

APPLICATION FOR KVA SEOUL REVISIT TOUR

KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose: "To express the gratitude of the Korean Government towards Korean War Veterans who took part in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to October 15, 1954."

Veteran's Personal History (Please type or print)

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____ Date of Birth _____

KWVA Members# _____ Expiration Date _____

Companion Name/Relationship _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Veteran's Passport# _____ Expiration Date _____

Companion's Passport# _____ Expiration Date _____

NOTE: If you do not have a current valid passport or have just applied to KVA, write "applied for" on # line

Veteran's Military Bibliography

Branch of Service _____ Service Number _____

Period of Service in Korean War (month/year) from _____ thru _____

Unit Assignment _____ Location of Unit _____

Rank Achieved in Korea _____ Highest Rank Achieved while in Service _____

Personal Military Decorations for Valor _____

Veterans's Certification

I hereby certify that I have never previously accepted a KVA (Seoul) Revisit tour and that I am a member in good standing (or have applied) with the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA).

Veteran's Signature _____ Date _____

Complete and mail this form along with a \$300 deposit per person (check, money order or Visa/Mastercard only) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for all applications submitted sixty days or less prior to departure.

Credit Card Authorization

I, _____ hereby authorize Military Historical Tours to make charges to my _____ credit card, Account#: _____ Expiration date: _____

in consideration for airline tickets and any other travel or transportation services or products as requested by me or authorized users of this credit card.. Signature: _____

Mail To...

KWVA Revisit Korea Program
c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS
4600 Duke Street, Suite 420
Alexandria, VA 22304-2517

Phone: 703-212-0695
Fax: 703-212-8567
E-mail: mht@miltours.com
www.miltours.com

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 War and to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

KVA's Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible if you are:

1. A veteran of the Korean War and /or a war correspondent of any of the 21 nations which came to assistance of the Republic of Korea between 25 June 1950 and 15 October 1954.

2. An immediate family member of one who was killed in action in the Korean War.

Note: You are permitted to take a spouse or one immediate descendent with you to Korea. The family member must be lodged in the same hotel room with you in Korea.

Privileges Accorded Veterans by the KVA, Seoul

1. Hotel accommodations (two persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation, while in Korea for six days and five nights.

2. Tours of Seoul and vicinity. The visits are to Panmunjom, North Korean Invasion Tunnels, Korea 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 battle sites and/or Incheon may be made through the local tour guide.

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

Sundry Notes

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

2. Participants are required to have a valid passport: a visa is not required for visits of 15 days or fewer in Korea.

3. KVA/Seoul is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to, personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of like due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip cancellation insurance is available and highly recommended.

4. Transportation costs to and from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program.

5. Applications will be received/accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

Note: If you have previously accepted an official KVA/Seoul Revisit tour from any sponsoring association or group, you are NOT eligible to participate again. The reason is that so many veterans have not gone before so they get the "first right of return."

Because former Revisit Program participants have their name in the KVA/Seoul's computer database, please do not try to beat the system. If your name is rejected because of prior participation, all of us will be embarrassed and an eligible Korea War veteran might miss the opportunity to participate.

6. If you want to use your frequent flier miles or other "free" transportation, you will be charged an administrative service fee of \$300 per person.

Caution: Not traveling with KWVA group air contract can result in much higher post-tour costs to China and other Pacific location.

Note: Should you desire to have a single room or take additional family or friends with you, this can be arranged for an additional cost. Any such requests must be made in writing.

Revisit Korea

■ Article follow up with Donald and Kyung Burton

By Paul Elkins

On 14-November-2004, I had an article published in the Los Alamos [NM] Monitor about our April (2004) tour of the Korean War Battlefields. Some time later I got a call concerning the article from a nice Korean lady, Kyung Burton, who lives in Los Alamos.

As I indicated in the article, my wife Sue and I were favorably impressed with the tour and the Korean people. I asked Kyung if we could meet with her and learn more about her native land. We met her and her husband, Don, for a couple hours and had a very good conversation. We agreed to meet again after the holidays.

Kyung is a former vice-president of the Korean-American Association in the San Francisco Bay Area. Don is currently a physicist in X-Division of the Los Alamos National Lab, and a veteran who served in Korea as a captain in the 2nd Engr Bn, 2nd ID in 1969. Kyung has visited Korea many times over the last 35 years, and has observed the many changes that have taken place in her native land.

She was born in the town of Buyo, and lived there during the war. It is west of Taejon, now Daejeon. She said the fighting was not too bad in her town, but still very



The Burtons and the Elkins

scary for a child. She also said that some of her relatives from Seoul moved in with them during the war years.

The fighting in and around Taejon was very severe. This is where the battered remnants of the 24th ID held off the NKPA for two additional days as requested by LtGen Walker. This gave LtGen Walker time to get two more desperately needed divisions in country. In so doing, MajGen Dean, commander of the 24th ID, fought off tanks in the city and was later captured after evading the NKPA for 36 days. The NKPA committed many atrocities in the vicinity, but thankfully not near Kyung's home.

Paul Elkins, PO Box 348,
Kasilof, AK 99610

(907) 260-6612 p.s.elkins@att.net

NOTE: Paul Elkins' story appeared in the Mar/April issue, pp. 73-77, under the name of Paul Evans. His real name is Elkins. We apologize for the error.

VA Adds Former POW and Purple Heart designation to the Veterans Identification Card (VIC)

VA has added Former POW and Purple Heart (PH) designations on its VIC. These designations are in addition to the Service-Connected designation already displayed on the VIC.

The cards have a photo of the veteran on the face of the card, and identifying information imbedded using bar code and magnetic strip technology. Cards are issued to veterans enrolled in the VA health care system, and are used for identification and administrative processing purposes. The VIC cannot be used as a credit or an insurance card, and it does not authorize or pay for care at non-VA facilities.

Former Prisoner of War and Purple Heart recipients who are currently enrolled with VA and have a current VIC photograph on file will automatically be sent an updated VIC commencing early May, 2006.

Former POWs and/or Purple Heart recipients who are enrolled but have not yet been issued a VIC may request the new card by visiting their local medical center to have their photo taken.