco for photos and letter. I do not know who is in what photo for they are not named on photos.)

The list of Portrait subjects and home towns

Chapter President - Thomas Riley - Freeport US Army 1951-1953, Joseph Carco - Hicksville US Army 1953-1955 Charles Bours - Levittown US Air Force 1955-1958, Edward Fenton - North Massapequa US Army National Guard 1939-1965, Henry E. Nowicki Westbury US Army 1950-1952, Robert E. Brinsley - Merrick US Army Air Corps 1944-1946 & US Air Force 1949-1956, Robert O'Brien - Cedarhurst US Army 1950-1953, Larry O'Leary - Hicksville US Marine Corps 1953-1955, Joseph Thomann - Merrick US Air Force 1951-1955, Ed Downey - Baldwin US Army 1951-1952, Albert Culen Westbury - US Air Force 1951-1955 & NY Air National Guard 1975-1991, William G. Troise - Lynbrook US Army 1951-1953, Jean Quinn - Syosset US Navy 1949-1952, Howard Plattner Westbury US Army 1951-1953, William Puls - Seaford US Army 1952-1954, David Klapow - Seaford, Sal Finazzo - Glen Cove US Air Force 1951-1953, Harry Sidor - Lynbrook US Navy 1951-1955, Paul Dana - Bethpage US Marine Corps 1950-1954, Gene Marksteiner - Levittown US Marine Corps 1952-1955, Irwin Saltzman - North Massapequa US Army 1951-1953, Louis Bernstein - Locust Valley US Army 1953-1956, Robert Christman - New Hyde Park US Army 1952-1954, Jack Leff - Inwood US Army 1951-1953, Bill Boyce - Hicksville US Air Force 1951-1954, Marvin Friedman Valley Stream US Army 1951-1953, Gerald Perry - Hempstead US Army 1951-1953, Emanuel LaGatta - Hicksville US Air Force 1948-1952, Thomas O'Brien - Seaford US Marine Corps 1948-1952, Raymond O'Connor - Seaford US Army 1953-1955, Donald J. Zoeller - Oyster Bay US Army 1951-1953, Irene Mandra - Farmingdale POW / MIA Activist, Joseph Carrano - Glen Cove US Army 1951-1953, Irwin Braun - Merrick US Army 1952-1953.

fuel or water. We ate snow. Coffee was available only for wounded. By November 30th the soldiers got exhausted after three days of continuous fighting almost without sleep and food. Besides the bitter coldness froze all feet and hands. Now, we were very short of manpower and we couldn't let those with frostbite take off from their post.

Another ominous night began. Frenzied and outnumbering CCF were undoubtedly trying to wipe us out tonight. Col. Faith looked more confident than ever before to hold this area and so were we. At least we had got to. Our strength had been greatly reduced and theirs was increasing. Anyway, the fighting was very fierce and confused that night.

Enemy mortar shells started to drop around the Battalion Aid Station. Every side of our line was in great danger at midnight. The fatty lieutenant who had recently been promoted handled the heavy mortar company very efficiently. I could hear him ordering "Fire" way around our perimeter. Continuous firing. At two AM enemy mortar shells hit some of our mortar men and a few mortars. Some of them cried out. Probably they were heavily wounded. A few minutes later the captain commenced firing with rest of mortars.

Another of the bravest machine gun men fired all night. Enemy tried to get him but failed. His 50 caliber machine guns were mounted on tractor. I could see tracer bullets flying over enemy ridge. This machine gun inspired all of us in spite of our endangered situation.

In the meantime the first aid station was again flooded and several light cases had to stay outside the tent. At 0400 the 1st of December the enemy finally outnumbered us and infiltrated through the line. We hurriedly organized a team and wiped them out by five o'clock. A few of our aidmen who were sent out to bring casualties failed to come back and some of them were injured in the mission and brought in later. Chisai was injured in the thigh. He was only seventeen years old but he was a little devil.

About five o'clock our line was very weakened but still holding on. A kind of

confusion; some flank was exposed. A nasty Chinese bullet hit ROKA Pfc. Kim in the heart while several of us were outside of the aid station. He was just back from a mission. He died instantly.

A loud metallic noise occurred outside of the aid station. All of us hit the ground. An enemy shell had exploded right outside of the station. We hurried outside to find those casualties sitting there. Many of them died instantly.

At seven it became bright and we again were under air protection. I walked over several foxholes which were not far from our station. They were still alive and fighting. Each GI was accompanied by one ROKA. A GI machine gun man with a ROK ammunition man. GI mortar man and ROKA assistant. Now they were so closely attached together they almost looked like brothers. Here and there, these saviors came out of fox holes.

A weary and battered outfit. This was we. Now we had merely two company's man power left. (A reduction in strength from two battalions to two companies indicated that two-thirds of the men were KIA, WIA, or MIA.) Many of us had died and been wounded. Only a few of our officers were left.

Col. Faith again ordered us to be ready to move out. This one was going to be a long, long retreat towards the nearest Marine base. The sky was covered with our fighters strafing the enemy. All trucks and jeeps were lined up on the road. After thirty minutes of aid men's hard work, every single patient was loaded on vehicles. Capt. Navarre arranged us to be ready to pick up the wounded on the road.

The enemy again started to throw mortar shells at the convoy. A few of us were hit and treated. Slowly our column proceeded to the south. Some fanatic enemies appeared in front of the convoy and attacked us. Our fighters spotted them and burned them with napalm. Lt. Emery, Ammunition and Pioneer Company, whom I knew very well through his outstanding efficiency and bravery, got heavy burn injury by this same napalm. Those enemies were so close to us. He however refused to be on the vehicle and continued his duty.

The road was winding badly along the margin of frozen reservoir. Fighting unit protected our left side where the surrounding mountains were. Most enemy snipers were killed either by our infantrymen or our fighters. While we were moving on, I saw CCFs dug in along the road in three or five yards of distance. Each hole occupied by one Chinese. To my surprise, every single Chinese in their holes was dead. Our fighters had wiped them out. Most of them were killed by machine gun and the rest of them by napalm. They amounted to five or six hundred.

At 1300 the 1st of December, we were to cross a concrete bridge, but this had been blown off by the Chinese. This area was surrounded by high hills on three sides. Our direction, the south, was toward a hill. This was the enemy's preparation for an ambush. We tried to cross the river bed. So rugged and uneven it was that even six x six trucks got stuck. Jeeps couldn't go even half way of it.

Chinese started to fire at us from three directions. Our convoy was so stretched and stuck that almost any aiming could hit us. Our sole tractor pulled vehicles one by one.

Meanwhile our walking soldiers were shot one after another. Aid men picked them up and loaded them on trucks. At this time, there were no empty spaces for those wounded at convoy. We had to stack them up on a vehicle. Seeing our urgency the fighters bombed and strafed at enemy bunkers. Enemy was also fanatic because this was the best chance for them and the worst situation for us.

Col. Faith ordered every available man to fire. There were not enough to occupy those hills. Thus the precious daytime when fighters could protect us was consumed away. Many people fell down while our convoy was crossing the river. Meanwhile some of the rest of us moved up to the road to destroy the barrier of bunkers made by enemy.

By 1700 when two-thirds of the convoy crossed, it was already dark and our fighters had to go home, leaving us alone. Now only a handful of walking soldiers, several officers and drivers were left. Rest of them were wounded on trucks.

Someone told me that Capt. Navarre had been hit in the leg. I was shocked and sorrowful but couldn't cry. There was no more strength left for crying.

We were composed of a few survivors of CPIs and ROKAs. Our attacking soldiers were soon pinned down one by one by enemy machine gun and rifle. The first attack was repulsed. Col. Faith sent out the second wave of assault. This one was also halted by heavy enemy fire. At this very moment I saw a short man climbing the hill from the rear of the bunker. He was closing the stronghold. We opened a full fire to keep the enemy busy. Finally he succeeded in getting to the top of it. He then inserted his M2 carbine and opened the automatic fire. Probably he fired the whole round of the magazine. There was no more enemy fire after this and the hill which blocked our way was secured. As I learned later on, this brave man was ROKA litter man named Chae, the father of four children.

After this incident there was no more enemy fire. They might either have abandoned this area or had moved to make another ambush. Anyhow, this eased our crossing the river bed. By 2200 we started to move out.

It was the full moon and extremely bright by the reflection of snow. The freezing and the bitter wind was another enemy. Our feet were numb and senseless, fingers were out of function, and couldn't even pull the triggers. Nobody had eaten and slept for two days. Frozen canned food was uneatable. Besides they were even too heavy to carry around at this time. Weary, weakened and battered soldiers were we. Some people took out the last butt of cigarettes and passed them around to let others have a puff.

We were moving slowly to the last destination and I didn't know how far it was. The entire convoy was full of wounded boys looking forward to the warm hospital. They were more or less led by a handful of officers and soldiers.

While the convoy was moving, a GI came by and asked me to exchange his rifle with mine. He said, "My M 1 is frozen solid today and I need a working one to fight now," and I gave him mine and took his because I had time to clean it. Following the side of the convoy I

In a moment the quick thought came in my mind, "The enemy was closing up." There were two categories in my choice: to surrender to the enemy or to try to get back to a friendly base.

started to repair it. The bolt was not working. It was frozen with snow and mud. After awhile I kicked it with my heel. It was incredibly solid. One GI aid man tried to open it but he also failed.

Maybe it was too solid. Maybe we were too weak to open the chamber. I never had a chance to prove it. Anyway I kept it with me.

We came to a river with a blown bridge. Someone told me he had seen Dr. Navarre. I hurried up to the ambulance and opened the rear door. He was sitting on the folding seat with the GIs.

"Dr. Navarre, how is your wound?"

"I'm all right, Dr. Lee." Such a gallant, sincere, and hard working man, who treats casualties ceaselessly. Now, he was a wounded man himself. I wept in the dark. He was still making a big smile. He was probably trying to encourage me.

"How are Sgt. Anderson and Felty and the other aid men? How are the wounded?" he asked.

"They're all right," I answered, "but I don't know much about the patients except all of them were picked up and loaded on trucks. Is there anything I can do for you?"

"I'm thirsty," Dr. Navarre answered. "Could you get me some water?" "Sure, I will, sir. I went down to the river and beneath the blown bridge. There was no water but ice. Finally I cracked the layer of ice and dipped a third of a canteen cup full of creek water.

"Dr. Navarre, here is water." "Thank you." He had a drink and passed the rest to the other wounded.

"There isn't much water but I can sure get you some snow," I said, and he gave me a helmet which I filled with fresh snow down at the lake.

He had half a bar of sweet cocoa powder in his hand. I suddenly felt extreme hunger. "Dr. Navarre, may I have a bit of cocoa?" "Of course." He gave me half of it. When I put it in my mouth it was so delicious. "Thank you, sir. See you later."

Then I closed the door.

By 0200 the 2nd of December, we succeeded in moving more than half of the convoy across the river bed by the blown bridge. It was then the final enemy mass attack began. Chinese had eventually (apparently?) assembled all the forces from the immediate vicinity to build up enough strength to overpower us. All of the sudden, mortar shells exploded around us and this was soon followed by the full scaled firing, machine gun, burp gun and hand grenades.

The convoy moved fast. Dr. Navarre's ambulance was way ahead of me. Within a few minutes the convoy was stalled again for some vehicle at the front was shot off and it blocked the road. Some lieutenant shouted, "Let's go." All the handful of soldiers along the convoy opened fire against enemy hills. The fierce fighting was commenced. But it didn't last long. Almost all of us were shot down by the incomparably intensive enemy fire. Patients on the trucks were re-hit by enemy machine guns and hand grenades. Hell couldn't be any worse than this scene. One by one those who stood till the last fell down.

After the brief but savage battle, there was only enemy firing, but we weren't firing back. Soon the fighting was over. They overran us and there was none of us left to fight. This was when Col. Faith and the other officers were killed. Deadly quietness because there was not a soul around me. Some trucks were burning red hot.

My M1 had been of no use. In a moment the quick thought came in my mind, "The enemy was closing up." There were two categories in my choice: to surrender to the enemy or to try to get back to a friendly base. The image of my father-in-law and cousin who had been killed by Communists prior to our re-occupation of Seoul appeared in my mind. (As unarmed civilians, in the courtyard of the Presbyterian church in Seoul.) I couldn't ever imagine being captured by

the enemy. So the former choice was instantly given away. The latter one wasn't any better than the former one. In the first place I didn't know where I was and where our base was located. This was entirely as strange place to me as to those GIs. Besides it was too risky to get through the enemies surrounding.

However, there was not time to hesitate and I had to risk the danger. Leaving my fate to God, I immediately started to creep, as the enemy was closing up. Under the full moonlight, they could see any small subject very easily. I moved onto the frozen reservoir, heading southward by the indication of the north star. After creeping about five hundred yards on the ice, I became safe from bullets.

Suddenly extreme exhaustion caught me -- thirsty, hungry, and sleepy! Biting snow didn't ease my thirstiness. I couldn't creep any more. Then I walked. At this moment, I saw several red tracers of machine gun flying at far south. That's ours! Now I found the direction. It was the symbol of hope. I walked toward the tracers. It was very far away but the red

tracers kept appearing as if it was inspiring my hope.

I didn't know when (what time) it was. Even this new hope couldn't keep me from exhaustion. Everything became undesirable. Nothing interested me but to have a nice sleep. The hallucination appeared. The nice warm rooms in my house. I fell down on the ice and was soon asleep.

Somebody shook my shoulder, "Here, wake up. Wake up!" I opened my eyes. There were three GIs. One helped me to get up. I probably had slept a few minutes. "Do you now where the Marine base is?" one guy asked. "Yes, I know where it is," I said. "Come on! We will help you to walk." I was dragged by them until I got my awareness back. The long, long march. After four hours of hike on the reservoir we finally closed to the Marine Outpost.

"Halt!" The guard said. "Pass word." "We don't know what the pass word is. Haven't heard for three days." "Say some English."

One guy talked to him in English and

finally the guard accepted us as friendly troops. "You may come up with your hands on your heads."

We were led to a small town. This was Hagaru-ri, 0700, December 3rd. They served us food, hot chow! I ate two trays of food, then slept for 24 hours without realizing that this town was also surrounded. I felt safe.

I learned the next day that some people were back to Hagaru-ri after having walked through the Reservoir. I was told that Dr. Navarre was missing. Sgt. Anderson and a few others and some ROKAs had returned safely. A part of those casualties were rescued by a Marine rescue team. This Hagarie-ri had been surrounded by CCF for days and we had to break through this encirclement, which we did and arrived safely back at Hagaru-ri also.

(Thank you Dr. Dibble and Dr. Lee for a great story. Those at the Chosin will read every word and should be proud of the heroes of the ROK Army that also suffered many losses but also fought with great valor. Editor.)

Proud Korean War Vets Display Tags



James D. Adkins



Roy E. Allen



Albin Bilinski



Ernest V. "Jack" Morton, Jr.



Robert Park



Robert Park



Carl W. Royer



Steve Schwarz



Marvin B. Showalter



Marvin B. Showalter



Frank Marcan

Have a Reunion?

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



Enjoyed the article, “GI Humor Still Brings Chuckles”



Lt. James Callahan Sept 1952

I read the article by Joe Bryant. It adds additional information to the article that I wrote—"The 32nd Infantry's Jolly Roger and humor in Korea"—that was published in *Graybeards* in October 1994.

I worked with Lt. James Callahan as an artist on the staff of the Jolly Roger even though I was assigned to the Intelligence and Recon Platoon.. A former adman, he was an incredibly talented writer and never appreciated by the top brass. When he rotated home in October of 1952, I took over writing and drawing the fictitious ads that appeared on the back pages of the newspaper. Warrant Office Joe Criswell took over the writing of the Drew Pistol column.

I first met Callahan in July of 1952 when he came to service company to tell us about the PIO. When I was assigned to HQ Co., I volunteered to work on the newspaper and it was a labor of love. I took the photo of Lt. Callahan (shown) in September of 1952 in front of the tent that was the PIO office.

Callahan wrote, "the little publication always came out on time and had become a legend in the regiment. So much so that its day of publication, every Sunday, came to be known as Jolly Roger Day. This was the highpoint of the week of the Buccaneers. Everyone from the staff to the E-2 on outpost relaxed and laughed with the Jolly Roger."

In Feb. of 1953, the Combat Forces Journal selected the Jolly Roger as an outstanding example of GI humor and one of Callahan's ads for a combat pay recorder was featured. "Laughs can make a soldier a long way from home momentarily forget the problems that beset him," wrote Callahan.. Of course, he was right!

Irwin Braun (Sgt. 32nd Inf. Regt.)
2287 Howes Street
Merrick, NY 11566

MIA's Found

My name is Duane C Brummet. I had the privilege of serving my country from Nov. 1952 through Oct 1956. I joined the navy because my Dad and several other members of my family were

Navy veterans from WW2. After basic training at San Diego, I was assigned to the USS Diachenko We left the port from San Diego for a normal tour of duty in the far east. Our home port while in the far east was Yokosuka, Japan.

We were sent to Inchon Harbor , Korea for about 3 weeks. My ship carried underwater demolition teams. Our purpose for being at Inchon was for UDT team 6 to do an underwater survey of submerged objects, clearing beach approaches, and detailed mapping of the area. On December 23,1953 we completed that assignment. We were getting ready to leave to go on another assignment. It was early in the morning and very cold. We started to lift the anchor in preparation for getting under way when suddenly we could not bring in any more anchor chain. We knew there was a lot of anchor chain left out but it would not budge. The ship was listing to the right side because of the weight of whatever we had snagged. Looking over the side, in the muddy water we could see only a large shadow just below the surface of the water.

The captain called for an Army crane to be brought out to us. When the crane was along side, the army personnel hooked their crane to our anchor chain, and then cut the chain so we were free to move. As we moved away the crane hoisted the dark shadow out of the water. Our chain had wrapped around and knotted itself on one of the amphibious landing craft used in the invasion of Inchon. This particular landing craft had received a direct hit and sank with all occupants still on board. Those remains and their dog tags were recovered.

It has always stuck in my mind that because of this incident some families of MIA's finally learned of what happened to their loved ones, which in turn would bring some closure to their deaths.

Personal experience written by Duane C Brummet, MM3 C 3/1/02, 6750 SW Scholls Ferry Road, #34, Beaverton, OR 97808.

Aboard the 'Cruise Ship' USS Washburn

I was on one of the 'Cruse Ships' Lt. Col Biteman wrote about

This letter is relative to the article "The Race to the Yalu" in the September – October 2003 edition of *The Graybeards* by Duane E. Biteman, Lt Col, USAF, Ret. and specifically in reference to what he referred to as "cruise ships" which took so long to get to Wonsan.

I was aboard the *USS Washburn* (AKA-108) which was in the task force steaming to take part in the invasion of Wonsan. The night before the scheduled invasion, I had the throttle watch in the engine room when I heard on the headset of phones I was wearing that the task force was doing a 180 degree turn because mines were seen ahead of us in the approach to the harbor. We turned and headed in the opposite direction while mine sweepers came to clear the mines.

When the way was clear, the task force did another 180 and headed back for Wonsan. Prior to our getting to the harbor, the North Koreans had laid more mines causing us to do another 180.

The mine sweepers came and removed the mines again at which time we again headed for Wonsan. Well, this same thing occurred a total of five times causing us to be six days late for the invasion of Wonsan.

It is unfortunate that the Lt Col Biteman has passed away, for I would like him to know the real reason for the task force's delay.

Daniel W. Moore Lt. USN Ret.
193 Crescent Ave.
Gibbstown, NJ 08027.

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Chaplain revisits Korea with veterans he served

We paid the Air Fare for our trip and the Korean Government and the KWVA paid our hotel, meal and in-country travel expenses, during our visit from 7/23-29/03. It was a truly memorable experience. I served as an Army Chaplain in Korea, from May 1, 1953 - May 1, 1954. During the last 3 months of the war, I served for a bit over a month with the 224th Regiment of the 40th Inf. Div. and for the rest of my year there, with the 223rd Inf. Regt. During most of those 3 months, I was the only Chaplain with a over-strength Regiment (of about 4,500 men; when the normal strength would have been about 3,000 men, with 3 assigned Chaplains). During my year in Korea, I conducted 268 Worship Services (with 100 during the final 2 months of combat: 47 in 6/53 & 53 in 7/53). The Armistice was signed at 10 a.m. on 7/27/52 and became effective at 10 p.m. that night, the day of my 26th birthday - a happy coincidence! We were privileged to be among about 5,000 people in Panmunjon, the site of the Armistice signing, for the 50th Anniversary Observance, on 7/27/03. (Which was also my 76th birthday).

On the following evening, 7/28/03, the Tour Group Leader scheduled a final meeting of the (some 79) participants in our particular group, at the Sofitel Hotel in Seoul. He (Ret. USMC Col. Joe Mueller) asked me to lead in a closing devotion that night. I lead in a brief devotion, based on Ps. 34:14 b. ("Seek Peace & Pursue it"), which had been the text for my sermons for Worship Services during the week after the shooting stopped; then to use a participatory prayer & to end with the OT Benediction.

Near the end of my meditation, during which I had cited several specific examples of ministry in the Unit, 3 men jumped-up and said, "We want to say something" (when's the last time you've seen that happen during a Service? - that almost "got me unglued"). The first 2 men affirmed the importance of having a resident Chaplain in their Unit: the third said: "I'm Charlie Smith - I'm from Arlington, TX (that's near Dallas) - I attended your Services in the Spring and Summer of 1953, and you changed my life!" WOW! It was difficult for me to continue. I did say: "Charlie, I didn't change anyone's life, but you have given a powerful testimonial to something that I have always known, but have at times overlooked - namely, that God works in mysterious ways and that at times He works through us! I was there as a 'Pastor in Uniform', which was a privilege and an honor. I don't remember you personally, which is probably a factor of my having been the only Chaplain with a over-strength Inf. Regt., whereas you remember me as the only Chaplain you saw during

that period. I thank God for this happy coincidence!" It's a joy for me to realize that this recognition and celebration is occurring 50 years later! What a joy this is for me!"

Eugene W. Beutel was born in Sanborn, NY. He is a graduate of LaSalle High School In Niagara Falls. He was ordained on July 27, 1952 (his 25th birthday) and retired in the Summer of 1992, after 40 years of ministry. This included service as a Military Chaplain, as a Pastor Developer of two congregations and in Church wide roles in administrative capacities as an Area Service Mission Director and, for the final five years, as Region 8 Coordinator for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Gene's military service began in 1946, when he entered the Army as a Private. Later that year, he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant following graduation from OCS at Ft. Belvoir, VA. He subsequently served on Okinawa for a year with the 301st Fighter Wing. After returning to civilian life in October 1947, he remained active in the Army Reserves, being recalled to active duty as a Chaplain in 1952. After completing almost 34 years of total military service, he retired in December 1979, as a Colonel. His military decorations include the Bronze Star (awarded in Korea), the Legion of Merit and the Distinguished Service Medal.

Gene holds the B.A degree from Capital University and the B.D. degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary (both located in Columbus, OH). In addition, he also holds the Th.M and D. Min. degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Dee, reside in Camp Hill, PA. They have 3 adult sons and 8 grandchildren. For further information, Gene may be reached at (717) 731-8747.

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I knew Father Craig in Korea

I was startled when opening *The Graybeards* (vol. 17, no. 6) and reading the memorial in recognition of: "Father Craig A Hero Among Heroes". I was there along with perhaps twenty troopers who had attended Father Craig's final Mass before he and his young Aid perished but a minute later in that God-awful explosion! The interval was so very brief that as he drove off across the field, and we his last parishioners gathered our belongings and walked to our unit's trucks, he and his Aid were gone forever!

I had stepped on to the tailgate of the vehicle and making the last placing of my foot on the truck's bed I forcefully turned about to witness the immense cloud totally engulf the point to which his jeep had been headed. Of course we could only surmise that the jeep had triggered a land mine and we knew in our hearts what the result would be.

To digress briefly! Most individuals might not remember that in January of 1951 the then female Secretary of War ordered up inactive Reservists to fill positions in the Korean war. These poor devils for the most part had not seen combat in WWII nor did they have the training or experience of the active reservists. When they reached our outfits they walked around in near perpetual state of shock and for sometime were barely functional. I myself had entered combat in the first week of September 1950 and was by April 1951 one of the last original combatants that had not been rotated Stateside.

There were a number of high priced portable radios in the unit

brought back from R & R in Japan by our comrades. It became very clear that this female secretary of war had made a gross political blunder; with the wives and families of these inactive reservists screaming bloody murder and confronting every elected politician in droves of angry crowds. The result of which is that they started to rotate the inactive reservist back to State side in just a few short months following their arrival in the combat zone.

They (the officers assigned a thankless task) called me and a few others in and informed us that we would not be rotated to State side till the inactive reservist were gone (for me six months to the day Father Craig and his aid were killed) and further my R & R (long over-due) would not occur till later (virtually one year after joining my outfit!). Trust me! At this stage, I needed Father Craig's Mass, Confessional Service and Good Council!! And he came through for me (unfortunately) just before he and his Aid died. I was the last person whose confession he heard and the last person he counseled.

Now jump foreword thirty-five years during which I had acquired official histories of the war and entered on any blank pages there in my own recollections. While I could recall Father Craig's first name Leo (It being my own father's name) I could not for the life of me recall his total name, let alone that of his aid's. About Fifteen years ago I contacted the army's Chaplin Corp; identifying myself as having served in the 61st Field Artillery of the 1st Cav. Div. with the appropriate additional information and asked if they could identify Father Leo and his Aid?

The answer came back Father Leo Peter Craig (OH! Yes!!) But there was no record of his Aid's name. That Father Craig was a priest; an officer, a gentleman, and a hero, I fully concur; but that his Aid is an unnamed, Unknown Soldier is appalling (!). The Father had more than presence enough and recognition so that his Aid could and should have been drawn along with his mentor. I see the world now through an old man's eyes and recognize that many a parent see a certain saintliness quality or angelic nature in many a youth regardless that such be a male. Granted that there is some obscure record that identifies that person who in fact was Father Craig's Aid died in combat, but is that really enough.

Neil J. O'Connor.

I was in Korea in the early days

I was in Seoul around 1947-1948. I was manager of the Chican Hotel up the United Nations Alley. Myself and other females were evacuated on next to the last boat, leaving Korea. I believe it was from Inchon, right as the enemy was coming down the pike. We went over on the hospital ship "Mercy". It was a rough trip and the ship was called the CORK, since it dipped and rolled all the way over. We almost sank and she never left port again. The hotel was about half a block long and 4 stories high. It was a beautiful country. I have lots of good memories.

Marion Plancon
14 Coale Avenue
Staten Island, New York 10314

Free Bumper Stickers

Bumper stickers "Proud Son" and "Proud Daughter of a Korean War Veteran" I still have over 400 of each left and will buy more if the demand is there. I also talked to one of my brothers and he is putting up some money for postage. Now I will only ask that they email or call me to make sure I have some left. Jim Reime 4915 Wandering Cir. Colorado Springs, Colorado 80917 or E-mail: <koreanwarstickers@hotmail.com or webpage: <<http://geocities.com/koreanwarstickers/index.html>> or Tel: 719-638-1643 (leave a message if no answer and I will return the call).

A Korean War Experience

Charles Walter Hendricks, served eleven cold hard months in the Korean War. My Grandpa, Chuck Hendricks who is now 71 years old was drafted into the Korean War in January of 1952, at the age of twenty. Chuck Hendricks was sent home in December of 1953, serving for a total of eleven months in Korea.

Chuck Hendricks was given a job in Special Equipment, in the Marine Corps. The job of his Battalion (a group of 500 to 600 men) was to manufacture or repair objects for war. Some of the objects that my Grandpa's Battalion built and repaired were tanks and weapons that had battle damage done to them. One thing my Grandpa's Battalion did not build however, were trucks, because that was the job of the Motor Pool. Even though my Grandpa's Battalion's job was to build and fix objects, they were all taught to be good riflemen, for if there was a breakthrough, (attack) they would be ready to fight.

The Special Equipment Battalion was very talented. At the end of the war they built a whole Laundry facility, complete with plumbing, a well, and their own washing machines! Another thing My Grandpa's Battalion built was an ashtray for Marilyn Monroe (former movie star), it was huge, built out of shell casings and other things left from the war! They gave her the ash tray while she was in Japan, and it was so big my Grandpa doesn't think that she even got it home!

The meals that were served to my Grandpa during the war, were not very good, and from what I heard I don't think I would have enjoyed them either! There was never butter, eggs, fresh vegetables, and what my Grandpa missed the most was that there was never any milk, which had always been a favorite. My Grandpa did however enjoy meals on Holidays for example on November 10, The Marine Corps's Birthday, when they were served steak, eggs (a first), cake and ice cream! He also enjoyed the meal on Thanksgiving, when they were given turkey. The food served to my Grandpa's Battalion, however, was better than the food given to the United Kingdom (English), as my Grandpa found out when his English friend invited him to eat at his (United Kingdom's) mess hall!

Being in a war torn country was sometimes not as bad as it seems. There was a new movie theater built by one of the Battalions other than my Grandpa's, somewhere around 1953. A lot of people were interested to see the featured movie, the admission fee was a large rock (They wanted large rocks because they needed them for the building of a new entertainment building). The bad part was that when the movie started it showed

about two scenes and then went blank! Everyone was mad so they recollected their rocks and left angrily!

The Fondest memory that my Grandpa has was when the war ended. The war ended Monday July 27, 1953. When the war ended, my Grandpa was standing on the top of a hill overlooking a valley on the north side of the Injim River, with the duty of Roving Patrol. There was supposed to be ceasefire at 10:00 P.M. but in the past, ceasefire was supposed to happen but never did. My Grandpa looked down at his watch when it was 9:30 P.M., and it was still noisy with artillery and guns firing, but then at 10 minutes to 10:00 P.M. the volume of all the guns and artillery firing had dropped compared to the noise at 9:30 P.M.. Then at 9:58 P.M. the noise was even more quiet then minutes before. Finally it reached 10:00 and the last weapon fired and there was silence, "It was so peaceful!" exclaimed my Grandpa, "It was wonderful!" he added. The war was finally over.

At the time of the war, my Grandpa wasn't sure if the war was meaningful but now he realizes, that the war helped stop Communism in many places throughout the world. My Grandpa is really special in the way that he would do anything for our country. If asked he would go back in war and would like to be a pilot (his lifelong dream). My Grandpa was not one of the 37,000 Americans killed or missing, or one of the 103,000 Americans wounded during this war, but he is one of the many Americans who believe that all Americans who served in this terrible war should not be forgotten. My Grandpa is a very courageous man as you can tell from reading this report and I'm glad that I had the chance to interview and know him!

Ariel George (Grandson) Sent in by Charles Hendricks, 12047 Pine Ridge Drive, Perry, MI 48872

Korean War and Veterans Remembered

Special assembly sponsored by Mrs. Susan Carter and her 4th Grade Students at Hart Magnet Elementary School Class. They honored veterans by working very hard making posters for walls. Some read stories about our Veterans Heroes and God Bless America. All veterans attending are members of Springdale (Ct.) VFW Post.

(Thank you Dody Green for letter and photos)



Mrs. Susan Carter introducing veterans.



Veteran Ray Green with students getting autographs.

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SURVEYOR from page 37

digging to recover and signal a trig station together, measuring to reference marks, cutting brush for a line of sight, laying out a base-line, or setting up a range pole for an instrument man to sight on. The unit also got proficient in erecting tents, digging foxholes, and building bunkers and shelters for protection from enemy fire. When necessary and during lulls in the action with time permitting in a particular location, personnel dug latrine trenches. That was always a fun job.

Under ideal field conditions (no one shooting at you) and acceptable weather a survey party or team would consist of maybe five men, i.e. Chief of Party, Instrument Operator, Recorder, Chainman and Rodman. The size of the team and the type of optical angle instrument and distance measuring equipment would be directly related to the mission. For the Field Artillery, Missile and Rockets, Engineer Layout and Construction, and Base Mapping, the personnel numbers and type of equipment varied quite a bit relative to the Table of Organization & Equipment (T.O. & E.).

An Army Field Artillery Battalion in the 1950's had it's survey section in Headquarters Battery. That survey team was responsible for bringing in survey control to each of the firing batteries who in turn would then be able to coordinate their fire with the other batteries on targets identified by observers. At the firing battery level in the Detail Section there were survey technicians (usually school trained) who would make sure that the aiming stake(s) used by each gun crew were set and visible for sighting on and checking into after a fire-mission or two.

The main components in the survey equipment chest at Headquarters Battery were usually a One Minute Military Transit (made by Brunson, Dietzgen or Gurley), a couple of steel tapes of different lengths, chaining pins, pair of brass knuckles, hand axe, mall hammer, machete, and other tools. In contrast a Topographic Surveying equipment chest, besides the usual assortment of tools and accessories,



Clockwise from top left:

- Survey Party takes a break in the Field for C-Rats Note the surrounding countryside.
- Getting set up over a point with the wild T2 Theodolite (1951).
- Instrument Team out and about in the Boonies (1953).
- SFC Mike CJ Kaminski Survey Party Chief (Korea 1950-1951)



the instruments included would be a One Second Military Theodolite (made by Wild of Heerbrugg, Switzerland), a Precise Military Level (made by Berger, U.S.A.), hand-held range finders, stereoscopes and terrain classification materials. Compared to the field artillery team of five, the topographic survey party could be as many as 14.

The 8219th and 8221st T.O. & E. listed 52 Enlisted, 1 Officer, 1 Warrant Officer with a variety of survey and meteorological equipment, vehicles and trailers. There was no Mess Section, Personnel Section, Motor Pool Section, Supply Section per se' in the T.O. & E. The CO was the S-1, S-2, S-3, and S-4. He set up his own sections to be operational for the missions sent down by Corps. Both these units were in a sense stripped down Observation Battalions in that they each had the per-

sonnel and equipment to do the missions required except for enemy fire flash-ranging. Our units did not have the personnel or equipment to detect enemy fire. What we did have was a combination of very competent school trained and WW II experienced people and non-corns and a chest full of assorted equipment that was put to good use in the field from day one in North Korea.

We had artillery surveyors and topographic surveyors in the Tope Section. The Metro people had their own talented folks. In the Tope Section we had Transits and Theodolites to do angle measuring, and we had the experienced personnel to operate those instruments. In the course of completing field problems this combination would become the hallmark for our teams to get in, get it done, and get out before we could get hurt by enemy troops, dissidents,

guerrillas or just angry Koreans.

Surveyors by nature compete with the elements and dangers in the environment during the challenges of their mission. During recon missions in a war zone to locate and recover existing or established survey control points it was common to be in a "No Man's Land." Everything about the surroundings are alien and often times hostile in a countryside that is unfamiliar to you. Especially in a foreign country where there is also a language barrier. In Korea we worked through and suffered with those obstacles and the weather, and on occasion being in the cross fire of the enemy. During the actual field missions to carry the survey control from the recovered triangulation stations to the locations of the artillery battalions, we were always challenged by the elements, the locals, and the enemy. The challenges meant that we had to get in and out as quickly as possible. Without the benefit of the experienced WWII personnel and the knowledge to make the equipment work for us, we would not have been successful.

During the winter of 1950-51, the 8221st sections did not hibernate or reduce their field time because of the weather. In the cold temperatures that became part of the normal days and nights of late October, in November and December 1950, men and the operation of equipment began to break down. A lot of strange things happen in the cold, cold temperatures and during snow falls. Survey instrument movement is sluggish at best. Manipulating controls with gloves or mittens (when we had them) was clumsy. If you took off the gloves your fingers froze and you could not feel the

movement in the controls. Making measurements with a steel tape over frozen ground in snow knee deep was near impossible. The surveyors did what they could under the circumstances and conditions. The metro folks were able to send up some balloons with radiosondes to gather in weather data when they got some missions to do so. Their efforts in the cold weather were difficult and challenging as well. One other problem arose that retarded our missions during the winter season of 1950-51...Chinese forces entered the war right after Thanksgiving. Survey and Metro operations all but stopped and we became soldiers again filling in wherever and whenever we were needed. As a unit we were evacuated from North Korea in the 3rd week of December. Two of our own were cut off by the Chinese at Koto-ri (south of the Chosin Reservoir) and came out with the Marines and Army troops that fought their way to the sea.

The survey section and metro section did complete several short versioned missions before we boarded a WW II Victory ship for the trip south. As the defense perimeter shrank from outside Hamhung to outside Hungnam the Tope section continued to carry survey control for the artillery all the way to the waters edge in

the Hungnam harbor. My own survey team was involved in two very memorable missions: 1. We assisted in the running of a traverse line outside of Hamhung. The weather was miserable, cold temps, cloudy, very low overcast sky, and the sun disappeared below the horizon by 1630 hours. In continuing the line we shuttled the instrument party from back-sight station to foresight station by jeep. As visibility got less and less we improvised the illumination of targets by using C-Ration cans filled with a fuel soaked dirt / gravel mixture. That worked well. However, we almost lost one of our rodmen, Pfc Robert Bankson, during the shuttling back and forth. He was the type of soldier that would stick to his post through hell and high water until he was told to move on. That he did. While attending to the back-sight target during a turn of angles by the instrument operator Bankson edged away from the point to warm himself at a spot fire set up by some GI's at a perimeter checkpoint. Our shuttle driver went back to get him and the back-sight target to move up to the instrument location. The shuttle driver picked up the back-sight target, looked around for Bankson, waited just a short time and figured he had already moved up.



Clockwise from top left:

- Bankson, Robbie and others painting range poles.
- A Survey Party – Instrument Team at a Traverse Point, Chainmen and Rodmen in background (1951).
- "Al" Cisler was "Angels Al" in Korea when he operated the Theodolite (1952)
- Party Chief looks over the plan. Instrument at left, box at right (SFC Mike CJ Kaminski 1951).
- Instrument Operator Ray Connors with 20" Transit in the field. (1951).



The shuttle driver reported that Bankson was on his way (although he did not see him along the route or around the back-sight station). The shuttle driver set up the target at the instrument station while another shuttle took the instrument party to the foresight station. Bankson was nowhere to be found. The farther along the traverse line the survey party moved without Bankson, the more worried we got about our missing rodman. We finally sent out a jeep with a small search / rescue team to retrace our traverse route. Bankson was found back at the spot fire location near that back-sight. He was right in the middle of conversation with the GI's and some refugees huddled together swapping stories in occupation Korean and hand gestures. When Bankson was dropped off at the next backsight station we nailed his boots to the ground and told him not to move.

2. My survey team carried control to the waters edge dockside in Hungnam. Personally I pounded in the last wooden hub in the frozen ground that would be used by the firing batteries of the artillery battalion moving into their final positions before evacuation. All those days in mid-December 1950 were dull and dank. The temp was below freezing, low overcast, and just plain lousy weather to be out and about. Everyone was on edge. The nights were doubly scary. Artillery fire was continuous during the day and night, carrier planes zooming back and forth overhead from the crack of daylight until the sun went down, and off-shore ships shelling inland targets. That was just the war noise we heard everyday. Besides that was your own conscious trying to stifle your beating heart from jumping out of your chest every time you heard the crackle of automatic weapons fire or the flit - flit of small arms bullets zinging through the air above your head. Some of us never got used to those noises. Surveying was not like this during school training at Fort Sill. . .

Once the unit loaded aboard the ship that would take us out of North Korea we felt somewhat safe. That thought lasted about an hour or so. Once underway out of the harbor the ship turned southerly along the coast. The weather was not good, the sea was heavy with ground swells, and soldiers are not sailors. The WW II Victory ship was overloaded with men, vehicles, equipment and materials. In the haste to

load up there was no time to secure vehicles and equipment put below deck. That stuff got bounced around. Fuel tanks and POL drums competing for space. Some ruptured. There was ammo stashed in vehicles and next to flammable materials. Topside troops maneuvered about trying to find warm spots to catch some Z's. Vehicles, equipment and materials loaded topside were not lashed down with the greatest of care during the loading. When the ship bobbed and weaved in the heavy sea they sort of shifted and slid ever so slightly from spot A to spot B. Then a couple of deck crew members would try to tighten down the lines and nets hooked to deck pins. The idea worked for a while. But overall we soon determined we were on a floating bomb. The sooner we got off the ship the better.

The trip to Pusan took a 'skosh' over two days. Our time in the port city was brief. Once the equipment was unloaded most of unit convoyed northeast to a bivouac on the outskirts of the historic city of Kyong-ju. Those waiting for the rest of the unit's vehicles and equipment caught up with us later.

The Christmas and New Year holidays were spent at the Kyong-ju location in our squad tents. There were no missions assigned to us for that week. Most of our infantry folks were not as fortunate. The weather was miserable, cold, damp, overcast sky and snow. However, we were together and no casualties. We celebrated as well as we could under the circumstances.

Our first mission of 1951 was to participate in the survey of the Pusan Perimeter. The 8221st was the prime leader in the group of other units that collaborated to complete the X Corps sector survey. Here was the time that the Tope and Metro sections worked closely together to get the job done. Literally we were under the gun to do the recon and recovery of triangulation stations in our sector. These triangulation stations were set in by the Japanese throughout all of Korea during their occupation of Korea from 1910 to 1945. Most all of them were placed on high hills and mountain tops to fit the triangulation scheme needed for the survey control and preparation of the base topographic maps prepared by the Japanese. The story behind this early 20th Century mapping program

was disguised as a prelude to land reform in Korea. Although it was used for that purpose, the primary reason was military. We were fortunate to have found and recovered these stations for our main mission during the war.

These stations were granite stone markers over a meter in length, maybe 2 centimeters square at the top and 4 centimeters square at the bottom shaped like a pyramid with the top cut off. There was an iron cross stamped in the top and Japanese symbols along the side. Below this marker was a sub-marker. (If any surveyor has worked with U.S.G.S. or Coast and Geodetic maps and control stations in the field will understand and recognize the similarity of monumentation that we in the 8221st used for survey control in Korea). The sub-marker was embedded in to ground below the surface marker for recovery and use in case the surface marker was damaged or removed. In many a recon trip we found this to be the case, the surface marker was damaged, destroyed or, removed. To find the sub-surface marker we had to do a quick map resection and dig. We were not always successful for a variety of reasons, the least of all being there was a war going on around us. The maps we used for reference were the Quadrangle (15') Maps, 1:50,000 scale prepared by the 64th Topographic Engineer Battalion based in Japan.

The 50+ miles of Pusan Perimeter survey was completed in about two weeks. By the end of January 1951 the 8221st with the help of surveyors from artillery and engineering units had recovered a host of triangulation stations, measured required baselines, intersected and resected positions for observation posts, target areas, registration points and reference marks. We also made many sun observations to check base-line direction(s) (azimuths). The survey mission was done under adverse weather and environmental conditions. Survey teams were in that famous "No-Mans Land," dealing with unfriendly folks, harassed by guerillas again, and shot at. All of our effort to be used by the field artillery, tanks and rocket launching units that would be in defense of the perimeter. The Pusan Perimeter Defense did not materialize. Following the untimely death of 8th Army Commander, General Walton Walker during the Christmas - New Year

RIGHT: Brandon paints some range poles.

BELOW: 3rd Squad Survey Team at a point along Traverse to Hungnam Water – Front for Gun Positions (Dec. 1950).



Holiday, a new man took over. General Matthew Ridgway came on the scene and once the 8th Army stopped backing up and consolidated below the 38th Parallel it got orders to go on the offensive. The move north began in late January.

Once again the main mission of the 8221st was put on hold. When X Corps Artillery moved so did we. At about this time the 8219th A.U. was activated and joined IX Corps in the west central sector. It's complement of enlisted came from stateside and other units. The 1st Observation Battalion that was part of 8th Army early on in 1950 had been over-run in actions in that sector and lost most of their personnel and equipment. The battalion was not put back together in Korea. Our two units filled that void for 8th Army requirements.

From out of the Pusan Perimeter and our bivouac at Yang-san we became gypsies again. We moved, sort of going with the flow. We set up tents, we dug foxholes, built bunkers, recovered trig stations, surveyed in gun positions for the field artillery, qualified new battalions for combat duty that were assigned to X Corps, did some forward observing for artillery fire, pulled guard and security duty, went on specialized recon patrols, and of course dug some more latrines. R & R tours began and there was talk of rotation. The season changed from cold to wet to hot. The countryside began to stink and the C-Rats, the powdered milk and eggs and potatoes were getting on our nerves.

Before July was over we had put on a



lot of miles by ankle express and by road and goat trails. We had been part of and in direct support of most of the major campaigns. Our effort resulted in a lopsided KIA ratio of them v. us. We were still in one piece, no casualties, although wandering around in that "No-Mans Land" sometimes beyond the last outpost of the infantry and tip toeing through poorly marked minefields (theirs and ours), made us feel like we had an angel on our shoulder. We did I am sure.

By the fall of 1951 the 8221st settled into its assigned routines of surveying and weather data collection. We had been up and down X Corps sector like a yo-yo doing our thing. The unit was now operating again above the 38th Parallel in the vicinity of Inje, the south western side of the Punchbowl, and in the Yanggu Valley. A permanent bivouac site was in the making. A static war scenario was settling in over the battlefield. Our missions became more defensive minded. On a daily basis as we moved out to do recon and recovery we were cautioned to be careful and trust no one but our instincts. We did just that and thanked our stars that we were surviving with our on the job training experience and good equipment. What kind of field conditions and equipment would the future combat surveyors have to contend with and master?

[End Notes] There are several stories in our files (The 8221st A.U. Association) relative to specific actions, incidents involving our unit in Korea. Research for this article comes from U.S. Army historical records and command reports of like units in WWI and WWII personal experience in Korea (1950-51 as a survey party chief), personal interviews with members of the 8221st and WWII artillery surveyor veterans.

The 8221st A.U. Field Artillery, Topographic and Meteorological Detachment was activated in Yokohama, Japan at camp Mc Neely on 7 Sep 50. On or about 19 Oct 50 the unit was alerted to move to Korea by ship. Equipment and vehicles were taken to dockside to be loaded aboard a cargo vessel. Unit personnel, members of the HQ X Corps and HQ X Corps Artillery along with elements of the 3rd Infantry Division boarded The President Jackson (MATS) on or about 2 Nov 50 in Yokohama Harbor. The 8221st debarked from the President Jackson in Wonsan, NK on 5 Nov 50 onto an LST in the harbor. The unit subsequently moved by road to Hamhung to complete assigned missions until the 3rd week of December when it was evacuated from the port city of Hungnam to Pusan, SK.

The 8221st was deactivated in Korea at a location about 11 miles north of Yanggu, NK in the east central sector of X Corps Operations on 1 Nov 50. It was in located in two bivouac areas about 2 miles south of the DMZ at that time. The TOPE Section was in a draw between some hills on the west side of a north-south road just south of X Corps Arty HQ. The village of Mundung-ni and Heartbreak Ridge were nearby to the northwest. The metro section was perhaps another half mile further south on the east side of the road next to a small air strip. There was also a mash unit there with elements of the 24th Infantry Division.

In the 8221st's four years of service in Korea, the roster turned over almost five times (250 EM). The unit had 10 different CO's, 1 KIA and 2 WIA. No MIA's. The unit qualified for 8 battle stars, was awarded 2 Korean Presidential Unit Citations, over 20 Bronze Stars, 6 Commendation Medals, commendations and special recognition for outstanding performance of duty and services. Individuals also received combat awards for heroism under fire and participation in certain actions, the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation while working with infantry divisions and artillery battalions attached to X Corps.

(Thank you Michael for the many photos and sketches. Just too much to print all. Editor.)

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Lightning Lancers

■ Combat Highlights of the 68th Squadron in Korea

By Stanley J. Grogan

2585 Moraga Drive, Pinole, CA 94564

The author was squadron historian for the 68th Fighter (AW) Squadron 1951-53 and flew with them as a radar observer in both F-82G and F-94B type aircraft in Korea and Japan.

THE SLEEPY JAPANESE SUMMER SKY at Itazuke Air Base, Kyushu, June 25, 1950, noisily reflected a buildup of all-weather fighters that, in the brief span of a few days, would set the stage for an F-82 of the 68th "Lightning Lancers" to score the first air-to-air kill of the Korean war.

"Red Alert" was the order of the day. Armies from North Korea had already crossed the 28th parallel. Invasion of the Republic of South Korea had begun, sparking evacuation and clogging escape routes to the south.

The 68th was part of a series of moves that would make it first to begin interdiction, first- to escort evacuees from the Korean peninsula, first night fighters in Korea, and the first to use an all-weather jet fighter in combat.

By June 26, 1950, the 339th Fighter (All-Weather) Squadron, Yokota Air Base, and the 4th Fighter, (All-Weather) Squadron, Naha Air Base, Okinawa, were forming at Itazuke to combine with the 68th Fighter (All-Weather) Squadron to form the 347th Provisional Fighter Group, commanded by Lt. Col. John F. Sharp.

That same morning four F-82s of the 68th were "scrambled" to the Korean peninsula to provide air cover for the Norwegian freighter Rhineboldt. The ship was to evacuate allied personnel from Seoul.

Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, APO 925 (3 August 1952). Jet Passenger - 6160th Air Base Wing, Japan — Kazuo Kushibe, UN war correspondent for N.H.K. Radio Tokyo, the first Japanese national ever to fly in a jet-aircraft, prepares for take off in the rear seat of an F-94 all-weather jet interceptor to observe Japan Air Defense activities during the recent Japan Defense Force exercises.

(U. S. Air Force Photo) (AF-2193-1)



Mission conscious 68th pilots did not pursue a North Korean aircraft that attacked one of their formation. Adequate protection for the evacuation was primary.

Flight Chief Sergeant James A. Mehring, Flint, Michigan, was sent to Suwon June 25, 1950, to repair an airplane. "The night the whole deal started the 68th was having a squadron party," Mehring said. "The next day a pair of Russian fighters flew low over the strip, dropping two 500-lb. bombs. They got the F-82 I was repairing, and the C-54 that took me to Korea."

Squadron history of the time noted: "The following day June 27, 1950, 1st Lt. William G. Hudson, shot down a YAK-11 of the North Korean Air Force at 1150 hours."

Second aerial victory came only minutes later when 1st Lt. Charles B. Moran, bagged an LA-7. Both victories occurred a few miles east of Seoul. Aircraft of the 339th (AW) Squadron downed two more the same day. According to 1st Lt. Samuel Goldstein, (now Major) then a radar observer of "Blue Flight" in the 68th: "When the Korean conflict erupted in June, 1950, aircraft FQ-383 (Hudson's F-82) was one of the first to take part in battle. Because of the lack of adequate overall firepower and the versatility of the F-82, it was used for every type of air warfare in Korea—air—to-air bombardment, close support, weather reconnaissance, air control of ground fire, and intruder missions, in all types of weather, day and night."

Goldstein added: "Aircraft FQ-383 was one of the F-82s which aided the UN Forces in the breakout of the Pusan Perimeter by

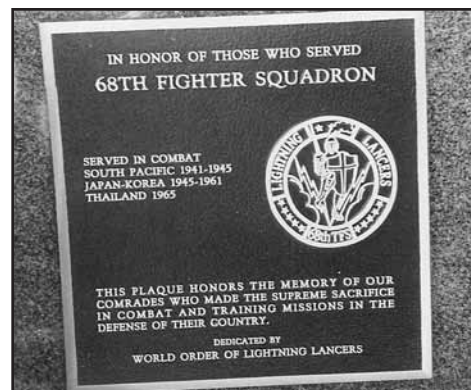
daring close support missions. On many such flights the valiant aircraft almost had her wings clipped."

"Closest call of all," he indicated, "was soon after the Chinese Communist intervention. The Chinese Communists were only 12 miles north of Kimpo Air Base which the 68th was using as an advanced operating location. At the time the "Twin Mustangs" were carrying ten 5-inch H.V.A.R. rockets or two napalm bombs plus a full load of 50-cal. ammunition for their six guns used primarily for close support. Capt. Bill Munson, operations officer of the 68th, while flying FQ-383 hit a small ammunition supply dump with one of his rockets and flew through the blast. The "sieve" that was able to fly some 300 miles back to base, amazed everyone. Since aircraft were urgently needed, the old war bird was repaired and placed back in operation."

Pilots noticed a change in FQ—383 after that performance. She had to be flown in an approximate 5 degree crab in order to maintain straight and level flight.

Putty was used to fill dents in leading edges of the wings. Each fifth or sixth flight the temporary expedient had to be replace.

The reputation of FQ-383 as a "lucky plane" grew with each mission. It was common for the F-82 to limp home with combat damage. On one such occasion Capt. (now Major) Rayford Jeffrey with his Radar Observer, 1st Lt. (now Capt.) Charles Phillips, returned from a mission during which they were completely enveloped by ground fire. Neither could understand how



The 68th plaque was dedicated at the Air Force Academy in 1970. Col. Bill Turner honored the project.



1/Lt Grogan briefing local police from Fukuoka on the role of the 68th in defense of Japan 1952.



A rare photo taken by Lt. Grogan on the line at Misaure AB where the 68th had a detachment 1950-1951. The "dome" between the two mustangs housed radar antenna used for air-to-air intercept and navigation.

they could have come through without a scratch. After landing, inspection revealed a spent 50-cal. slug under the radar observer's footrest. The path of the projectile showed it would have struck the R. O. if it had not first entered the main wing spar.

Old FQ-383 was phased out of Korean action to a defense role in Japan when the F-94B all-weather jet fighter was placed in the squadron.

The F-82 first to gain an air-to-air kill in Korea, was the last to leave Misawa Air Base, northern Honshu, Japan. There she played a key role with one other F-82 on strip alert, armed with ten 5-inch H.V.A.R. rockets and drop tanks for added range. As radar observer, I would occasionally fly in the right cockpit of the aircraft. Putty would sometimes fly off the leading edges, giving the impression that the bird was struck by flak since it hit the fuselage with a loud crack. Then sufficient F-94s joined the 68th, FQ-383 was sent to Itazuke Air Base. The lucky lady was the last of the "Twin Mustangs" to leave. In April 1952, Major (now Lt. Col.) Donald E. O'Neil, squadron commander, with pilots, radar observers and crew chiefs, gave the venerable war horse-a-royal sendoff to Tachikawa where

she was refitted for Alaskan duty. During the Korean War she amassed a total of more than 800 combat hours.

Although the "Lightning Lancers" distinguished themselves as the first night fighters in Korea, the first "kill" of the war was made in daylight using day-fighter tactics, indicating the adaptability of the F-82 aircraft.

The swift action of the hectic early months of the Korean War saw F-82s of the 68th engaging in interdiction activities throughout the Korean peninsula.

In July 1950 "Twin Mustangs" of the squadron escorted General Douglas MacArthur's "BATAAN" to an airfield in Korea.

On June 21, 1951 Major (Col.) Donald E. O'Neil took temporary command of the squadron. On July 3 his permanent appointment as squadron commander was effected. During his command the F-94B all-weather jet fighter was first phased into operation. The jet interceptor was crewed by both a pilot and a radar observer and operated at night from K-13 near Suwon. Missions were flown alternately with a Marine night-fighter detachment using conventional aircraft.

Intercepts against "Bed Check Charlie" occurred occasionally. The low-flying North Korean light aircraft would come in over the East China Sea to harass American installations with small grenades and bombs. Overtake rate of the fast jet presented a tactical problem at first, but practice against slow-flying aircraft improved ability of crews to intercept. "Bed Check" aircraft were eluding the F-94's by flying in valleys, thus being lost in radar ground clutter, but the effectiveness of the new fighter was proved since a number of the North Korean aircraft were shot down at low altitude by conventional fighters waiting for them. The F-94 was used for weather reports and for escort missions both day and night. The deterrent value of the F-94B all-weather interceptor with its two-man crew was great. Coupled with GCI (Ground Controlled Intercept) teams the aircraft was a highly effective air defense weapon throughout the Korean War.

On February 20, 1947, when the squadron's designation was changed from the 421st Night Fighter Squadron, AAF, to the 68th Fighter (All-Weather) Squadron, the buildup of events marking the "Lightning Lancers" historically significant in the Korean War, began. Then the North American F-82 "Twin Mustang" was in use as a night fighter, having been converted from the long range escort configuration by the addition of radome, electronic intercept gear, and radar observer. Later the F-94B all-weather fighter became the 68th's primary weapon. These two fighters made a permanent niche for the squadron as part of the United Nations forces in Korea.



On the line during the Tactical Inspection, showing Major General Earle E. Partridge, Commanding General, Fifth Air Force talking with the Airmen.

Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

Massachusetts Remembers

The Korean War Memorial of Central Massachusetts was dedicated on November 9, 2003. Despite the cold and windy day, approximately 4,000 people attended the ceremony, which was preceded by a parade, featuring 26 Color Guard Units of Korean War veterans and other patriotic groups.

Based on a design created by Worcester native Harvey Ball, originator of the Smiley face, the five-sided granite Memorial honors all branches of the service and supports a central flag pole topped by the U.S. Flag. Two polished black granite stones with a total length of 11 feet, inscribed in gold letters with the well-known phrase "Freedom Is Not Free," create a "Wall of Honor." The larger stone lists the 191 service men and women, who made the supreme sacrifice in the Korean War. The smaller stone is inscribed with a map of Korea and highlights some of the War's key geographic locations. Five service flags surround the Memorial; the Republic of Korea Flag and the Korean War 50th Anniversary Flag are located at the entrance to the Memorial site.



Korean War Memorial of Central Massachusetts.



Dedication Day.

No names given but from letter I would assume it could be Francis R. Carroll and Kenneth B. Smith.



A brick walkway that includes inscribed bricks and pavers, honoring veterans and community members, surrounds the Memorial and Wall of Honor, and is backed by a stone wall, which creates architectural interest and provides a boundary for extensive landscaping. Ten granite benches will encircle the Memorial base.

The location of the Memorial, on Worcester Center Boulevard in downtown Worcester, has historic, emotional importance for Korean War veterans. As most of the Central Massachusetts soldiers departed for the War and returned home from Union Station, the veterans particularly requested a site in the area of the Station.

Chairman Francis R. Carroll, USN (1952) is currently fundraising to add a heroic-sized bronze statue and a pagoda-style Education Center to the site.

(Thank you Francis R. Carroll for photos and letter.)

Kansas Remembers

Photos of the three tablets that make up the Korean War Memorial that we have built and dedicated here in Topeka, Kansas. The memorial commemorates the supreme sacrifice of 210 North East Kansas Korean war veterans who were KIA in the war. The memorial has been built in the southeast corner of Gage Park, here in Topeka, Ks. The large middle tablet lists all of the names of the men from the 25 counties of northeastern Kansas by county. The black marble tablet on the right is a detailed map of the entire Korean peninsula and the black marble tablet on the left bears the poem "Freedoms Flag", that was written by Charles M. Province who is president and founder of the George S. Patton Historical Society.

The board of directors for the memorial are Chuck McAtee, president, E. Robert Owen, vice president, Robert Mayhew, secretary, Lowell Holland, Sgt-at-arms and myself, Kent Arnold, treasurer. McAtee, Holland and myself are front line veterans of the war and the other two members served their country during another era.

Kentucky Remembers



This picture was taken at our 5 War Memorial on Veterans Day November 11, 2003 located in Elkhorn City, Kentucky. There were many veterans of all branches, Marines, Navy, Army and Air Force at the ceremony. Veterans from WWII, Korea & Vietnam: (left to right- kneeling), Victor Fields, Don Bartley, L.G. Stone, Kyle Fletcher, Radford Lyons, Mark Wright and Curtis Lester. Left to right (standing) Steve Farren, Frank Cook, Billy Ratliff, Henry Anderson, Victor Sanders, Lonnie Johnson, Rudy Belcher, Claudie Little, Gar Clevinger, Hank Salyers (Mayor of Elkhorn City, Ky.), Eldon Mullins, Garret Blake Belcher, Clinard Stewart, Mack Willis Potter, Eli Thacker, Rodney Potter, Godfrey Salyers and Glennis Mullins.

(Thank you Claudie Little for letter and photo.)

Michigan Remembers



Above, dedication of Korean War Veterans Monument, Veterans Plaza, Hoyt Park, Saginaw, Michigan. Left to right, Mr. Park, Rev. Dr. Daniel Ahn, Robert J. Simon, Commander KWWA #251 & Master of Ceremonies and Dr. Sand S. Rhee.



At left, Korean Monument located at Veterans Plaza, Hoyt Park, Saginaw, Michigan. Dedicated July 27, 2003. The plaza has WW1, WW2, Korean and Vietnam Monuments, 26,000 paver bricks.

(Thank you Robert J. Simon for letter and photos.)



The memorial was dedicated July 27, 2003 the 50th anniversary of the cease fire in Korea, and the presentation was given by the board of directors. Kansas U.S. Senator Sam Brownback was the keynote speaker. Further assistance in the dedication was given by local service posts of VFW, American Legion, D.A.V. and American G.I Forum. Junior R.O.T.C. from various area high schools also contributed to the dedication. Approximately 425 people attended.

(Thank you Kent Arnold for photos and letter.)

California Remembers



Placard placed on Veterans Memorial Wall in Fallbrook, CA.

(Thank you Frank B. Larkin, Jr. for photo and letter.)

Missouri Remembers

On October 4, 2003 our chapter held a ribbon cutting ceremony dedicating the “Korean War Veterans’ memorial Freeway”.

The Missouri Department of Transportation erected the memorial signs at each end of a thirteen and one half mile portion of U.S. highway 60 and 360, also known as the James River Freeway as it traverse through Springfield, Missouri.

(Thank you Carroll Garrison for letter and photos. One photo was very bad and not printed.)



Senator Norma Champion was the key speaker for the Korean War Veterans Memorial highway sign dedication



Commander James Hon of the KWVA, Ozark Mountain Region Chapter 8, standing roadside one of the signs designating part of U. S. 60 and 360 (James River Freeway) as a memorial highway.

South Dakota Remembers



Members of the KWVA acknowledge applause from crowd as they ride a float in Rapid City's Veterans Day Parade. Shown left to right are Arne Anderson, Bruce Lien, Bob Bock, Al Glinnsman and Richard Krull



Black Hills National Cemetery Internment Center.



Korean War Memorial, Black Hills National Cemetery, KWVA Chapter #160.



Black Hills National Cemetery Avenue of Flags.

(Thank you Ronald H. Berube for photos and letter.)

South Carolina Remembers

A number of years ago, I had the opportunity to visit him at his studio in Vermont, and thank him for his talent in creating the Korean War Memorial life like figures on the mall in Washington, D.C. During my conversation with him, I realized that the Memorial was not only a Memorial to those who sacrificed their lives in Korea, but also represented a Memorial to one GI who gave his life in World War II. The facial features on one of the figures is that of Mr. Gaylord's "foxhole buddy" who died in the

“Battle of the Bulge”. Fortunately, there are those who never forget!

(Thank you Ron Ross for photos and letter. I am shocked to learn that one of the statues is a veteran from WWII. I only hope he was in Korea also. I understand Mr. Gaylord's feelings but we have many heroic Korean War Veterans that deserved to be one of the statues.)



Photo above of Korean War Memorial—Columbia, South Carolina by Sculptor Frank C. Gaylord is an enlargement of the original signed photo Mr. Gaylord sent to Ronald C. Ross.

New York Remembers

After many months of planning we finally completed our Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall at Cadman Plaza. 341 Brooklyn men etched in stone. We had our dedication on November 9, 2003. Every member participated and with the leadership of past Commander Don Feldman and Ed Cush we succeeded in our mission. Borough President Marty Markowitz joined Fort Hamilton Army Base Commander Col. Kewyn Williams and area veterans to unveil the Korean War Memorial Plaza during a poignant salute, coinciding with Veteran's Day.

The five photos show members named and unnamed at dedication and the memorial.

(Thank you Stanley Biesky for photos and letter.)



Action Book

A Platoon Sergeant's Diary

During the Korean War (Sept. 1950-Sept. 1951), by B.R. Spiroff, 1stSgt-E8, USA (Ret). A realistic and detailed account of an infantry platoon's front line action.

Send \$10.95 plus \$1.50 (s&h) to:

B.R. Spiroff
524 Old Annapolis Rd.
Severna Park, MD 21146
(410) 647-4503

Indiana Remembers

Photos from the Community Veterans Memorial Park. It was dedicated June 1, 2003. It is located at Calumet and Superior Avenue in Munster, Indiana. This memorial honors veterans of World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, with an Iraq memorial to follow

This memorial which honors veterans of all wars is unique because it recreates scenes you would have seen in those wars.



At left and below, scenes from the Vietnam Memorial, Munster, Indiana



Korean War Memorial, KVV members, left to right, Eliseo Castaneda, Pete Chang, Warren Eubanks, Tony Dalla Costa, Mel Rangel, Herb Verrill and Al Solis.

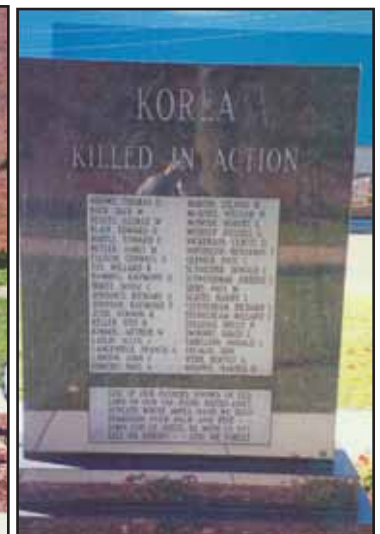
Bottom left of photo, the remains of a tree, a blown-up machine gun, three dog tags hang from the machine gun, symbolizing three, unknown soldiers. They chime in the wind reminding us not to forget.

(Thank you Herbert A. Verrill for letter and photos.)



More images of the Korean War Memorial, Munster, Indiana.

Ohio Remembers



Korean War Memorial in Veterans Memorial Park, Massillon, Ohio. with casualty list of Western Stark County on the reverse side
(Thank you Ivor C. Peters, Jr., for letter and photos.)

Pennsylvania Remembers



Posing with plaque. Dedicated in 1986, at front of Post Office, Main Street, Emporium, PA is (Left to right) Elwood Austin (Navy Submarines), Harold Slaughenhaupt, (Marines), and Jack Jones (5th C Engineers-Army).

(Thank you Jack E. Jones for photo.)

Looking for...



Did you know my father, **Maj. (Clare) Ray Vaughn**? He was called Ray and often signed his name "C. R. Vaughn". He was in the Fifth Air Force and was killed 7/6/1950 at Itazuke AFB. We were stationed in Nagoya 1948-50, where he was in the adjutant general's office. He was in an early party bound for Korea when he was killed. Before Japan he was stationed at Lowry AFB in Denver. The nuclear family survivors are my mother, Mary Dyer Vaughn, myself, and my brother Terry David Vaughn. Names I remember from the time are Dusty Miller, Stan Koziara, and Col. West. Also teachers at Nagoya American School might have known our family. We knew a family whose daughters were Josephine and Lucille Burris. Contact Genevieve Vaughn at e-mail <gvaughn@bellatlantic.net>.

★

I am trying to locate a friend named **Horace Jackson**. He was a member of the 35th Regt., 25th Div. in the Korean War. I would love to send him a letter, if he is still alive & well. Contact me at e-mail address <aleitch@senate.state.ny.us>

★

I have helped my father locate about a dozen men he served with in Korea, but his best "buddy" has been difficult to find. His name is **Matthew DiLusio** (spelling unsure) and he lived in the Bronx in New York City. He was Catholic, and would attend mass with my dad at on the island of Koji Do where they served sometime between 1953 - 56. Any suggestions would be appreciated! Contact Kathi Gulley for John C. Mendes, Riverdale, California at e-mail to <ommom@prodigy.net> or write: PO Box 756, Riverdale, CA 93656 or call collect (559) 867-4347 evenings or weekends.

★

Can I get information on the **49th Ftr. Bomb Gp.** I served with at K-2 Tague 1950-1951. I was a cook there and would like to find some of the guys I worked with. Walt Fluke at e-mail <FlukeWtf@aol.com>.

★

Pvt. Raymond DeVilliers is a cousin of mine. Upon his enlistment in the US Army sometime in late 52 or early 53, I met Ray while I was serving in Korea and Japan in the Canadian Army. I was posted on special assignment in Kobe Japan in the fall of 53. Ray was stationed with the US Army (QM Corps) just outside Kobe. I saw him on many occasions. The last time I saw Ray was in Detroit, MI just outside Lincoln Park area. I lost track of Ray. Contact Elie R. Foubert at <EDDYFOUBERT@webtv.net>.

★

My family has lost track of my cousin, **Harold R. Balfanz**. He is a Korean War veteran and was a Prisoner of War in Korea as well. He was born in 1933 in Chicago. Divorced father of five sons (and they don't know where he is either), treated at an Army Hospital at Great Lakes. Moved to near New Port Richey, Florida in the mid to late 80s. Probably treated at a military facility in Florida. Contact Pamela Balfanz at e-mail <prb35@execpc.com>.

★

My uncle **Pfc. L.G. Cochran** was killed in Korea and I am looking to hear from someone who may have known him while in the service. He was from AL. Year of Birth: 1928. He was in the Heavy Weapons Infantry. Assigned to 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. He was KIA in S KOREA on 9-22, 1950. Contact Mark Cole at <Mark.Cole@sanmina-sci.com>.

★

Searching for all **3650th Basic Military Training Wing** Permanent Party, Women's Air Force (WAF's), Basic Trainees and Special Training School, Personnel, from 1950 thru 1956. Contact Chip Phillips at PO Box 351, Williamsville, New York 14231-0333, or by mail and e-mail at <Chip34@aol.com>.

★

I am looking to buy the **Sugamo Prison Patch** plus the **555th. M.P. CO. Patch** for a display at my VFW Post. Perhaps someone's brother or- buddy served at the 8th Army unit right after WW2. I will buy or trade military items for either patch. Contact J. F. Keohane, 16 St. Margarets Ct, Buffalo, NY 14216

★

I would like to contact **George Deane**, Supply Sergeant, 25th Division, 35th Regiment, Company A. Sergeant Deane was in Korea from July 1950 until his rotation in 1951. He saved my life in August of 1950. I'd like to thank him personally and send him some kind words from his Company Commander, Capt. Sidney B. Berry (now a Lt/Gen Ret.). Contact Thomas J. Frazier, 2301 Creek Dr., Alexandria, VA, 22308. Tel: 703-780-3670.

★

2nd Chemical Motrar Battalion Assn. is looking for veterans who served in our Battalion before or during World War II (1935-46) and before or during the Korean War (1949-53). Our Association includes those who served with our Battalion's successor unit - the 461st Inf. Bn. (Heavy Mortar). The next annual reunion will be held at the Radisson Hotel, Norfolk, VA, September 22-26, 2004. Enlist today by phone or mail, providing your full name, address, phone number, unit and dates of service. You will then receive a current roster and future newsletters. No dues. Contact: William R. Thomas, 7418 Overdale Drive, Dallas, TX 75254; 972-387-1247.

★

I am contemplating a return visit to Korea and would like to obtain a **map of Seoul South Korea**. My Unit was quartered in what had been a Japanese doctor's house on a hill in the vicinity of what we called "West Gate." The house was off of a side street from the street which went to the Seoul Railroad station. I would like to revisit that house (if still standing), but I need the names of the streets in the vicinity, to be able to pinpoint the house. If anyone can furnish me a copy of a map of Seoul or a source for same, I would be most appreciative, and would reimburse the supplier for his/her troubles. Contact Charles L. Collins, 3931 Shamrock Dr. Huntsville, AL 35810-4033. Tel: 256-859-3913

★

I am looking for buddies from **10th Prov. Arty., C Battery 8th F.A. Bn, 25th Inf. Div.** Korea 1950-1951. Contact Allen M. Smith, 3338 Dupont Ave., N., Minneapolis, MN. 55412-2512.



Looking for **Frederick Woofen**, Enlisted July 21, 1949, Date of Foreign Service August 1950 – September 1951. Contact wife, Mrs. Jolene Woofen, 2047 Pleasant Grove Road, Brodmax, VA 23920 or contact Mr. James W. Prewitt, 410 Haw Branch Road, Bamardsville, NC 28709.



I was stationed in **A Battery, 38th Arty, 3rd Gun Bn.** (280MM) Unit in Korea outside Munsani on the DMZ. I would like to have anyone contact me who was in the same unit at that time. I would also like to know the status of the Big Gun Unit and if they are still active today. I recall there was one Battalion in Korea, one in Germany and one in Ft. Lewis, Washington. Please contact Dennis Mueller, 210 3rd Avenue, Yodec, WY. 82244.



I would like to hear from **Levi Goggans**, Co. E 31st Inf. Regt. Korea 1950 – 1951. He was from Alabama. Contact Lloyd Pitman, P.O. Box 128, Preble, NY 13141.



I am looking for buddies from **4th Section, 159th F.A. Bn.** Shown in photo left to right is myself, Lt. Morgan and Harold Hitchcock. Please contact Albin A. Bilinski, 2940 N. Menard Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60634-5241.



Looking for further information on **Sgt. Harold F. Adkinson**, USA. The following is the standard loss incident document given to family members by DPMD (DoD)



4th Section, 159th F.A. BN.: From left, Albin

Personal Information: Sgt Harold F. Adkinson, RA-14335129, 1st Ranger Company, became Missing in Action on 5 May 1951, with a Presumptive Finding of Death of 31 December 1953. He does not appear on the "Johnnie Johnson List" or in the "Missing in Action, Captivity" report compiled from returning POWs. He is mentioned in Field Search Case 0481F.

General Military Situation and Circumstance of Loss: Sgt Adkinson was one of several Rangers lost during a major Chinese offensive, now known as "the May Massacre [1951]," in rough hill country east of Chunchon, South Korea. This fighting was confused, since it included both stands and phased withdrawals. On 16 May 1951, the 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, and attached units, including Sgt Adkinson's 1st Ranger Company, were holding defensive positions along the crest of a hill mass in east-central Korea, between the Soyang and Hongch'on rivers, nearly 9 miles east and southeast of Ch'unch'on.

North of the Soyang River, arrayed against the 38th Infantry Regiment, were the 44th and 45th Divisions of the elite 15th Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) Army and the four divisions of the 12th CCF Army. Operating directly within the 38th Infantry sector were the two divisions from the 15th Army and two additional divisions from the 12th Army - the 35th and the 181st.

After conducting large scale probing attacks during the day on the 16th, the Chinese crossed the Soyang River and attacked in force- first against the patrol bases and later striking the defensive positions of the 38th (Hills 598 and 1051). The patrol bases of the 9th Regiment, deployed on the left flank of the 38th, were not the main focus of the Chinese attack, and were bypassed by the attacking Chinese forces. Minefields, wires, and artillery fires initially blunted the assault. Disregarding casualties, CCF relentlessly attacked, and positions of several companies were overrun.

Meanwhile, a combined force of 137,000 Chinese and 38,000 North Koreans launched a massive attack against the Republic of Korea (ROK) division on the 2nd ID's right flank in the early hours of 16 May. The ROK forces fought well, but were forced to retreat, thus exposing the 38th Infantry Regiment's right flank to the communist force. The communists, moving at night through the hilly terrain, were able to infiltrate the 38th Infantry Regiment's rear areas. The communists then attacked the 2nd Battalion's outpost position just before midnight on the night of 17 May.

The first unit to be hit was E Company (located one mile north

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MOVING??



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of F Company), which was able to repulse the communists' first attack, but was quickly overwhelmed by a second, even stronger, attack. The communists quickly drove the rest of the 2nd Battalion into full retreat, and then made their way to the Regiment's main line of resistance. These communist attacks were relentless and bloody that continued throughout the night and into the morning of 18 May. Many elements of the 38th were overrun, which hunkered down in their bunkers and called for artillery units to lay an artillery barrage on top of their own positions (American artillery fired over 10,000 rounds that night in support of the 38th Regiment) to decimate the surrounding enemy forces.

On 18 May, infiltrated enemy forces began attacking and harassing the rear element of the Regiment. However, the concerted effort by the Netherlands Battalion and the 1st Ranger Company, located about five and ten miles east of the Battalion respectively, slowed the enemy penetration; although the Regiment had to withdraw from Hill 724 (about three miles east of where it was on the 16th). On 19 May, with heavy fighting still taking place, the 38th Regiment received orders that it was to be relieved by units of the 9th Regiment and 1st Marine Division. Small probing attacks augmented by artillery and mortar fire continued, but were repulsed and silenced by small arms and counter-artillery fires. The enemy continued to attack to crush the Regiment; however, the Regiment held the positions against numerous attacks. At 2030 hours, the Regiment was relieved of its positions, and began to move south for reorganization and rehabilitation of personnel and equipment. It was during this fierce battle that Sgt Adkinson became Missing in Action.

Some men thought to be MIA later fought clear and rejoined their units, while others appeared as prisoners of war [POWs]. Sgt. Adkinson is among those still unaccounted for. As near as we can determine, he fell in one of many skirmish actions, unobserved or unreported, on the slopes of [Mount] Kari San. We will remain alert for any leads pertaining to his case, but are concentrating on the immediate vicinity of Kari San as the most likely venue.

Sgt Adkinson is well known to us through surviving friends in the 1st Ranger Co, three of whom we have interviewed as former POWs. We have exchanged map copies with his brother, Mr. Adkison (the proper "family" spelling), and his information has proven very useful to us in isolating both hill elevations and place names. We have had some success, through Mr. Adkison's contacts, in relating positions vacated by a Dutch company and the subsequent withdrawal route used by U.S. forces to a blocking position probably held by elements of the 72nd Tank Battalion—this is the most likely specific axis of Sgt Adkinson's loss.

Continuing Efforts: In an effort to achieve the fullest possible accounting of missing U.S. servicemen, DPMO has negotiated with the government of North Korea for access to crash sites, battlefields, and prison camp cemeteries. The North Koreans have authorized limited access to their main military museum and national library in Pyongyang for POW/MIA-related research. The North Koreans provided our researchers with a selection of documents and artifacts from these archives for review during visits in 1997, 1998, and 1999; unfortunately they found no information on Sgt Adkinson. DPMO and the Army's Central

Identification Laboratory, Hawaii (CILHI) (known as JPAC) excavations in North Korea, 1996 through 2003 have resulted in the recovery and repatriation of the remains of over 180 U.S. servicemen and that effort continued in Unsan County and the Chosin Reservoir in 2003. We will continue operations in these areas in 2004. In 2000, CILHI also recovered the remains of two servicemen from the South Korean side of the DMZ and two more in 2003 (the North Koreans have not yet allowed us access to their side of the DMZ). JPAC conducts search and recover operations in South Korea when new leads develop. We continue to actively seek information about the loss of Sgt Adkinson, including regular dialog with Korean War veterans associations, in the hope of developing new leads and we will forward new discoveries to family members through the U.S. Army Casualty Office. 06 January 2004.

Contact Jack Adkinson at PO Box 732, Bath, SC 29816. Tel: 803-593-3749

Graybeards Copies

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

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

We can send up to 7 copies for \$3.85 postage. For orders above 7 copies or future issues, there is an additional cost of \$1 per copy plus \$3.85 postage.

Example: if you wish to order a full year 7 copies each of 6 issues) then a check for \$65.10 should be enclosed with your request.—Editor.

The Graybeards

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BOOK REVIEW from page 32

armed with a burp gun as he took him past the NCO prisoners and turned toward the bank of the draw. The soldier followed them and, when the NCO released his grip on the first sergeant's arm, he blasted him in the back with a burst of about twenty rounds.

Returning to the group of NCOs, the North Korean selected Lassiter, who now realizing the price of non cooperation, moved with alacrity. He came to attention in front of the table and saluted. "What is your name and organization?" the officer asked. "Sergeant First Class Daniel Hatcher, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division, sir." The other officer said something and went into the tent. Returning, he set a book down on the table and flipped through the pages until he found what he was looking for. Standing up, he pointed with his forefinger and tapped the master parachutist's wings sewn above the US ARMY on Lassiter's fatigue jacket. They both looked at the page in the book and, after a short discussion, came to an agreement.

The officer barked out an order, and the North Korean NCO gripped Lassiter by the arm and led him away. When they reached the turn toward the rear, Lassiter realized to his horror that they were going to kill him, too. He jerked away from the NCO and ran back toward the table, unbuttoning the fatigue jacket as he ran. "I'm not a paratrooper!" he shouted. "This ain't my uniform!" The officer with the book stood up with his U.S. forty-five in his hand. Holding it with both hands he fired two shots at Lassiter at a range of a few feet, knocking him sprawling. He stepped around the table and put more bullets into him until the pistol ran out of ammunition. He started to sheath the pistol, but stopped and looked at it, puzzled because the slide had remained to the rear.

Turning to the other officer, he showed him the pistol. Laughing, the other officer reached across the table and pushed down the slide stop. The slide snapped forward and the officer returned the pistol to his holster. Two North Korean soldiers dragged Lassiter away, and the officer gave the NCO an order. This time the NCO stopped in front of Haskins and motioned him to stand up. Frightened, Haskins muttered. "What'll I do?" "Tell 'em anything. Just don't make

'em angry," Daniel whispered. Haskins stepped to the front of the table and saluted. "What is your name and organization?" The officer demanded. "Private First Class Haskins, Twenty-Fourth Infantry Regiment, sir."

(This is just several pages and one story of a 624 page book. I also removed some text of this excerpt story. This book is called *Wells Lange work of historical fiction about the Korean War. Those of you and I (all veterans of the Korean War) will find the stories are very truthful for we all saw and heard from our buddies and our POW's about these many actions during those dark years from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. This also includes our DMZ veterans.*

I understand the book will be ready for shipment in January 2004. Ordering Information: Doubleclutcher! Wells Lange ISBN # 1-57197-382-6, Cost \$39.95, 624 pages, 7"x 10", Hardcover, See Terms of Trade for orders made directly through Ivy House Publishing Group. 800-948-2786 Contact is Sarah E. Lewis, Marketing Assistant. Shipping and handling charges may apply. Also available through: Baker & Taylor 1-800-775-1100 and Midpoint Trade Books 1-913-831-2233.—Editor.)



FLAME DRAGONS

By Jerry Ravino & Jack Carty

Authors:

Jerry Ravino Email: <ravinot@aol.com>

Pfizer Chemical Plant worker enlisted in Marine Corps with John P. Hynes Platoon in Boston, February 1952... 24th Replacement Draft to Korea, September 1952, Flame Platoon, Tank Commander, Wounded in Action, PFC-Corporal... Returned to Pfizer in Groton, Connecticut, retired as Shift Foreman 1982... Retired Substance Abuse Counselor State of Florida in 2000... Wife Dorothea, Three Children... Wife Nona.

Jack Carty Email: <JackFlame@snip.net>

Sportswriter with Camden (New Jersey) Courier-Post enlisted October 1950, Philadelphia PA ... Home Town: Runnemede NJ... 10th Replacement Draft to Korea in June 1951, Flame Platoon, First Tank Battalion, PFC-Sergeant, Tank Commander... Discharged October 1953 as S/Sergeant, NCO in C Main Gate Philadelphia Naval Base... Sportswriter, Columnist, Section(s) editor with Courier-Post

(Cherry Hill NJ)... Retired 1990... Continues to write college sports-notes column... Married Pat (July 1951)... Six children, Nine grandchildren... Resides in Barrington NJ.

One Story of many:

Enemy Gets Dose Of 'Tanker's Fear'

Without a doubt, the one thing that will strike fear into any tanker's heart, forcing beads of sweat to quickly seep from under his helmet, is the sight - out of the corner of his eye while peering through a periscope - of the enemy leveling a shoulder-mounted rocket at his tank.

It's difficult to suppress panic. You know the shooter already has a bead on his target and you're IT! You know he is ready to squeeze off the armor-piercing round. Usually this menace is off to the side, and all of your weapons are pointing straight ahead. Chances are, the range of your bow gunner's 30-caliber machine gun is restricted and the weapon can't be swung fully in that direction to drill him. Nor, can the turret be traversed quickly enough into position for the tank commander to use his weapons.

It is raw fear! Nothing else! And, flame tankers have their stories to tell about this nerve racking experience, later, at a little Korean hill called Kum gok.

That kind of fear, however, works two ways. Infantrymen experience a relative terror when the clanking of tank tracks and rumbling engines penetrate the air, signaling possible impending havoc.

Five days into the invasion of Inchon, during the First Marine Division's drive toward South Korea's capital city of Seoul, units of the 1st Marine Regiment were facing such a tank menace. But the infantrymen's predicament soon was changed into a gory nightmare for enemy tankers, thanks to an act of bold heroism by PFC Walter C. Monegan Jr.

A 20-year-old regular from Seattle, Washington, Monegan was a rocket man with the 1st Marines Fox Company when he took on three Russian-made T-34 tanks at a bend in the road of the Inchon-Seoul Highway near hills 80 and 85. It was the second time in three days he faced off against enemy tanks and he was a sure shot.

But, Monegan's marksmanship was not the only noted success against the vaunted NKPA manned Russian armor. Yet, his heroics became one of the legends of the drive to

the capital city. It all started after the First Marines had worked their way out of Ascom City and along the Incheon-Seoul Highway. They were dug in just west of Mahang-ri in the pre-dawn of 17 September, when six Russian T-34s passed below their positions. The tanks were leading a column of unsuspecting NKPA intent on stunting the Marines' progress toward the Han River. (Many more pages of this story but not printed in this review.)

1/16/04 (Paducah, Ky.) - Turner Publishing Company has released its historic publication, *Flame Dragons of the Korean War*, compiled and written by Jerry Ravino and Jack Carty, veterans of the Flame Platoon, First Tank Battalion, First Marine Division.

The book tells the Flame Tank Platoon's story, gleaned from military records, declassified material and countless interviews with fellow Marine veterans. It contains more than 150 photographs, most of them originals from tankers' scrapbooks. The chronicle is particularly unique since the majority of Flame Tankers were not trained to be Flame Tankers. They came from a myriad of other units in the Corps to serve with a little-known platoon that was quickly mobilized for an unexpected war in a small country few of them had ever heard of.

After fifty years of silence, they now tell the proud history of the Flame Tank Platoon during a Forgotten War in the strange Land of the Morning Calm. Combat, fear, death and bravery were not so calm to many of these tankers and other Marines who shared stories with them.

Flame Dragons of the Korean War is a must-read for Marines - young and old - as well as history buffs and anyone interested in what goes on in the hearts and minds of men in combat.

6" x 9", hardbound, dust-jacket 344 pages - ISBN 1.56311-938-2 Retail: \$27.95. For more information, visit author's website: <www.flamedragons.com>. To order individual copies visit Turner Publishing's website: <www.turnerpublishing.com>. Wholesale orders: <svos@turnerpublishing.com>

(Another great book about personal experiences and some history of the Korean War for this unit. Many other historical facts can also be found throughout the book along with many photos. Editor.)

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library

P.O. Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953
Ph: (217) 253-5813 ❖ Fax: (217) 253-9421
❖

E-mail: kwmuseum@theforgottenvictory.org
Web-Site: www.theforgottenvictory.org

Korean War Museum Leaders Looking at Site in Rantoul

■ Tuscola mayor disappointed by change in plans.

by Tim Mitchell, News Gazette Staff Writer Champaign, IL.

RANTOUL - The Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library could soon be moving from Tuscola to Rantoul.

The museum's building committee visited Rantoul and met with village leaders three times in recent weeks, and the museum's board is expected to vote on May 22 to pursue a new site in Rantoul, according to museum Executive Director Larry Sassorossi.

"The gloried history of Rantoul and Chanute Air Force Base are known worldwide and are the perfect setting for a national museum and library honoring all the Korean War veterans, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice," Sassorossi said.

"It is our intention to strongly recommend to our board of directors that we, in fact, make the village of Rantoul our new - home as quickly as possible."

Museum leaders had been working to establish a facility in Tuscola, had set up a temporary museum in the Tanger Outlet Mall and had purchased 22 acres on U.S. 36 east of Interstate 57 as a permanent museum site.

But Sassorossi said the cost of developing farmland into a modern museum made the project, which he estimated at \$10 million or more, too expensive.

Sassorossi said he could establish the museum on the former Air Force base for \$4.5 million, a sum he said was much more reasonable to raise.

"We've already talked over the idea with our chapters in Chicago, Minnesota and Arizona," Sassorossi said. "The most common response we heard was that nearly everyone who served in the

Korean War was familiar with Chanute Air Force Base, but very few of them had ever heard of Tuscola."

Tuscola Mayor Dan Kleiss said he was disappointed with the museum board's decision.

"I'm always disappointed when something doesn't happen that you think would be good for the community," Kleiss said. "Rantoul has an old Air Force Base property that needs to be used, and we don't have too many vacant buildings here in Tuscola."

Kleiss said that people of Tuscola will miss the Korean War veterans who had been visiting the community on a regular basis in recent years as well as the tourism dollars spent by those veterans.

"The community really embraced the Korean War vets," Kleiss said. "The biggest problem we had was that funding that they hoped to get from the state never materialized."

Sassorossi said the museum intends to sell the 22 acres in Tuscola and use that money to develop the Rantoul museum. Until the land is sold, it could be used as collateral for a loan to pay for new construction.

He said his organization would like 3 to 5 acres, with the village providing a long-term lease at a minimal cost.

A temporary museum would be set up in the former Chanute Air Force Base library, which he said was four times as big as the Tanger Outlet Mall facility. Sassorossi said he was negotiating a lease with the building's owner, Warren Manley of Rantoul.

An initial 12,000-square-foot museum building would be completed within two years, and two more 20,000-square-foot buildings would be built thereafter to complete the complex.

Sassorossi said the museum board also hopes to get utilities from the vil-

lage at no charge or at a reduced charge for the first few years while construction takes place.

The village board will consider the requests at its next meeting at 6:15 p.m. May 11 at the Rantoul Municipal Building, 333 S. Tanner St.

"Think we need to get further information on this," said village board member Dan Molloy on Tuesday night.

Sassorossi said he has already met with Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum President Bill Geibel and that he believes having two military-themed museums will increase attendance at both facilities.

"We think they will complement each other," Sassorossi said. "Someone might not come to Rantoul from across the country to see a single museum, but, if you have two museums in close proximity to one another, the community suddenly becomes a prime tourist destination."

Rantoul Mayor Neal Williams said he hoped the addition of the Korean War Museum and Library would boost sales at Rantoul's motels, restaurants, gas stations and retail stores.

"The way I look at it, any increase we can have for the motels and restaurants is a positive," Williams said.

(Seems to me we went down this road many years ago. I plan on thinking positive even though a plan printed in Jan-Feb 2004 issue looked believable. I hope our veterans and members will also stay positive at least one more time.

We may be reaching a point of no return, so your next update will be very important if you want us members and veterans to stay positive. —Editor, KWVA and KWNM & L Charter Member Vincent Krepps.)

National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

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

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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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- ☐ General public (family) (\$40 - 1 year)

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

Reunion Calendar

June 2004

KWVA Dept. Of Missouri State Reunion, June 10-12 in Branson, MO. Contact Neil Hurley at 1-417-335-5871.

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>

58th Fighter Bomber Wing June 22-27 at Radisson Inn & Suites Colorado Springs Airport, 1645 N. Newport Road, Colorado Springs, CO. 80916. Contact: A. J. Kupferer, 2025 Bono Road, New Albany, IN 47150-4609. Tel: 812-945-7649 E-Mail: <jkupferer@iglou.com>.

728th MP Bn. & Satellite Units (8224MP) (552nd MP), June 23-26. Contract Robert L. Jean 3558 Meyers Hollow Rd. Mashfield, MO. 65706. Tel: 417-859-6518 or Email <Rjean18205@aol.com>.

USS FORREST B. ROYAL DD872, June 24-27 in Buffalo, NY. Contact Ron Larson, 1240 Franklin Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494. Tel: 715-423-8905

74th Ordnance Bn., Korea 1956-1958, including 34th, 44th and 512th Ordnance Companies, (Ascom City and Uijongbu). June in Pocono Manor, PA. Contact Jim Foley, 224 Sanderson Ave., Olyphant, PA 18447. Tel: 570-489-7474 or Don McCarthy, Tel: 516- 627-7136. Day(s) TBA later.

July 2004

4th Inf. (Ivy) Div. Assn. July 13-18. Contact Gregory Rollinger, 8891 Aviary Path R-1, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077. Web page www.4thinfantry.org.

Former LST Sailors of all Services, Allied Nations and all wars including the Cold War. July 17-22 in Philadelphia PA. For information call 1-800-228-5870, Email <uslst@kmbbs.com> or write US LST Association, PO Box 167438, Oregon. OH 43616-7438.

U.S.S. BRINKLEY BASS (DD-887) July 28 - August 1 in Minneapolis/Bloomington, MN. Contact Bob Shetron, 347 W. Leaside St., Glendora, CA 91741. Tel: 626-335-4034.

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>

61st F. A. Bn. at Super Motel, New Hampton, Iowa, August 12-14 Need to make your reservations by July 24th. 1-614-394-3838, Please mention that you are with the 61st FA Bn. Korean Veterans Reunion. Contact Richard D. Walter, 2729 Kenwood Ave., New Hampton, IA. 50659. Email <ameritec@jowatelecom.net>.

USS Bon Homme Richard (CV/CVA-31) ships company and air groups & USS Bon Homme Richard (LHD-6), Aug. 13-14. To be held in Anaheim, CA. Contact Ron Edlund, 2299 Madalene, Muskegon, MI 49442. Tel: 231-773-0441 (Apr - Nov) 850-234-5722 (Dec - Mar).

GHQ V Raider Company/X Corps Special Operations Co., Aug. 18-20 at Courtyard by Marriott, 170 4th Avenue North, Nashville, TN Tel: 800-259-8393 or 615-256-0900. Contact Lee Broussard at Tel: 337-394-4994.

USS ALGOL AKA 54, Aug. 18-21 in Atlantic City, NJ., Contact Tony Soria, 2045 Avalon Dr. Merced, CA. 95340. Tel: 209-722-6005.

The Chosin Few, Inc., all service survivors of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign, North Korea, Nov-Dec 1950. August 18-21 at Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel, Nashville, TN. Contact: Jack Nolan, 3610 McMillan Dr., Tyler, TX 75701-8220. Tel/Fax: 903-595-0556. E-mail: <jandbnolan@etgs.com>.

2nd Bn., 1st Marines, 1st Marine Div. (KOREA), Aug. 25-28 in Seattle, WA, at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Contact: R L Payne, 6319 89th Ave W., Tacoma, WA 98467, Tel: 253-564-3252 or email <korea2bn1mar2004@yahoo.com>

U.S. Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Assn. August 25-28 at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown in Nashville, TN. Contact Don H. Gee, 238 Cornwall Circle, Chalfont, PA 18914-2318; Tel: 215-822-6898 or e-mail: <USMCCCA@aol.com>.

The Third Inf. Div. Society and attached units in war and in peace-time, August 27-31. To be held in Savannah, Ga. The hotel accommodations will be at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront Hotel, 100 General McIntosh Blvd, Savannah, GA 31401 Tel: 912-233-7722. Contact: Linda Irvine, 50721 State Highway 410, Greenwater, WA 98022. Tel: 360-663-2521. E-mail: <TheReunionBRAT@tx3.net>. Web Page www.warfoto.com/3rdiv.

USS IRWIN (DD-794), Aug. 30 - Sept. 3 in St. Louis, MO. Contact Tom Rehagen, Tel: 314-843-4681, Fax: 314-843-0259.

September 2004

88th Inf. Div. Assn., "Blue Devils", Sept. 2-5 in St. Louis MO. Contact Bil1 Konze 7318 Riverhill. Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745. Tel 301-839-4427) or Web Page <www.88infdiv.org>

430th Engineer Bn., (Korea 50-54) Sept. 9-11 in Nashville, TN. Contact Charlie Wise, 9542 Yolanda Ave., Northridge, CA. 91324. Tel: 818-993-5876. E-mail: <wisekev@aol.com>.

3650th Basic Military Training Wing (B.M.T.W), Sampson Air Force Base Veterans Association, Inc. To all Veterans of Sampson Air Force Base, Permanent Party, Women's Air Force (WAF's), Basic Trainees and Special School Trainees, 1950 thru 1956. Sept. 9-12 at Sampson Air Force Base, now known as Sampson State Park, on Seneca Lake, Romulus, NY. Contact Chip Phillips at PO Box 331, Williamsville, NY 14231-0331 or by E-Mail at <Chip34@aol.com>

75th Air Depot Wing, 1952-1955, Sept. 9-12 in Milwaukee, WI. Contact Walter A. Walko, 13616 Paradise Villas Grove, Colorado Springs, CO. 80921-3294. Tel: 719-488-1106 or e-mail <wawlaw1@juno.com>

14th Combat Engineer Battalion Association, Sept. 9-12 in Louisville, KY. Contact Stanley H Schwartz, 313 Hollow Creek Road, Mount Sterling KY 40353. Tel: 859-498-4567 or e-mail <shs313@mis.net>

712th TROB, Sept. 12-15 in Peoria, IL. Contact Robert Shannon, Tel: 910-949-3920 or E-mail <rgshannon@ac.net> or Dean McClain, Tel: 330-799-9565 or E-mail <dbm521@aol.com>.

USS TITANIA AKA 13 Sept. 9-14. Contact Cliff/Caroline Trumpold, 816-31st Ave. S., Box 31, Middle Amana, IA 52307. Tel: 319-622-3103

The 300th Armored Field Artillery Assn., Sept. 10-12 is seeking members who served in the Korean War 1950-1953. Our Association is active with "COWBOY CANNONEER" news letters and Reunions every other year. Join us at the Holiday Inn, Sheridan, Wyoming, for the 300th's next reunion. Contact Bill Laya, 91 Kool Road, Ranchester, WY 82938. E-mail <laya@fiberpipe.com> or Dick Thune, 5880 Parkwood Court, Baxter, MN. 56425. Tel: 218-825-0286 or Don Crawford, 13813 Illinois Hwy. 9, Good Hope, IL. 61438. E-mail <doncrawford@winco.net>.

USS Waldron (DD-699), Sept. 12-16 in Hyannis, Mass. Contact Fr. Herbert J. Cleary, S.J. Tel: 617-267-1008 Ext. 21 or 617-247-0457. E-mail <herbie699@verizon.net>.

The **USS Wasp CV/CVA/CVS-18** Assn, is seeking all members of Ship's Company, Air Groups and Marines who served aboard the ship between 1943 and 1972. Sept. 12-16 in Annapolis, MD. Contact Richard G. VanOver, USNR(Ret), 6584 Bunting Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127-3635. Tel: 716-649-9053.

Korean War EX-POW Assn., Sept. 12-19 at the Drawbridge Inn Fort Mitchell, KY. Contact Jim Ball, PO Box 48, Eau Claire, MI 49111 or E-mail <jamiball@qtm.net>.

630th Engineers, Light Equipment Co., Korea, Sept 13-15, in Branson, MO. Contact: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072. Tel: 636-285-4402 or e-mail <OGVCCV@ruralcom.net>.

U.S.S. Sphinx-ARL-24, Sept. 13-16 in Branson, MO. Contact Franklin Ironi, 954 Lilac Drive, Sauk Centre, MN 56378-1643. Tel: 612-352-3271.

538th Ordnance MAM Company, Korea 1950 thru 1955. Sept. 13-16 in Las Vegas, NV. Contact William Olynyk, 656 Cervantes Drive, Henderson, NV 89014. Tel: 702-434-1606. E-mail <forwildone@cox.net>

51st Signal Bn., Sept. 14-16 at Double Tree Inn, Nashville, TN. Korean Vets and all former members are welcome. Contact: Tommy Thompson, 4129 Fairway Dr., Granbury, TX 76049. Tel: 817-326-4773 E-Mail: <tom@itexas.net>.

330th Field Artillery Bn., Army Sept. 14-16 in Auburn, IN, Contact Raymond Krider, 429 W. Maple Grove Ave., Ft. Wayne, IN 46807. Tel: 260-745-4412 or 260-413-3185, E-mail <skippy30@worldnet.att.net>.

A-1-1 U.S.M.C. (Korea 1950-1953) Sept. 15-18 at the Ramada Inn Airport and Thunderbird Convention Center, 2201 East 78th Street, Bloomington, MN 55425. Tel: 952-854-3411, Fax: 952-859-1183. Contact Rod Bennett, P.O. Box 196, Marshall, MN. 56258, Phone 507-532-6203.

X Corps, Korea and attached units 1950-53, Sept. 16-18 in Dubuque, IA. Contact William E. Shafer at 319-934-3575.

Anti/Tank Co 5th Marines, Sept.16-18 in Nashville, TN at Sheraton Music City. Hotel Res. 615-885-2200 Friday night: Grand Ole Op. Contact persons: Chuck Batherson, Tel: 231-839-5476, E-mail <chuckandbarbat5@voyager.net> or CJ and George Barrette, Tel: 715-582-3835, E-mail <grinandbarrett@cybrzn.com>.

532nd E.B. & S.R., Sept. 16-18 in Ponchatoula, LA. Contact Avery Brown at 225-294-5611 or Billy D. Gray at 618-243-6197.

32nd Inf. Regt. Assn. "The Queen's Own", Sept. 16-20 in Arlington, VA. Contact: Helen Dyckson, P. O. Box 5930, Spring Hill, FL 34611-5930, 352-597-5912, e-mail: <heland@bellsouth.net>

USS ESSEX CV, CVA, CVS-9, LTH -2, Inc. Sept. 20-25 at the Marriott International Hotel in St. Louis, MO. Contact Bruce Sims 581 Conkle, Rd. Hampton, GA 30228-2702 or call 770-707-1812 or e-mail <Hangerbay9@aol.com>

50th AAA AW Bn. (SP), All Batteries. Sept. 21-23 in Branson, Missouri. Contact Bob Matis at 352-686-0550 or Joe Harris at 530-347-3381 or e-mail <BOB50AAA@netzero.com>

44th Engineer Battalion Association (Korea) Sept. 21-25 at Ft. Campbell, KY. Contact Ed Wright, 24 Vale Road, Reading, MA 01867-2443, Tel: 781-944-4837.

The 8221st Army Unit Assn. (Korea 1950-1954) Sept. 22-25 at the Quality INN at 3269 Shepherd Hills Expressway, Branson, MO 65618. TOLL FREE 1-800-245-6776. E-mail: <INFO@ZBRANSON.COM>. Contact: Ken and Judy Paubon, 13820 Bradley Blvd., Becker, MN 55308. Tel: 763-261-2333.

2nd Chemical Mortar Bn. (and 461st Inf. Bn.) (Korea 1950-53), Sept. 22-26 at the Radisson Hotel, Norfolk, VA. Contact: William R. Thomas, 7418 Overdale Drive, Dallas, TX 75254. Tel: 972-387-1247.

Navy USS Colonial L.S.D. 18 Sept. 22-26 in Branson, MO. Contact Loren Kerby, 13375 Prairie Creek Rd., Platte City, MO 64079. Tel: 816-858-3158, or e-mail: <kerbyplatte@aol.com>

H-3-1 KOREA-USMC, Sept. 22-26 in Baltimore, MD. Contact Jack Dedrick, 10 Donna St., Peabody, MA 01960. Tel: 978-535-5451 or e-mail <jfddedrick@aol.com>.

6th Photo Tech/548th Recon Tech Sqdns. FFAF, Yokota AFB Japan (1946-57), Sept. 23-25 at Bransob, MO. Contact Guy Dille, 691 Ryland Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4279. Tel: 412-366-2094 or E-mail <gddrd5k@comcast.net>

68th AAA Gun Bn., Sept. 23-26 in Midland, TX Contact Cliff Schlesinger, 4409 Gulf Ave. Midland, TX 79707. Tel: 432-694-6653.

508th AAA Operations Detachment, Sept. 23-26 in Midland, TX Contact Cliff Schlesinger 4409 Gulf Ave. Midland, TX 79707. Tel: 432-694-6653.

92nd AFA Bn. "The Red Devils", Sept. 26-28 at Knoxville, TN. Contact Guy McMenemy, 12027 Westover Drive, Cypress, TX 77429. Tel: 281-469-2819 or E-mail <reddevilbn@aol.com>.

National Assn. of Atomic Veterans, Sept. 26-29 in San Diego, CA. Contact W. A. Harper, 9308 Navajo Place, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. Tel: 480-895-0676.

25th Inf. Div. Assn., Sept. 26 - Oct. 3 in Tucson, AZ. Contact 25th I.D. Assn., PO Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031-0007 or e-mail <tropicltn@aol.com> or Fax: 215-248-5250.

86th Ordnance Co. Assn., Sept. 27-29 in Cumberland, MD. Contact Robert F. Spurr, 614 Bench Street, Galena, IL 61036. Tel: 815-777-3814

USS Rochester (CA-124) Sept. 28 - Oct. 03 at Red Lion Hanalei Hotel San Diego, CA. E-mail <joehillsr@multipro.com>. Tel: 931- 432-4848.

USS RENVILLE APA 227, joint navy and troops from all eras. San Diego, Sept. 29 to Oct. 3. Contact Don Wright, 4289 Alex Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45211. Tel: 513-481-8317 or E-mail <jdwrightstuff@cs.com>.

The 307th Bomb Wing, Sept. 29 - Oct. 4 in San Diego, CA. The hotel: Red Lion Hanalei, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108. Contact Cy Johnson 805-495-3518

ASA KOREA. Baltimore & Washington, D.C. Sept. 30 Oct. 3. Tour of the National Security Agency Museum, where you will have a "peek behind the curtain" at the once secret world of Codes. Following this tour you will head to Washington DC for a stop at the Korean Memorial and the newly opened World War II Memorial. Dinner will be included in a Washington area restaurant. Saturday you will be transported to Baltimore Inner Harbor for some free time to explore the shops and attractions and lunch on your own at one of the many area restaurants. Wrap up the festivities with a Saturday evening Banquet and dancing at the Hotel. Lodging is at the beautiful Embassy Suites - Hunt Valley. Contact ALL-IN-ONE Tour & Cruises, 1530 Commerce Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601. Attn: Jackie Rishell. Questions concerning the arrangements of the reunion should be directed to the tour office. The number is 717-581-5333 in Lancaster, Pa. The long distance number is 1-888-681-5333 ext. 109, ask for Jackie, or call your host Pick Leibenguth 410-439-3114.

11th Engineer Combat Bn. Assn., Sept. 30 - Oct. 3 in Branson, MO. Contact Fred O. Boelsche, 54 Edstan Dr, Moonachie, NJ 07074. Tel: 201-641-5828 or E-mail <FredBlthEng@hotmail.com>

45th Infantry Division Assn. (Thunderbirds), Sept. 30 to Oct. 4, in Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111. Tel: 210-681-9134

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

17th F.A. Bn. - 75th F.A. Bn. - 96th F.A. Bn. and 96th AAA, Korea, 1950 - 1954, Oct. 5-11, at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189

or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

145th F.A. Bn. - 204th F.A. Bn. - 213th F.A. Bn. and 300th F.A. Bn., Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

159th F.A. Bn. - 176th F.A. Bn. - 195th F.A. Bn. and 623rd F.A. Bn., Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ, 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

936th F.A. Bn. - 937th F.A. Bn. - 955th F.A. Bn. and 987th F.A. Bn., Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

All members of **I Corps, IX Corps and X Corps Artillery Battalions**, Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

28th General Hospital Assoc. (Croix Chapeau '51-'54), Oct. 6-10 at The Arlington Resort Hotel and Spa, 239 Central Ave., Hot Springs National Park, AR 71901. Reservations: 1-800-643-1502 Ext. 2514. Contact Joe Lott, 2210 Chidester Rd., Camden, AR 71701-3012. Tel: 870-836-3725 or e-mail <wayx@seark.net>.

6147th TAC CON GP, Mosquito Assn., with all supporting units, in San Diego, CA Oct 6-10 at the Double Tree Club Hotel, 1-800-486- 5315. Mention The Mosquitos. Contact S. Rooney, Tel: 916-489 0476, Email <Srooney@lanset.com> or D. Souza, 79 Bradstreet Ave. Lowell, MA 01851-4120. Tel: 978-453-3887, or E-mail <Skeeterloc@aol.com>.

Heavy Mortar Company, 5th RCT, Oct. 7-9 at Executive Inn, 978 Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY. Reservations: 1-800-626-2706. Contact: Bill Conley at 412-885-2053 or <Copconley@aol.com>.

1st Field Artillery Observation Bn. Assn., Oct. 7 - 10 at the Best Western Airport Midway Hotel, 5105 S. Howell Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53201. Contact Don Dust, Tel: 352-799-2426 or Ralph Mueller 724-348- 5359.

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>.

999th AFA Bn. (Armored Field Artillery Battalion) "Never Die" Army Korea 1950-1954, Oct. 8-10 at Ramada Inn North, Dayton, OH. Contact Harold L. Spicer, 2010 Alpwoods Lane, Dayton, Ohio 45459. Tel: 937- 291-4227 or E-mail <s.rutan@att.net>.

Veterans of the Korean War Reunion, Oct. 13-16 at Virginia Beach, VA. Contact Floyd Newkirk at 757-340-9801 or e-mail <fnewkirk1@cox.net> or web page www.vkwr.org.

U.S.S. Abnaki A.T.F. 96, Oct. 13-16 in Branson, Mo. 65616. Lodge of the Ozarks Tel: 417-334-7535. Contact Pete Kingsley, 5320 N.W. 66th Place, Johnston, IA 50131. Tel: 515-276-7250 or e-mail: <p.kingsley@worldnet.att.net>.

90th F.A. BN. ASSN., 25th Inf. Div. Oct. 20-24 in Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Glen Krueger, 1813 Q St., Auburn, NE 68305-1753. Tel: 402-274-5101 or E-MAIL at <Kruegers c@gopoint.com>.

USS BAYFIELD APA 33, Oct. 14-16 at Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 6401 Veterans Memorial Blvd. Metairie, LA. 70003. 1-800-325-3535 for reservations mention Bayfield Reunion. Contact Marvin Perett, Tel: 504-885-7174 or E-Mail <marvinperett@netzero.net> or <artbets@cs.com>.

44th Inf. Div. (1946-1954), October 14-17 in Peoria, IL. IL National Guard Div. (war or peace) Contact Duane Heward, 505 W Merle Lane, Peoria, IL 61604. Tel: 309-682-6519 or e-mail <dfheward1@aol.com>. Charles Munie, 465 S Linden, Decatur, IL 62522. Tel: 217-423-6265 or e-mail <camunie@aol.com>.

13th Engineer Combat Bn. Assn., Oct. 14-17 in San Antonio, Texas. Contact Levi Haire, Tel: 404-366-9891 or E-mail <Rabbit713E@Comcast.net>. Web site http://13thEngineerBn.homestead.com

45th Inf. Div., 279th Inf. Reg., CO-L (Thunderbirds), Oct. 21-24 in Western Hills Lodge, OK, Contact Paul Elkins, P.O. Box 348, Kasilof, AK 99610. Tel: 907-260-6612 or E-mail <p.s.elkins@att.net>.

72nd Engineer Combat Co. Oct. 25-29 at the Settle Inn in Branson, MO. Tel: 800-677-6906 and ask for Group 72E10254 for group rate of \$59 plus tax. Contact Bob Mount, 6518 Fish Hatchery Rd., Thurmont, MD 21788. Tel: 301-898-7952 or <Email taxpreper@aol.com>.

November 2004

5th Regimental Combat Team Assn., Nov. 3-7 in St. Augustine Beach, FL at Holiday Inn, 860 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine Beach, FL. 32080. Tel: 1-800-626-7263. Contact Bill Kane, 5023 Andrea Blvd. Orlando, FL 32807. Tel: 407-275-7450.

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HAMAN from page 39

vegetation from its peak so that it truly was a 'bald' hill. Old Baldy had cost a reported 11 KIA and 50 WIA for the 3rd Battalion. Many of the wounded never were reported on the casualty list because they continued to fight on the mountain despite their wounds.

The relief of the 5th RCT 's 1st Battalion was overdue as they were awaited by the 24th Division and so the Blue Battalion was alerted to move to Masan and then relieve that unit on the Pusan Perimeter line.

September 10/11 - During the night, the last of the 5th RCT departed after spending one month on line without relief. The 27th was now in complete control of the perimeter from Sobuk San (mountain) to Chinhae Man (Bay).

1 Telephone with Col. Hill in 1995. On this day, Lt. Hill from C Company, who had been wounded at Hwanggan, was hit on the head again. Col. Check said; "Two wounds in the head, is enough for one of my officers." and assigned him to the S3 section.

2 Although the 1st Bn. had been attached to the 24th Regiment and the 2nd Battalion attached to the 35th, Col Michaelis was actively controlling the actions of the 27th, 1st and 3rd Battalions. This is from the authors and other eyewitnesses. The thoroughly demoralized 24th Regimental Commander had been reduced to openly sobbing after the disintegration of most of the Regiment. (Related to me by a 27th First Sergeant who witnessed the breakdown.). Lt. Col. Corley, the gung ho 3rd Battalion Commander was selected as the new 24th Regimental C.O. after the former C.O. was wounded and evacuated.

3 27th Regt. Hist. Rpt. Sept. 50. I believe this was the hill area referred to as "Engineer Hill" by the troops. Vet memories were not connected to the map and became a jumble of the many hills and mountains they assaulted in those first months.

4 Appleman, South to the Naktong, p 475

5 Ibid. Ltr. from Col Bodman Feb. 96

6 Viewed by the author.

7 Telecon with Mr. Clemons, Jan. 96

8 Appleman: South to the Naktong

9 27th Hist. Rpt. Sept. 50

10 Telecon with Mr Clemons, Feb. 96

11 Ibid. Also Mr Sprouse.

12 Appleman; South to the Naktong. p483-484



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

Bill J. Hodges

★ Connecticut

Angelo De Cicco

John L. Keefe

John W. Moran

Jack Wolkantz

★ Delaware

Joseph G. Kruemmer

Earle N. O'Neal

John E. Teoli

★ Florida

Newell Erickson

Robert Morrissey

★ Illinois

Peter L. Choma

John Kochvar

Bill Venlos

★ Indiana

Frederick C. Clouse

★ Maryland

James Martin

Donald B. Rice

Harry L. Wittman

Michigan

★ Dick L. Roth

Missouri

★ James Pat Campbell

New Jersey

★ Louis Selmi, Sr.

New Mexico

★ Delfinio Calvert

New York

★ Anthony I. Messana

★ Ivan Planasky

★ John Quinn

★ Richard Reed

★ John Toledo

Ohio

★ Keith T. Brown

Oregon

★ Willis L. Degner

Pennsylvania

★ Anthony Diecidue

★ Andrew N. Fetterolf

★ Fred P. Kurtz

Virginia

★ James D. Mc Monigle

Wisconsin

★ Lawrence H. Nies

Update

Korea Revisit

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

Dear friends and fellow veterans:

I have just returned from Seoul, Korea where I met with officials at both the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), the equivalent of our Veterans Affairs Department, and the Korean Veterans Association (KVA). These are the two agencies that since 1975 have been funding and administering the subsidized Revisit Korea program for the Allied Countries that contributed to the Korean War in the early 1950's.

I'm pleased to announce that the ROK government has decided to continue this "Revisit Korea" program well into the future. In addition to recognizing the contributions of the veterans, the program which has brought thousands of people from all over the world to Korea, has contributed significantly to the good relations between all these countries. We have requested, and have been assured, another good sized quota in 2005.

The 2004 quotas of 220, in June September and October, have all been filled and the program is closed. However, please fill out the application now, contained elsewhere in the for the 2005 program since we allocate the quotas by date of receipt.

Through our recommendation and encouragement, Korea has also decided to relax the eligibility requirements somewhat. The most important aspect for future year's is that they have moved the dates of eligibility from 27 July 1953 to 27 July 1954. This is to recognize that the war did not suddenly stop when the Armistice was signed and "hot" confrontations and those killed and wounded continued long after. This is good news and something that we have been urging for several years.

They have also decided to allow a looser definition of "direct descendants" allowing, for example, adopted children, "live in" spouses as well as grand parents to accompany the veteran. Reminder: Widows and children of those Killed in Action have always been eligible for this program!

If you have any questions, please call me personally at 703-212-0695 in Alexandria, Virginia. If I'm not in, any member of my staff can answer you questions.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Warren Wiedhahn

President/CEO, Military Historical Tours

FAX 703-212-8567

Email: mht@miltours.com

APPLICATION FOR KWVA REVISIT TOURS

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

Please check year of desired revisit tour: **Month:** ☐ April ☐ June ☐ July ☐ Sept. ☐ Nov **Year:** ☐ 2005 ☐ 2006

VETERAN'S PERSONAL HISTORY (Please print or type)

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

KWVA Membership # _____ Expiration Date: _____

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

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

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: Fax: _____

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

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

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

VETERAN'S MILITARY BIOGRAPHY

Branch of Service: _____ Service Number: _____

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

Unit Assigned: _____ Location of Unit: _____

Rank Achieved in Korea: _____ Highest Rank Achieved: _____

Personal Military Decorations: _____

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

Veteran's Signature: _____ Date _____

Please complete and mail, with deposit of \$300 per person, (check or money order), made out to Military Historical Tours. (This deposit is fully refundable at anytime and for any reason, since there are more applicants than the limited amount of Revisit space available.) KWVA Revisit Program, c/o Military Historical Tours, Inc., 4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304, Tel: 703-212-0695 Fax: 703-212-8567.

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

Background

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

KVA Eligibility

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

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

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

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

Privileges Extended Courtesy of KVA

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

B. Tour of Seoul and its vicinity: itinerary

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

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

Miscellaneous

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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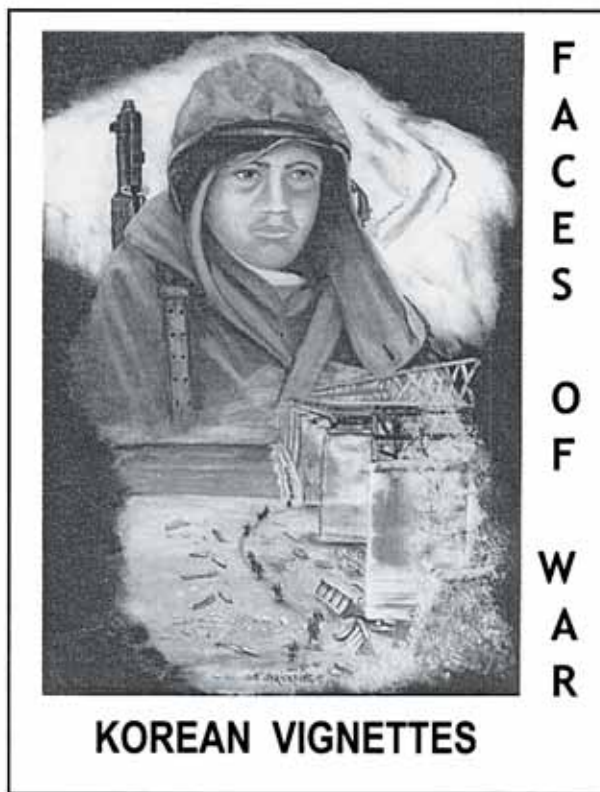
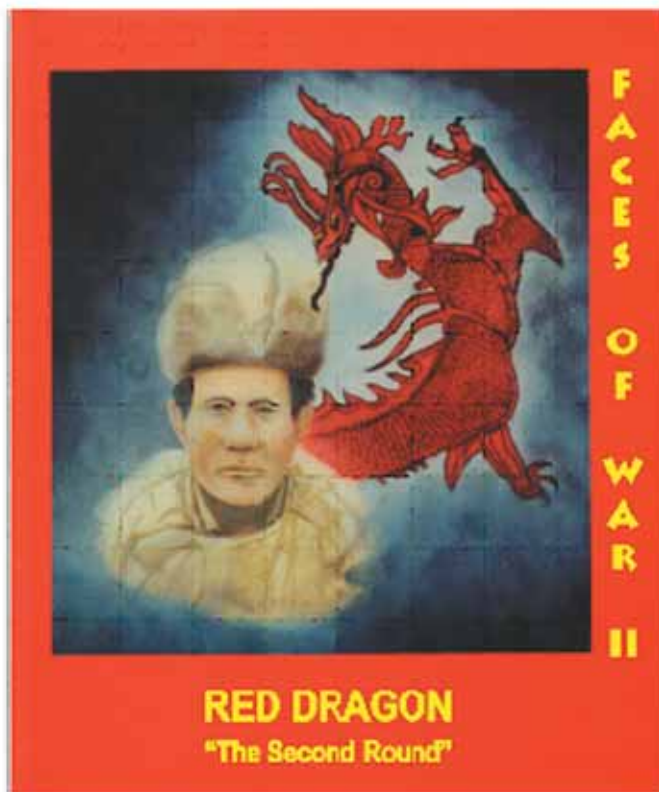
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Korean Battlefield Tours for 2004

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

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Sponsored by the 2nd Infantry Division Association and the 2nd 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 2nd 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 3rd 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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CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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

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

B. Regular Members.

1. **Service in United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, said service being within Korea (September 3, 1945-June 25, 1950), within and without Korea (June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955), or who, as a member of the armed forces of the United States as defined by U.S.C. Title 10, served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1955 shall be eligible for membership. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, so long as the individual meets the service requirements.

2. **Medal of Honor.** Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service in Korea during the Korean war era shall be eligible for life membership.

3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward shall be eligible for life membership.

4. **United Nations Command and Korean Army.** Any person who served honorably in the armed forces of the United Nations command or in the Republic of Korea armed forces during the Korean War era and thereafter shall be eligible to membership. 90% of members must be United States Veterans, 10% can be others

5. **Gold Star Mothers.** Any woman whose son was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership,

6. **Gold Star Wives.** Any woman whose husband was killed in action or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership.

C. **Associate Members.** Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for regular membership and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the charter and bylaws shall be eligible for associate membership in the association.

Korea 50 Plus Years Ago

Photos from LLOYD E. MOORE 14004 E. Scatter Ridge Road, Athens OH. 45701
(Thank you Lloyd for photos and letter. I will use remaining photos in next issue. Editor.)



< Children near wire barrier and 'village. north of Seoul and near the stabilized battle line.

A boy holding two dead pheasants. He has a Staff Sergeant emblem on his shirt. >



< A girl with a baby on her back at Song Dong Re.

Five children near Song Dong Re. >



A man on Tach ong-do Island standing on a sand bank.

Korea taken during the last year of the war when the military line was mostly stabilized. I was a member of A company of the 1st Amphibious Tractor Battalion of the Fleet Marine Force.

The Battalion was located near Song Dong Re on Kumpo Peninsula, across the Yomha River, across from Kangwha Do Island.

During my year I was shortly at the stabilized battle line north of Seoul. Our part of Kumpo Peninsula was subject to artillery fire from the north. The only return fire my group made was on occasion when we fired 50 cal. machine guns across the Han River which had branched (Yomha R. and the Im Jim R. branched) around Kangwha Do Island.

We had Amphibious Landing exercises on Tach ong-do Island.

The part of my year in Korea that I value most was seeing the Korean people in their rice paddies, villages, and Inchon. I have warm memories when I look at the pictures I took of them.



A man with an A-frame pack on his back on Kumpo Peninsula.

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