

2008 Revisit Korea Dates Received

We asked the Korea Veterans Association (KVA) in Seoul to give us the months for the 2008 Revisit Korea dates early (this fall) so that you could make your plans sooner. They have responded; the 2008 months are May, June, September, and November.

The exact dates and quota amounts will not be received until after the first of the year, as usual, since they have a budgeting cycle to go through. However, this gives you advance planning months to get your applications in. (Eligibility and application form can be found elsewhere in *The Graybeards*).

New eligibility for an official Revisit Korea tour:

- The widow, or direct descendent, of a veteran killed in the Korean War OR one who has subsequently died never having returned to Korea.
- The widow, or direct descendent of a veteran who, for physical reasons, is unable to travel to Korea.
- A veteran (who has never gone before) is now allowed to take a “companion” with him/her to assist those physically impaired and do not have a spouse or direct descendent who can accompany them.

Note: The direct effect of this change is that a veteran who has

gone to Korea before can now accompany a “buddy” to help him/her through airports and on the ground tours in Korea, e.g., by pushing a wheel chair.

These changes were all requested by our President, Lou Dechert, on several official trips to Korea this year on behalf of KWVA.

These Revisit Korea quotas always go very fast, so you should not hesitate in submitting your request. Just indicate on the application which month you prefer in 2008. We will do our very best to meet your request—which is all the more reason to get your application in early!

For more details call us at 800-722-9501 or 703-212-0695 in Alexandria, Virginia.

Sincere and fraternal regards,

Warren Wiedhahn

Korea, 1950

Revisit Korea Coordinator

KWVA Revisit Program C/O Military Historical Tours

4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304 USA

800-722-9501 * 703-212-0695 * FAX 703-212-8567

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actually “O” Negative.

I guess I will settle for finding out what happened to the 822nd.

Robert McKeever, 1083 E. Rio Mesa Trail,
Cottonwood, AZ 86326-4931

Missing Documentary

I have been trying to obtain a documentary video that was done by the BBC or an affiliate back in the late 1980s. This documentary was made up of interviews of South Korean soldiers and their allies, and North Koreans and their allies.

At the time I was a member of the KWVA and went to Radio City, NY, for the interview, along with charter member of the KWVA Victor Gerst. Other members of the KWVA were also interviewed.

Canadian members of the KWVA told us that this documentary was shown in the early 1990s in Canada and the UK, but as far as I know it was not shown in the U.S. Vic Gerst has since passed away, as probably have others who were interviewed and who may have never received the chance to see this documentary.

I have tried unsuccessfully to obtain this video over the years, but to no avail. I have contacted the BBC in Canada and the UK, as well as video outlets via the internet.

I would like to know if any one in the KWVA has seen this documentary, or may know where or how I might purchase a copy.

Thank you for any help you may render me.

George G. Walker, Sr., dadog8g@comcast.net
Formerly of Co “I,” 27th Inf. Regt., 25th Inf. Div.
(Korea, April 1952-March 53)

Reunion Calendar 2008

To post your Reunion Dates, send your information to Reunion Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT, or by email to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. The preferred format is: Unit, Date, Place, Point of Contact (POC). Provide as much POC info as possible, e.g., name, address, phone #, email address. Many of our readers do not use email, so contact information is important. Entries are posted on a “first come, first served basis” as space allows. The KWVA is not responsible for the accuracy of the entries, nor is inclusion guaranteed. Just a suggestion: do not use *The Graybeards* as the only means of publicizing your reunion. Occasionally, reunion notices cross in the mail or get misdirected, technical glitches interfere with publication, etc. Therefore, it is a wise idea to have an alternative method of publicizing your reunion.

MARCH

USS Cowell (DD-547), all crews, 26-30 March, Greenville, SC. POC: L. D. Salley, 19 Auburn Street, Greenville, SC 29609-4043, (864) 268-3365, lsalley2@bellsouth.net

APRIL

19th and 34th Infantry, 25-27 Apr., Pigeon Forge, TN, Holiday Inn Express. POC: Bob Taylor, 302 Thunder Road, Brevard, NC 28712-7740, (828) 884-9593, bobnjoan@citcom.net.

MAY

USS Soley (DD-707), 12-May 18, Plymouth, MA. POC: Eugene Blum, 6749 San Benito Way, Buena Park, CA 90620-3741, (714) 527-4925, eblum3@juno.com, or www.usssoley.org.

JUNE

KMAG, 27-29 June, Minneapolis, MN. POC: Joe Domagala 17705 County Road 24, Plymouth, Minnesota, 55447, iidomagala@aol.com

NOTE: We are also looking for a KMAG Officer willing to attend and give a 20-30 minute speech on Saturday to the attendees.

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 Biography

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' 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 Phone: 703-212-0695
c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS Fax: 703-212-8567
4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 E-mail: mht@miltours.com
Alexandria, VA 22304-2517 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.

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NEWS RELEASES from the United States Department of Defense

No. 860-07 IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 10, 2007 Media Contact: (703) 697-5131/697-5132 Public/Industry(703) 428-0711

Marine Missing In Action From Korean War Is Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Pfc. Domenico S. Di Salvo, U.S. Marine Corps, of Akron, Ohio. He [was] buried July 12 in Seville, Ohio.

In late November 1950, Di Salvo was a member of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Regiment, of the 1st Marine Division, then deployed near Yudam-ni on the western side of the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea. On Nov. 27, three Communist Chinese Divisions launched an attack on the Marine positions. Over the next several days, U.S.

forces staged a fighting withdrawal to the south. Di Salvo was lost on Dec. 2, 1950, as a result of enemy action near Yudam-ni. He was among several in his company buried by fellow Marines in a temporary grave near the battlefield.

During Operation Glory in 1954, the North Korean government repatriated the remains of U.S. and allied soldiers. Included in this repatriation were sets of remains associated with Di Salvo's burial. That year, U.S. officials identified five of these individuals. One repatriated individual could not be identified at that time and was buried as an unknown in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (The Punchbowl) in Hawaii.

In November 2006, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) exhumed remains from the NMCP believed to be those of Di Salvo.

Among other forensic tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the JPAC used dental comparisons in Di Salvo's identification.

Conspicuous gallantry...

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pleasure in presenting the

Medal of Honor to

MILLETT, LEWIS L.

Rank and organization: Captain, U.S. Army, Company E, 27th Infantry Regiment. Place and date: Vicinity of Soam-Ni, Korea, 7 February 1951. Entered service at: Mechanic Falls, Maine. Born: 15 December 1920, Mechanic Falls, Maine. G.O. No.: 69, 2 August 1951.

Citation: Capt. Millett, Company E, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action. While personally leading his company in an attack against a strongly held position he noted that the 1st Platoon was pinned down by small-arms, automatic, and antitank fire. Capt. Millett ordered the 3d Platoon forward, placed himself at the head of the 2 platoons, and, with fixed bayonet, led the assault up the fire-swept hill. In the fierce charge Capt. Millett bayoneted 2 enemy soldiers and boldly continued on, throwing grenades, clubbing and bayoneting the enemy, while urging his men forward by shouting encouragement. Despite vicious opposing fire, the whirlwind hand-to-hand assault carried to the crest of the hill. His dauntless leadership and personal courage so inspired his men that they stormed into the hostile position and used their bayonets with such lethal effect that the enemy fled in wild disorder. During this fierce onslaught Capt. Millett was wounded by grenade fragments but refused evacuation until the objective was taken and firmly secured. The superb leadership, conspicuous courage, and consummate devotion to duty demonstrated by Capt. Millett were directly responsible for the successful accomplishment of a hazardous mission and reflect the highest credit on himself and the heroic traditions of the military service.