

Election Issue! Election Issue! Election Issue! Election Issue!

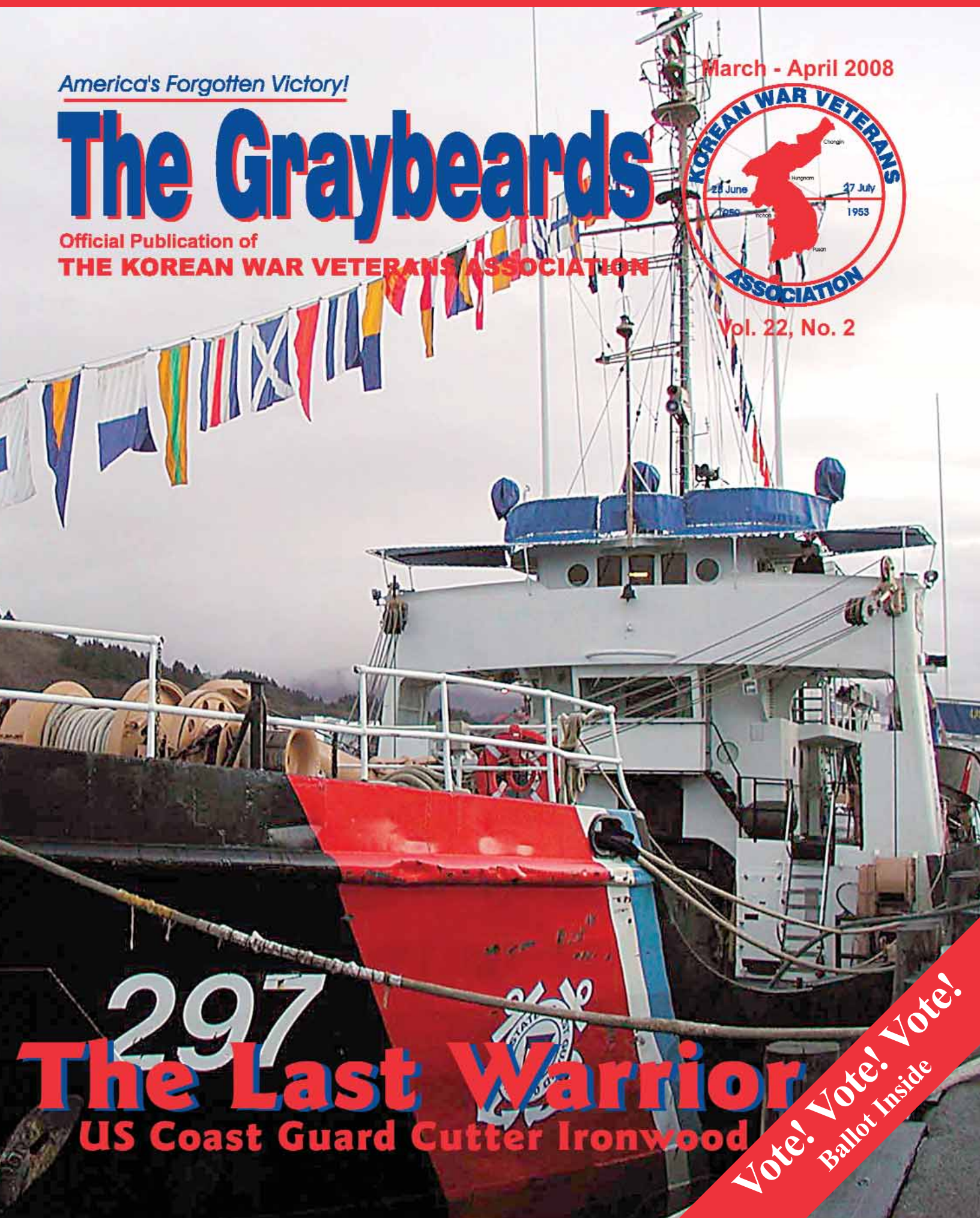
America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



Vol. 22, No. 2



297
The Last Warrior
US Coast Guard Cutter Ironwood

Vote! Vote! Vote!
Ballot Inside

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), Camp Beauregard, LA. It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. It is not sold by subscription.

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From the President

Louis T. Dechert

THIS WE'LL DEFEND!

This is my next to last article ever for *The Graybeards*. It has been a real privilege associating with the best magazine publishing team in the "business:" Art Sharp and Jerry Wadley. As Art informed you in the Nov/Dec 2007 issue, he and I—and Dr. Wadley—did not begin on the best of terms in August and September, 2004. But I developed a great admiration and respect for them personally and professionally. In addition, my admiration and respect have grown for all the members of the KWVA who are committed to the purposes for which we fought and for which Bill Norris and his buddies founded our Association. Thank you, Art and Jerry—and thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for supporting the KWVA today AND WORKING FOR THE FUTURE.

My congratulations to a recently honored pair of KWVA members, John W Sonley (R011980) and Joseph P Genduso (LR04055). The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) appointed patriots Sonley and Genduso National Aides-de-Camp to the Patriot National Commander of the USA.

John has been the KWVA National Sergeant-at-Arms during my entire four years as KWVA leader. He is a veteran of the 5th RCT, Korea. Joe, also a combat veteran, has stood both vigils guarding our National Monument with Bill Scott and me. Joe is a Regional Commander of the MOPH, and John is a Department leader "in the chairs." Congratulations, Patriots!

As I noted earlier, KWVA members elected several of us four years ago to defend—and expand—the KWVA. This we have done despite opposition by a certain hate slate which assumes that 98% of our members will believe anything they throw at them. Some of them forever decry that the membership is never told what is going on. Well, I have kept the membership informed, and so have Art Sharp, all the Board Chairmen, and appointed members of the Administration—yet the snarl (lie) comes that I am using the magazine for propaganda purposes. Well, which is it: informing the members, or pro-administration propaganda? I know the dif-

ference and I know the duties and responsibilities of both of the jobs to which I was elected, something that escapes the < 2 % hate slate and their supporters. I'll leave the rest of this argument to Art Sharp. Don't miss his editorial in this issue—and don't miss Director (Brigadier General) Tom Edwards's article (unsolicited), also in this issue.

Meanwhile, I offer the following summary of good news for our members.

- KWVA's membership is growing despite a death rate of over 11% during a recent 36-month period. Thank you Annelie Weber, Jake Feaster, Jim Doppelhammer, and all the Chapters and Departments who have worked so hard catching up!

- Jim Doppelhammer and Jake Feaster keep the membership database up to date, ensuring accurate membership figures for the first time in several administrations.

- In submitting to three independent audits for the first time ever, members are assured that KWVA's financial house is in order.

- While those who yell the loudest about KWVA's bylaws, yet never propose an amendment, were insistently "doing their thing," the Board of Directors, The Graybeards, The Website, and the hundreds of members who have attended Annual Meetings over the past four years have cooperated, according to the Bylaws, upgrading our bylaws and created the Standard Procedures Manual. Copies of these documents have been provided and their continuing development has been posted on the website for over 1,000 days and counting.

I thank all of those who have served in this Administration—some 41 persons overall, at any one time, for over the past 1,380 days. Contrast that to the previous 4-to 8-man rule of the 10 or 12 years of the KWVA before 2004! This has been the most inclusive administration ever to serve our members—and the one providing the most information by all available means. We need to continue progressing in that direction.

I hope that all members will remember when they vote what we once so strongly believed: FREEDOM IS NOT FREE. Then,

with that in mind, I hope they will choose the future which the great silent majority of this organization has wanted for so many years. We can have that future, but it depends now on every one of the 16,000+ eligible members voting instead of allowing the same 2,100 to 4,500 to set our course. Please vote for the future of the KWVA and for the Mutual ROK-USA Alliance.

Many ask me who I am voting for and who I support. Some people would believe it would be inappropriate for me to express myself about that in *The Graybeards*. Since the Department of California and Chapter 270, Department of Texas, have each established websites committed to honorably and honestly covering the 2008 KWVA Election, I will express myself there, if and when appropriate. Check out www.dcakwva.org/kwva_national_election_2008.html and www.kwvavoterinfo.org.

The following was received by cable a short while ago.

.....

March 19, 2008

Dear Colonel Dechert:

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation for your attendance on the occasion of my inauguration as the Seventeenth President of the Republic of Korea on February 25, 2008.

Your presence at the inauguration serves as a testament to the close friendship between the Republic of Korea and the United States of America and will continue to serve as a source of encouragement as our two nations work together to bolster bilateral ties further. Your support and cooperation are truly valuable to me as I embark on my presidency.

Please accept my sincerest wishes for your good health, happiness and every success in your noble endeavors.

Sincerely,

Lee Myung-bak, President
Republic of Korea

.....

I hope that the overwhelming numbers of good members of the KWVA—you, the

Decent, Silent and Great Majority—will realize that those words are for each of you.

Finally, I thank you for the many honors which you gave to me as your leader the past some 1,430 days. It was a great privilege to meet the men and women of good will and

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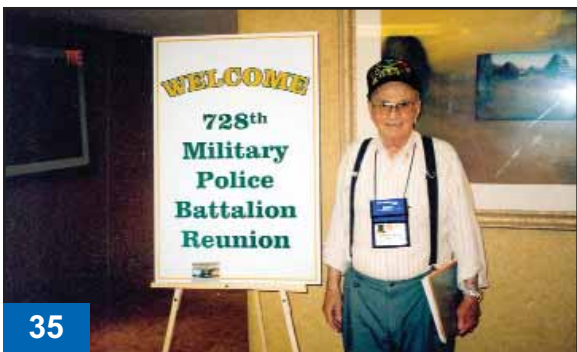
COVER: CCG IRONWOOD DECOMMISSIONING

After 57-years of service, three wars, eight homeports and more than a half-million nautical miles, the Coast Guard Cutter Ironwood was retired from military service. The 180-foot buoy tender was decommissioned at the Northern Lights Recreational Facility at the Integrated Support Command Kodiak, Alaska, on October 6, 2006. The Ironwood, which was commissioned on Oct. 11, 1943, served in World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam War. It was the only United States ship left on active duty awarded the Korean Service Medal.

Photo courtesy of U.S. Coast Guard



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The Editor's Desk

Art Sharp



Do you want to see entries like these written by "Slate" supporters in "Feedback?"

****Let's restore dignity to the KWVA*

Warning To The Members Of KWVA!

Warning:

Be on the lookout for these thugs.

All The Presidents Men

They should be considered armed and dangerous.

Only let them approach with extreme caution.

If they attack you, feel free to use all necessary force, which is reasonable under the circumstances in order to defend yourself from their possible hateful attacks.

They are most likely found traumatizing PTSD veterans, elected officers, wives of members and those who dare question their rule!

You must be prepared to protect yourself against the KWVA president and his fellow yes men who will lie for him and they are known to be held above the law, and will not be prosecuted for illegal acts because they are members of a Veteran Organization.

Report any attacks by All The Presidents Men to your chapter and state leaders.

It is abundantly clear that we, the members, must protect ourselves from the corrupt Ethics and Grievance Committee. These men are a disgrace to the Korean War Veterans Association.

Their next attack should come in the form of *The Graybeards* magazine.

Do not believe what you read.

Our only hope for survival rest in the coming KWVA election.

You must not vote for anyone remotely connected to this Fascist Regime.

Time For A Change!

Post this on your bulletin board at your next chapter meeting place.

Signed, A former dishonorably discharged member

Or how about this one from another "Slate" supporter?

****All we want is the KWVA's money and a return to yesterday*

We only want to be the KWVA, Inc New York, New York. Nothing more and nothing more. It is those that have other agendas and other names that need to get in those organizations

Well, I will let other KWVA leaders refute the "Slate's" supporters' mistruths, allegations, innuendoes, etc., in their own manner. As for me, I will defend *The Graybeards* against what it might become if "The Slate" should by some miracle gain control of the KWVA in the current election.

give us back our money, and let them go their way.

We remain firm in the old KWVA with out the complete disregard for the membership and wht they think.

I understand there is 4 KW orgaizations that you may want to choose from .

Signed, A dissatisfied member who is on probation

Well, you might see such entries if "The Slate" has its way. The members want to implement a "Sound Off" column that will encourage KWVA members to contribute material like the two above. Hey, why not? After all, the current editor of *The Graybeards* is an extortionist. He'd fit right in.

Whoa!! Let me explain that. Allegations to the contrary, I am not an extortionist. But, one member of "The Slate's" supporters has accused me of being one, with absolutely no evidence to back it up. In an unsigned message, one of them wrote (with my comments in italics):

Nothing much in the "Graybeards," touted as the "best veterans magazine ever," by some, who can't see any further than the pictures and glowing accounts of great service provided by the current administration. *(That is an insult to almost 17,000 of you readers, who the writer perceives as too dumb to see his perceived truth.)*

The whole issue was a contradiction of sorts. Editor Art Sharpe, once more declared to all 17,000 subscribers that he and only he had editorial jurisdiction over the magazine. *(Note that the writer cannot even spell my name correctly. That is a favorite trick of "The Slate's" supporters. They deliberately misspell their targets' names, as if that is going to insult them. Sticks and stones and all that.)*

Additionally, he pasted little tag ads in the magazine insisting that all contributions be sent to

him. *(That allegation—allegation, hell—it's a lie, and completely unfounded. Moreover, it is libel, which is defined as a false publication, as in writing, print, signs, or pictures, that damages a person's reputation. There is a prescribed KWVA procedure through which all donations are forwarded to the treasurer, regardless of whom they are sent to. I have never solicited donations— and I never will. Let the accuser prove otherwise.)*

Okay, back to the matter at hand: the proposed "Sound Off" column.

Some of you may remember that I suggested in my Nov/Dec 2007 editorial column that Byron Dickerson might not be the best person for the job. I received a lot of positive feedback for that column. Two respondents—who were in the decided minority—suggested that they fear I doth protest too much about having my integrity attacked. Did I? I think not.

And am I protesting too much at being called an extortionist? Again, I think not. What would you do if your integrity and reputation were attacked?

Let's face it: these "Slate" supporters will not quit attacking me personally or the current administration until they have proven to themselves that we are responsible for global warming, genocide, fratricide, patricide, matricide, suicide, a seven-course meal and a side, or all the other "cides" currently plaguing Planet Earth, the rest of the planets, our universe, and all other universes, known, unknown, and yet to be discovered. They will do all this without any proof, of course, as is their wont.

Well, I will let other KWVA leaders refute the "Slate's" supporters' mistruths, allegations, innuendoes, etc., in their own manner. As for me, I will defend *The Graybeards* against what it might become if "The Slate" should by some miracle gain

control of the KWVA in the current election.

First, let me refresh your memories about "The Slate," which comprises eight people. (I have included in parentheses next to their names the offices for which they are running): Byron Dickerson (President), Mike Doyle (1st VP), Glen E. Berry (2nd VP), Luther Dappen, Clyde Hooks, David A. McDonald, Wilmer "Bill" Olson, and Luther Rice (Directors). The members of "The Slate" have stated loudly and clearly that they want to see some changes in *The Graybeards*. As the editor, I would object strenuously to the changes.

I am proud of what we have done to turn *The Graybeards* into a professional-looking, information filled, non-rancorous publication. I do not worry about being sued for libel or learning that our insurance company has dropped our coverage because of the contents of the magazine. All that may change if "The Slate" gets elected.

What is "The Slate" planning? Here are

their goals for *The Graybeards* (with my italicized comments in parentheses):

Byron Dickerson - Candidate for President

*A new feature for *The Graybeards* will be a "Sound Off" column for members to speak their minds—whether agreeing or disagreeing with the administration and/or the organization. *(That used to be a regular feature of The Graybeards. It led to nothing but rancor and insults traded between and among members. We cannot go back to that—especially if we want to retain our insurance that protects us against libel suits.)*

Clyde Hooks - Candidate for Director

*I would like to see the "Feedback/Return Fire" section of *The Graybeards* expanded to include concerns of the members, regardless of whether they are in praise or critical of the organization and its administrators. *(Ditto my comments regarding Mr. Dickerson's vow.)*

**The Graybeards* should not be used as

an organ to promote the serving administration while at the same time criticizing those who might be in opposition to them. The editor of the magazine shall endeavor to fully meet his responsibilities as outlined on page 14 of the Standard Procedure Manual with no personal input. *(In other words, the editor should do exactly what the "serving administration" says he/she should do, editorial independence be damned. That is not how I work.)*

David McDonald - Candidate for Director

*My professional history qualifies me to help guide *The Graybeards*. *(For "guide," substitute the word "control.")*

Luther Dappen - Candidate for Director

*I will endeavor to see that *The Graybeards* is never used as a political tool again as it was in the November/ December issue and will support the necessary actions to insure this. A magazine for members of an organization should never be used to degrade and/or slander another member. *("Degrading" and "slander" will be the order of the day in The Graybeards if "The Slate" has its way. And, if it's in print, it's libel.)*

So, you tell me if the "Sound Off" entries these candidates propose are the types of entries you want to see in *The Graybeards*. I don't. In fact, I don't want them anymore than I want to be an extortionist—which, I repeat, I am not.

I will be glad when this election is behind us, and we can get back to publishing a magazine of which we can all be proud—without a "Sound Off" column or a slate that will invite lawyers and lawsuits because of the libelous material they seem eager to invite.

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

Members are invited to help underwrite the publications costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer Richard Hare, 1260 Southampton Drive, Alexandria, LA 71303. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

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Robert W. Barrow	MA	Alan F. Roberts, Sr.	MS
Raymond J. Bosch	OH	Ronald C. Ross	PA
Steve Bosma	CA	John W. Scherer	WI
In Memory of Albert C. Bosma, 45th Inf. Div.		John P. Shaloo, Jr.	NJ
Bernard Case	MI	Harold A. Smith	CA
John R. Duffy	MA	Ronald C. Smith	IL
George J. Evanick	PA	Paul F. Steen	MN
Hayward W. Gray	FL	Stanley J. Wilusz	RI
Chester Harvey	AZ	Arnold L. Wetzstein	NV
William Haugland	NY	CHAPTERS	
David A. Howard, Jr.	SD	Chapter 250	VA
Andrew T. Jackson	NJ	In Memory of past chapter members:	
Conrad A. Jenkins	WV	Zane Carter, Howard	
Honor of 3rd Div., 7th Inf. Reg. 1950-53		Don King, Delmer Wallen	
Judith Knight	SC	Chapter 270	TX
Arthur F. Kull	AZ	DONATION-GENERAL	
In Memory of those who didn't return		Jeff Kim	GA
Maynard E. Loy, Sr.	VA	In appreciation of KWVA	
William J. McGowan	CT	Daniel W. Moore	FL
Ted L. Maloy	TX	In Memory of Dick Eppleman KIA-Korea	
Loren H. Mitchell	OR	Robert E. Ringer	FL
W. Doyle NeSmith	GA	In Memory of Mrs. Susie Lee Biedel, Franklin, TN	
Mary E. Reid	WA	Susan E. Wagner	NY
		In Memory of Alfred Silver High School	

PRESIDENT from page 3

honorable service all across this great nation, and to listen as you spoke of your dreams and accomplishments.

God Bless you, God Bless America, and God Bless the Republic of Korea.

**Veterans Of Korea, Never Forgotten—
Unless We Forget Ourselves.**

*Louis T Dechert
National President
and Chairman of the Board*

SUBSIDIZED REVISIT KOREA TOUR PROGRAM 2008

FINAL DATES

MAY 18-24

JUNE 21-27

SEPTEMBER 26TH THRU OCTOBER 2ND

NOVEMBER 13-19



ASK US ABOUT THE CHINA TOUR EXTENSION

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COORDINATOR**

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Ask the Secretary

Quite often we receive questions that stump us. In such cases, we turn to our members for help. Here is an exchange between an Army Public Affairs Specialist and KWVA Secretary Frank Cohee. He did not have an immediate answer. Again, here is your chance to help.

Mr. Cohee,

Greetings from Fort Sill, Oklahoma! My name is Emily Kelley and I work in the Fort Sill Public Affairs Office. The reason I am contacting you is that a family member of a Korean War veteran contacted our local TV station inquiring as to how to find out who the oldest living Korean War veteran is. Long story short, the woman believes that her former father-in-law, at age 103, might be the oldest.

Who should I put her in contact with about this?

Thank you for your time!

Emily C. Kelley, Public Affairs Specialist
Fort Sill Public Affairs Office
Office: (580) 442-2521;
Cell: (580) 917-7960;
emily.kelley@conus.army.mil,
emily.c.oconnor@us.army.mil

Here is Frank Cohee's response:

Emily:

Sorry for the delayed response, but I have been trying to contact some other sources within our organization to see if anyone knew the answer to the question or if they knew how to get the answer. The only suggestion that I received was to try the VA Public Information Office in Washington. I did that, but could not find anything there. I also searched several other places, like Department of Defense. The closest I got was to find an article that was written by VAnguard sometime in the year 2000 about John George Painter, a World War I veteran. He was the oldest veteran known to VA at that time and celebrated his 112th birthday on September 2000. I will keep trying but right now I can not be of much help.

The gentleman that is 103 could very well be the oldest living Korean War veteran. I only wish that I could confirm it. I do want

to continue with the search as time permits. One thing that I would like to do is to put an article in our magazine, *The Graybeards*, and challenge our membership, of approximately 17,000, to see if any of them know of any other Korean War veteran that is older.

If later on I am able to find any additional information I will certainly let you know. At the same time I hope you will let me know if you are able to find the answer. In the meantime, my best regards,
Frank Cohee, National Secretary, Korean War Veterans Association

So there it stands. Hopefully, our members can shed some light on the subject. We did receive more information from the family:

I am the former daughter-in-law of who I think is the oldest Korean War Veteran. His name is Homer Stevenson, and he lives in a nursing home, Cedar Crest Manor, in Lawton, Oklahoma (near Ft. Sill, Oklahoma). On his birthday, March 25, 2008, he turned 103.

Time is ticking very fast, and our family would like to know if our claim is correct or not. I know there are a lot of brick walls in dealing with the VA and government, but hopefully with your help we can prove this or not.

Unfortunately I don't know the specifics as to Homer's units or deployments. I do know he was in Korea. I've seen many pictures to that effect. Any help you might be able to give us with that would be helpful.

Incidentally, my son will be the only one to carry on the Stevenson name. He has just taken his oath to serve in the Marine Corps. He left for boot camp 4-21-08, always admiring his grandfather for being in the service.

I hope that we can get this "oldest Korean veteran" status proven before Homer passes away. This would be a great legacy to leave to his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

If anyone has any information about Homer, reach me at (580) 549-4426 (home) or cell (580) 574-9225. My name is Gayle Stanton.

Missouri and Illinois grant high school diplomas too

In the Business section of the January-February edition, p. 9, Charley Price stated that "Several States, Florida among them, have passed legislation that grants a high school diploma to WWII veterans who left school to enter the Armed Forces during the period 1941-1945."

I received a call in response to that statement from KWVA member Albert W. Lemieux, Missouri Chapter 43, 5013 Outlook, Mission, KS 66202-1842, (913) 722-5340. He said he has received a high school diploma from the State of Missouri based on his service in Korea.

Obviously, in some states it applies to Korean War veterans as well as WWII veterans.

Coincidentally, Albert's picture was on page 25 of the January-February edition. Unfortunately, the caption says CID 44 and Albert Lemieux is identified as All Lemieux.

I also received a call from Frank Deglomine from IL, Chapter 23, 45 Petunia Cir, Matteson, IL 60443, (708) 720-2043, Bartholomew65@aol.com.

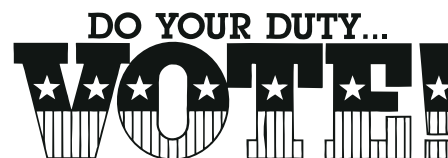
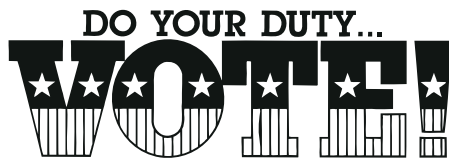
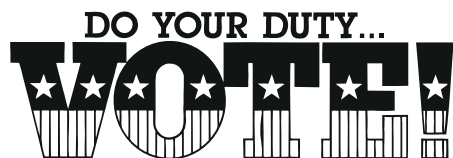
Frank actually led the charge in Illinois to persuade state legislators to include veterans of the Korean War in a bill that would allow local high schools to award diplomas to veterans who left school during WWII to fight for their country, and who were unable to return to high school to earn their diplomas.

That bill was signed into law August 21, 2001.

Frank Cohee, National Secretary

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:

www.KWVA.org



Notice to all members:

The candidate list is complete and we have a fine list of members willing to step up and work for you. Read the resumes and place your ballot accordingly. Their qualifications are quite extensive. Many have served as officers in other veterans groups, as well as the KWVA. Pick leaders, not followers. Pick individuals who have shown they will work for you.

DO NOT just follow the adage to go back to the good old days. Take the ballot out of this magazine and pick the new officers.

Individuals who promise to undo all the work of Board of Directors are not going to help the KWVA move forward. I request that every member submit a ballot. Be a part of the future of the KWVA.

Remember, yesterday is gone. We are all part of yesterday and we cannot change it. Tomorrow is always tomorrow, and we cannot wait for it to arrive before we work for the future. We are working for today. Today is here and will not go away. Help the elected officers work on your behalf by electing good members to replace those individuals who must step down due to time limits in office.

Effective upon the Closing Date of February 15th, all Applications for Office were verified by the Committee. The names have been submitted to the Secretary & the editor of *The Graybeards* for the printing of the ballots. The committee has submitted the names in alphabetical order for each position, not by seniority, as some individuals have been alleging.

Incidentally, the Ballot is in the centerfold of this issue of *The Graybeards*.

Your vote does count. Ask questions: do not be guided by the same old complaints. There are fifteen (15) elected officers working on your behalf. Talk to more than one. Talk to the old members and the newer members. We have a great organization.

The committee is here to serve you. If you have any questions, contact Chairman Thomas M. McHugh, Director 2007-2010 (See inside front cover for contact information.)

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M McHugh, Director
Chairman, Nominations & Elections Committee

For President

Byron W. Dickerson
William F. Mac Swain
Christ Yanacos

For 1st Vice President

Mike Doyle
James E. Ferris

For 2nd Vice President

Robert S. Banker
Glenn E. Berry

For Director

Leo D. Agnew
Jeffrey J. Brodeur
Luther Dappen
C. Clyde Hooks
George E. Lawhon
Tine P. Martin, Sr.
David A. McDonald
Wilmer "Bill" R. Olson
Mellant Palo
Luther R. Rice, Jr.

Unofficial Websites For Election Discussion and Information

Two websites, www.dcakwva.org/kwva_national_election_2008.html and www.kwvavoterinfo.org, have been established so interested individuals can discuss and cover the issues and candidates in the 2008 KWVA election.

NOTICE: The cost of a first-class stamp rises to 42 cents effective May 12, 2008. Please bear that in mind if you return your ballot after May 11th. You may, of course, continue to use your forever stamps after May 11th.

NOTICE: Due to the need to print election results and to accommodate the new administration, there may be delays in the distribution dates of the May/June and July/August issues of *The Graybeards*. We will do our utmost to get them out on schedule, however.

PRESIDENT CANDIDATES

BYRON W. DICKERSON



This is to announce my intent to run for the position of President of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

I presently serve as The First Vice President. Previously I served as the Second Vice President. I also serve on the Board of another non profit. Some of the things I would like to see in the KWVA.

1. Continue seeking a National

Charter.

2. A profit and loss statement in each issue of the Graybeards.
3. A letter to the Editor for complaints, etc.
4. Restoration and Peace
5. Cease Fire on all of the name calling and accusations, etc.
6. Open door policy, if you have a question it will be answered with respect.
7. Accountability on all issues.
8. Continue helping Veterans to receive their benefits.

I was born raised and attended school in Girard, Texas. I enlisted in the Army on the 3rd of August 1948. I arrived in Korea on the 5th day of January 1951. I was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division. I participated in several battles the last one being Heartbreak Ridge. I rotated from Korea on the 25th day of November 1951. I tried to put Korea out of my mind for the next 50 years. When I learned of the KWVA I joined. I served in Chapter 215 as the founding Judge Advocate.

My personal awards are, CIB, Good Conduct, And National Defense. Korean Service with four battle stars, U.S. Presidential Unit Citation, Korean Presidential Unit Citations and Others. I am a life member of KWVA, LR 22282, VFW, DAV, American Legion, CIA, 2nd Division Alliance, 2nd Division Association and the 23rd Inf. Regt. Assoc. I was discharged from the Army May 22, 1952;

I am 76 years old in good health married to the same wife for 55 years.

I retired from the U.S. Postal Service with 37years service. I consider it an Honor and Privilege to be a candidate for President and I solicit your vote and I promise that I will attend all called meetings and I understand that two unexcused absences could be used for removal from office. I am a life member therefore my dues will be current for the term 2008-2010. I have enclosed a separate signed official membership application showing eligible service and this statement releasing it for verification by the Nominating Committee.

*Byron W. Dickerson
314 S Horne St
Duncanville, TX 75116
(972) 298-2462*

WILLIAM F. Mac SWAIN



I submit this resume according to the KWV A Bylaws for placing my name on the ballot for National President of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. for the years 2008 - 2010.

I served as a Master Sergeant in the Weapons Platoon of Company "B", I 79th Infantry Regiment of the 45th Division from 1950 - 1952. I received the Combat Infantryman's

Badge, Korean Presidential Citation and other Service Medals while in Korea serving in the Chorwon Valley Area in 1951 - 1952.

I am a Life Member (LR26546) of the KWV A and a Charter Member of the General Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 in the Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas area. I have served two three-year terms as a Director with two years under one President and four years currently under a second President. I have worked primarily as a Bylaws Committee Member for two years and the Liaison between the KWV A and the Korean War Veterans National Museum for six years. I have also been the Bylaws Chairman for four years and was instrumental in writing and obtaining approval for a Standard Procedure Manual (SPM) to help all Officers and Directors with their tasks. I know the Bylaws and their intent and have worked with many veterans, who have volunteered as Bylaws Committee Members. We have been instrumental in suggesting Bylaws improvements and changes. This task requires the making of decisions to either suggest support or rejection to the Board of Directors to decide to either reject or pass the requested changes on to the membership. I have participated in the "Tell America Program" in our Chapter and thus know just how important chapters are to the KWVA. In fact chapters are our true public relations arm in keeping their communities informed about the Korean War and how it was the first successful war against spreading communism. They also honor those who gave their all by raising funds and erecting Memorial Monuments in their communities. In addition, I have served in the capacity of Board Chairman in other Associations, as well as having served as Secretary and Treasurer in the Chapter since its formation. I am also Treasurer of a church and thus have direct experiences in financial matters.

I understand the responsibilities of a President and recognize that the President must work with those individuals who volunteer for elections to positions on the Board of Directors or have been appointed with Board approval. The President must make decisions based on facts and with integrity. I have decided to not run on any ticket since I believe this fosters the beliefs that the President or any Board Member might be indebted to those individuals who have supported his candidacy.

I have heard the criticism of some of the things that the different administrations have fallen short on and I have plans to take care of some of them, which I believe have merit. I do not criticize others with name calling since I recognize that all of the veterans within the association do not process information the same as

myself. Having been a Test Engineer by profession, with a large Aeronautical Company as a supervisor, I have developed the ability to base my decisions on facts or to at least recognize that there are two sides to every story. I believe that a method for reporting the financial conditions of National to the membership can be accomplished and have a plan to make that happen. I also know what fiscal responsibility requires and will endeavor to make sure it is done. I recognize the task of President requires many hours of work, responsibilities, coordination and travel

I ask for your vote in this election for me to lead the KWV A forward while healing some self inflicted wounds. I will attend every called meeting of the Board of Directors and understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office. I am a Life Member (LR26546) thus my dues are current through the whole term of the office I am running for. My current address is 8452 Mary's Creek Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76116 and my telephone number is 817-244-0706. I have also attached a signed KWVA Official Application Form with my dates of service and other information and the signature on this resume and my Official Application Form releases both for verification by the Nominating Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

*William F. Mac Swain
8852 Marys Creek Dr
Benbrook, TX 76116
(817) 244-0706*

CHRIST YANACOS



This letter is to announce my candidacy for President of the KWVA. Presently, I am a National Director, currently serving as Chairman of the "Tell America Committee", previously having served as Assistant Sgt. At Arms, a member of the Ethics and Grievance Committee and Lake Erie Chapter #112 as Secretary.

I enlisted in the USAF in January, 1950 arriving in Korea in October, 1950 with the 6127th Air Terminal Group; combat Cargo Command where I served there both on ground and in the air as Assistant Load Master until August, 1951. I was later stationed in Japan and was Honorable Discharged in January, 1954.

I am a retired Law Enforcement Officer; a Graduate of the Ohio Peace Officer's Training Academy and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. I have also taken numerous courses from the Department of Justice with specialties in Evidence, Crime Scene Investigation, Court Security and many other disciplines.

Currently I am a Life Member of the KWVA, VFW and AMVETS. Memberships also include the IPA, Buckeye Sheriffs' Association, Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Association, F.O.E. and Blue Knights Motorcycle Club, having served in leadership roles in all of these organizations throughout the years. My involvement in law enforcement and my numerous affiliations with these various organizations have given me the business

experience needed to manage the KWVA in an effective and professional manner.

As President, I would like to see the State Department Presidents/Commanders have a greater involvement in National affairs. This would bring the "man on the street" member closer to National activities and devoting a section of the Graybeards to thoughts and articles written by the State Department heads.

As a life member, my dues are current. I understand the KWVA by-laws and will attend all called meetings. I understand that if I have two unexcused absences I could be removed from office. I release my application to the nominating committee for verification. I am proud to be a Korean War Veteran and a member of this prestigious organization.

I thank you for your consideration.

Your fellow veteran,

*Christ Yanacos, LR11094
6452 Brooks Blvd.
Mentor, OH 44060
440-257-5395*

1st VP CANDIDATES

MICHAEL J. DOYLE



My name is Michael J. Doyle [MIKE] It is my intention, with the help of you, the MEMBERSHIP, to seek and obtain the office of First Vice President in the KWVA the term of 2008 - 2010.

I served in the U.S. Army Infantry from 1952 - 1954. I was a machine gun ammo bearer in Company D 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea 1953-

1954. I was present on the main line of resistance and in support of Outpost Harry, when the ceasefire took place AT 10:00 P.M. on July 27th, 1953.

My awards include the Combat Infantry Badge, the Korean Service Medal, with two Bronze Service Stars, the National Defense Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Korean War Service Medal.

Prior to entering the Army I attended college, was then drafted, and after basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, I arrived in Korea in April 1953.

After my tour of duty in Korea I returned to college, graduated, and married my much loved wife, Betsy, (51 years ago this year). We have been blessed with six fine daughters and two equally fine sons, and nine (also fine) grandchildren, all of whom live near us except for one.

My work career included duties as: Liaison Engineer, Quality Engineer, Manufacturing Engineer, New Products and other engineering responsibilities. I also served as General Manager, Plant Manager and Owner of manufacturing plants

I believe my background in these disciplines, engineering with its step-by-step approach to solving problems, and my people management skills, my work in the Korean War Veterans Association,

and the Disabled American Veterans qualifies me to seek the office of First Vice President in OUR GREAT ASSOCIATION. THE KWVA

I am the immediate past president, two terms, of the Walton H. Walker Chapter 215 of the KWVA in the Arlington, Fort Worth, Dallas area of Texas. I have also served two terms as the Vice President of the Texas State Association of the KWVA, and I have also served as: DAV chapter Adjutant, Treasurer, Secretary, & Delegate to the National Convention. I am a member of Chapter 42 of the Disabled American Veterans, Grand Prairie, Texas.

I am currently serving as a National Director on The Board of Directors of the KWVA.

I would now like to discuss with you a need for improvement and change in attitude at the National level of the KWVA The last four years of management style of the KWVA has been one of direction from the top.

I am a very firm believer in member involvement and member direction of elected and or appointed offices and staff. These people should, in all aspects, serve the members. That is why they were elected and or appointed.

When I ran for the Office of Director, I ran on the basis of trying to obtain more Accountability. Accountability is still less than it should be. Our organization being a non-profit organization should be transparent. Openness, approachability and a willingness to address inquiries in a civil, non-confrontational manner should be minimal requirements for all elected and or appointed persons.

If you elect me to this position I pledge to do everything in my power to correct these shortcomings.

I ask for your support in this election. I cannot stress strongly enough how important your voting is.

It is my intention to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors. And I understand that two unexcused absences could lead to my dismissal from office. I am a life member #LR33526 and therefore my dues are paid in full.

*Mike Doyle
2418 Winewood LA
Arlington, TX 7613
(817) 459-2463*

JAMES E. FERRIS



I submit the following declaring my intent to run for the office of First Vice President. I will attend all called meetings knowing that if I miss two unexcused meetings I can be removed from office. My dues are up to date as I am a life member of the KWVA. A signed membership application form is attached, along with a recent picture. My resume is as follows:

I am a Charter member of the National Organization as well as my home Chapter (Central New York #105) and a life member of both. I have served as a Board Member, Finance Committee,

Bereavement Committee and Chapter Commander. I served eight (8) terms as President of the New York Department. I have served as a National Director, National Second Vice President. In addition I have served on the Resolutions Committee, the National Budget and Finance Committee and as such I Chaired the very successful fund raising committee, when the (M1 Rifle, Carbine and 45 Pistol) were offered. This fund raiser allowed us to place over \$80,000.00 into our National Treasury. I was recently Chairman of the 2007 Convention in RENO which from all reports was very successful. I am a proponent of enlisting new and younger people into our organization as long as they are qualified under our Bylaws. I support prudent financial planning and reporting of such to the membership.

I was employed for 35 years with American Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, where I held a managerial position. I retired in 1989 as Area Manager. During that time, I was involved in many facets of the organization, including the divestiture of the Bell System. I served on the Corporate Staff for several years and supervised the operation of my department throughout all of New York State and the New England States. I served with the United States Marine Corps from 1952 until 1955 and with the New York Guard for 17 years. I do not dwell on my military experience as I personally do not consider that relative to a Fraternal Veterans Organization.

I have been married to my wife Felice for 50 years. We have three daughters, two Sons in law and six Grandchildren. A family we are extremely proud of.

If elected, I will do my utmost to use my managerial skills and my vast experience in the National, State and Chapter organizations. I will ensure that all tasks presented to me will be dealt with in a fair, unbiased and competent manner. The desires of the membership will be the number one consideration behind any of my decisions. I shall be guided only by sound logic and intelligent advice.

With the above in mind I believe I am truly qualified and can contribute a great deal to the office of First Vice President.

*James E. Ferris, National 2nd Vice President
4311 Lazybrook Circle
Liverpool, NY 13088
315-457-1681*

2nd VP CANDIDATES

ROBERT S. BANKER



This letter is to announce my intention to run for the office of 2nd Vice President of the Korean War Veterans Association for the years 2008 to 2010. I have been an elected Director since 2005 and I am confident that I can now best serve as a member of the Association's Administration.

I served in Korea from May 1952 to June 1953 with the 25th Infantry Division, 8th Field Artillery Bn. and assigned to what was then known as the Wire Section. This included operating a switch-

board to direct phone calls into and out of the Battery.

Following separation from the U.S. Army, I graduated from College with a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Accounting. I was employed in the life insurance industry and subsequently earned Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant degrees.

I have been involved with Maryland Chapter #33 since 2000. I served as 2nd ViceCommander, 1st Vice Commander and then was elected as Commander in 2003. I have been the Chapter's Treasurer and Newsletter Editor for the last several years. I am extremely proud of the work of the Maryland Chapter, whose members are deeply committed to the Association. In fact, on June 25, 2007, through the Chapter's initiative, the State of Maryland dedicated Maryland Rt. #43 to the Korean War and Korea Service Veterans. This is the first such dedication in the United States to those who served during the war as well as those who served after the war. A photo of the site of this commemoration has been included in the new National application form.

Since being elected as a Director, I have attended all Board Meetings and I have been involved in numerous activities. I served as Chairman of the Nominations and Election Committee for two years as well as Co-Chairing the National Legislative Committee, whose main responsibility is the acquisition of a Federal Charter for this Association. This remains a work in progress but I certainly believe that the efforts of the KWVA will ultimately be successful.

At the request of President Louis Dechert, I have been proud and honored to represent the National Association and act on his behalf at a number of functions. Most recently, I had the pleasure of presenting a Charter to the newly organized Antietam Chapter #312, in Hagerstown, Maryland.

As I stated in my resume three years ago, it is my belief that it is essential that all counterproductive distractions concerning our Association be set aside so that all resources can be applied to strengthen our organization. I also believe that openness of views is the very foundation of understanding and, with that in mind, I invite anyone to either call or e-mail any concerns. My phone number and e-mail address is at the head of this letter.

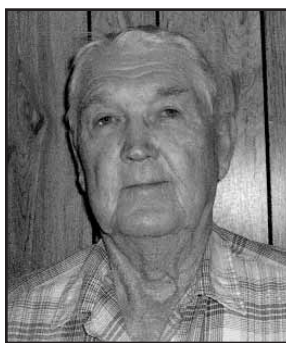
My dues are paid through the whole term of the office I am seeking. I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and I understand that two un-excused absences may be a reason for removal from office.

Sincerely,

*Robert S. Banker
516 Millwood Dr.
Fallston, MD. 21047
robertbanker@comcast.net
410-877-1935*

BALLOT ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE
VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE

GLENN E. BERRY



I am announcing my candidacy for the office of 2nd Vice President for the period of 2008-2010. I am a Korean War Veteran, serving in Korea with the 25th Infantry Div. From July 1950 to May 1951. I was assigned to the 25th Division, being stationed in Japan during the post WWII occupation in Jan. 1950 until the outbreak of the Korean War.

I enlisted in the army in August 1949 and received my basic training in the 10th Infantry Division, Ft. Riley, Ks. I returned there as a platoon Sergeant, after my Korean service and served there until my discharge in Sept. 1952.

I served 27 years with the Omaha Nebraska police department and retired as a sergeant. For 6 ½ years during this time period, I was a part-time Deputy U.S. Marshal, Dist. of Nebraska.

I belong to the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, KWVA, 25th Infantry Div. Association and the 35th Infantry Regiment Association. I have served as 2nd Vice Commander, and 1st Vice Commander at our local American Legion Post.

My dues are paid thru 2010. I will attend all meetings called and I understand that two unexcused absences from called meetings may result in my removal from office. I promise honesty and integrity and that my interest will always be for the good of the KWVA.

*Glenn E. Berry membership #RO 10780
624 E. Jefferson St.
Mankato, KS. 66956
785-378-3376 home
glenn@nckcn.com*

DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

LEO D. AGNEW



This letter is to announce my intention to run for the office of National Director of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. For the years 2008-2011.

I served in Korea from 1950-1952 with the 187th ARCT, Pathfinders, Intelligence/Reconnaissance. I served in the following areas Inje, Uijongbu, Wonton-ni, Opri, Hajoyane-ni, Punji-Pass as well as other locations.

And earned the rake of Sergeant First Class. I was Honorably Discharged after ten (10) years in the US Army Airborne. I purxued a career in Law Enforcement and earned my degree in Criminology.

As a Life Member (LR36218) of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc and Chapter #300 Boston Massachusetts. I have served as your National Judge Advocate for the past two (2) years. I have served through the chairs of the VFW and American Legion. I have been Chairman, judge Advocate and Secretary of the LTG James M. Gavin Chapter 820d Airborne Division

Association New England. Of the 82nd Airborne Division Association.

I am a Life Member of the following Veterans Organizations: Military Order Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, 820d Airborne Division Association, C47 Club, Pathfinders Association, Korean War Veterans Association Inc., Canadian Airborne Forces Association. I have membership in the 187th 'Rakkasan's' 11th Airborne Division Association, American Legion, 173rd Airborne brigade Association.

I am 76 in good health and widowed. My concerns are for the betterment of the Korean War veterans Association Inc. And its members. And to strive for the Associations continued success. I will be at every members beck-and-call to help in every possible way for their needs.

If elected I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that two (2) un-excused absences could be used for removal from office.

I release my application form for verification showing my eligible service. To the Nominating Committee.

Thank you for your consideration and confidence in voting for me.

*Leo D. Agnew
84 Prescott Street
Clinton, MA 01510-2609
978-733-1499
abn187thpf@aol.com*

JEFFREY J. BRODEUR



I am running for a second term as KWVA National Director. I am a Life Member of the KWVA (LR35528). I will attend all KWVA Board meetings and serve the membership to the best of my ability. I also understand that 2 unexcused absences is grounds for removal. and I release all information on my application to the Nominating Committee.

I was born in Boston in January of 1964 and served in the US Army from 1982-1989. I was a weapons platoon squad leader in Korea from Feb - Dec 1988 with B-4/7 CAV and B-5/17 CAV, 2nd Infantry Division and am a recipient of the Korea Defense Service Medal. My military service also includes service with the 25th Infantry Division and Massachusetts National Guard 26th Yankee Division. I worked for the US Postal Service from 1990 to 2001 while attending University of Massachusetts-Boston. I have a BA in Sociology/Criminal Justice (2001), an MA in Applied Sociology (2005) and a CAGS in Applied Sociology Forensics Services Program (2002). I am in many veterans organizations including the VFW, Amvets, DAV, American Legion, and founded the Korea Veterans of America Inc which later became KWVA Chapter #299, the largest Chapter in the Korean War Veterans Association. My present additional assignment is that of KWVA Membership Chairman.

As Membership Chairman:

- 1) We have raised membership every year since I have been KWVA Membership Chairman.
- 2) We have created new decals, pins, posters, patches and flyers to include all Korea Veterans. These can all be seen on the KWVA website at www.kwva.org.
- 3) We created the best national website in the country.
- 4) We sponsored many KWVA recruiting events in Korea.
- 5) We increased post war veteran membership in the KWVA.
- 6) We did several state bills helping post war Korea Veterans in PA, MA, ME and presently have a bill in NY trying to help post war Korea Veterans get recognition.
- 7) We created several KWVA Chapters.

By doing these things, we are trying to keep the legacy of the Korean War and its aftermath alive for decades to come. I say "We," because I work with a team on the Membership Committee. I believe we are all in this together. We need to move forward and saturate the United States and Korea with KWVA materials so we can educate the public on the Korean War, its aftermath, and the Korean War Veterans Association. A vote for me is a vote to keep the KWVA alive for many decades to come.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey J. Brodeur, LR35528
KWVA Life Member
48 Square Rigger Lane
Hyannis Ma 02601
508-790-1898*

LUTHER DAPPEN



This letter is to announce my candidacy for Director of the KWVA for the years 2008-2011. My membership number is LR7827. I am a life member, so my dues are paid through 2011. I am releasing my application form for verification for the nominating committee.

I was born on a farm in South Dakota in 1930. I joined the army shortly after high school graduation.

I served in Korea from November 1950 to September 1951. I was a member of the 25th Recon Company of the 25th Inf. Div. My rank while in Korea was a Corporal. Our Company had many casualties during this period of time, and I feel fortunate to have survived.

When I returned from Korea, under the GI Bill, I attended Northern State University and received a degree in Teaching. Later, I received my Masters degree in Education from the University of Wyoming. I taught in the public school in South Dakota and Iowa for 10 years. In 1965, I joined the Job Corps in Tamarac, Minnesota. My duties were counseling, motivating, and evaluating all Corpsmen. Four years later, Pres. Nixon decided to close most of the Job Corps Centers, so I was transferred to the Flandreau Indian School in South Dakota. This school is a off reservation boarding school serving Native American Indian youths grades 9-12. I was a guidance counselor at this school

until my retirement in 1992.

In the summer of 2000, I returned to Korea on the revisit program. Seoul, Korea was a big surprise to me, with all the modern sky scrapers. My thoughts were: Those P-51 's could not make it down the streets in their strafing runs like they did the 1st week of January 1951. The planes would do a belly roll, and head back to Japan.

In the year 2000, our KWVA Chapter 194 (South Dakota) was organized. The 1st two years I was elected vise president. From 2002-2004 I was elected and held the position of president.

I am a life member of the VWF, and American Legion, and past Commander. I am still active on the firing squad for local veteran funerals giving them their Military Honors.

I am willing to do the best possible job as a Director for the good of the KWVA. I am proud to be a Korean War Veteran and if I am elected, I will attend all meeting of the Board of Directors. I understand that 2(two) unexcused absence could be used for my removal from office.

*Luther Dappen
510 W. Pipestone Ave.
Flandreau, SD 57028
(605)997-2847
lhdappen@yahoo.com*

C. CLYDE HOOKS



I am announcing my candidacy for Director for the years 2008 through 2011 and I'm asking for your support. I believe in the equality of everyone who served world wide during the Korean War and all who have served in Korea at any time.

Qualifications:

I feel that I am fully qualified for the position of Director because of the following:

- Served as adjutant of a VFW Post.
- Served as treasurer and commander of a DAV Chapter.
- Served as adjutant of KWVA Chapter 255 since its formation in 2001.
- Completed organizing and have been the commander of the Department of South Carolina since its formation in 2006.
- Life member of the American Legion, the DAV, the KWVA and TREA.
- Member of the 40 & 8.
- Served on the National Bylaws Committee for the past three years.
- Attended three of the last four National Conventions and the Directors meeting at Gaithersburg, Md., last year, at my own expense.
- Served two tours in Korea, one with the Air Force during the War years, and one with the Army after the War.
- Served in the Army National Guard, before and after the Korean War.
- Served two tours in Vietnam and retired from the Army in 1972

with combined service of twenty-two years.

- Worked as a civilian — first for the Air Force, and then for the Army (civil service), retiring in 1995 with combined service of twenty-one years.

- Elected Commissioner of the Belvedere Fire District for a six-year term in 2002.

Objectives:

- If elected to the position of Director I will do whatever is necessary to help the KWVA obtain a Federal Charter. It's way past time for our organization to receive one.

- Devote myself to assisting the Chapters and Departments. They are the grassroots of the KWVA and deserve better than they have been receiving. Chapters and Departments should have more authority to govern themselves.

- Encourage membership of Korea Defense Veterans into the KWVA. Without them, we will soon die out.

- All correspondence received by me will be answered to the best of my ability.

- When elected, I will endeavor to be everyone's Director.

I was one of the first to sign the KWVA Code of Conduct. I think they are great guidelines, and I think everyone should sign them, but if you don't like them, I will defend your right not to do so.

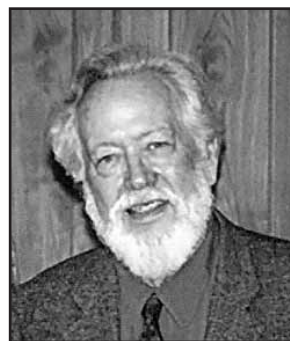
I understand that I would be expected to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that two (2) un-excused absences could be used for my removal from office.

Since I am a life member, my dues are paid up for life.

Respectfully yours,

*C. Clyde Hooks, LR29987
658 Hampton Cir
Belvedere, SC 29841
(803) 278-1039; Fax: 278-2359
KoreanWar1950@bellsouth.net*

GEORGE E. LAWHON



My name is George E. Lawhon. I am a candidate for the office of Director of the Korean War Veterans Association, for the period 2008-2011. My dues are current, Life Member # LR18750. I have signed the KWVA Code Of Conduct.

My motivation to serve as a KWVA Director is that I believe in the KWVA and its mission, and will vigorously defend it against all attacks, external

or internal. There has been an ongoing, vicious e-mail campaign; an assault on the Korean War Veterans Association itself. This has included attacks on the administration, its officers, the KWVA Bylaws, and the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual. That distorts and inhibits the real progress and accomplishments that have been made by volunteer member veterans, and delays our legitimate efforts to get a Federal Charter. I will work tirelessly to improve the organization where needed, to serve the membership in a constructive manner, by working with, rather than against my fellow Directors.

My conviction and support for the Korean War Veterans Association is expressed in the California Department Mission Statement on its website: http://www.dcakwva.org/dcakwva_bvlaws_1.html. It is in harmony with the KWVA's own Mission Statement. I respectfully ask you, the members of the KWVA, to support me with your vote, to allow me the privilege of serving our common interests.

Military Experience

My military service began with my enlistment on August 1, 1950, in the United States Air Force. Following Basic Training at Lackland AFB, Texas, I completed the 32-week curriculum at the Electronics & Communications School at Scott AFB, Illinois, as a Ground Electronics & Communications Technician.

I arrived in Taegu, Korea, in June, 1951, and was assigned to the 605th Tactical Control Squadron, a USAF reserve unit shipped out of Pope Field in North Carolina, hurriedly deployed to South Korea in 1950, shortly after the war began. When I joined the 605th, the next youngest man was 25! Following that was a year when, like many of you, I was transformed from an 18-year old boy into manhood. During that year there were experiences that no one would wish for, but since then I never served in a better outfit, or with a finer group of men. I am proud to have known, served with, and learned from them, all who served with honor and a sense of dedicated duty. Those men showed and taught me what 'duty, honor, country' means.

Civilian Work Experience

Following my Honorable Discharge in 1954 at Patrick AFB, Florida, I worked at Cape Canaveral, Florida for Boeing, as an Electronic Technician, and later for The Martin Company (now known as Lockheed Martin) on defense contracts, first as a Test Engineer; later as a Quality Engineer. Presently I hold a current California license as a Professional Engineer in Quality Engineering, # QU3927, issued July 12th, 1978. I am a working consultant in that field. In the 1960's, I worked at the Kennedy Space Center for Grumman Aerospace Engineering as a Technical Writer, writing test procedures for Apollo astronauts for the LEM (Lunar Excursion Module), on the Apollo Moon Program. Later, working as a design engineer, I designed test equipment and wrote test procedures for the Navy's Grumman F-14 Fighter's flight control system.

KWVA Service

- Last year (2007), I worked with the KWVA Resolution Committee Chairman, helping in the review and analysis of resolutions submitted by KWVA members. The review I wrote was submitted to the Board of Directors, and approved.
- In addition, I assisted the KWVA Bylaws Committee Chairman with constructive changes and additions to the Bylaws, which were also approved by the KWVA Board of Directors, at the 2007 Annual Convention in Reno.
- Last year, I took part, with our Chapter (6, Santa Clara County) in its tasks for the formation of the KWVA California State Department. We received our Department charter at the Reno Convention. You can see all the history and details on the Department website at <http://www.dcakwva.org/> I am both the Department's Webmaster & its Secretary.

I accept the KWVA Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, subscribe to our KWVA Code Of Conduct, and will support any effort dedicated to the progress of the KWVA. I will attend and participate

in all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that two (2) unexcused absences may be cause for my removal from the Board.

I am dedicated to preserving what has been achieved thus far, and helping those who want to implement improvements in a manner that protects the Good of the Order, and hold performance of duty first, ahead of self-interest. I expressed my principles about our duty and our obligation to the KWVA in an article I wrote for *The Graybeards*. You can read it on Pages 70-71 of the November-December 2007 issue. If you believe that my goals and standards are in harmony with yours, I respectfully request your support and your vote. If elected, I will work diligently to preserve and protect the KWVA.

My performance standards will be the membership's Interests; and duty, honor, country.

Respectfully yours,

*George E. Lawhon LR18750
600 E. Weddell Drive #91
Sunnyvale, CA 94089-1731
408-734-0305
e-mail: george@lawhon.org*

TINE P. MARTIN, SR.



I am a candidate for the office of Director of the National Korean War Veterans, Association, for the years 2008-2011. My dues have been pre-paid. I promise to attend all called meetings, and I understand that two unexcused absences from the same could result in my removal from office. Please release this application information to the Nominating Committee.

I retired from the U.S. Postal Service as a city letter carrier 23 years ago.

I served with the 865th AAA AW Bn, 1951-1952.

I am presently the Commander of Central Indiana Chapter #259, Indianapolis, IN. I am serving as a member of the National Ethics & Grievance Committee and National Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.

Organizations:

Past Commander, and Life Member, Speedway Post #500, American Legion, Speedway, IN.

Life Member, Ft. Harrison Post #7119, VFW, Indianapolis, IN.

Volunteer, Richard Roudebush V.A. Hospital, Indianapolis, IN.

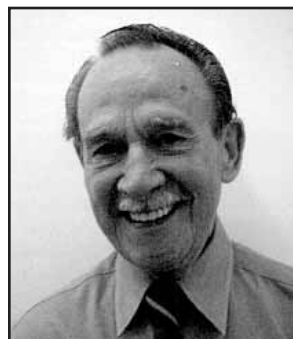
Statement:

The bickering of a few members has caused turmoil for many. I understand the meaning of free speech, but with the birth of the computer and the E-Mails, it has gone too far - a necessary evil, maybe "yes" and maybe "no." There has been so much hatred in these E-Mails against the current administration, I wonder sometimes how this organization ever existed. I do not know how to fix it, but sooner or later this issue will have to be addressed, if not by me, then other elected candidates will have to deal with it. If this does not cease, our great organization is going "down the drain," without a chance for a National Charter. I have worked hard

to make this a better KWVA, and will continue as long as I am able to do so. Thank you for your time.

*Tine P. Martin, Sr.
R030530
#8 Jackson Court
Brownsburg, Indiana 46112
Tel: 317-435-4084*

DAVID A. McDONALD



I am a candidate for the office of Director, National KWVA for the period of 2008-2011. I'm certain that I can be of valued service to all members of our great KWVA as a National Director.

Present and past service

KWVA- National Membership/ Chapter Formation 2001-2004. Beginning with Jerry Lake in 2001- thereafter as member of National

Committee through 2004. Worked membership development and Chapter forming in Western States including Alaska. Chapter founder, 2 times President KWVA 264, Concord, CA.

Life Memberships

KWVA since 7/2000-VFW, MOPH, DA V, AMERICAN LEGION- 2 times Post Commander, Past District Commander, - 25TH ID ASSOC.

Serve as a contributing editor to Tropic Lightning "Flashes" (25th ID magazine). Working on Korean War oral history project- completed WWII history project for 25th ID archives and web-site. CCVF- Contra Costa Veterans Foundation -Charter Board Member representing KWVA and DAV.

Born in Kamloops, BC, Canada. Family moved to Sequim, WA on June 25, 1941. Naturalized a U.S. Citizen in December 1950. Joined the U.S. Army on March 26, 1951. "Graduated" 14 weeks basic as an OCS candidate. Sent to Camp Roberts, CA. Received advanced leadership training. As Cadre I was an 18 year-old weapons instructor (emphasis rifle and bayonet). 3 months later another Sgt. and I opted out of the OCS program. Received a 10-day leave and orders to report to Camp Stoneman, CA to ship out to Korea. It was 2nd tour for the other Sgt. We arrived in Korea in time for the 51/52 winter.

In Korea

I served in an infantry rifle platoon in the 25th ID, 14th Regiment as a 19 year old SFC. Experienced daily incoming, night fights, retaking ridgelines, outpost life, numerous patrols, cold winter, hot summer, monsoon rains, etc. On 11/15/52 I was severely wounded during a combat action far out in front of the MLR in the Chorwon Valley. Initial surgery in MASH, helicopter ride in snow storm through hills and valleys to Yongdungpo hospital, airlift to Tokyo hospital where I turned 20, then to Tripler in Hawaii, Travis AFB in CA, and finally Madigan Army Hospital (Fort Lewis), WA where I turned 21. When ambulatory, participated in blood drives for Korea wounded at University of Washington where I later attended school for 2 years.

1956-In Sept. met Aline, the love of my life and married in Nov. -51+ years ago. God has blessed us with 5 wonderful children, 16 grand-

children, and 3 great grandchildren. One grandson, a Marine, served in Iraq.

Career

My career was in publishing-print media, newspapers, magazines, information services, slip services, bulletins, news letters, micro film and on line services.

Major Employer-McGraw-Hill, Inc.-New York-Hired in 1967, was publisher on daily newspaper in LA, CA. Coverage- 11 southern counties in CA and southern Nevada. Also served on management team to expand information services into 11 Western states. Promoted to Group Manager Newspapers in New York. (42nd St. then moved to 1221 Ave. Of Americas) Responsibility-four daily newspapers in Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, and Los Angeles plus weeklies and periodicals, with regional or national distribution. Group later also included information products/services in 11 Western states plus Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin and magazines in Sacramento and San Francisco, CA, Seattle, WA and Portland, OR. Was "Number One Performing Group" and 5 times "Publisher of the Year"- M-H Systems Co. newspapers. Benefited from professional management courses provided by McGraw-Hill, Inc. Retired 1992 as Publisher/Editor of San Francisco Daily Pacific Builder newspaper covering 47 northern California counties (Consultant for M-H for 2 more years).

More Career

Associate Publisher/ Operations. Call Enterprise Newspapers, Bellflower, CA, 14 community newspapers. Merged offices, 3 printing plants, eliminated cost overlaps. Owner/Publisher/ Editor—Desert Sentinel, Desert Hot Springs, CA. OTHER-Was a C of C President, Construction West Man Of The Year-1985, U.S. Bicentennial Area Co-Chair.

I believe in the autonomy of the KWVA Chapters and promise to serve all members. We are all equals in the KWVA with a special shared experience. There should be no looking up, or looking down. The enclosed application is released to the Nominating Committee for verification along with a photo for publication. I'm a Life Member, my dues are paid through the term of office. I understand that I must attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that two unexcused absences could be grounds for removal from office.

David A. McDonald -LR 28247

139 Scenic Dr

Concord, CA 94518

925-689-0672 DAVIDM145@aol.com

WILMER "BILL" R. OLSON



I am announcing my candidacy for Office of Director for the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) for the period of 2008-2011. I am a Korean War Veteran, having served in Korea with the 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army, from May 1951-June 1952. I was assigned to the 25th Division 35th Regiment, F Company as a combat infantry leader. I served on the front lines for 13 months.

I was drafted by the federal govern-

ment into the U.S. Army on March 5, 1951. I received my basic training with the 10th Infantry Division at Ft. Riley Kansas. I was honorably discharged at Camp Atterbury, Indiana on December 5, 1952.

From 1956-1991, I was a general contractor, building commercial and residential structures throughout the Midwest. I am currently retired.

I have been an active member of the American Legion for 37 years. I am a life member of the DAV, and a life member of the 25th Infantry Division and the 35th Infantry Regiment Association. I am a member of the Korean War Veteran's Association, as well as a life member of the West Valley Chapter KWVA Association (P.O. Box 5745, Sun City West, AZ 85376). For the past 27 years I have also been a member of Elks 2559, Sun City, AZ. My KWVA dues are paid through 2011.

I commit to attending all called meetings of the Association, and I understand that two unexcused absences from called meetings may be cause for removal from office. I pledge honesty, integrity, and allegiance to the Association, and that my interests and actions will always be for the good of the KWVA.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,

*Wilmer "Bill" R. Olson
Membership #R038556
15218 West Daybreak Drive
Surprise, AZ 85374
623-584-7463 home
623-980-9860 cell jolson1527@aol.com*

MELLANT PALO



Statement of Intent:

I wish to place my name in nomination for the office of Director for the term 2008 thru 2011. When called upon, I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors, and I understand that two unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

I further authorize the release of all information stated on this application to the Nominations & Elections Committee.

Biographv of Mellant Palo

Born in Brooklyn New York December 21, 1931

Graduate of Bullard Havens Technical School in Bridgeport Connecticut

Served in U S Navy 1951 - 1955 — Married — No Children

Employed as Computer Design Draftsman "Retired"

Organization Affiliation

Life Member: VFW, American Legion, Tin Can Sailors, KWVA,

ANAVICUS "Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada & US"

Member: VFW Post 10420, American Legion Post 178 & Elks Lodge 2797 all in Murrells Inlet SC,

NRA, U S Naval Institute

American Legion

1996 - 1998 Post Commander

1998 - 2001 County Commander

2001 - 2002 Dept. Vice Commander

2002 - 2004 Dept. District Membership Chairman

2003 - 2007 Department Executive Committeeman

VFW

2000 - 2002 Jr. & Sr. Vice Commander Post 2290

2002 - 2003 All State Commander Post 2290

Presently: Jr. Vice Commander of VFW Post 10420 Murrells Inlet SC

Home Address: 2013 Sawyer Street, Conway, SC 29527

Home Phone: (843) 438-8090 Cell Phone: (908) 764-4707

KWVA Membership #: LR37115 Member: Hector A. Cafferata Jr. MOH Chapter 213

I am asking all members to carefully consider my qualifications for the office of National Director when they cast their votes in this coming election. I am very familiar with the programs and goals of veterans organizations. If elected as National Director of The Korean War Veterans Association it will become my main objective. All other organization involvement will become secondary. My experience in Veterans Affairs that I bring to the KWVA is attributed to having served as a VA Deputy Representative at a VA Hospital for the past four years. Another goal of mine is membership, informing Korean War Veterans that we do exist and asking them to join our organization. If elected I will honor the trust you have placed in me, and I shall not disappoint you. If given the opportunity I am willing and ready to honorably serve the members of the KWVA.

LUTHER E. RICE, JR



This is to announce my intent to run for the office of "National Director KWVA" for the period 2008 - 2011. I am a Korean War - Vietnam War veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

I am a native of Aurora. Indiana. In June of 1948, following graduation from high school at age 17, I enlisted in the Marine Corps:

- Attended Boot Camp at Parris

Island, SC.

- First duty assignment was as a member of the Marine Detachment, *USS Mississippi* (EAG- (28) March 1949 - May 1951. Completed requirements and received Scouting's "Eagle" award during this tour.

- Ordered to Korea (K-3) April 1952 - April 1953 with Marine Air Control Group-2, 1st Marine Air Wing.

- Ordered to Vietnam November 1965 - September 1966 with Marine Air Traffic Control Unit, Marine Air Base Squadron - 12, 1st Marine Air Wing, Chu Lai. Was commissioned a Second Lieutenant from the rank of Master Sergeant during this tour.

- Ordered to Vietnam for second tour January 1970 - January 1971 with Communications Company, Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division

- Retired with rank of Captain July 1971 after 23 years of active duty

Included among my personal military decorations and awards are the Bronze Star Medal w/combat "V"; Combat Action Ribbon; Navy Achievement Medal; Korean Service Medal w/2*; and the Vietnam Service Medal w/4*.

Returning to civilian life in 1971 I became a teacher of high school students and subsequently school principal, a position I held at the time of my retirement in 1992. In 1991 I was appointed by the Governor of Indiana to the position of Judge, Aurora City Court. I was then elected and reelected as Judge and remained in office until August 1997. I currently spend my free time volunteering with various "not-for-profit" groups and staying involved with veterans organizations. I am a Life Member of KWVA as well as possessing a Life Membership in the American Legion; Marine Corps League; Disabled American Veterans; and the VFW.

My qualifications for the position of National KWVA Director include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Life member KWVA Chapter #129 since June 1996
- Served as First-Vice Commander, KWVA, Department of Indiana
- Served as interim Indiana Department Commander following the death of the Department Commander.
- Have served continuously as Commander, KWVA Chapter #129 since June 2000
- Received \$250 from National KWVA for placing third in the national KWVA recruiting contest conducted several years ago
- Proven leadership ability as a Marine and in civilian life
- Education - BS & MS Degrees, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana

As a National Director, there are many worthwhile goals to be pursued that will ultimately enhance the KWVA but my primary focus will be, when elected, to restore UNITY to our great and proud organization.

I certify, that as a Life Member, my dues are current and will be through the whole term of the office that I am seeking. I will attend each called meeting of the Directors and I understand that two unexcused absences from called meetings may result in my removal from office. I have enclosed a separate signed Official Membership Application Form showing my eligible service years and I authorize releasing the application form for verification by the Nominating Committee. I have also enclosed a current self photograph suitable for publication in the *Graybeards* magazine.

I have read the Code of Conduct and will abide by its contents.

Luther Rice – LR19674
414 Water St
Aurora, IN 47001
lerice@one.net
812 926-2790

Membership Report

Membership Gains

We have been mailing a series of "Press Releases" on the 2008 Revisit Korea Tours. They just recently hit the Providence Journal in Providence, Rhode Island and now the Gainesville Sun in Florida.

It's amazing to me how many Korean War veterans have never even heard of the KWVA! The Revisit Korea press releases are finding them in small towns across America.

According to Annelie Weber, our Executive Assistant and Membership Secretary, this has resulted in many new members since they must belong to KWVA to go on a Revisit Tour.

We are going to have Chapter #100 of Northern Virginia reactivated and up and operating in several weeks.

Warren Wiedhahn, Revisit Korea Coordinator

Legislative Affairs

Status of Federal Charter

On Tuesday, March 11, 2008 Senator Benjamin L. Cardin's office called to inform the KWVA that Senate S-1692 is now in the House of Representatives awaiting a calendar spot for an up or down vote. Congressmen Sam Johnson and Steny Hoyer are attempting to find a calendar location for the vote.

Since the S-1692 has passed in the Senate, the House can now place the Senate bill on the House calendar without going through the House Judiciary Committee. Since the Co-Sponsors of the non-partisan House Bill are in agreement, we are encouraged at this time that our goal might be reached.

Ed Buckman, National Legislative Director



We apologize for errors we make in *The Graybeards*. Our hope is to publish an error-free edition. Unfortunately, that does not always turn out to be the case.

He is in the picture, though

The photo on page 54 of the Jan/Feb 2008 *Graybeards*, second from left, bottom row, was identified as me. Actually, it is of my close friend Sam Gann, a medic of 1st Bn., 179th of 45th, who is a "Christmas Hill Brother."

I am partly visible to Sam's right in the top row left photo.

Cordially,

Wayne Pelkey

Wrong picture, right caption

The bottom right photo on p.33 of the Nov/Dec 2007 issue does not match the caption. We have the right caption, but the wrong picture. We apologize to the West Virginia Chapter 156 members whose names appear, but whose picture doesn't.

Eight Months with KWVA

■ Refuting Opponents' Claims

By Director Thomas S. Edwards, M.D., P.A.

At this time last year, when I threw my hat in the ring for the Board of Directors, I hoped to get the organization to work more smoothly. I was basically a new member and was not with any clique. However, I knew the military action very well.

I reported to Brooke Army Medical Center in June, 1950, and I was treating war casualties through 1951. In 1952 I joined KMAG as medical advisor to the second ROK Corps. Coordinating the medical care for about 55,000 troops on more than about 25 miles in the center front kept me busy. Also, we worked with the Ninth Corps on the west in the Chorwon Valley, the Tenth Corps to the East, and the Eighth Army Com Zee to the rear. This really accentuated the ability for all of us to work together, which is now needed among KWVA members. That has been very helpful.

In addition to having a group of veterans working and socializing together, the KWVA is a non-profit corporation and should be run like any other business organization. I understand that the previous administrations had not been run properly and the IRS came in with a lien of \$20,000 to \$30,000. Fortunately, as I read the minutes, the present legal and CPA aides were able to get this abolished.

It appears that the previous two administrations, four and six years each, had a tremendous mishandling of the funds. The previous administration—Coon, with six years—could not turn any records over for one year.

In July, 2007, at Gaithersburg, the present CPA firm showed us pictures of the wild stacks of paper for the previous six years administration. They gave all the members of the board reports as they could best determine them. They had preliminary reports of the first two years of this administration.

In October 2007, at the annual meeting at Reno, the CPA firm had excellent detailed accounting reports for all the

Shortly after I became a director I had some free time, so I thought I would try to work on some of the problems. The most complicated was the Fund-raiser, or Gun Raffle.

board members for the last three years. Some members did not bother to even look at their copies. There were a few questions, which were expertly answered. Some of the CPA reports have been published, and I understand that the rest will be.

Shortly after I became a director I had some free time, so I thought I would try to work on some of the problems. The most complicated was the Fund-raiser, or Gun Raffle. There was a lot of information—and misinformation—to be found and investigated. Here is what I determined.

- After checking with some patients, who are Postal Authority officials, I learned that there were no Florida, Georgia or Alabama rules against mailing raffle tickets.
- Two years ago, the KWVA Board of Directors and the KWVA membership both voted favorably for the fundraiser, or raffle.
- Louisiana has no law against fundraisers. The Gaming Board can give permission.
- The State of Texas American Legion presently has a lottery going on in Austin, TX.
- Also, the National Rifle Association is having its 20th Annual Gun Raffle and the Second Amendment Foundation is having its 23rd Annual Raffle.
- In the 1990s, Attorney General Janet Reno had written that any Veterans Non-profit Organization could raise funds with gun raffles anywhere in the United States.

• In Reno, NV, last fall the Board and Membership both voted to have another gun raffle fundraiser, since it was definitely legal.

Since a former KMAG member was working on this, I had tried to get all and the best information possible. We talked several times in the summer and the fall. Last fall, I tried to call him when I had all this information. He was unavailable, so I called a mutual friend and we discussed the whole program. Through him, and then me, this was passed on to the opponent in Texas of what he claims was an illegal raffle. He and his cronies still say it is illegal in Texas. That is why they have carried on by email in January and February.

I noted above in #6 where it is legal nationally. Accordingly, a fund-raiser is scheduled for the spring after the vote by all board members last fall in the national meeting in Reno. Interestingly, all three candidates for president and the four for vice president were on the board—and no one voted against the fund-raiser two years ago or last October. Were they for the raffle or did they keep their mouths shut? Are they lying now?

One of the very vocal complaints is the email and other communications. Some of the language reminded me of basic training, and these mature ladies and gentlemen should not be using it.

There are ways to ask questions and not be derogatory. The Rotary four-way test is a big help. It has been sent to all of the officers and directors. (See copy on page 51)

Continued on page 51

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.

- ☐ Sample order is 4 dozen @ \$12 plus \$3.00 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$5.00 S/H.

Order from: Earl House
1870 Yakona Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950

Make Checks payable to: **Maryland Chapter – KWVA**



PROPOSED: THAT THE KWVA SUPPORT DEPARTMENT WEBSITES

The first thing that you might want to do is to take an extensive look at our website we constructed for the Department of California, and wander through all the links it contains, at the address: <http://www.dcakwva.org>.

That will give you a clear look at where we have been in its development. Should you choose to take that journey for your department, it will give you sort of a template from which you might begin. We have deliberately made it open and as clear as possible about our intentions and actions. We have profited from comments from those who saw the possibility of changes that would benefit the purpose of it all. So, you might ask, what is the "purpose of it all"? The design is not elegant, and we're working on a new one that will be, but that's later this year.

You can see how I feel about KWVA Departments, for instance, on our Home Page, and I'll reprint the letter we placed there:

"II. Answers To The Question: Why?

Why are we to have a California State Department? Why must we belong, and why should we support it? Those are questions that deserve an answer, and below, we do that, to the best of our ability. From the beginning, we said that we wanted to keep it simple, and for the need to be open and transparent. The KWVA, Inc. Bylaws set forth that four (4) chapters are the minimum needed to establish a state department. We already have that, and a few more. Naturally, though, it is desirable to have as much diverse participation as possible.

Answers To The Question: "Why Should My Chapter Support The KWVA California State Department?"

That is a good question, no doubt on the minds of many, and deserves an answer. Let's begin with what it says in the KWVA Bylaws: To belong to a chapter, you must be a KWVA, Inc. Member in good standing. If you are a chartered chapter, you are automatically considered a 'unit' of the state department.

"Article V, Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. 2005 Bylaws

II. Chapters

Section Organization. Initially a Chapter shall consist of not less than twelve (12) National Regular members in good standing who wish to form a Chapter in their area. Effective October 5, 2005 each person who becomes a new Regular member of a Chapter must first become a National Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. Regular member, and must maintain National Regular membership to remain a member of a Chapter. When a KWVA Department within a State has been formed, Chapters are considered to be a unit under the Department and will cooperate as a unit of the Department."

Please note that the operative verb is 'cooperate' rather than 'participate. Moreover, the imperative form would have said 'shall' instead of 'will.' Whatever the intent of those who wrote that bylaw, or its merit, it was duly voted into existence by the Board of Directors. It can be interpreted fairly to mean that to participate is an elective choice on the part of a chapter and its members, and that the intent is not to force participation. Let's leave it at that; and bring forth some valid reasons for you, and your chapter, to participate, and to

serve in some useful fashion.

1. It is reasonable to assume that you joined the KWVA; and your chapter, for the very understandable, fraternal desire to meet other veterans of like experience, who shared an extremely unique period in their life: a vicious, bloody, and tough war, which literally transformed them from boys to men. You may have joined your chapter first, or the KWVA first, no matter, since it is a requirement of the KWVA, Inc. bylaws that you belong to both. You and they are linked together, and now there is an effort, through the use of a department as an extension, as a more practical means to gather in more of your Korean War kinfolk, located within your state, for another shared experience. A true definition would call it a federation, just as the U.S. was formed of the collective states in 1787, to serve both local and national common interests. Despite all the disputes on what to do and how to do it, that system has served all citizens well for over 200 years, yielding definite and tangible progress.

2. There may and will be disagreements between the national and local entities about what those interests are, and how to best serve them, but hopefully, with reasonable views, there will be the happy result of reaching out and bringing in more veterans.

3. Your relationship with organizational tiers in the military was no different. As it was in the military; you can look at it all as an extended family, each member with its own obligations and duties.

4. Even if only four (4) chapters (that is the minimum required to form a state department) get together to discuss their local and common problems, useful, appropriate actions are more likely to result in needed changes at the national level.

5. Ultimately, the individual (you) is served best when there is a link from your local (chapter) organization to other chapters, and the shared experience of the Department is the only practical way to do that. Shared actions, rooted in discussion and debate, will certainly result in better results than complaints by way of individual emails.

6. Will our chapter lose anything, such as our identity, by joining the state department?

Actually, your chapter will automatically become part of the Department, once the Department is granted a charter. Your only elective choice will then be whether or not to participate in Department business.

7. Will the department interfere with chapter programs? No. Absolutely not. But the Department may be able to help with them.

8. Will we gain some advantage over those that do not participate? There should be the natural advantage of closer ties to fellow California Korean War Veterans, their spouses, and their children. The basic idea is twofold: get to more Korean War veterans, and extend our hand of welcome and help to the Korean Service Veterans. Many citizens do not know of their sacrifice, or that a state of war still stands between our countries. Also, many of these veterans do not know the KWVA even exists. Your participation could help change that.

9. Will there be any cost to the chapters? The Department Officers, which will come from the chapters, certainly will have to justify to their chapter brothers, whatever assessment may be requested of

them. The standard of less is best should be the standard for them.

10. Does the National KWVA give the state department any financial support? If so, for what? Not at the moment, if you go by the current National bylaws, but in our draft bylaws we are seeking compensation for incorporation costs. Look at our proposed bylaws:

11. Your chapter is in the north of the state. Ours is in the south. Where would we meet for elections, etc? What do you think? We think teleconferencing may help solve that very real problem. We plan to give it a try, and to actively explore support from National for at least part of that. It should be an agenda item for Department business.

Ok, you might say. We like it, we're in. What can we give or do to help the California State Department grow and function to serve? The answer is akin to what happens when you move into a new home. As a family member, you look around, see what needs to be done, and begin with what you can do for your family. A person your age has surely developed a tool or two to contribute useful service. The worst that can happen to you as an individual, or your chapter, is that you gain at least one, and almost certainly, more friends than you have now. The decision you will make to join us or not, serve with us or not, or share with us or not is certainly a personal one, and so will be correct, whatever it is. Your time is yours to spend; it's really all you have to give of real value in this life. Most likely you are in your 70's, and are rightfully asking yourself why you should get involved at this time in your life, in anything more or new at all.

Why indeed, but that question can only be answered by you.

Many of the items in that letter can be reinforced and even made possible by the addition of a Department website. Again, you can examine ours and see for yourself, at <http://www.dcakwva.org>.

Admittedly, it is presented at this time pretty much as a simple bulletin board, with links to pages we have developed for one purpose or another, as we grew to the point of the grant of a department charter, and a bit beyond.

Consider some of the interesting results:

We have had over 2000 visits to the website since September.

It has clearly brought at least some of the chapters together, as Department President Mike Glazzy contacts them for one reason or another.

Our website can be used as a template for other states wishing to have the same tool, for both informative and administrative purposes. We consider what we have is a start to what can be, and are happy to offer help to any state that's interested in having one.

As a "for instance," it has enabled us, together with Texas Chapter 270, to help candidates for the KWVA 2008 National Election elaborate on their views, and intent for post-election performance in office, by adding access via an election page dedicated to that purpose.

Here is my proposal, which if elected Director; I will place on the Board of Directors Agenda as soon as possible:

That the KWVA, Inc. furnish, supply or support:

- Server space for all fifty state websites;
- A template set of website files with which a state department webmaster can begin development;

It was suggested by the KWVA Webmaster that for departments, a single, registered domain name be used, such as

"kwvadepartments.org" There would be a single, simple Home Page saying "Welcome to the KWVA Departments website..." and there would be a link to that page on the KWVA Homepage. Then list a click-on link for each department onsite...with that format, links would be as follows: Note - All below would have 'http://www.' preceding the domain name.

- A. kwvadepartments.org/dca (for California)
- B. kwvadepartments.org/dny (for New York)
- C. kwvadepartments.org/dtx (for Texas)

There would be a link to the Department Home Page on the KWVA National website, which would tie the two systems together.

• Software tools needed to revise and tailor the department website to fit the state's needs. In a discussion with the KWVA Webmaster, he informed me that the software program Microsoft FrontPage is what they use, and would be best as the state department software also; the retail cost is around \$150.00, but the KWVA could use its non-profit status to buy a 50-seat license at a reduced cost.

My recommendation is that that cost be passed on to the participating department for that individual license, at cost. All recurring costs would be covered by the KWVA. A detail of those costs would be submitted to the Board of Directors as a part of this proposal.

A Bylaw revision and an implementing specification/procedure in the Standard Procedure Manual would need to be generated and approved by the Board. Since security considerations must always be foremost, the great advantage of connecting a state database to that of the National must not compromise the absolute need for confidentiality;

and

The state department would furnish the labor to implement and maintain the website; and whatever coordination that would be required with the National Webmaster.

Don't write your Congress person; please write me with your comments and questions.

Let's talk.

Respectfully and fraternally to all..

George E. Lawhon LR18750
California Chapter 6, Santa Clara County
Secretary & Webmaster
KWVA California State Department
email: george@lawhon.org

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *The Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.

Jan-Feb	Jan 15
Mar-Apr	Mar 15
May-June	May 15
July-Aug	July 15
Sept-Oct	Sept 15
Nov-Dec	Nov 15

Flag Code

Position and Manner of Display

Divisions

§ 7. Position and manner of display

The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.

(f) When flags of States, cities, or localities, or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with the flag of the United States, the latter should always be at the peak. When the flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last. No such flag or pennant may be placed above the flag of the United States or to the United States flag's right.

(g) When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.

(h) When the flag of the United States is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony, or front of a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff.

When the flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope extending from a house to a pole at the edge of the sidewalk, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.

(i) When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.

(j) When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.

(k) When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker.

When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium, the flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker or to the right of the audience.

(l) The flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument, but it should never be used as the covering for the statue or monument.

(m) The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day.

On Memorial Day, the flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff. By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory. In the event of the death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag is to be displayed at half-staff according to Presidential instructions or orders, or in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with law. In the event of the death of a present or former official of the government of any State, territory, or possession of the United States, the Governor of that State, territory, or possession may proclaim that the National flag shall be flown at half-staff. The flag shall be flown at half-staff thirty days from the death of the President or a former President; ten days from the death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice of the United States, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives; from the day of death until internment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a Secretary of an executive or military department, a former Vice President, or the Governor of a State, territory, or possession; and on the day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress. The flag shall be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, unless that day is also Armed Forces Day. As used in this subsection -

(1) The term "half-staff" means the position of the flag when it is one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff;

(2) The term "executive or military department" means any agency listed under sections 101 and 102 of title 5; and

(3) The term "Member of Congress" means a Senator, a Representative, a Delegate, or the Resident Commissioner for Puerto Rico.

(n) When the Flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.

(o) When the flag is suspended across a corridor or lobby in a building with only one main entrance, it should be suspended vertically with the union of the flag to the observer's left upon entering. If the building has more than one main entrance, the flag should be suspended vertically near the center of the corridor or lobby with the union to the north, when entrances are to the east and west or to the east when entrances are to the north and south. If there are entrances in more than two directions, the union should be to the east.

Source: The Flag Code, Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in The Graybeards should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:

sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Remembering Lt. James M. Schooley

Lt. Schooley was a Weather Observer and Navigator in the 20th Weather Squadron during the Korean War. I was a Weather Observer who worked on shift with him at Tachikawa AFB Weather Station from 1949 until his death in a WB-29 crash at Yokota AFB 10/09/50. He was a fine officer, gentleman and forecaster. I am probably one of the few still living who knew and worked with him.

He had a great sense of humor and was always telling funny stories. One that I recall was about his duck hunting adventures in Japan. He said he was on a lake shooting ducks but didn't get any because they were shot so full of lead that they would sink before he could retrieve them. He was in great demand as a skilled navigator and great story teller on the long WB-29 weather recon flights.

On his last flight the WB-29 was flying over North Korea close to the Russian border when it was attacked by MIG-15 jet fighters. The plane had severe damage but was able to make it back to Yokota AFB, where it crashed, killing the crew members in the front of the plane. It was stated that this attack was one of the first made by the MIG-15 jet aircraft in the early months of the Korean War.

The news of Lt. Schooley's death was a shock to all of us at the 20-15 AWS Weather Station Detachment. It was also very sad that Lt. Schooley had his parents on base as his dependents. The news of his death was especially difficult for his elderly parents.

The memorial service for him was very emotional for us all. I can



James M. Schooley, USAF 1st Lt, 20th Weather Squadron, was killed in action on 10/09/50. The picture of him was taken at 20-15 AWS, Tachikawa AFB

still remember it after all these years. I felt honored to have worked with such a fine man.

William I. McKinney, 6907 Riata Drive, Redding, CA 96002



**FEATURED TOUR: BATTLE OF MIDWAY
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1 - 6 JUNE 2008**

Tour Hosts: ADM Ron Hays USN Chairman, PAM & Lt. Col. "Hank" Stachpole, USMC

Tour Director: RADM Paul Tobin, USN

MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS (MHT) is proud to partner with the Pacific Aviation Museum (PAM) to offer this very special tour that begins in Hawaii. Following Honolulu commemorations, tours and battle symposium, we will depart for Midway Island on 4 June, and participate in the official 66th Anniversary Commemorations. We will be joined by an official delegation representing the United States, with a memorial service at the monument commemorating the battle, followed by tours of this historic atoll.



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- 18 - 24 Jun Battle of Okinawa
- 12 - 19 Jun Saipan & Tinian 64th Liberation Return
- 2 - 14 Jul Russia & Ukraine WWII "Eastern Front"
- 17 - 24 Jul Guam 64th Liberation Celebration
- 26 Jul - 7 Aug VN Helicopter & Artillery Operations
- 24 Aug - 6 Sep VN Swift Boat Operations in Vietnam
- 3 - 14 Sep WWII POWs Germany & Poland
"Americans in Enemy Hands"
- 12 - 19 Sep 64th Anniversary Battle of Peleliu
- 7 - 20 Sep I Corps VN CAPs & Combat Engineers
- 28 Sep - 7 Oct WWII "Battle of the Bulge"
- 29 Sep - 11 Oct VN "The Cav Black Stetsons Return"
- 13 - 26 Oct "China Marines" Return
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‘Woody’ Keeble Receives Medal of Honor

■ President Bush apologizes for delay

Some of you may recall that we ran an article in the May/June 2007 issue, p. 22, regarding the long struggle to get a Medal of Honor for “Woody” Keeble. We are happy to report that Keeble, who died in 1982, received his Medal of Honor at a White House ceremony on March 3, 2007.

Not only did he receive his MOH, albeit posthumously, but he received an apology as well from President Bush. (See the President’s remarks below.)

Keeble’s MOH is a well-earned, historically significant, tribute. He is the first full-blooded Sioux Indian to receive the nation’s highest military award. Seventeen members of Keeble’s family and some soldiers who served with him attended the ceremony.

Keeble’s stepson, Russell Hawkins, and his nephew accepted the medal.

Here are President Bush’s comments that day, and the citation.

THE WHITE HOUSE Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 3, 2008

Remarks By The President At Medal Of Honor Ceremony

For Woodrow Wilson Keeble

East Room 2:35 P.M. EST

The President: Welcome. Thanks for coming. Mr. Vice President, Mr. Secretary, members of the Dakotan Congressional Delegations, Senator from Alaska, other members of Congress, Members of my Cabinet, members of the administration, members of the United States Armed Forces, distinguished guests: Welcome to the White House.

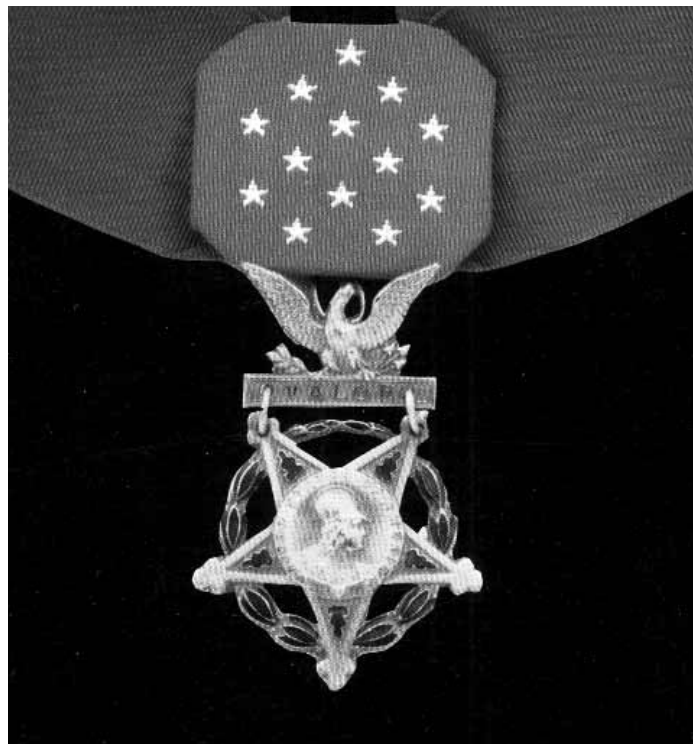
The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor a President can bestow, and I’m honored recipients of the Medal of Honor have joined us. Thank you for coming. During my time in office, I’ve had the privilege of performing this duty on nine separate occasions. Every ceremony has been inspiring. Many have been joyful. Some have been poignant. But I’m not sure I can remember many ceremonies quite like this one.

It’s taken nearly 60 years for Master Sergeant Woodrow Wilson Keeble to be awarded the medal he earned on the battlefield in Korea. His nominating paperwork was lost, and then it was resubmitted, and then it was lost again. Then the deadline passed, and Woody and his family were told it was too late. Some blamed the bureaucracy for a shameful blunder. Others suspected racism: Woody was a full-blooded Sioux Indian. Whatever the reason, the first Sioux to ever receive the Medal of Honor died without knowing it was his. A terrible injustice was done to a good man, to his family, and to history. And today we’re going to try to set things right.

Few people worked harder for this day than Woody’s family. I thank the members who are with us, including his son, Russell, who is accepting this award on their behalf, along with his cousin — a cousin.

Audience Member: Nephew.

The President: Along with his nephew. I want to welcome you



here. Thank you for supporting Woody. Thank you for your understanding, your patience and, most of all, your persistence.

I also offer special thanks to the determined delegations of North and South Dakota, including the Governor of North Dakota and the former Governor of South Dakota. Woody had ties to both Dakotas. Each state claims him as its own. (Laughter.) I think I’m going to stay out of the argument. I want to thank you for carrying Woody’s banner to the Pentagon, and to the halls of Congress. You did the right thing.

It’s easy to understand why so many people argued so passionately for the Medal once you hear the story of what Woody Keeble did. This story unfolded at an important time in our history. The year was 1951. The world was divided by a Cold War. America was under threat and — some believed — overmatched and out of heart. The great evil of communism was said to be the future of the world. It was on the advance in Europe, and in China, and on the Asian peninsula of Korea.

On that peninsula, a battle raged between communist forces in the North and the forces of freedom in the South. And Woody Keeble, a decorated veteran of Guadalcanal, raised his hand to serve his country once again. Woody said he volunteered for Korea because, “somebody has to teach those kids how to fight.” And that’s exactly what he did. In George Company, he quickly became a mentor, a teacher, and a legend. He was so strong that he could lift the back of a jeep and spin it around.

Some people knew he had been scouted by the Chicago White Sox. He had a heck of an arm, and he threw grenades like a baseball. One soldier remembered the time Woody walked through a mine field, leaving tracks for his men to follow. Another recalled

the time Woody was shot twice in the arm and he kept fighting, without seeming to notice.

That fall, Woody's courage was on full display during a major offensive called Operation No Man [sic]. His company was ordered to take a series of hills protecting a major enemy supply line. High up in those hills and manning machine guns were Chinese communist forces. After days of fighting, the officers in Woody's company had fallen. Woody assumed command of one platoon, then a second, and then a third, until one of the hills was taken, and the enemy fled in wild retreat.

That first advance nearly killed him. By the end of the day, Woody had more than 83 grenade fragments in his body. He had bleeding wounds in his arms, chest, and thighs. And yet he still wanted to fight. So after a day with the medics, he defied the doctor's orders and returned to the battlefield. And that is where, on October 20, 1951, Master Sergeant Woodrow Wilson Keeble made history.

Communist forces still held a crucial hill that was the "pearl" of their defenses. They had pinned down U.S. forces with a furious assault. One soldier said the enemy lobbed so many grenades on American troops that they looked like a flock of blackbirds in the sky. Allied forces had tried heavy artillery to dislodge the enemy, and nothing seemed to be working. The offensive was failing, and American boys were dying. But our forces had one advantage: Woody was back, and Woody was some kind of mad.

He grabbed grenades and his weapon and climbed that crucial hill alone. Woody climbed hundreds of yards through dirt and rock, with his wounds aching, bullets flying, and grenades falling all around him. As Woody first started off, someone saw him and remarked: "Either he's the bravest soldier I have ever met, or he's crazy." Soldiers watched in awe as Woody single-handedly took out one machine gun nest, and then another. When Woody was through, all 16 enemy soldiers were dead, the hill was taken, and the Allies won the day.

Woody Keeble's act of heroism saved many American lives, and earned him a permanent place in his fellow soldiers' hearts. Years later, some of those tough soldiers' eyes would fill with tears when they saw Woody again. One said: "He was the most respected person I ever knew in my life." Another said: "I would have followed him anywhere." A third said: "He was awesome." Those brave boys battled tyranny, held the line against a communist menace, and kept a nation free. And some of them are with us today. We are honored to host you at the White House. We thank you for your courage. We thank you for honoring your comrade in arms. And we thank you for your service to the United States.

As the war ended, Woody went back to North Dakota. In some ways, his return was a sad one. Within a few years, his first wife died. He would suffer from numerous affects of the war. A series of strokes paralyzed his right side and robbed him of his ability to speak. And the wounds he sustained in service to his country would haunt him for the rest of his life.

Yet Woody was not a bitter man. As a member of his family put it: "Woody loved his country, loved his tribe, and loved God." Woody even found love again with a woman named Blossom. Woody may not have been able to speak, but he could still get a

message across. He wrote a note asking Blossom to marry him. She told him she needed some time to think about it. So while she was deliberating, Woody put their engagement announcement in the newspaper. (Laughter.) This is a man who was relentless in love as well as war. (Laughter.)

In his community he was an everyday hero. Even in poor health, he would mow lawns for seniors in the summers and help cars out of the snow banks in the winters. He once picked up a hitchhiker who was down on his luck and looking for work. Woody wasn't a rich man, but he gave the man \$50. Those who knew Woody can tell countless stories like this — one of a great soldier who became a Good Samaritan.

To his last days, he was a devoted veteran. He proudly wore his uniform at local events and parades. Sometimes folks who loved him would see that uniform and ask him about his missing medal. They felt he was cheated, yet Woody never complained. See, he believed America was the greatest nation on Earth, even when it made mistakes. And there was never a single day he wasn't proud to have served our country.

Woody suffered his eighth — and final — stroke in 1982. His son, Russell, took him to the hospital and prayed it wasn't the end. But Woody knew, and he wasn't afraid. Woodrow Wilson Keeble died in graceful anonymity, unknown except to the fortunate souls who loved him, and those who learned from him. Russell put it this way: "Woody met death with a smile. He taught me how to live, and he taught me how to die."

I am pleased that this good and honorable man is finally getting the recognition he deserves. But on behalf of our grateful nation, I deeply regret that this tribute comes decades too late. Woody will never hold this Medal in his hands or wear it on his uniform. He will never hear a President thank him for his heroism. He will never stand here to see the pride of his friends and loved ones, as I see in their eyes now.

But there are some things we can still do for him. We can tell his story. We can honor his memory. And we can follow his lead — by showing all those who have followed him on the battlefield the same love and generosity of spirit that Woody showed his country everyday.

At the request of the Keeble family and in accordance with the Sioux tradition, two empty chairs have been placed on this stage to represent Woody and Blossom and to acknowledge their passing into the spiritual world. The Sioux have a saying: "The life of a man is a circle." Well, today, we complete Woody Keeble's circle — from an example to his men to an example for the ages. And if we honor his life and take lessons from his good and noble service, then Master Sergeant Woody Keeble will serve his country once again.

I want to thank you all for coming. May I ask for God's blessings on you and Woody Keeble and the Keeble family. May God continue to bless our country. And now I ask Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Bluedog to join me. Commander Thompson will read the citation.

Commander Thompson: The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pride in presenting the Medal of Honor to Master Sergeant Woodrow W. Keeble, United

Continued on page 34

Tell America

20 – HAWAII #1 [HI]

In the latter part of 2007 we visited six schools and presented our Tell America program to a total of 900 students. Two special schools stood out.

The first is the National Guard Youth Academy, whose mission is to prepare 16-18 year-old "non-traditional" students with the life skills needed to be successful in the community while they are working toward their high school diplomas. We were there at the request of Brandon Suzuki, the Lead Counselor to our program at the academy. As you can see from the nearby photo, we had the whole company of well-behaved students at the presentation.

The students were engrossed in

the presentation. While we showed the film "Bloody Korea," I had to cut into it to give students more time to ask questions.

The second school, La Pietra, is a private school for girls. A member of our Chapter, Goro Tengan, was asked by his granddaughter, Jackie O'Farrell, to do our presentation. He gladly did so—and what an experience it was.

The surprise for us was that even though there were only twelve students, each one of them had an intelligent question prepared for us. As a result, we went into overtime answering their questions.

*Moses M. Patak
85-1301 Koolina Street
Waianae, HI 96792*



The students and the "teachers" at La Pietra School; CID 20 members (L-R) Lucio Sanico, Nick Nishimoto, Michael Inouye, Fred Ito, Goro Tengan, Moses Pakaki, Francis Yasutake. Jackie O'Farrell, Tengan's granddaughter, is the last student at the right in the back row



CID 20 members and the student body at the National Guard Youth Academy (L-R) Francis Yasutake, Lucio Sanico, Fred Ito, Moses Pakaki, Michael Inouye

30 – INDIANA CHAPTER 1 [IN]

So far, between November of 2007 and March of 2008, CID 30 members have visited 12 schools. The total of students hearing our program is at 5,526. And, 1,500 Boy Scouts of America have learned the proper way to dispose of the American flag. Another 284 students have learned the proper way to fold a flag.

We have, I feel, one of the best Tell America programs in the nation. Since Mr. Kinard wants

this program to be a great one nationwide, we are sure doing our part.

This same group of veterans collected 200 Valentines for our Chapter to distribute to the local Veterans Health Center and to the veterans in 8 of our nursing homes.

I think they are a SUPER bunch of veterans.

*Mary Anna Roemke, Publicity
Director, (260) 584-7627*



CID 30 members who are active in the Chapter's Tell America program (L-R) Commander Bernard "Ski" Wisniewski, Tell America Chairman Lynn Shady, Carl Fowler, Cletus Rumschlag, Jim Leslie, Dave Martin, Ken Roemke, Robert Myers, Jim Winnie, Mel Franke, Dick Allen (Missing from photo is Roger Sherman)

54 – THOMAS DALEY, JR. [NJ]

Chapter members visited the Eastern Regional High School in Voorhees, New Jersey on March 11, 2008. Our chapter has visited the area schools since 2001, and we estimate we have presented our Tell America program to about 25,000 students in our state.

Each year we are welcomed by our high schools and elementary schools. This year we have booked 15 school visits. For Chapters that have not visited your area schools, please do. It will be a rewarding experience.

The teachers are as enthusiastic as the students.

It is surprising to see how little is being taught about Korea. This is not the teachers' fault, as the history books do not give a lot of information about the war, and there is not a lot of time allotted to teaching about it. Our Tell America program has changed that now.

The students and teachers know for sure that "freedom is not free."

Andy Jackson, via email



CID 54 member Fred Connolly, dressed in a Korean War field uniform, "prepares a student for combat"



Members of CID 54 (L-R) Bill Keys, San Levin, Charlie Kerber, Bill Millison, Fred Connolly at Tell America presentation

Televised Tell America Expanding

Since "Tell America, The Television Show" in Ft Wayne, IN has celebrated its second year on Comcast Cable Channel 57 and 55, it was announced that a second network has asked to televise the award-winning program.

Tell America can now be seen on Verizon Fiber Optics Network on Channels 22 and 25, better known as Verizon FIO.

The program is making great strides as its popularity is growing. Access TV has grown from 14,000 viewers to 80,000 viewers.

"With Verizon, who knows where it will go in the future?" Jim Yaney asks. "Tremendous progress is being made."

Its popularity is due to such programs as "The Salute to Master Sgt Keeble," profiles of Medal of Honor Recipients such as Cpl Myron Rossler, Cpl Hiroshi Meo Mera, Duane Dewey, and many other shows, e.g., the ceremony for Cpl Frank Buckels, the last veteran in the USA of World War I, that took place at the East Room of the White House recently.

Yaney credits the success of the program to his award win-

ning staff of Dale Parish, John Pequignot, Gil Hoepfner, Sgt Wm. Hullinger (of the Chosin Few), and Director Elizabeth Lord, Eric Molberg, Bob Irie, Rick Parish (camera), Alton

Builtiemeir, and Jean Yaney (audio specialists).

Jim Yaney
1349 N Wilson Lake Rd
Columbia City, IN 46725



Director Elizabeth Lord of Tell America getting her staff ready to televise the TV show "Korean War Medal of Honor Recipients".



Jim Yaney and some U.S. Marines honor the memory of MSgt Woodrow Keeble, MOH recipient, at the White House.

KWVA Decals



Courtesy of KWVA
Recruiting Task Force
Committee.

These decals are round and measure a full four inches in diameter, in full color, and adhesive backed.

Prices are: • One (1) each decal @\$3.00
• Two (2) each decals @\$5.00
• Twelve (12) each decals @ \$25.00

No handling fees, only stamp fees as delivered

To order, contact Annelie Weber, Exec Assistant, PO Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304-9285, Tel: 703.461.0061, email: membership@kwva.org

A Message of Peace and Hope

Preface

Ms. Hannah Kim contacted me several weeks ago about her mission. On checking, I found that she has an impressive resume of accomplishments for one so young.

As Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, and Sailors we share the aspiration that a peace treaty will be concluded and a united free Korea will one day be a reality.

The Armistice Accords themselves provided the mechanisms for this to happen. Unfortunately, the Communists abandoned the provisions as soon as their propaganda objectives had been met and we still have the opposing arms situation in Korea today. Ms. Kim and her associates view their ambitious project as, in her words, “grassroots level to provide auxiliary support and encourage the governments for further development.”

The mutual alliance of our two nations must remain strong and in place until a peace treaty becomes a reality, and then continue beyond that day until real peace returns to that land.

The KWVA remains committed to insisting that a full, mutually acceptable accounting of our 8,100+ missing and unaccounted for be a requirement of any such treaty.

Until that time, welcome to Ms. Hannah Kim, as an auxiliary grassroots supporter. I seriously doubt that I would ever sit down with a North Korean and Chinese Communist until long after an effective peace treaty is in effect and working. But, working together, we may hasten that day.

LTD, President, KWVA/USA

Ending the Korean War—Together

By Hannah Kim

What music can do to stop us for a moment—and drop our weapons...

It was profoundly breathtaking to hear Arirang beautifully orchestrated by Maestro Maazel in Pyongyang. In those final moments of the NY Philharmonic's performance, 250 million worldwide viewers and I were spellbound, and emphatically bonded by our communal human emotions. And in the context of such heightened connectedness, I believe the time has never been better to finally bring the Forgotten War to an end—this time, together, and without weapons.

Of course, the replacement of the Armistice with a peace treaty is undoubtedly a highly-complicated subject matter, provided that the nuclear issue must be resolved. It intricately entails a successful Six Party Talks between US, ROK, DPRK, Russia, Japan, and China. Let us, however, building on the momentum of the cur-

rently promising progress, coalesce at a grassroots level to provide auxiliary support and encourage the governments for further development.

Given that it took more than fifty long, arduous years for the governments to cross the DMZ and initiate an amicable dialogue, we cannot wait around for another fifty naively and passively hoping time will make progress. Judging from history, the current momentum can phase out unexpectedly; we should not be overly complacent.

Numbers reveal that more than 1,000 Korean War veterans worldwide are leaving us each day. I fear this number will only increase exponentially with time. Before it is too late, we—the children and grandchildren of the Korean War veterans, Friends of Korea, and promoters of peace—must first start peacebuilding on the Korean Peninsula to formally end this War that is now entering its 55th year since the Armistice.

Before I lay out my ambitious plan, allow me to introduce myself as a young Korean American girl—or a

woman, now—who feels compelled by her tears that she must do something, anything, to conclude this tragic chapter in our history.

Growing up, I was highly inspired by the likes of Joan of Arc, Mother Teresa, and Yoo Kwan-soon, heroine of Korea's Independence Movement. Understanding God's grace and sacrifice for mankind, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the Korean War veterans, to whom I owe my freedom. It pains me to realize how many of us often take our freedom for granted. And we owe it to you—the brave men who bore our cross. And as President Eisenhower had justly underscored in 1954, we must “re-consecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain”

In this regard, I am mobilizing support for an independent, non-governmental, global coalition composed of concerned citizens and organizations dedicated to fostering reconciliation of the Korean War through remembrance and recognition of the sacrifices made by all veterans of the war. Our Mission is to facilitate transnational peacebuilding on the Korean Peninsula to bring about an eventual replacement of the Korean War Armistice with a peace treaty.

Peacebuilding will require tremendous efforts to buttress the current acts of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation of the War. First, the public must Remember that the Forgotten War has yet to end and confront the status. I hope to encourage an observance of The Korean War Armistice Day, July 27, this year and on, until the Armistice is replaced with a peace treaty.

The Coalition will maintain a website (www.kw-reconciliation.org) which will collect at least 1 MILLION signatures from friends worldwide who will pledge to display a flag in remembrance of the Korean War, in recognition of the sacrifices made by the veterans, and in support for the Coalition's effort to foster Reconciliation for Peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Both the 1million signatures and display of the flag are symbolically and perceptibly important. In order to officialize our act of Remembrance, we need the support of Congress. To my astonishment, a bill to designate June 25, 1990, as “Korean War Remembrance Day” (H.J.RES.575) was sponsored by former Rep. Sangmeister (D-IL) almost two decades ago. And with the help of 232 co-sponsors, it became Public Law (No: 101-315). Wouldn’t it be honorable to revive the bill to designate every June 25 as Korean War Remembrance Day?

In 1994, former Rep. Montgomery (D-MS) introduced a similar bill (H.J.RES.332) designating July 27 of each year as the “National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day” with 219 co-sponsors. The same bill (S.J.RES.169) was introduced in the Senate by Rep. Warner (R-VA) and 53 other co-sponsors. This gives us hope for a potential bill that may encourage a replacement of the Korean War armistice with a peace treaty. In fact, a bill was introduced in 1991 (H.CON.RES.244) by former Rep. Foglietta (D-PA) with 12 co-sponsors that read “To encourage peace and reunification on the Korean Peninsula.”

The amazing news is that there already exists a bill in the current 110th Congress to add National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day to the list of days on which the flag should especially be displayed, known as the Korean War Veterans Recognition Act of 2007. Introduced by Senator Clinton [D-NY] and co-sponsored by Senator Cochran [R-MS], this bill (S.1888) was also introduced in the House (H.R.4922) by former Rep. Kelly [R-NY] with 27 other co-sponsors.

Taking these previous records into consideration, it seems viable to pass S.1888 in the Senate; both offices of Senators Clinton and Cochran have expressed their support to me. Therefore, please—I entreat you to contact your Senators to sponsor S.1888.

Senator Clinton has been determinedly reintroducing this legislation since she assumed office in 2001, with or without a co-sponsor. She has been a staunch advocate of “recognizing the

Given that it took more than fifty long, arduous years for the governments to cross the DMZ and initiate an amicable dialogue, we cannot wait around for another fifty naively and passively hoping time will make progress. Judging from history, the current momentum can phase out unexpectedly; we should not be overly complacent.

service of those who served in the Korean War,” and co-sponsored a legislation to grant a Federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association. Let us help her pass this legislation.

After increasing public awareness, the next step remains to recognize the sacrifices of the veterans and their families. One way will be documenting your stories of how you were impacted by the war, so we can commiserate with your painful memories, and be inspired to prevent future wars. Storytelling can be a powerful tool to build peace and understanding.

Elie Wiesel, the preeminent survivor of the Holocaust, notably said “I decided to devote my life to telling the story because I felt that having survived I owe something to the dead. And anyone who does not remember betrays them again.”

By sharing the stories of your lives with a much broader and younger audience, and being assured they will be archived in our own memories and available for the progeny at the Library of Congress, you will be honored for your sacrifices while we revisit our history, hopes, and humanity.

Finally, we must discharge the mistrust that has been long harbored in the hearts of many. Three generations later in a globalized setting, antagonism does nothing but breed social discord and misunderstanding. Though it is important that we do not forget, it is imperative we reconcile with the past and forgive our foes. Thus, on Armistice Day July 27, we hope to convene a gathering inviting Korean War veterans representing all 24 countries (21 UN forces and 3 Communist) and their (grand)children to build understanding and cooperation among all those affected by the War.

As much as this may sound like a preposterous proposition, integration must take place until all 24 seats are filled up. Following the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, “We never get rid of an enemy by meeting hate with hate; we get rid of an enemy by getting rid of enmity.” I pray we can replace any lingering animosity with reconciliation, first among the people, so the governments can follow suit.

Let me remind you—after our country was torn apart from the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln, in his Second Inaugural Address on March 4, 1865, proclaimed these immortal words: “With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.”

Reconciliation was possible then; it is feasible now.

A word of caution—a century later, an equally incisive president, John F. Kennedy reiterated in his Speech to the UN General Assembly on Sept. 25, 1961, “Mankind must put an end to war or war will put an end to mankind.”

Yes, it is time to put an end to the Korean War that cost 55 years (since the Armistice) of enmity and sacrifices of 5 million veterans (1950-2008)—Together, we can. So let us.

If you have any questions, and/or would like to offer help, suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact Hannah Kim: hannahkim115@yahoo.com; 323-823-1555, www.kw-reconciliation.org.



Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

Arkansas Korean War Veterans Memorial History

The Arkansas Korean War Veterans Memorial in Little Rock is intended to be a statewide memorial to honor the services of all of the Arkansas Korean War Veterans. It is the result of a vision of Naomi Rogers, the wife of a retired U.S. Air Force officer and a native of Korea who is now a U.S. citizen. Her vision was to:



ABOVE: The Arkansas Korean War Veterans Memorial.

RIGHT: The statues at the Arkansas Korean War Veterans Memorial



- honor the service of the Korean War veterans who fought and died to ensure freedom for the people of the Republic of Korea

- serve as a tribute to the hundreds of thousands of United States military servicemen and women who have preserved the peace in Korea

- provide education to future generations about the Korean War

- demonstrate the strong ties of friendship that exist between the people of the Republic of Korea and the people of the United States

The memorial was built as a joint venture with the City of Little Rock, the Arkansas Korean-American Association, the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans' Affairs, Republic of Korea, Hanam City, Republic of Korea, the Arkansas Korean War Veterans' Memorial Foundation, and private and individual supporters of the Arkansas Korean War Veterans' Memorial.

The City of Little Rock donated an area of land within its MacArthur Park as the construction site for the Memorial. The land is located in the Little Rock Historical District near the Clinton Presidential Library, the State Capitol, and the Little Rock River Market, all of which are popular tourist destinations. The Park's Historical Arsenal Building is the birthplace of General Douglas MacArthur and the current home of the Arkansas Military History Museum. The Memorial is located just east (approximately 150 feet) of the Arsenal Building. The location receives high visibility and provides easy accessibility.

The names of the 461 Arkansans killed in the Korean War are listed on the granite panels forming a semi-circle around three statues. The statue of a combat soldier represents the fighting that took place in Korea to stop the spread of communism and to ensure freedom for the people of the Republic of Korea. The statue of a Combat Medic or Navy Corpsman is included to honor the brave sacrifices that Medics and Corpsmen made to save the lives of others.

The medic/corpsman is extending a hand of friendship to two Korean children. The hand of friendship represents the humanitarian work that took place in Korea to aid the nation and the Korean people. The children represent the Korean people who suffered during the war, and the future generations of Koreans that have rebuilt a nation that was destroyed by war. The hand of friendship also represents the strong ties of friendship that exist between the people of the Republic of Korea and the people of the United States.

The Project Cost Estimate submitted by the design architect in August 2005 was \$390,000. The three statues were approximately \$130,000 for a total of \$520,000.

The Arkansas Korean War Veterans' Memorial Foundation desires to establish an \$80,000 endowment fund to maintain the Memorial for future generations. This will bring the estimated cost of the project to approximately \$650,000.

On the Board of Directors were four Korean War veterans:

Bob Atkins - Secretary - USMC; Andy Aldridge - USMC (Purple Heart); Louie Konings - USMC (Purple Heart); Henry Rector - USMC

*Robert L. Atkins
2424 Grist Mill Road
Little Rock, AR 72227*

Thanks also to Steve Stephens, 700 E. 9th Street, Apt. 11L, Little Rock, AR 72202, who provided the photo of the statues.

Korean War Monument Dedication in Cayuga County, NY

By John Barwinczok

On July 30, 2006, New York residents, friends and relatives witnessed the addition of a new monument in Auburn, New York. The Korean War Veterans Association's Cayuga County Chapter 296 dedicated their monument to honor all veterans who served between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953. Whether or not they actually served in Korea, these veterans, about 700 from Cayuga County, were eligible to have their names engraved on the eight-foot-tall black granite monument. At the top of the front side of the monument is engraved "The Forgotten War." And on the reverse side appears "The Beginning of the End of Communism."



CID 296 members gather in front of Cayuga County monument

Over 400 people gathered to take part as the monument was unveiled and the dedication ceremonies progressed. South Korean students from nearby Syracuse University played their traditional drum music. In addition, the Auburn Civic Band played patriotic American marches as well as the South Korean and the United States national anthems.

The keynote speaker was Admiral John F. Paddock Jr., who gave a very inspirational and informative talk. Among the many distinguished guests was South Korea's Deputy Consul General Kie-cheon Lee, who expressed his thanks to the Cayuga County veterans for their sacrifices which have enabled the Republic of Korea to become secure and prosperous.

After the laying of a wreath, the firing of rifles in salute, and the playing of Taps, 25 white doves were released in tribute to the 25 Cayuga County servicemen who died during the Korean War.

The local KWVA monument project was the dream of John Barwinczok, who served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. In only two-and-one-half years he was able to organize the local Chapter, becoming its commander. Beginning with only 12 veterans, there are now over 80 members.

Along with Commander Barwinczok, his monument committee consisted of Lyell Brown, Joseph Corrado, Joseph C. Casper,

James Ferris, John Fischetti, Donald Tavener, Michael Tropari, individuals, and people from many various businesses and organizations. The sum of over \$43,000 was raised in just one year to finance the project and make it a reality.

The Cayuga County Korean War veterans have made "The Forgotten War" an "unforgotten war" due to their dedicated energy.

The Garden State's Finest: Fort Lee, NJ

The Korean War Monument located in Freedom Park, Fort Lee, NJ is the finest one in the "Garden State." It is the most used monument for Korean War ceremonies, due to the very large Korean population in the area.



The Korean War Monument in Freedom Park, Fort Lee

The Fort Lee Public Works Department maintains the landscaping. The Korean-American Chamber of Commerce maintains the flags.

*Albert J. Gonzales
115 Irving Street
Leonia, NJ 07605*

Wreath placed on Hill 180

At a memorial ceremony on 21 February 2008 on Hill 180, Osan AB, Korea, General (Ret) Paik, Sun Yup (Soldier, Statesman, and Korean War hero) placed a wreath commemorating the actions of the men of Easy Company, 27th Infantry (Wolfhounds), 25th Infantry Division who fought on the hill on 7 February 1951.



General (Ret) Paik, Sun Yup places a wreath at Hill 180 ceremony

[illegible]

*Photos by Dennis Huggler
VFW Hill 180 Memorial Post 10216.*

In action with an armed enemy near Sangsan-ni , Korea , on 20 October, 1951. On that day, Master Sergeant Keeble was an acting platoon leader for the support platoon in Company G, 19th Infantry, in the attack on Hill 765, a steep and rugged position that was well defended by the enemy. Leading the support platoon, Master Sergeant Keeble saw that the attacking elements had become pinned down on the slope by heavy enemy fire from three well-fortified and strategically placed enemy positions. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Master Sergeant Keeble dashed forward and joined the pinned-down platoon. Then, hugging the ground, Master Sergeant Keeble crawled forward alone until he was in close proximity to one of the hostile machine-gun n emplacements. Ignoring the heavy fire that the crew trained on him, Master Sergeant Keeble activated a grenade and threw it with great accuracy, successfully destroying the position. Continuing his one-man assault, he moved to the second enemy position and destroyed it with another grenade. Despite the fact that the enemy troops were now directing their firepower against him and unleashing a shower of grenades in a frantic attempt to stop his advance, he moved forward against the third hostile emplacement, and skillfully neutralized the remaining enemy position. As his comrades moved forward to join him, Master Sergeant Keeble continued to direct accurate fire against nearby trenches, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. Inspired by his courage, Company G successfully moved forward and seized its important objective. The extraordinary courage, selfless service, and devotion to duty displayed that day by Master Sergeant Keeble was an inspiration to all around him and reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

2:51 P.M. EST

Membership, P.O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304-9285

An Unusual Story of a Unit and an Orphan

The battalion had an extraordinary experience in Korea. The members adopted a young boy who was only two or three years old when he was separated from his family. A sergeant from Smith's company found the lad and put him in his jeep. That began a lifelong relationship between the boy and the members of the 728th.

The 728th MP Battalion held their annual reunion at the Holiday Inn North in Columbus, GA, 17-20 June 2007. The battalion arrived in Korea late 1950 and is still deployed in that country.

Aubrey Smith recalled that, "During our reunion days, our members reminisced for many hours. Our agenda consisted of a bus tour to Ft Benning for a visit to the National Infantry Museum and the future National Museum & Heritage Park."

What he remembers most, however, is the story about a young boy fleeing from the north, separated from family, rescued by an MP from A Co., and adopted by an American soldier.

After he found the cold, naked boy in a ditch, the sergeant tried to drop him off at a local orphanage. Unfortunately, it was



Aubrey Smith, Host of 728th's 2007 reunion

filled. So, the sergeant took him back to the unit, which adopted the youngster.

Smith, who worked in the 728th's mess hall, remembers vividly what happened after that. The first thing the MPs had to do was hide the orphan from the commanding officers. They did that—for five years. They shared the responsibilities of caring for and educating the boy, who they named Pete.

One noncommissioned officer gave Pete a pocket dictionary and suggested that he memorize it to learn English. The soldiers also encouraged him to learn the names of all 48 U.S. states (remember Alaska and Hawaii did not become states until 1959) and the American Presidents. It was a start.

In 1955, one of the soldiers, Sgt. John Wesley Smith, adopted Pete and brought him home to California. Pete's rudimentary education with the pocket dictionary paid off. He entered the fourth grade—and eventually finished college. Again, the members of the 728th were instrumental.



(L-R) Aubrey Smith, Pete Smith, and Bo Jean at an interview with local TV channel 9 at 728th's reunion



Friendly poker game at 728th's reunion (seated, L-R) Dottie Picarella, Pete Smith, Terry & Sharon McGill (Standing) Rico Agudelo, Bob Doepeke



728th's Holiday Inn reception (Seated, L-R) Pete Smith, Hal Workman, Les Schmidt (Standing, L-R) Bob Jean, Don Gibson, Rico Agudelo



Happy hour for 728th's reunion attendees at Holiday Inn (L-R) Maggie & Jim Carden, with guest

728th's Door Prize drawing: guests Jamie Battles and daughter Maddie



728th's Memorial service and annual meeting



Members of 728th at Ft Benning Infantry Museum checking WWII and Korean War armored vehicle (L-R) Jack Kenyon and Charlie Wiseman

Before Pete left Korea, the members of the battalion collected \$650 for him. His adoptive parents purchased a savings bond with the money, which helped pay for his college. He returned the favor to the soldiers who helped him stay alive and to the country that became his adopted home. He served 22 years in the U.S. Army himself.

So, it was a special honor for the members of the 728th Military Police Battalion when Pete Smith showed up at their reunion for the first time five years ago. He is part of every reunion now, but he is still having trouble finding a way to say thanks.

Pete told a television reporter last year, "The things that I learned from them, I don't know how I can express this in words, the gratitude." And, he continued, "The only thing I can say is, thank you is just not enough."

Apparently it is enough for the soldiers of the 728th Military Police Battalion. They went to Korea to help save a country, and they saved a boy as well. The Korean people have never stopped thanking the Americans for their actions. But a simple "thanks" in words is always well received by them.

By maintaining contact with the members of the 728th, Pete Smith is saying all the "Thanks" they need to hear.

*Story and photos courtesy of Aubrey Smith
P.O. Box 691, Locust Grove, GA 30248*



Holiday Inn reception for members of 728th (L-R) Bill Johnson, Harrison Libby, Noah Love



Memorial Table for 728th's deceased comrades



Four Smiths at Banquet (L-R) Aubrey Smith III, Aubrey Smith II, Pete Smith, and Aubrey Smith IV



728th member Harrison Libby stands by barracks at Ft Benning Infantry Museum—WWII Village barracks

Note: In the Jan/Feb 2008 issue, we inadvertently omitted CID 307 from the list of KWVA Chapters. Here is the complete information for the Chapter— **307 - Northern Wyoming** - Paul Rodriquez - 307-272-3877 - 1076 Rd 16 – Powell , WY 82435.

15 EDDIE LYONS [FL]

Members of the Chapter attended the second annual Korean-American Day ceremonies at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale on January 5, 2008. About 40 members from Chapter 15, Chapter 17, LT RICHARD E. CRONAN, and guests were in attendance.

*Al Ratner, 7233 Lugano Drive
Boynton Beach, FL 33437*



Members of CIDs 15 and 17 gather at Korea-American Day event.

55 NASSAU COUNTY CHAPTER #1 [NY]

On Friday, December 21, 2007, members of our Chapter presented a check for \$2,000 to the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center at Northport. The money is to be used in their "Buddy Bucks" program.

*Howard E. Plattner, 22 Crystal Lane
Westbury, NY 11590-5729*



Pictured from CID 55 are (L-R) in uniform, Bob O'Brien, Bernie Hoffman, Hank Nowicki, Bill Boyce, Jack Leff, Larry O'Leary, Commander Howard Plattner, (presenting check) Connie Habermann, Buddy Epstein, (not in uniform) Ray O'Connor, and Charlie Bours. Receiving check are Mary O'Sullivan, Chief Voluntary Service/Community Relations and three associates.

58 MONROE COUNTY [NY]

Chapter President Frank Nicolazzo, Past Dept. President Don Cofsky, and Treasurer Paul Wurzer were determined to have the best turnout of members possible for the Annual Christmas Party, and to have as many guests as possible attend. Their efforts paid off, with around 70 people attending.

The crowd included National 2nd Vice President James Ferris; National Rep. to the Canadian KWVA, Bill Burns; Dept. of NY President T. James Lewis; Dept. of NY Treasurer Dick Compo; President Sang Sim of the Korean American Community and Mrs. Byoung Baek, Past President of the Community, who recently joined the KWVA as an Associate Member.



Gerard Eisele of CID 58 receives Veteran of the Year award from Don Cofsky

KWVA National 2nd Vice Pres. Jim Ferris with Dr. Betty Perkins-Carpenter, winner of CID 58's Volunteer of the Year award



Dept. of New York President Jim Lewis (L) at CID 58's Christmas party with Korean guests and National 2nd Vice President Jim Ferris

The annual Veteran of the Year award went to the very deserving Gerard Eisele, and the Fred Evans Volunteer of the year

award went to Dr. Betty Perkins-Carpenter, PhD, who has written books and conducts fitness programs for seniors designed to keep them/us on our feet and not falling!!



Mr. Sang Sim (L), President of the Korean American Community and Mrs. Byoung Baek (R), Past President of the Korean American Community and a special representative to CID 58

A number of officers from other veterans organizations also attended and shared in the gift exchange program run by Past Dept. President Don Cofsky and Treasurer Paul Wurzer.

Pictures and story submitted via email by Sec. Joe Vogel

72 OREGON TRAIL [OR]

Howard Myers, two-term chapter president of the Chapter, died of pulmonary fibrosis on July 19, 2007. Howard was also Vice-Commander in the Department of Oregon.

He worked tirelessly to organize Chapter involvement in local events to raise funds for veterans activities, keeping a KWVA presence in the community. Because of his hard work and devotion to the aid and awareness of Korean veterans in Oregon, the members quickly organized a remembrance ceremony.

A recent photo of Howard Myers taken at a gathering of the colors



Howard Myers (L) with Chuck Lusardi (R), then Department of Oregon commander, at a CID 72 installation of officers



Howard Myers (R), as CID 72 President, giving a certificate to member Don Cohen (L)



Father James Arling, current CID 72 president, priest, former Army Ranger, officiates at the ceremony for Howard Myers. Other speakers (seated) Liam Gerety, Chaplain for the Department of Oregon; Chuck Lusardi, former Department Commander; Bruce Wickward, Chapter Chaplain; Bob Chrisman, representing VFW Post 3452 (where Howard was a member); and Bill Gleason, VFW Post 3452 Chaplain



Some of the veterans attending Howard Myers' memorial service, with several motorcycle veterans standing in back

Myers was born in Uniontown, WA in 1932. He joined the U.S. Army in 1950, right after the Korean War began, and served as an artillery surveyor.

*Loren Mitchell, 11940 SW King James St.
King City, Oregon, 97244 (503) 670-1382*



Howard Myers leading a group of chapter members at a veterans event last winter

107 JAMES P. DICKEL [MD]

Members put on a two-day display and talked to local area people who came out for the annual Mt. Savage Historical Society-sponsored Iron Rail Days. The Chapter was letting the community know about their experiences and service during the Korean War and reminding all not to forget.



CID 107 members Bernard Wenrick (President) Don Rice, Art Kalcher (Treasurer), Jack Peterson; 2nd row Jim Rice (Secretary), Jim Dickel (Vice President)



George Burall, Charlie Pennington, Bernard Wenrick, Jim Dickel (L-R) of CID 107 at Chapter's Iron Rail Days display.

This was a really good event for the membership, since it was the first time many have been together in the public to tell about their experiences, and they plan on doing this again at next year's events. They will try to make this a bigger event.

*James Rice
bf39y8j@yahoo.com*

109 NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA [PA]

Our Veteran's Visitation program, now in its third year, tries to locate and identify veterans living in private facilities in our area. To date, we have approximately 60 veterans in 4 homes in the program.



Representative Mike Carroll talking to (L-R) Army vet Gerald Eckman, Army vet Jack Lee, and Marine vet James French, as part of CID 109's Veteran's Visitation program



Representative John J. Siptroth posing with a happy Navy vet, Robert E. Smith, as part of CID 109's Veteran's Visitation program

CID 109 member Ronald Boyd presents certificate and salutes Navy WAVE vet Mary Healy





CID 109 Vice-Commander Joe Talocka congratulating WWII and Korea Navy vet Harold Hill, while vets Tom Milburn and Michael Bender look on



CID 109 members who volunteered to assist and hand out the certificates (L-R) Commander Paul A. Warman, Elmer S. Heissam, Joseph J. Drozd, John Howard, Ronald J. Boyd, Secretary William J. Neville

In November 2007, we held special ceremonies to honor and award World War II veterans with the State of Pennsylvania Certificate of Appreciation for Military Service.

We had the honor of having State Representatives John J. Siptroth and Mike Carroll preside at the homes within their districts.

*Paul A. Warman, P. O. Box 297
Mountainhome, PA 18342*

142 KOREAN WAR VETERANS [MD]



Robert Mount, CID 142 Treasurer, and Glenn Wiehoff, the Chapter's Golf Committee Chairman, present James Talbot, Area President of PNC Bank, with Certificate of Appreciation

Our members presented a Certificate of Appreciation to PNC Bank for providing a Luncheon Sponsorship to the Chapter's 2007 Golf Tournament.

*Richard L. Martin, P. O. Box 1647
Frederick, MD 21702, rlmaem@comcast.net*

170 TAEJON [NJ]

Chapter Commander Thomas Falato, New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis, KWVA National Director Thomas McHugh, and six members and their guests attended a Korean Navy event at Pier #7, Brooklyn, NY on November 2, 2007. The Korean Navy coordinated the ceremony with the KWVA.



Korean Navy officer presents plaque to CID 170 Commander Thomas Falato



L-R) George Bruzgis, Thomas McHugh, Admiral Song, Young Moo, and Thomas Falato at Korean Navy event



Korean Navy officer presents plaque to George Bruzgis

The event took place on a South Korean Navy training ship known as “2007 Cruise Training Force.” Many Korean dignitaries were present. They expressed their thanks and gratitude to the United States for keeping South Korea free from communism.



(L-R) Thomas Falato, CID 170 Surgeon Erwin Burkert, and CID 170 Jr. Vice Commander Henry Ferrarini (L-R) at Korean Navy event

Each Korean War veteran received a beautiful commemorative plaque with his name on it. The plaque was signed by Admiral Song, Young Moo, who attended the ceremony.

Many Korean War veterans from other KWVA Chapters were present. They, too, received plaques.

*Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Avenue
Paterson, NJ 07503*



CID 170 Finance Officer Edward Frye and wife Cathy at Korean Navy event



CID 170 Adjutant Raymond Cohen and Korean Navy member Kim at Korean Navy event



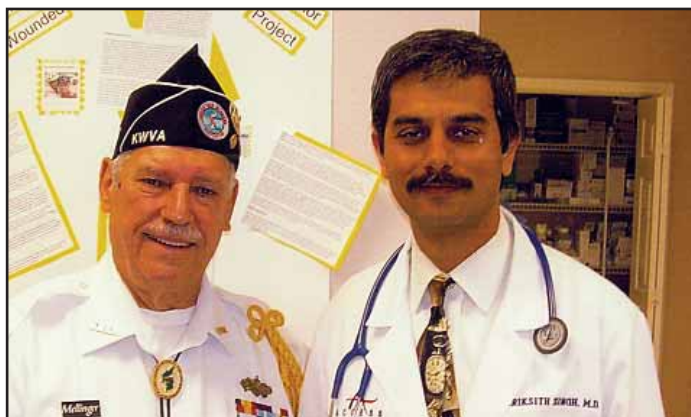
Korean Navy unit saluting Activities Director William Burns and wife Elaine as they leave ship



(L-R) Councilman of Leonia, NJ Philip Choi, CID 170 Historian Louis Quagliero, CID 170 Sr. Vice Commander Alexander Atheras, and Mayor of Leonia, NJ Lawrence Cherchi at Korean Navy event

174 NATURE COAST [FL]

Dr. Pariksith Singh, MD, of Access Health Care, LLC, and his staff donated a large donation to the Chapter for the Wounded Warrior Project. The Project provides services and programs to ease our most severely wounded troops' transitions back to civilian life.



Dr. Pariksith Singh presents check to CID 174 Commander Richard Melling in support of Wounded Warriors Project

Many of them have suffered traumatic brain injuries, amputations, and severe burns.

*Richard Mellinger, 10458 Upton Street
Spring Hill, FL 34608, (352) 688-7196
rmellinger@tampabay.rr.com*

178 YORK COUNTY [PA]

We installed new officers recently. They are:

- Commander Ronald Busser
- 1st Vice Commander William Frank
- 2nd Vice Commander Ralph Ashton
- Treasurer Robert Godfrey
- Secretary Carol Reinhold

Historian Robert Casbeer administered the Oath of Office.

We have a great Chapter. Our average attendance is 45-60 members per meeting, which is held on the 4th Wednesday of each month. We take a trip to Atlantic City, NJ, every year, and we have a dinner dance every year. We have had two pig roast picnics.



(R-L) Robert Casbeer administers oath of office to new CID 178 officers Ronald Busser, William Frank, Ralph Ashton, Robert Godfrey, and Carol Reinhold

At each monthly meeting we have a speaker on different subjects pertaining to our age and service in Korea. We have a color guard that has participated in at least 50 parades over the past years.

We have our own memorial in the city of York, and we are very proud of that.

Ralph Ashton

183 NEBRASKA #1 [NE]

The Korean Military Advisory Group held its national reunion in Omaha, Nebraska in May, 2007. There were numerous advisors in attendance, many with their spouses, and several international guests.

The keynote speaker was General Paik Sun Yup, Army of the Republic of Korea. His message was one of appreciation to the advisors and to members of the Korean War Veterans Association, CID 183, Nebraska Chapter #1.



General Paik Sun Yup and CID 183 members gather at KMAC reunion



General Paik Sun Yup addresses audience at KMAC reunion in Omaha

Following his remarks, the general presented leatherette-bound citations to "Ambassadors of Peace," and medallions to the advisors and to members of the veterans association.

The meeting room was surrounded by displays of Korean War memorabilia. It was a grand evening of fellowship, war stories and gratitude for our commitment to preserve the Republic of Korea.

*William E. Ramsey, 307 S 51st Avenue
Omaha, NE 68132-3535*

191 TIDEWATER [VA]

Several members of the Chapter visited the Hampton, VA Recognition Day for WWII veterans. This event included displays from all aspects of WW2, including re-enactors from America, Canada, Germany, Russia, Scotland, England and other countries.

Belated Recognition for MOH Recipient 1st Lt. Richard T. Shea, Jr.

Lt. Shea graduated from Churchland High School, Portsmouth, Virginia. It came to our attention that there was no recognition of Lt. Shea in the school. Visits to the school disclosed the fact that no one there knew of Richard Shea or of the sacrifice that he made for this country.

Permission has been gained to place a shadow box honoring 1st Lt. Lt. Richard T. Shea Jr. in the school library. Chapter 191 is sponsoring this activity. The presentation at the school will be

in September 2008. The following organizations have been contacted and are supportive of this activity;

- Macarthur Memorial Foundation and Museum
- Medal of Honor Society
- 17th. Infantry Regiment Association

The plan is to have pictures of the shadow box and the ceremony available at the KWVA reunion in Norfolk, Virginia in October 2008.



Members of CID 191 at the Hampton, VA Recognition Day for WWII veterans

CID 191 members enjoy the Hampton, VA Recognition Day for WWII veterans



Lt. Shea's MOH Citation

Rank and organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Company A, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Sokkogae, Korea, 6 to 8 July 1953. Entered service at: Portsmouth, Va. Born: 3 January 1927, Portsmouth, Va. G.O. No.: 38, 8 June 1955. Citation: 1st Lt. Shea, executive officer, Company A, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and indomitable courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. On the night of 6 July, he was supervising the reinforcement of defensive positions when the enemy attacked with great numerical superiority. Voluntarily proceeding to the area most threatened, he organized and led a counterattack and, in the bitter fighting which ensued, closed with and killed two hostile soldiers with his trench knife. Calmly moving among the men, checking positions, steadying and urging the troops to hold firm, he fought side by side with them throughout the night. Despite heavy losses, the hostile force pressed the assault with determination, and at dawn made an all-out attempt to overrun friendly elements. Charging forward to meet the challenge, 1st Lt. Shea and his gallant men drove back the hostile troops. Elements of Company G joined the defense on the afternoon of 7 July, having lost key personnel through casualties. Immediately integrating these troops into his unit, 1st Lt. Shea rallied a group of 20 men and again charged the enemy. Although wounded in this action, he refused evacuation and continued to lead the counterattack. When the assaulting element was pinned down by heavy machine-

gun fire, he personally rushed the emplacement and, firing his carbine and lobbing grenades with deadly accuracy, neutralized the weapon and killed three of the enemy. With forceful leadership and by his heroic example, 1st Lt. Shea coordinated and directed a holding action throughout the night and the following morning. On 8 July, the enemy attacked again. Despite additional wounds, he launched a determined counterattack and was last seen in close hand-to-hand combat with the enemy. First Lt. Shea's inspirational leadership and unflinching courage set an illustrious example of valor to the men of his regiment, reflecting lasting glory upon himself and upholding the noble traditions of the military service.

Leo Ruffing, via email, lruffing1@cox.net

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

Members attended the dedication ceremony of the Indiana National Guard Memorial, the first of its kind in the country. The memorial, dedicated to the members of the Indiana National Guard, was built on seventeen acres and a lake donated by Flanner & Buchanan Cemeteries on the far east of Indianapolis. A large number of veterans groups took part in the ceremony.

The Buchanans are great supporters of returning troops from overseas duties. They host a dinner every Veterans Day. Last year it was for us Korean War veterans.



(L-R) Ernie Condra, Bill & Katie Carr, Mayor Elect of Indianapolis Col Gregg Ballard, USMC (Ret), Tom Shepherd, CID 259 Treasurer, Jack Beaty CID 259 1st Vice Commander, at the dedication of the Indiana National Guard Memorial



Jim and Jean Yaney present quilt to Sgt Benes, from Crown Point, IN, as Benes' father lovingly performs therapy



The Indiana National Guard Memorial

Chapter members Jim Yaney (Tell America Program) and wife Jean presented a quilt to Sgt. Peter Benes, who was in the Poly Trauma unit at Richard Rodebush VA hospital in Indianapolis, where Jean presents hand made quilts to all patients. Last report is that Sgt. Benes' condition is much improved.

Photos of CID 259 activities taken by Tine Martin

265 SGT. HAROLD F. ADKISON [SC]

Our members volunteer at the Charlie Norwood VA Memorial Hospital, Downtown Division. Volunteers are given a red vest to wear to distinguish them from the patients. We purchased the emblems to put on the vest to let the patients know what organization we were from.



Bill Wright (L) and Richard Johnson, Jr. (R) stand by the cart CID 265 donated to the VA hospital. Richard has his back turned to show off the patches that we put on the vests that the VA gives to volunteers. (Photo by Clyde Hooks)

We volunteer at the VA Hospital in Augusta, GA, and at the clinic in Aiken, South Carolina.

*Clyde Hooks, via email
koreanwar1950@bellsouth.net*

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Chapter Honors its 2007 Membership Drive Winners

Vibrant Sam Johnson Chapter 270 is growing. With its can-do positive attitude, it applauds the direction KWVA is going and rejects the notion that KWVA is a dying organization. CID 270 appreciates our own President, J. D. Randolph, and KWVA National President Louis Dechert. Both have done outstanding jobs in guiding their respective organizations.



Director Marvin Dunn presents CID 270 Secretary Tilford Jones with a certificate for recruiting one new KWVA member in 2007



Richard Sanchez of CID 270 holds his Certificate of Appreciation for recruiting one new KWVA member in 2007)

Ed Buckman of CID 270 accepts a framed certificate for recruiting two new KWVA chapter members in 2007. Ed took second place in the 2007 membership drive.



While adding new members, Sam Johnson Chapter 270 respects KWVA and its member-approved bylaws. In respecting KWVA bylaws, CID 270 adheres to them in its recruiting efforts. Every new chapter member must first join the national organization. We don't cheat.

Doyle Dykes accounts for much of CID 270's explosive growth. For five consecutive years, Doyle has led the Chapter in recruiting new members. In 2007, he recruited nine new members.

On 8 March 2008, at our monthly meeting, Sam Johnson Chapter 270 thanked those who had recruited new members into the chapter. We were fortunate that KWVA Director Marvin Dunn took the time from his busy schedule to visit with us and to present the 2007 Membership Drive awards.

Final 2007 CID 270 Membership Drive Standings:

Member	# New	Member	# New
Doyle Dykes	9	Bill Lovas	1
Ed Buckman	2	Homer Mundy	1
Tilford Jones	1	Richard Sanchez	1
		Total	15



KWVA Director Marvin Dunn presenting CID 270 member Doyle Dykes with a plaque for recruiting the most new KWVA members for five consecutive years

Sam Johnson Chapter 270 Recognizes Its Volunteers

On Saturday, 8 March 2008, Chapter 270 recognized its volunteers. In a special ceremony, KWVA Director Marvin Dunn handed out plaques and certificates to twelve local chapter members who had volunteered over one hundred hours at the Dallas VA Hospital in 2007. The event took place in the Richardson Senior Center during Sam Johnson Chapter 270's March meeting.



KWVA Director Dunn presents CID 270 members with certificates for volunteering over 100 hours at the Dallas VA Hospital (L-R) Director Dunn, Tilford Jones (126 hrs), Cliff Platt (190 hrs.), Ken Borchers (166 hrs), and Ed Buckman (136 hrs)

Chapter President J. D. Randolph led all chapter volunteers with 565 volunteer hours. Director Dunn presented plaques to President Randolph in recognition for his 565 volunteer hours, Doyle Dykes for his 390 volunteer hours, and George Kraus for his 332 hours.

Two absent members also had over 300 volunteer hours. They were Keith Fannon with 389 hours and Ski Wojciechowski with 302 hours.



CID 270's "200+ Volunteer Hour" group (L-R) Homer Mundy, George Kraus, Bill Carman, Doyle Dykes, J.D. Randolph



CID 270 members with over 300 volunteer hours (l-r) George Kraus (332 hrs), Doyle Dykes (390 hrs.), J. D. Randolph (565 hrs.)



Director Dunn (L) congratulates CID 270 President Randolph for his award in recognition of 565 volunteer hours in 2007

Three members logged between 200 and 300 volunteer hours. Homer Mundy logged 285 hours, Bill Carman logged 255 hours, and Wayne Neely logged 225 hours.

Director Dunn presented certificates to four chapter members who had logged over 100 volunteer hours in 2007. Those members are Cliff Platt (190 hrs), Kenneth Borchers (166 hrs), Ed Buckman (138 hrs), and Tilford Jones (126 hrs.).

Chapter members logged 3,891 volunteer hours at the VA Hospital in 2007.

Total Volunteer Hours

MEMBER	# HRS	MEMBER	# HRS
Randolph, J.D.	565	Bodweine, Mel	42
Dykes, Doyle W.	390	Haug, Patricia	42
Fannon, Keith H.	389	Thompson, Glen	41
Kraus, George	332	Lovas, Bill	35
Wojciechowski, Ski	302	Murchison, Cam	28
Mundy, Homer M.	285	Bailey, Charles R.	24
Carman, Bill	255	Bove, Richard	22
Neely, Wayne	225	Haug, Joseph	17
Platt, Clifford	190	Lethe, Richard	17
Borchers, Kenneth	166	Dunlap, Andrew F.	14
Buckman, Ed R.	138	Profitt, Jackie	8
Jones, James T.	126	Wuermser, Ed	8
Steig, Michael	85	Rojas, Graciela G.	6
Pfrommer, Paul	84	Forse, John	4
Bates, Donald	46	King, Clayton E.	3

279 WEST HAWAII [HI]

The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, the honorable Lee, Tae Sik, hosted a luncheon for Korean War veterans at the Waikiki Resort Hotel in Honolulu on January 19, 2007. Three members of our chapter, Ronald Cole (outgoing president), Tom Leone (incoming president), and Herbert Lum, took the 0915 flight from Kailua-Kona to Honolulu. Once there, we visited the Punchbowl to pay our respects to friends who are there, and to those listed as MIA.

Then we went to the luncheon, where Korean Navy Captain Joo, Hyung Kyu the Defense Attaché to Hawaii, greeted us. Captain Joo had attended our November meeting in Kona. I was seated next to the ambassador, and we had a very cordial conversation about our islands, Korea, and Washington DC.



Ambassador Lee at the meeting with Hawaii veterans

The luncheon consisted of a fantastic assortment of Korean fare, which was well received by the attendees, who came from all the islands in the state. They were seated at a series of round tables. A team of quick-moving waitresses brought several courses of food to each table.

Ambassador Lee, who was a small boy and had to flee his home when the war started, gave a stirring speech on what he and the Korean people owed to Korean veterans. After his speech, each attendee received a gift of an expensive cell phone made by a Korean company.

Our Chapter presented the ambassador with a Korean War Veterans baseball cap.

Ronald Cole, konaron@hawaii.rr.com



Former CID 279 President Ron Cole and Ambassador Lee



A view from the Punchbowl



Incoming CID 279 President Tom Leone

299 KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA [MA]

Chapter members attended a Korean War Memorial dedication in Worcester, MA. One of the attendees was Medal of Honor recipient Captain James Hudner, US Navy.

A guest of honor at our annual Christmas party in West Roxbury was Vincent Mannion, the son of Jeff Brodeur. The young soldier was injured in Iraq by an IED. His Company Commander, Greg Sakimurga, and 1st Sgt Mike Shurko, B-2-505th PIR, 82nd Airborne Division, presented Mannion with a medal and commendation.



Company Commander Greg Sakimurga (Front L) and 1st Sgt Mike Shurko (Center) present medal and citation to Vincent Mannion (R) as Jeff Brodeur (behind Mannion) observes



Medal of Honor recipient James Hudner (C) is joined by CID 299 members at Worcester memorial dedication (L-R) Sr. Vice Cmdr Art Griffith, Finance Officer Bob Wagner, Cmdr. Al McCarthy, Color Guard member Otis Mangrum, National Director Jeff Brodeur



Guests and CID 299 members at the Chapter's annual Christmas party

Anthony Verga, Massachusetts' Chairman of Veterans and Federal Affairs, read the Bronze Star citation. KWVA National President Lou Dechert read the Army Commendation citation.

Over 150 members and guests attended the party.

NOTE: The nearby CID 299 photos were taken by Pauline Legace and Ken McKenna, both members of the Chapter.

*Kenneth F. McKenna, 40 Newtonville Ave.
Fitchburg, MA 1420, Kenneth.mckenna@verizon.net*

DEPARTMENTS

CALIFORNIA

Golden State On The Move

What will the National Korean War Veterans Association look like in 2020?

If you're asking about membership, about chapters, about departments, I foresee opportunities for major growth in California and the western states.

California, a sentinel state, always out front, envisions active leadership in organizing the thirteen states west of the continental divide. These environs have provided in the past little or no representation in contributing to the governance of the National KWVA. This can be resolved by actively engaging in state and regional membership recruitments; of both the war and service veterans; formation of state chapters and departments, and the selection and active promotion of candidates for national offices.

This western states region has an estimated 800,000 resident Korean War veterans with California having a resident population of 430,800, according to the 2000 VA Census. California leads the nation in resident Korean War veterans. The resident DMZ Service veteran demographics are not known at this time.

One of the constants of life we all have to face is the relentless passage of time. Most of the Korean War veterans are in their late 70s. If the organization is to survive, and grow, the Service Veterans will have to make a major contribution. Frankly put, they are the future.

The KWVA California State Department envisions the use of the internet and telecommunications as an effective means of overcoming the expanse within California and among the western region states, to promote more efficient recruitment programs, form new chapters and state departments and, most importantly, help other departments with the design and construction of their websites and links to each other. *(See George Lawhon's article on page 22.)*

In particular, we plan to push for a national-supported dedicated web server to provide all Departments with bandwidth and software for a Department website. We will do our part in offering help, perhaps a template website for them to start, and whatever bylaw and procedural changes would be required with which the Board of Directors can debate, guide and decide.

*Mike Glazzy, President
Department of California*

ROK Veterans Host KWVA Chapters 215 and 270 Luncheon

The Dallas ROK veterans chapter and the DFW chapter of the Korean American Coalition hosted KWVA members from Chapters 215 and 270 to a Saturday luncheon on Dec. 8, 2007.



The medal of appreciation given to members of Chapters 215 and 270 at the ROK Chapter dinner

Our hosts chose the Chef Hsu Restaurant in Dallas for the event. Inside the restaurant's dining hall, our hosts prepared about 20 round tables seating 10 guests each. A white tablecloth covered each table. A large flat lazy susan, roughly 40" in diameter, served as the centerpiece on each table. The place settings included a neatly folded blue or white napkin on a plate, a set of chopsticks and a glass of water.

The dining hall itself was about 70' long by 30' wide, with an entrance on the long side. On the far end of the hall, our hosts had set up a mini-stage, a podium, and a large pull-down screen. On the other end, members could get their drinks (alcoholic or nonalcoholic) at an open bar.

During the opening ceremonies, we repeated the Pledge of Allegiance. Then, Kay Lee Cameron sang the Star-Spangled Banner. Next, each of five dignitaries from the Korean community seated at a table on the mini-stage gave short introductory addresses, mostly in Korean.

Kay Lee then introduced J. D. Randolph, President of Chapter 270, Larry Kinard, President of Chapter 215, and Bill Mac Swain, a National KWVA Director. Finally, representatives of the Korean American Coalition presented each KWVA member present with a medal of appreciation for our service in Korea.

While restaurant employees placed platters of food on the lazy susan at each table, our hosts showed black and white newsreels and other movie pictures of military action during the Korean War.

Thirty-two Chapter 270 members and spouses thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Chapter 270 members and spouses attending were Bob and Sara Jackman Bailey, Wayne and Glenda Bounds, Dick and Sylvia Bové, Ed Buckman, Billy Joe Denton, Doyle Dykes, Keith Fannon, Gynn Harris, Tilford and Sue Jones, Tae Hui and Nam Mook Lee, Dick Lethe, Bill Lovas, Mary Marks, Homer Mundy, Cam Murchison, Paul and Nancy Pfrommer, J. D. Randolph, Richard and Rosemary Sanchez, Ralph Smith, Glen Thompson, Ski Wojciechowski, Ed and Elizabeth Ann Wuermsen, and Bill and Peggy Yull.

Submitted by Glen Thompson via email



Seated from left at ROK Chapter dinner are Homer Mundy, Doyle Dykes, Billy Joe Denton (with platter), and Gynn Harris. The podium, flags and mini-stage are in the background



Seated from left are Chapter 270 President J. D. Randolph, Sara Jackman Bailey, Bob Bailey, and Dick Lethe



One of the tables at the ROK Chapter dinner with platters of various food offerings on the lazy susan. Seated at the table from the left are Bob Wojciechowski, Bill Lovas, Tilford Jones, and Sue Jones.



At the ROK Chapter dinner, Kay Lee prepares to place fruit on the lazy susan for all members at the table to share. Seated from the left are Elizabeth Ann Wuermsen, Ed Wuermsen, Wayne Bounds and Glenda Bounds

461st Infantry Bn. (Heavy Mortars)

“Get them bastards over here now; we need them.”

This unit is one I haven't read anything about in *The Graybeards*.

This distinguished combat unit of Chemical Corps, armed with 4.2 mortars, served in the Korean War from 08 Oct 1950 until the truce signing on 27 July 1953. In the last six months of that period its name was changed to 461st Infantry Battalion (Heavy Mortars) because the 2nd Cnl was being accused of using chemicals against the North Koreans and the Chinese. The only chemicals we had were white phosphorus and shrapnel bombs.

Unlike most other combat units, the battalion stayed on the line in close support of the infantry from the time it fired the first round until the truce—1,007 consecutive days in action without relief.

Of the ten campaigns during the Korean War, the “Red Dragon” participated in all but the first one. They served in all three Corps of the Eighth Army, supporting six United States divisions, eight Republic of Korea divisions, and the British Commonwealth Brigade.

The 2nd Cnl Mortar Bn consisted of a Hq and Hq Company and three mortar companies. At full strength each mortar company had 171 officers and enlisted men, 12 4.2 inch M30 mortars, 3 2-1/2-ton

The 2nd Mortar Bn, or 461st Inf Bn, was not attached to any one division. We were known as “The Bastard Outfit.”



The 461st at White Horse Mountain (Hill 395) on a morning in 1952 after firing all night



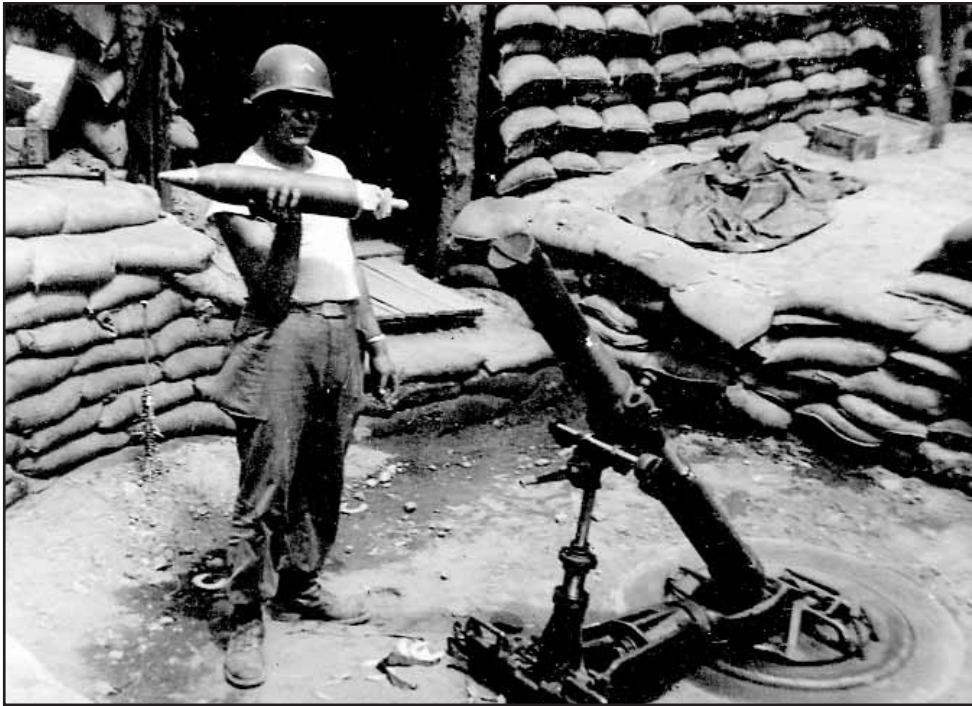
trucks, 5 ¾-ton trucks and 35 ¼-ton jeeps with trailers.

The mortars had a firing range of about 5,900 yards down to about 1,000 yards. They could be taken apart and carried up the mountain side and set up for firing. The base plate weighed 175 pounds, with a handle on each side. The barrel weighed 105 pounds, and the standard with its elevating and transverse mechanism weighed 53 pounds. Each round of ammo weighed 24.5 pounds.

I arrived in Inchon, Korea on the General William Weigel on June 4, 1952. We were boarded on barges at high tide. The 2-1/2-ton trucks took us to our units. I was sent to Charlie Company and started as an ammo bearer. When I left in March of 1953, I was a gunner.

Our companies were moved often.

The 461st preparing to move to a new location in Korea



Tony Eilers stands by his 4.2 mortar while holding a 4.2 mortar shell

Most times we traveled at night because some roads were observed by the enemy. In October we supported the infantry when they took Hill #395, or "White Horse," from the Chinese. Our unit was at Snipers Ridge, Triangle Hill, Pork Chop Hill, Old Baldy and Bloody Ridge.

The UN was overrun at the Yalu River in November 1950, and our unit lost most of our mortars and some vehicles. When we moved into a new position, the mortars were set up first, and then fox holes were dug. When it was a little quiet, we would start building bunkers out of rocks, sandbags and bags tied with commo wire. The forward observers would stay on the hill for a week and come back to us for a week.

About every three weeks some of us went to the rear for a shower and clean clothes, if things were slow. The 2nd Cnl Mortar Bn (461st Inf Bn) was a four point zone, so if the replacements were there, we went home.

The 2nd Mortar Bn, or 461st Inf Bn, was not attached to any one division. We were known as "The Bastard Outfit."

"Get them bastards over here now; we need them."

Incidentally, I received my basic training at Camp Breckenridge, KY.

Anthony Eilers, M121 W. McMillan St., Marshfield, WI 54449, (715) 384-2547

EIGHT MONTHS from page 21

The Four-Way Test

The test, which has been translated into more than 100 languages, asks the following questions of the things we think, say or do:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

In asking questions, I have had no problem with the president and other officers and members being polite and helpful in answering the questions. Fortunately, that was direct and not email. That does make a difference with the new board that will be discussed.

Another factor with these verbal emails leads to legal action. With this much turmoil, a skilled independent lawyer is necessary. All good corporations have an independent lawyer. If things are quiet you can discuss the problems at leisure times and not keep the independent lawyer at the meeting. Also, we may have to have more membership meetings with time to discuss the problems. That will take time and traveling, but it can decrease the turmoil.

In closing, where are we and what has been accomplished? The present leadership has conducted a very tight, well-run business. Unfortunately, it appears that there are small groups that want a sloppily run business in which they are involved so they can put money in their pockets. It appears that some of their predecessors did this, and they want to revert to those days.

If we want to progress further, have fun, aid our brother and sister veteran, and support our associates who built a great country in Korea, we must continue with a well-run, business-like, good social veteran organization. This is probably best expressed by former Navy veteran, Congressman, and Cabinet Official for President Ronald Reagan, Mel Laird, in this month's Readers Digest: "Cut out the shouting, start working together."

Let's hope we can do that. We all need it.

Reach Thomas Edwards at P. O. Box 10129, Jacksonville, FL 32247, (904) 730-7183 (Home) or (904) 655-0961 (Cell),

Check Your Mailing Label

Membership Number
First two characters reflect membership type

Membership Dues Expiration Date. The example shows a dues date of January 1st, 2008

*****5 Digit
R012345 01/01/08
JOHN J. JOHN
12345 MAIN ST
SMILEY NY 01234-5678
DELIVERY POINT BARCODE

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Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

92nd AFA Bn.

We are pleased to report that the 2007 Reunion in Savannah, GA was a success and everyone had a good time. The 2007 Reunion was dedicated to the members of the 92nd AFA Bn. who were POWs during the Korean War. The names of the POWs were read and a plaque was presented to John Vander Linden, who was present at the reunion. Two other POWs we have located will be sent their plaques and Life Memberships by mail.

Lt. Col. Brian Gale, Sr. Artillery Officer, was the guest speaker. He gave an inspiring presentation regarding modern artillery firepower compared to the weaponry we used during the Korean War. He commended our battalion for their outstanding performance during the war, and noted that our accomplishments are still used as

examples for training artillery officers in today's Army.

The Hospitality Room, which was on the top floor of the hotel, provided us with a beautiful view of Savannah and its harbor. We had piano entertainment on two evenings, along with soft drinks and light snacks. Several members brought their memorabilia for viewing, and 92nd shirts, caps, etc were for sale as usual.

We went on a tour which included two Civil War era forts, with a cannon firing demo at Ft Jackson, lunch at The Lady & Two Sons restaurant, the Historic District, and a memorial service at a Korean War monument. We had 76 people on the tour.

The banquet crowd consisted of 44 members and their guests, the speaker, and an Honor Guard, for a total of 99 people.

6th Helicopter Company & 150th Company, 45 Trans Bn, 8th Army



The 6th Helicopter Company and the 150th Maintenance Company, both stationed at Chunchon, Korea during the war, have been holding annual reunions each year for the past ten years. Several members and their spouses or guests held their 19th Annual Reunion in Chattanooga, TN, Sept. 6-9.2007.

We had a very busy and exciting three days touring many places of interest in Chattanooga, while still having ample time to visit and renew old acquaintances.

The 2008 reunion will be held in Westmont., IL (suburb of Chicago), September 4-7, 2008. All members of the 6th and 150th are encouraged to attend.

Lewis M. Ewing, 310 Clay Hill Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, (540) 678-1787, lewewing@comcast.net.

6th Helicopter Company & 150th Company members at gathering: (Front) Jack Ryan, Bill Leamon, George Westmoreland, Herb Trimble, Warren Smith, John Ewart, Lew Ewing, Ken Montgomery (Back) Bob Lefkowitz, Bert Brent, Fred Bell, Shirley Graham, Ben Bindokas, Charlie Pech, Al Longarin

68 AAA Gun Battalion

Members and guests got together in October 2007 at Branson, MO.
James A. Brown, 1330 Q Ave., New Castle, IN 47632.



Attendees at the 68 AAA Gun Bn. gathering in Branson, MO

It was announced that the Board has selected Fort Hood, Killeen, TX, for the 2008 reunion. This will be a homecoming for the 92nd AFA Bn. that shipped out to Korea from this location in 1950.

Richard Lemmon, 9450 Struthers Glen Court, Bristow, VA 20136



Speaker and guests (L-R) at 92nd AFA Bn. banquet: LtCol. Brian Gale, Ivan Smith (Director), Joe Baker (President) and wife Heidi Baker, Guy McMenemy (Sec/Treas)



Guy McMenemy (L) reads plaque to recipient John Vanderlinden (R) at 92nd AFA Bn. banquet



Tony Mussar (L), 92nd AFA Bn. VP, Lt. Col. Gale (C), and Guy McMenemy at banquet

194th Eng. Combat Bn.



194th ECB Reunion attendees (Back, L-R) Bill Alexander (CA), Bill Minter (UT), Gerry McKinney (IA), Chuck Havey (AZ), Chuck Conner (OK), Warren Boyer (OR), Bobby Flick (NC). (Front, L-R) Bob Sanford (RI), Ralph Stearns (AZ), Leon Tate (SC), Vern Rathbun (ID)

Members held a mini-reunion in Laughlin, NV in October 2007. Charles O. Havey reports that they are planning a fourth reunion in Laughlin, September 29 through October 2, 2008.

Contact persons for the 2008 reunion are Bob Sanford, 432 Walnut Hill Road, Woonsocket, RI 02895-2727, (401)766-8262, BobLorSan2@aol.com, or Chuck Havey, 715 W. Saint Moritz Drive, Payson, AZ 85541-3693, (928) 472-6956, cshavey@msn.com
Chuck Havey

**Mini-reunions continued
on page 56 ➤**

Dear Bill: Revisit to Korea.

Gordon Clyde Southern.

213 pp. E-BookTime, LLC. ISBN 978-1-59824-452-6

By Dr. Kris Barnett



One can only imagine how many weary soldiers swore never to return to South Korea as they finished their tours and returned stateside after the Korean War. But, for some,

the passage of years quieted resolute promises not to return, and the cooperation of the South Korean government and the Korean War Veterans Association has afforded hundreds of veterans the opportunity to revisit a much-changed country. Gordon Clyde Southern was one of the veterans who was eager to participate in a "Revisit Tour."

Southern expected to share the Revisit experience to Seoul, South Korea with his friend Bill Williams, who served in Korea from 1952 – 1953. However, Williams' health prevented his participation in the revisit. His friend's illness prompted Southern to keep a meticulous diary of events and share his extensive and insightful travelogue with Williams through a series of letters. *Dear Bill: Revisit to Korea* shares the particulars of the revisit, but the author extends the enjoyable commentary beyond the trip itself as he investigates military records and traces his participation in the war.

Southern begins by attempting to capture one of the most significant aspects of the trip. He writes:

"The return to the scene of battle serves to re-kindle old memories that have lain dormant for more than forty years. Although the tour was pleasant and adventuresome as planned, the natural camaraderie of veterans sparked conversations that resulted in the grim and somber realization that we may have a

moral obligation to speak up and sound a clarion note of warning to the young leaders of today" (p. 9).

The letters to Bill contain myriad details of Southern's experiences during the Revisit, beginning with the journey from Los Angeles to Kimpo Airport. Southern describes the welcoming and appreciative attitudes of the many South Koreans who encountered the traveling U.S. veterans. Indeed, Southern and his traveling companions found a Korea that had changed much in the forty years since the war ended. They visited the several monuments that honor the United Nations forces who participated in the war.

One of the highlights of the trip was to Freedom Village at Panmunjom where the truce was signed, which is located in a small tract between South Korea and North Korea. Also, the group toured Seoul, the Korean National Cemetery, and the Korean War Museum.

The Korean War Museum was of particular interest to Southern, who had been a tank commander during his stint in Korea. Bits of his experiences during his tour pepper the travelogue, as the experiences during the revisit uncovered a wealth of memories.

After his visit to the Korean War Museum, Southern writes,

"My favorites were of course the M4A3E8 Sherman Tanks, which were TOE equipment for Regimental Tank Company in the 45th Division. I was the proud commander of twenty-two of these tanks....The tank on display sported serious damage to the Main Hatch, leading me to suspect that it might have been one of my own tanks. I remember well what damage a 120mm mortar can do to a tank turret....I could almost smell the acrid odor of thick smoke inside the fighting compartment." (p. 65)

During the revisit, Southern learned from fellow veterans that at the Federal Archives in Suitland, Maryland many declassified military records regarding the Korean War are now available. Thus, Southern made it his mission to later revisit Korea in a different way –

through military archives. Once again, he chronicles his experiences through additional letters to Bill.

Southern describes his thorough and tedious search to find records regarding his unit, the details of which he reproduces and shares with faithful reader Bill Williams – along with vivid and often contradictory, humorous details of the same event.

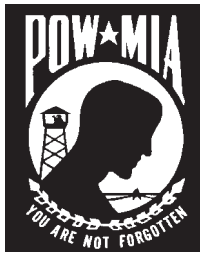
For example, declassified documents reveal: "Miscellaneous Entry – General Taylor, General White, General Ruffner, General Ginder, and Colonel Carlson inspected 1st Bn and Co. B."

However, Southern elaborates that during the above-mentioned visit, he ferried General Ginder in a tank around the Bailey Bridge area because the General was "too scared to cross in a jeep." Southern notes that he "...failed to completely close the hatch lid, which bounced up and down on the General's steel helmet across the valley floor. He was mad as hell when we arrived..." (p. 140). Of course, none of this information is part of any official military record!

Southern closes his book with a description of his repatriation process, detailing how on his trip back to the U.S., he was assigned to oversee a group of ex-POWs. Furthermore, Southern includes a series of letters written to him by one of the veterans, Hugh W. Ruckdeschel, who experienced the revisit in 1993 and was equally interested in researching the archives.

Southern closes his simple, yet poignant, series of letters, written out of a combination of loyalty to a fellow veteran and the desire to preserve history for posterity, with these thoughts:

"Sometimes I wonder if the real heroes all died in the war. Those of us who survived and were allowed to make the Korea Revisit were extremely lucky. I have thought more about the Korean War in the past three months, than I ever did during the previous forty years. Perhaps it is good that we can re-hash all those events, and hopefully transmit our memories to others who may benefit somewhere down the road." (p. 196).



POW/MIA Update

Soldier missing in action from Korean War is identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced 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 Cpl. Robert S. Ferrell, U.S. Army, of Dallas, Texas. His burial date is being set by his family.

Representatives from the Army met with Ferrell's next-of-kin to explain the recovery and identification process, and to coordinate interment with military honors on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

On February 12, 1951, Ferrell was assigned to Battery A, 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, then occupying a position about 70 miles east of Seoul, South Korea. The 503rd was providing artillery support for friendly units coming under heavy attack by Chinese Communist Forces. In danger of being overrun, the 503rd was forced to withdraw to the south. Records indicate that Ferrell was captured near Hoengsong, South Korea during the fighting. He later died in captivity at the Suan Mining POW camp located about 40 miles southeast of Pyongyang, North Korea.

Between 1990 and 1994, the North Korean government repatriated what they claimed to be 208 sets of remains, including a 1991 turnover of several servicemen recovered near the Suan Mining POW camp. Ferrell's remains, along with cold-weather clothing and uniform buttons worn by U.S. infantry, were included in the 1991 repatriation.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of Ferrell's remains.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call (703) 699-1169.

Remains of Pvt. Joseph Meyer Jr. come home after 57 years

The Associated Press reported on March 8, 2008 that the remains of Pvt. Joseph Meyer Jr. of Wahpeton, SD will be coming home—58 years after he disappeared while fighting in the Korean War. He was declared missing in action in 1950.

Ironically, Wahpeton is the home of MSgt. Woodrow Wilson Keeble, who received the Medal of Honor from President Bush on March 3, 2008 for his bravery in Korea. (See the story on page 26.) Keeble died in 1982.

Pvt Meyer's remains are scheduled to be flown home from Hawaii a few days before his funeral, scheduled for May 3. He will be buried with full military honors in a 2008 Army uniform.

S. Korea, US to Sign Memo Of Understanding on Recovery of War Dead

The South Korean and U.S. military have agreed to conduct

joint recovery and identification of remains of their soldiers killed in action during the 1950-53 Korean War, the South Korean Ministry of National Defense (MND) announced.

The MND Agency for Killed in Action Recovery and Identification (MAKRI) and the Joint Prisoners of War (POWs), Missing in Action (MIA) and Accounting Command (JPAC) affiliated with the U.S. Department of Defense, will sign a memorandum of understanding in the coming months.

Under the agreement, the two agencies will share information related to the recovery and identification of the remains of fallen soldiers and conduct joint operations on a regular basis. JPAC will also help train officials of the South Korean agency.

South Korea's Army launched its operations to recover the remains of war dead in 2000. The Army mission was transferred to the MND early last year when MAKRI was established.

Since 2005, South Korea has found and handed over the remains of eight U.S. soldiers killed during the Korean War, while the United States has recovered the remains of three South Korean soldiers.

MIA Army Sgt. Harry J. Laurence of Cleveland, OH identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced on March 26, 2008 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 U.S. Army Sgt. Harry J. Laurence of Cleveland, Ohio. He was buried April 9 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

Representatives from the Army met with Laurence's next-of-kin to explain the recovery and identification process, and to coordinate interment with military honors on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

Laurence was a member of L Company, 31st Infantry Regiment, then making up the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), 7th Infantry Division. The team was engaged against the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea from Nov. 27-Dec. 11, 1950. The unit was forced to retreat to the south due to intense enemy fire. Laurence was among many soldiers reported missing in action.

In 2001, joint U.S. and Democratic People's Republic of Korea teams, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), conducted two excavations of a mass grave near the Chosin Reservoir. The site correlates closely with defensive positions held by the 31st RCT at the time of the Chinese attacks. The teams recovered remains believed to be those of 11 U.S. servicemen. Analysis of the remains subsequently led to the identifications of three individuals, including Laurence.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC also used dental comparisons in Laurence's identification.

Mini-Reunions (continued from page 53).....

160th Infantry

The 160th Infantry Korean War Veterans Association held its third annual reunion in San Diego, CA, October 9-12, 2007. About 40 veterans, along with most of their spouses, attended. The local Korean community hosted an outstanding welcoming party complete with food and Korean entertainment.

Tours included a visit to an aircraft carrier moored in San Diego Harbor, a shopping trip to Old Town San Diego, and attendance at a Marine Corps recruit graduation ceremony. A highlight of the trip to the Marine Depot was the rousing reception which the crowd gave our group of old veterans.

The speaker at our banquet was Maj. Gen. James Delk, USA (Ret), a former 40th Division Commander. In between organized events there was good fellowship at the hospitality tent.

The next reunion will be held at the Marine Memorial Club in downtown San Francisco, September 16-18, 2008.

*David A. Mays, 114 Kathy St
Florence, AL. 35633
docmays@comcast.net*



Attendees at the 160th Infantry gathering

160th Inf. Association officers (L-R) Dave Mays (2007 President), Brent Jett (Secretary/Treasurer and organizer of the 2007 and 2008 reunions), and Chet Caine (2008 President) at San Diego reunion



Co A, 223 Inf Regt, 40th Inf Div



Members got together in Las Vegas, NV in April 2007.

*John A. Fiesta, Box 4060, Hidden Valley
PA 15502, (814) 443-0602
fiestafaf@yahoo.com*

Co. A, 223 Inf. Regt., 40th Inf. Div. members at April 2007 mini-reunion (L-R) Sgt Bud Silvestri, SFC Norman Hackler, SFC Vern Williams, SFC Jim White, MSgt Ralph Salcido, MSgt John Fiesta

We arrived off the coast of Korea aboard the *USS Freeman* on a spring morning in 1957. It was very early, and still dark. While still a considerable distance from land, we could sense the smells peculiar to that country and at that hour it was very much the “Land of the morning calm.”

When daylight came we entered the harbor at Inchon and prepared to disembark. I recall two poignant memories of that day. Before any of us left the ship, two craft loaded with prisoners under a heavily armed guard pulled alongside our vessel. The prisoners were unloaded and presumably placed in the brig for transport back to the U.S. Whether this operation was carried out while the troops stood on deck watching was done for effect, or as a matter of standard operating procedure for some other valid reason, it worked. The message had been delivered: be advised, this is what happens to people who do not follow orders, who mess up, who commit crimes. It was a sobering scene. We had not yet set foot on dry land and we had already witnessed a very negative event. I just stood there and mused: “Welcome to Korea.”

We disembarked shortly after the prisoner transfer had been accomplished. We were loaded in the backs of deuce-and-a-halves for a short trip to the Replacement Depot in Ascom City, where the troops would be fed, housed (if necessary), and shipped out expeditiously to the unit to which they had been assigned. As the convoy passed through Inchon toward Bupyeong, a suburb of Inchon and Ascom City, I had my first real look at Korea.

It was a pleasant day. Many civilians were out and about. I sat toward the rear of the truck looking out. It seemed everything was taking place on the roadside or sidewalk, where there were buyers, sellers, and people cooking and washing clothes, and carrying out various other chores. Many, it seemed, were able to squat comfortably on their haunches while accomplishing their tasks. Many wore traditional clothing. I am told the men’s traditional dress is called Pa Ji Jogori, and the women’s Chimi Jogori (my spelling).

A lot of the men wore white. The women also wore white, and multiple colored outfits as well, including yellow, green, blue, red, etc. Most of the dwellings

MEMORIES OF KOREA

By James Foley

Inwardly, I was thinking, “This is a strange place. I’m going to be here for about sixteen months, unless something starts, in which case I may never leave....”

and shops were single story and not too large compared to what we had at home.

As the convoy moved along the main supply route, the residents paid us scant attention as they went about their business. All together, the panorama that unrolled to the back of our deuce-and-a-halves was the strangest I had ever experienced. I do not state the above in a derogatory sense. Rather, it was totally foreign to anything I had known or experienced before.

Reality began to set in. Outwardly, I said, “This place looks like the Lone Ranger’s camp just outside of town!” Inwardly, I was thinking, “This is a strange place. I’m going to be here for about sixteen months, unless something starts, in which case I may never leave. How do you tell the good ones from the bad?” Then, for the first time the question entered my head: “Could you kill someone if you had to in order to save yourself?”

I considered this matter for only an instant or two. Based on that moment, at

that time, and at that place, I said, “Yes”—and continued my day. I don’t recall that I ever reconsidered that question for the rest of my tour. Fortunately, I never had to fire my weapon at another human being during my tour, or during 37 years as a police officer in the civilian life that followed.

As I consider the whole matter now, I don’t think you really know until the moment of truth arrives. My sense is that there was enough angst to go around in the back of the deuce-and-a-half on that day on the trip up from Inchon.

I continued many friendships during my tour. I also cultivated many new ones among both the GIs and the Koreans. I left Korea with a different perspective on both the country and the people. Neither the country nor the people were so strange after all. It was their country, their customs, and their manner of dress. We were the strangers, perhaps very strange to them at times—but welcome strangers for the most part.

To jump ahead to the very end: the trip back down to Inchon in the rear of the deuce-and-a-half was filled with joyful anticipation. We were going home, which is where we belonged, after all. We were ready. If there was any downside to all of this, it was the fact we would be parting from some good friends and buddies who we very well might never see again.

Most of us had made some rank. Some had a vehicle assigned to them on a daily basis during the week. Many had been assigned to duties which carried some stature. So, just in case any of us had become impressed with ourselves, the Army had an instant adjustment available for such a condition. They sent us back down that hill just the way we had arrived—in the back of a deuce-and-a-half.

Many of the men who rode down to Inchon with me that day attended a reunion held in the spring of 2003. I had located and contacted many of them. I learned early in this undertaking that the respect and regard that was born and nurtured so many years ago is still evident.

Thank God, I have never shared these memories of Korea with anyone. But, I put them on paper now in hope they may cause some others to recall similar experiences.

25th Division, Hq Co.

Hair looking for men...

Herb Hair is looking for soldiers from the 25th Division Headquarters Company, 1951-52. The Division was located in the Iron Triangle at the time.

Hair notes that all of them would be about 75-80 years old today. Regardless of their ages, he would like to hear from them.

He sent along a few photos of the men and their surroundings to spark people's memories.

*Herb Hair, 6106 Airline Road, Young Harris, GA 30582,
judherb@alltel.net*



Seoul in the early 1950s



Unidentified 25th Division Headquarters Company personnel in Korea, 1951-52



More unidentified
25th Div HQ Co
members



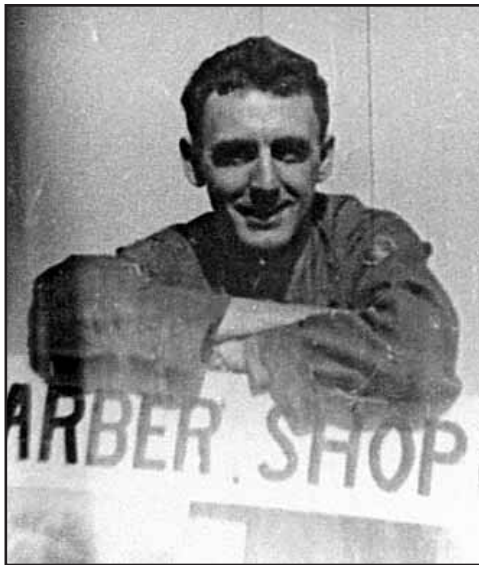
Anyone remember this 25th Div HQ Co member?



The "Jewel" of 25th Div HQ Co



Major General Ira P. Swift, 25th Division, 1951-52



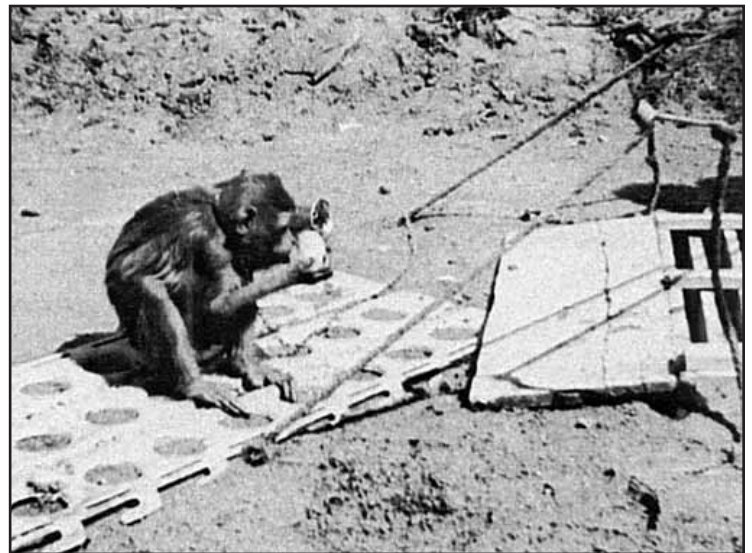
James Edmiston,
25th Div Hq Co



Cpl Herb Hair, 25th Div HQ Co



Jung Bong Su,
House Boy for
25th Div Hq Co



No time to monkey around in Korea—although this pet monkey at 25th Div Hq Co managed to find the time

Korean barber
known as “Dee,”
with 25th Div Hq Co



South Koreans in a 25th Div Hq Co field kitchen



Recon Missions

Stories about Fr. Kapaun

I want to know if any of our readers served with Fr. Emil Joseph Kapaun during the Korean War or has any information about him. He was a captain/chaplain in the 8th Cav. Regt. Of the 1st Cav. Div. Fr. Kapaun was captured and made a POW at Unsan on 2 November 1950. He suffered greatly at the hands of the communist Chinese, and was finally murdered by them.

The Archdiocese of Military Services in Washington DC has published a small booklet of his story. I encourage everyone to read it. However, I am very interested in gathering any personal stories from anyone who knew Fr. Kapaun, who prayed with him, or fought beside him.

Thank you so much for your help in this endeavor. Please send me any of your stories.

John Kempka, 85 W. Chestnut Street
Wilkes Barre, PA 18705
(B Btry., 1st Bn., 15th Field Artillery, 2nd Inf. Div.)

Lawrence P. Nixon

I am looking for information about a Korean War veteran named Lawrence P. Nixon (Ser # 19336133). He was from the State of Washington, and assigned to Medical Co., 21st Inf., 24th Div. Nixon served in Korea in 1950-51. He was in law enforcement in his civilian occupation.

If you have any information contact Charles J. DeYoung, 21 Rufus Street, Brockton, MA 02302, annieliam32@comcast.net

November 8, 1952; Cpl. Rhodes

This is a 55-year-old story that I must tell. The actions described were definitely above and beyond the call of duty, and I am hoping some of the men who were there might contact me.

The nearby photos were taken in Korea in 1952. The people in them were all members of the 45th Div., 180th Reg., Co. E. Unfortunately, I do not remember all their names, but I hope some of them will get in touch with me. Now for my story.

I served in Korea in 1952-1953 with the 45th Div., 180th Reg., Co. E as a medic. After 55 years I still reflect upon the many life altering situations that I faced as a medic during my tour of duty in the Korean War. I am writing this letter because I would like to hear from any man from this company about the night of Nov. 8, 1952, when Cpl. Rhodes was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Cpl. Rhodes and a squad of men in a forward listening post



Who are these members of 45th Div., 180th Reg., Co E?



Does anybody remember "Papa San" (R), who is saluting John Keane (L)?



45th Div., 180th Reg., Co E Medics Mayo Aandernd (R) and Lt ? in the middle; Medic on left is unknown



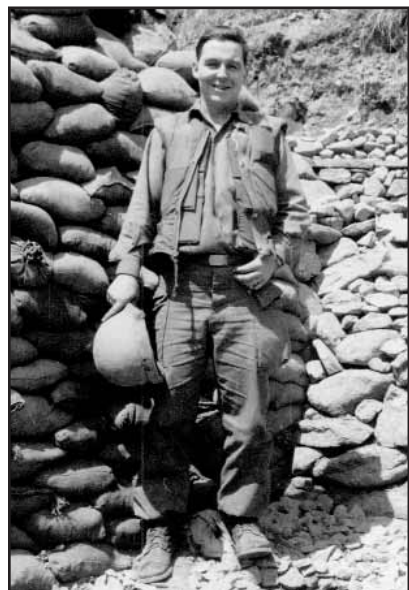
Two medics of 45th Div., 180th Reg., Co E, John Keane (L) and ? (R)

were surrounded by Chinese troops and engaged in a fierce fire fight. The Chinese were throwing grenades in their bunkers; Cpl. Rhodes was picking them up and throwing them back out. One grenade exploded and blew off part of his hand. He made it back to the front line where I was located, and I took care of his

wounds by patching him up. The only light I had was a Zippo lighter. I gave him a full shot of morphine and he was carried off the mountain on a litter.

I then went to some of the men and said, "Let's get out to the listening post," which was a few hundred yards in front of the line. Some of the men were possibly wounded and needed our help, but nobody moved. I told them that if I had a gun, I would go out there. One of the men gave me his carbine, and three or four other men, who I had never seen before, told me that if I would lead the way they would follow. Off we went.

I carried a box of blood plasma type under my left arm and held the carbine in my right hand like a pistol grip. We followed the trench out to the listening post. As we got closer, I noticed a lot of unexploded Chinese grenades in the trench. I prayed they would not go off as I stepped over them. We saw bodies near the bunker, but we did not know if they were friend or foe, dead or alive. I also hoped we were not walking into an ambush.



ABOVE: Ed Krowder and two unidentified soldiers from 45th Div., 180th Reg., Co E

LEFT: Pvt. Kelly from Chicago, 45th Div., 180th Reg., Co E

We waited until sunrise. We saw from their uniforms that they were Chinese, and they appeared to be dead. We also found one of our men dead in a trench outside the bunker and took him out and back. The Chinese started shelling us with mortar fire, but we made it back to the front lines.

This was my third month on and off the front line. I had six more months to go, and from the snow that was on the mountains north of us, we knew we were in for a freezing winter.

P.S. No officer in the company ever approached or spoke to me about that night.

John Keane, P.O. Box 396, Downsville, N.Y. 13755
(607) 363-7162; Florida address and phone
580 Horizon West, Apt. 204, Boynton Beach, FL
33435, (561) 364-0165; Cell phone (607) 435-3923



Two Medics from 45th Div., 180th Reg., Co E, Mayo Andernd (L) and John Keane (R)

581st SRR and Soldiers fighting at Fort Dix?

In the July/August 2006 issue of The Graybeards there was an article about the 581st Signal Radio Relay (p. 58, "Did the tired GI ever make it home?"). I would appreciate it if anyone who was there with this group in 1952 and 1953 would send me a note. I am trying to reconstruct my time in Korea.

Also, there was a fight between a Golden Glove boxing winner and a Private that took place between the barracks one night in April 1950 at Fort Dix, New Jersey. A sergeant broke it up before anything serious happened. Does anyone remember it? If so, please contact Eddy Gotthardt, P.O. Box 2897, Cumming, GA 30028, (678) 596-4973, www.developbus@hotmail.com

Members of Helicopter Squadron 161, Korea

I often wonder if there are any veterans around who served in Korea with Marine Helicopter Squadron 161. I was a helicopter crew chief on HRS-2 Helos. We flew many hours and many sorties and saved the lives of many troops by flying them to hospital ships in Inchon Harbor.

Maybe some others in HMR-161 of that era might recognize my name and get in touch with me. (I was known as "The Greek.")

Stavros Stefanos Moungelis, 115 Timberbrook Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878, (301) 963-1956

936th Field Artillery

The battalion is looking for former members, especially those who served during the Korean War. Members will be gathering at the Clarion Hotel in Fayetteville, AR, August 23-24, for their 58th Reunion.

Anyone interested in joining the group is invited to contact Wayne Bohannon, 10617 East First Street, Tulsa, OK 74128, (918) 437-5324.

Joe Mongoi

Tony Fallico, a member of Chapter 105 in Syracuse, NY, and Joe Mongoi were buddies in the 73rd Combat Engineers in Korea in 1954. Mongoi was a commo chief. Tony made a pizza for Joe when he was being rotated home.

Tony has built a successful bakery business. He has donated cakes and other good things to many veterans organizations, churches, and charitable organizations for their functions. He is highly regarded by these clubs and organizations as a generous benefactor. But, he has lost contact with Joe.

Tony would like to hear from Joe, or learn what has happened to him. If anyone has information about Joe's whereabouts, please contact Tony at Mary/Fremont Bakery, 42015@cny-mail.com or KWVA, CNY Chapter, P.O. Box 5118, Syracuse, NY 13220-5118.



Joe Mongoi and Tony Fallico, Korea, 1954

Robert W. Cogswell

Captain Robert W. Cogswell was my B-17 pilot in the 303rd Bomb Group during World War II. Returning from our 14th mission against a Nazi submarine base in Occupied France on 26 September 1943, we had to bail out over the south of England as our bomber began to disintegrate. Injuries were minor among the 10-man crew, with the exception of the pilot, who was last to jump. The opening of the chute tore ligaments in his back.

He never flew another mission during WW II, but went on to train and serve on B-29s during the Korean War.

I was based in Pusan in 1951-52 as commander of a detachment of the 1st Radio Broadcasting and Leaflet Group. Bob and I had exchanged letters, when one of mine addressed to him at his air base in Okinawa came back stamped MISSING IN ACTION. I learned later that Major Cogswell's B-29 was returning on 23 October 1951 from a mission to hit a North Korean air base when it was attacked by MIG fighter planes. His B-29 crashed in the Yellow Sea.

His body was never recovered, and on 28 February 1954 the US Air Force declared him Killed in Action.

If any readers of The Graybeards knew Bob Cogswell, or have more details about that fatal mission, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Eddie Deerfield, 3552 Landmark Trail
Palm Harbor, FL 34684, ED303fsra@aol.com

KORWALD Loss Incident Summary

This is the summary of the event in which Captain Cogswell's plane and life were lost.

Date of Loss: 511023

Tail Number: 44-61940

Aircraft Type: B-29A

Wing or Group: 307th Bmb Wg

Squadron: 372nd Bmb Sq

Circumstances of Loss: Damaged by MiGs near Namsi airfield, crashed 6 mi off coast of Chinnampo, 3rd ARSq SA-16 Dumbos participated in SAR effort, a total of approx 233 SAR missions flown, surface vessels impeded by rough seas

Crewmembers Associated With This Loss

- BEISSNER, JR., Fred L. 1LT USAF RSC Rescued by the Aus. Destroyer Murchison NW of Chinnampo
- BLACK, Wayne F. 1LT USAF MIA
- BOTTER, William J. SSGT USAF POW
- COFFEY, Arthur G. SGT USAF RCV Remains recovered by crash boat near Taehwa-do
- COGSWELL, Robert W. CAPT USAF MIA (Hq & Hq Squadron)
- FOULKS, JR., James A. CAPT USAF KIA
- FUEHRER, Alois A. SGT USAF MIA
- JONES, James H. SGT USAF RMC RMC Big Switch
- KISSER, Kenneth E. SSGT USAF RMC RMC Big Switch
- MACCLEAN, Gerald C. LTCOL USAF RMC RMC Big Switch
- MOORADIAN, Ara NMI 1LT USAF MIA
- STRINE, John T. SSGT USAF RMC RMC Big Switch
- WENTWORTH, JR., Lloyd G. 1LT USAF RMC RMC Big Switch

461st Inf. Bn BN/88th Inf. Bn. Heavy Mortar

We are looking for members of these units that were successor units of the 2nd Chemical Mortar Bn. We have a reunion every year, and we would like to find more members to attend.

Contact Bob McGeorge, 3296 Blueacres Drive,
Cincinnati, OH 45239, (513) 923-4920.

25th Inf. Div. Assn. looking for stories

The 25th Infantry Division Association is undertaking a Korean War oral history project. In that regard we are soliciting personal experiences of 25th Infantry Division veterans that occurred to them during their service with the Tropic Lightning in Korea.

We ask that a contribution consist of a short narration of a specific event or closely related events. They can be of a combat or non-combat nature, either serious or humorous. Please include the time and place of the event and in which unit you served in the 25th Infantry Division.

Dave McDonald, an Association member who served with the 14th Infantry in Korea, has agreed to serve as the editor of this

Korean War project. He has previously served as the editor of the eye-witness accounts contained in our recently published Association report, "The 25th Infantry Division on December 7th 1941."

We ask that a submission be neatly printed, or typed in computer quality print. The Association will reserve the right to edit submissions as needed. Project submissions will appear on our website and in Flashes.

Please mail submissions to:

Mr. David McDonald
139 Scenic Drive
Concord CA 94518
Email: DavidM145@aol.com

We urge you to contribute to the historical record of the Tropic Lightning by sharing a significant experience that occurred to you during the Korean War.

John Keliher, Historian
25th Infantry Division Association

Remembering A Co., 519 MP Bn.

Emery Viach sent us this photo of A Co., 519 MP Bn., taken in Wonju, Korea, in 1953.

If anyone recognizes themselves, or wants to get in touch with Emery, reach him at 3949 North Avenue, Modesto, CA 95358, eviach76EV@aol.com



A Co., 519 MP Bn., Wonju, Korea, 1953.

Air Force Band looking for MASH nurse

The United States Air Force Band is producing a television special honoring America's veterans to air nationally on Public Television this coming Veterans Day. The program will be taped before a live audience at the Music Center at Strathmore in Bethesda, Maryland, on 24 June 2008. The show will feature guest emcee and actor Cliff Robertson, along with musical guests Patti LaBelle and Clint Black.

As part of our broadcast, we want to include five, 60-second video segments highlighting veterans from each branch of the Armed Forces from World War II to Operation Iraqi Freedom. Our hope is that by telling these inspirational stories of sacrifice and service, we will help Americans everywhere remember and honor all veterans.

On behalf of my commander, Col Dennis Layendecker, we would be extremely honored to represent Korean War veterans by telling the story of an Army nurse who served in a MASH unit in the Korean Theater. We feel that this story, in addition to underscoring the service and sacrifice of Korean War veterans, would also help bring positive attention to all American women heroes who have served in wartime throughout the history of our Armed Forces.

I would very much appreciate your assistance finding a MASH nurse who would be willing to take part in our broadcast and share any photographs she might have that would help us create the short video documentary about her.

Of course The Air Force Band would pay for all travel, per diem and lodging expenses for her and her travel companion to attend the 24 June taping in Bethesda, Maryland

She would join Navy Commander (Ret) Everett Alvarez Jr as one of our honored veterans for the broadcast. As you may know, CDR Alvarez was the first and longest-held POW during the Vietnam War and he went on to help direct the Peace Corps and Veterans Administration.

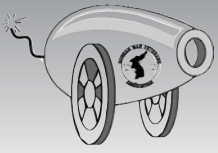
Thank you very much in advance for your assistance. Please let me know if you have any questions or need further clarification.

DAVID L. NOKES, CMSgt, USAF
Chief of Strategic Communication
The United States Air Force Band
Comm: 202-767-7868; DSN: 297-7868
201 McChord Street
Bolling AFB, DC 20032-0202
www.usafband.af.mil

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWNNS

Congress has blocked the possible replacement of the Cracked Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, deciding instead to study repairs to the existing marble monument. A defense bill President Bush signed into law 28 JAN included an amendment to prevent replacement of the tomb, pending a report to Congress. The cemetery had been leaning toward replacing the monument, which was installed in 1931, to maintain its dignity. But now that replacement of the stone has been stalled, the cemetery plans to make repairs to the monument later this year, said John Metzler, the cemetery's superintendent. The last repairs were made in 1989. The work (with guidance from National Park Service stone conservators) involves replacing the existing grouting on the monument and cleaning the stone with water and a soft brush.

Millions of people visit the tomb each year, where soldiers guard the sculpted sarcophagus at all times. It overlooks Washington from across the Potomac River in Arlington and is the scene of Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremonies by the president. A crypt beneath the monument holds the remains of three unidentified servicemen killed in the two world wars and the Korean War. A Vietnam War veteran buried there was later identified through DNA testing and removed. [Source: Associated Press article 9 Feb 08]



Feedback/Return Fire

This section of *The Graybeards* is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-2859. E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 563-6149. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

A sad, but vocal, minority

Having had the opportunity over the last several months to read the emails going back and forth between our current leadership and a sad but vocal minority of disgruntled KWVA members, I find it disturbing that these Korea veterans of the 1950-1953 "hot war" period feel so bitter about their service being "forgotten" that no one's service in Korea, other than their own, need be remembered. It also appears that only the voice of those who were in actual combat is worthy of being heard.

What these folks don't seem to grasp is that those of us who served in Korea after 1953 are the ones who will ensure for posterity that their sacrifices and the hardships they endured will, in fact, be remembered for generations to come.

We could easily go our own way and perpetuate our service in Korea for decades to come, while allowing their service to fade further from the public memory into oblivion.

In joining the KWVA we did not and do not wish to walk in front of anyone or behind anyone, but along side of them, as Korea veterans who honor and respect their sacrifice but who will not be put down by them because of their need to be "remembered" to the exclusion of all others. It appears to us that our intentions and our service are being denigrated as a case of stolen valor, which they address with scorn for our opinions, and contrived designations of color and uniform to set themselves apart.

Any action to diminish, exclude or silence those who served after them reflects poorly on their intelligence and self-esteem. However, the roughly two million American service men and women who came after them realize that these people are a minority of veterans, albeit a vocal and antagonistic minority, and will not take the low road and descend to their level.

In spite of all that is being said and done by this vocal minority, we stand together with the KWVA in all things needed for a vibrant organization for decades to come.

Al McCarthy, Commander, Korea Veterans of America, Chapter #299 of the KWVA
Former Captain, USAF, 314th Air Division,
Command Advisory Function, Osan, Korea 1970-1971

Flag Etiquette

Editor's Note: We have received some criticism over the years regarding the flag displays in photos that appear in *The Graybeards*. The President of Chapter 51, Richland County [OH], sent us a few rules regarding flag etiquette. We will

include different rules in a series over the next few issues. (See the first part on p. 24.)

Here is the letter:

In the September -October and November-December issues of *The Graybeards* there are pictures showing the wrong way to display the flag. For example, on page 38 in the September-October issue, the flag is draped over a monument. In the November-December issue, on page 36, the flag is wrapped around four tree trunks.

I have enclosed two pages copied from the American Legion officer's guide and manual of ceremonies. On one page, under the heading Position and manner of display, it reads:

(I) the flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument but it should never be used as the covering for the statue or monument.

We thought this might be of interest to you.

Bob E. Shirk, 2040 Springmill Rd.
Mansfield, Ohio 44903-8008

More about the C-124

Cliff Borden's description of the C-124 brings back not too fond memories of my experiences with this old work horse. My first experience was when we were flying from K-16 to Tachikawa in November of 1952. I had Hepatitis and didn't know it. As we went up to altitude, it had an explosive effect on my gastrointestinal system. When I was running back to the latrine for the third time, the load master tried to stop me, but I just told him to get the ___ out my way.

When we landed, I was still sitting on the royal throne. It never was much fun sitting over the middle wing section with all the vibrations, watching some of the rivets leave black marks down the wing.

Later in my hitch, after a 12-to-13 hour flight from Upper Heyford Air Base to the Azores with the Strategic Air Command, I think I still vibrated for another hour. By the way, those engines were R-4360s, same as the B-50 and the pusher configuration on the B-36.

Of course, the most horrifying thing to happen when I was over there was when a C-124 with a full crew and passengers never got off the ground and plowed into the village of Tachikawa, Japan, with a loss of everyone on board and probably many in the town. I have never heard a verifiable story of why it happened.

A.E. (Gene) Highsmith
aehighsmith@sbcglobal.net

***Note:** The crash to which the writer refers occurred on June 18, 1953. Among the victims were three 36th Fighter-Bomber Squadron pilots who were passengers aboard that C-124 Globemaster when it crashed: 1st Lt. Albert R. Hamilton, Jr., 2nd Lt. Raoul P. Mouton, Jr., and 2nd Lt. William P. Stacy. How ironic is it that three young pilots who risked their lives flying combat missions in F-86 Sabrejets would die in a plane crash not directly related to combat?*

Say a little—no, a big—prayer

I, too, had an unforgettable experience in a C-124 Globemaster one Friday the 13th while returning to Korea from R & R in Tokyo.

None of us had flown very much, and to fly on Friday 13th made us a little uneasy. We were carried out to Tachikawa around 9 p.m., and the plane was still being loaded with cargo. So, we thought that maybe we wouldn't get aboard until after midnight, which would make it the 14th. That made us feel better. But, about 10 p.m. we were taken out to the plane and got on board.

We had been airborne about 10 minutes when the pilot told us over the PA system to stay in our seats and keep our seat belts fastened. "We've just lost an engine," he announced.

The first thing that entered my mind was "Friday the 13th." As Arnold G. Van Deusen stated in his article, in all probability there was a lot of praying going on.

We circled Tokyo approximately 1-1/2 hours to burn up fuel, and landed back safely at Tachikawa. I then said a little prayer of thanks—and I imagine a lot of other guys did as well.

The next day I was flown back to Seoul on a C-119 cargo plane.

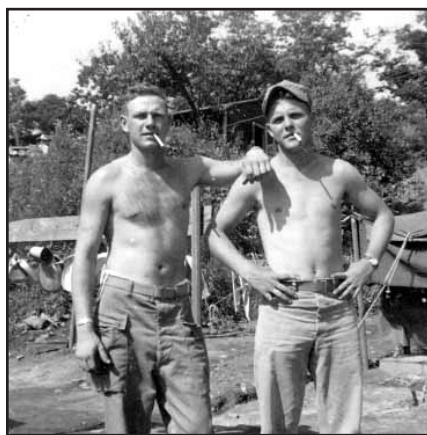
Mel Speas, 1837 Butner Mill Road
East Bend, NC 27018

Coincidence?

Walt Hinrichs and Mike Klein grew up on the same street in Philadelphia, PA, only a couple homes apart from one another. Walt joined the Marines right out of high school early in 1951. Mike joined about five months later.

Mike got to Korea before Walt did. In fact, the day Walt arrived he ran into Mike! They were both in E Co., 2nd Bn., 7th Regt., 1st Marine Division early in 1952. They had their picture taken and sent it home to Mike's dad. Although Mike, who stayed in the Marines for twenty years, lives in Missouri now, he and Walt still stay in touch.

Walter D. Hindrichs, 2195 Martin Drive
Gilbertsville, PA 19525



Walt Hinrichs (L) and Mike Klein (R) in Korea in 1952

The Kidd is in Baton Rouge

When I received my copy of the November/December 2007 issue, my eye caught a photograph on page 68 of the destroyer "USS Kidd." In case you are not aware of where that ship is now located, I thought I'd write you this quick note.



Tom Britzman's restored Wyllys Jeep

My daughter lives in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and I had the opportunity of taking her on a visit to the *USS Kidd*, which now is a floating museum located there. This was in 2004 when her son, my grandson, was a Midshipman at the Naval Academy at Annapolis.

We boarded and took the self-guided tour. When we first found the enlisted men's quarters, I saw she was visibly surprised with the "stacks of bunks" floor to ceiling, with about 18 inches to two feet between each sleeping area.

A short time later we found the cabin of the "Chief Petty Officers." Somewhat the same reaction, but at least there was more room between the bunks in the "stack." Next was the junior officers' quarters. Her reaction was better, but still I could see she was visualizing her son (six foot five inches and 220 pounds) in what she felt were "cramped quarters."

Finally, we found the Captain's Quarters. That was the first time that she felt the space was adequate (for her son). He graduated in the Class of 2006 and is now on active duty as an Ensign. I have never heard him complain about the space he has been assigned.

Tom Britzman, 5798 Goldenrod Way
Prescott, AZ 86305

Book being translated into Korean

I authored a book, *Wall of Fire*, which is an accurate history of my and my twin brother's service in the last months of the Korean War. It details the use of anti-aircraft quad-50 machine guns in ground support of the infantry. The book is in the form of a diary constructed from letters which I wrote to my wife. It was published by me in 2003, and can be obtained from several sources.

The book was reviewed in *The Graybeards* (pp. 70-71) in January-February 2004, for which I thank you. It is now being translated into the Korean language. The Korean version should be available in Korea by mid-year.

My brother and I plan to travel to Korea for its debut.

Dudley J. Hughes, 2829 Lakeland Drive, Suite 1670
Flowood, MS 39232

Song translated from Korean

I came across a copy of "Arirang," a song of Korean War veterans that was written in Korean and translated by an old Korean woman who lives in my neighborhood. I remember how the ROK soldiers and citizens would sit around a fire and sing this song. The melody has stayed with me to this day.



Airirang

According to a write-up, "Arirang" is the most famous Korean folk song. Since it grew so popular and loved by everybody, it became a song which represented the country. It is sometimes played at official ceremonies.

The verse and the meaning are simple. "AH RI RANG" is the name of a small hill. One lover is asking another not to leave him (or her). Otherwise, the lover says, your leg will be broken. Please don't go.

Maybe our KWVA members will enjoy being reminded of the song, which will no doubt bring them pleasant memories of their times in a country so far from home.

Dave Conboy, 4945 Spiral Way, St. Cloud, FL 34771
(President of CID 124, Osceola County)

Censorship at Panmunjom

Regarding Frank Praytor's pictures and commentary of the POW exchange and remarks regarding censorship of articles for the Stars & Stripes, I was stationed in Tokyo as a Press Advisor (censor) during the final stage of the Korean War. At that time, some of the fiercest fighting was taking place as both sides were trying to stabilize the battle lines for the most advantageous position prior to the signing of the truce.

Our responsibilities were to delete from news stories any information which might have been of use to the North Koreans/Chinese. It was a matter of judgment on our part.

I had friendly professional relations with many of the media people, including the editor of Stars & Stripes. Most of them knew the rules and abided by them.

I was the Press Advisor for the final negotiations ending the Korean War in July of 1953. With the ending of the war, censorship stopped immediately.

I thank Frank Praytor for his excellent pictures.

Elliott S. Rose, 1625 Sunrise Drive, Lima, OH
45805
(419) 999-9913 (Phone & Fax)

How many Counter Mortar Radar units were in Korea?

I read the article in the March-April (2007) issue of The Graybeards on Counter Mortar Radar in Korea. I was with a Counter Mortar unit in Korea from November, 1952 to late June, 1953 as a Radar Repairman.

We were assigned to the 555 (Triple Nickel) F.A. Battalion of the 3rd Infantry Division, 5th Regimental Combat Team. We spent the winter of 1952-53 in the Punch Bowl in support of the 45th and a ROK Division. I do not remember some of the others who were up (on-line) at that time.

In the spring, we moved over to somewhere in the east central front. I shipped out of Korea on July 3rd, 1953 and on July 14th, the 555th got ambushed. We lost a lot of men, our Radar Set, and most of our equipment.

I did not realize that there were other Counter Mortar Radar units in Korea at that time. I would appreciate hearing from anyone on this subject.

Mario J. Meneguzzo, 902A Garfield Ave. #6
Marquette, MI 49855, mameneguzzo@tourvilles.com

Mystery Photos Revisited

My father, Herm Dykema, receives *The Graybeards* magazine and came across a mystery photo in the last edition of 2007. It is the first photo, and it is called the High Level Highway Bridge over the Han River. It connects Seoul with Yongdung-po.

The bridge was completed on May 31, 1951 by the 62nd Engineer Battalion. My father came to Korea in June and maintained that bridge along with building many others.

Just thought you may want some info on your mystery photo.

Jane Pastorcik, via email

I remember it well

I just got around to reading the Sept/Oct 07 issue of *The Graybeards*, in which I ran across the article on "Mystery Photos." The building in the middle photo is what we called the RTO station. It's the railroad station in downtown Seoul. I'm sending along a copy of a picture of that building that I took in the fall of 1953 after the war.



The Seoul railroad station

I also enjoyed the article on the next page about the 62nd Engr. Topo Co., which was on the same grounds as my outfit. I remember them very well.

My outfit was the 79th Engineer Construction Battalion, Hq & Hq Co. 24th Engineer Construction Group. I was in Korea from the 1st of July, 1953 to Aug. 1954. We were billeted in 1 of 3 buildings that used to be Seoul City College, a few miles north of the city.

John Gingery, 560 Spring Street, Struthers, OH 44471,
(330) 755-8810, jgingery22@msn.com

The only asphalt road out of Seoul

The bridge in the Sept/Oct 2007 "Mystery Photos" was the Han River Bridge from Seoul to Incheon and Yong Dong Po. It was the only asphalt road out of Seoul, at least when I was there in 1948-50, and it headed south. It was blown in 1950.

The building in the middle photo was the Seoul Railroad Terminal, which was badly damaged in 1950. I saw it in September 1950 as we headed north. It was badly damaged then.

I was in the 24th Div., 3rd Eng. Bn., Co. B, in 1948-49. We were re-designated as the 5th RCT on 1 January 1949, then transferred to Hawaii. In May-June 1949 we became the 72nd Eng. (C) Co.

MajGen James A. Johnson, 11000 Henderson Road
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Train Wreck Mystery Photo

The train wreck pictured in the Jan/Feb 2008 issue, p. 68, occurred on September 15, 1952 near the road between Incheon and Yong Dun Po, close to the 45th Inf. Div. Thirteen people were killed, and fifty were injured. They were mostly school children.

I was with H.Q., 931 EAG, which was about a mile or two to the west. I happened to be going by shortly after the wreck occurred, and took some pictures.

William H. Showell, 35266 Unit 1 Fisherman's Road,
White House Beach, Long Neck, DE 19966

From the Hudson to the Yalu: A recommended book



Train wreck on September 15, 1952 near the road between Incheon and Yong Dun Po, close to the 45th Inf. Div.

I served with the 7th Logistical Command in Taegu, Korea from January, 1962 to March, 1964. I reported to the SGS at the time, Major Harry J. Maihafer, who in turn reported to the Camp Henry base commander, General Henry K. Bentson, and later General Robert E. Peters. Of course, we were servicing the Eighth US Army out of Seoul.

As a 21-year-old PFC, SPEC5 by the time I left Korea, I knew little of all that was around me. I did know I had drawn a very special assignment. What I never knew, until just last year, was that my immediate superior, Major Maihafer, had been in Korea once before; unfortunately it was right after he left the USMA in 1949. They called this class the 49ers.....and most of them ended up in Korea as very raw 2nd Lieutenants. They were, in effect, as green as grass.

My boss went to Korea as an armored officer, wound up leading an infantry platoon, received a silver star from General Omar Bradley along the way and, in 1962, got to do it all over again.....only with nobody shooting at him.

In 1993 he decided to write a book, using his own story as a narrative framework for his chronicle of the Korean War years. He really does bring the big picture to life by means of vivid stories of the "forgotten war" told by men who knew it face to face at the junior officer level. The title? What else but From the Hudson to the Yalu.

Harry J. Maihafer retired from the Army as a colonel and became a full-time freelance writer. His articles have appeared in the Wall Street Journal, Military History, Army, Military Review, and the Naval Institute Proceedings. Unfortunately, Colonel Maihafer passed away just a few years ago. When I found his book, inadvertently, on the internet, I noted that the dust cover indicated he resided in Nashville, just down the road from me.

I immediately called, but found out through his widow that he had passed away. I was very saddened as I thought I was going to have the opportunity to visit my C.O. of so many years ago.

This is an outstanding book that should be of interest to anyone who has an interest in the Korean War, particularly those of us who served there. The book was published by the Texas A&M University Press, College Station, Texas. ISBN 0-89096-554-4. It is Texas A&M University military history series; 31. DS921.6.M35. It can be found easily on the internet through Texas A&M, or by just inputting "Harry J. Maihafer."

Monte B. Pepperell, 167 Greenwood Rd.

Crossville, TN 38558, phylmont@frontiernet.net

It's an honor to tend the grave

Thank you for putting my article "A Christmas Visit to a Departed Comrade" in the Jan/Feb (p.8) issue of The Graybeards. I am sure that Mr. Bricchi, the gentleman who requested me to tend to his friend's grave, appreciated it very much.

I will indeed see to it that John Parry's grave will continue to be tended to. As you said, it's not a job, but an honor to do so.

Larry Busini, Central Long Island Chapter #64
80 Rhoda Avenue, North Babylon, NY 11703

Remains of Pfc. Elwood D. Reynolds located

I want to tell you about Pfc. Elwood D. Reynolds. You will recall that you featured his brick in the Jan/Feb 2008 issue (p. 32). They have found his remains.

His family was visited this past week by a representative who told them his remains are still in the forensic lab in Hawaii. They will be flown to Greensboro, NC in the near future, where they will be received by a local funeral home.

A funeral date was set for April 18, with visitation with the family the night before. He still has two sisters and a brother remaining.

He was killed Nov.27, 1950 when the Chinese entered the war in force. He was a member of Co. "A," 32nd Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Div. They were east of the Chosin Reservoir. He was 19 years old at the time. He left a two-week-old daughter and young widow. Both are now deceased.

Elwood was found in a grave with four of his buddies. I think—but I am not sure—one was his commanding officer. It was 35 degrees below zero that night. At present, no one knows when the Pentagon will release the remains for shipment.

You know, after all these years, I still remember the thrill of coming home. We will welcome Elwood with the same enthusiasm.

Dave Newman, 324 Cathy Drive
Danville, VA 24540
(434) 793-5828, flomo@gamewood.net

Re the UN Cemetery in Korea

I enjoyed Arnold Van Deusen's article on the Pusan Cemetery in the Nov/Dec 2007 issue of *The Graybeards*, p. 62.

In 2002 I took a small ship cruise around the southern islands of Japan. One of our stops was Pusan. Our day tour took us all around Pusan with a stop at the cemetery.

There are no Crosses or Stars of David on the gravesites, only grave markers as shown in the nearby photos. It is a very quiet and serene setting.



A somber silence pervades the UN Cemetery



A Canadian soldier's grave marker at the Pusan cemetery



The UN Cemetery at Pusan

I do not know if this is the site of the original cemetery. Each country has its own spot in the cemetery with their respective national flag. Enclosed is a fact sheet about the cemetery.

I served in Korea in 1953 with the 326th Comm, Recon, Co.-ASA.

Sherm Pincus, 247 Park Hill Avenue
Yonkers, New York 10705

UNMCK (United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea)

Since 1951, this area(14.39ha) has been served as cemetery by the UN Command during the Korean War. Later in 1959, an Agreement was concluded between the United Nations and the Republic of Korea to establish the "United Nations Memorial Cemetery" in Korea to pay tribute to all those who were killed during the War in resisting aggression and in upholding the cause of peace and freedom. This is the unique cemetery in the world designated by the United Nations itself.

The Cemetery consists of largely three areas: symbolic, grave and green areas. Among them the symbolic area occupying plateau part of the land with flag masts of participating nations of the UN Forces, was dedicated in honour of the precious sacrifices and the symbol of concerted efforts of 22 nations including Korea under the UN flag during the War.

Since its inception, various buildings and monuments have been installed inside the Cemetery. These are Turkish Memorials(two), a Greek Memorial in the symbolic area ; a Commonwealth Memorial Monument commemorating 386 fallen of Commonwealth Forces, an Australian Memorial and a Canadian Memorial Statue in the grave area ; and a Korean Memorial Monument for all sacrifices(37,897) of the UN Forces of which the rolls of honour are enshrined in the green area. These Monuments are all dedicated by their countries respectively.

The Main Gate, which was dedicated by Busan Citizen in 1966, and the Memorial Service Hall of 1964 were both designed by a famous Korean architect, and are now adding their memorable and historic characters. A small bridge over the pond was donated by Thai Government in 1976.

During the period of 1951-1954, remains of approximately 11,000 fallen of the UN Forces were buried here, and thereafter were removed to their home countries. Today this cemetery has become a permanent resting place of 2,300 war heroes of the following nations.

AUSTRALIA	281	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	36
CANADA	378	TURKEY	462
FRANCE	44	UNITED KINGDOM	885
NETHERLANDS	117	USA	36
NEW ZEALAND	34	UNKNOWN SOLDIERS	4
NORWAY	1	NON-BELLIGERENTS	11
SOUTH AFRICA	11	TOTAL	2,300

Facts about the UN Cemetery at Pusan

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.

JUNE

Survivors of Outpost Harry (Korea), 12-16 June, Seattle, WA. POC: E. Douglas Jones, 14614 Channel Dr., LaConner, WA. 98257, (360) 466-1945

728 M.P. Bn., (All veterans, Korea War to date), 26-29 June, Oklahoma City, OK. POC: Tony Anallo, 829 N. Arnold, Moore, OK 73160, (405) 794-7906

United Female Veterans of America, Inc., 26-29 June, St. Louis, MO, St. Louis Marriott West Hotel. POC: Wanda L. Story, (410) 272-5040, OkieGirlMD@aol.com. Or, access the organization's website at www.ufva.us

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.

369th EASR (all officers and enlisted men), 27-29 June, St. Cloud, MN. POC: Don Putney, 721 E. Ripley Street, Litchfield, MN 55355, (320) 693-3959, dard-onp4@hotmail.com

AUGUST

453rd Engineer Construction Bn., 1-2 Aug., Springfield, IL, Travelodge, (217) 529-5511 (Confirmation #s 98703-98716). POC: Norman and Dorothy Flentje, (217) 965-3952.

USS Cavalier [APA-37], 10-14 Aug., Tacoma, WA, King Oscar Motel & Conv. Ctr. [1-888-254-KING — Advise Cavalier Reunion]. POC: Ed Kimble, (775) 751-0213, Tom Wolder (417) 345-0082, or Ralph Hall, (630) 879-5909. Website: http://www.microburmbi.net/index_0.html

25th Infantry Division Assn. (Tropic Lightning), 10-16 August, Orlando, FL. POC: Glenda Ellis, PO Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031-0007, (215) 248-5250 (fax), tropicltn@aol.com

USS Forrest B. Royal [DD-872], 19-22 June, Lombard, IL. POC: Ron Larsen, 1240 Franklin Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-2807, (715) 423-8905, mosbyusn@wctc.net

Chosin Few International Reunion, 20-24 Aug., Crystal City, VA. POC: Ed King, (410) 766-2797, ELKChosin@aol.com

936th Field Artillery, 23-24 Aug., Fayetteville, AR, Clarion Inn. POC: Wayne Bohannon, 10617 East First Street, Tulsa, OK 74128-1403, (918) 437-5324

17th Infantry Regiment (Open to any veteran of the 17th Infantry Regt., peace time or war), 27-30 Aug., Tacoma, Washington, La Quinta Inn and Suites/Tacoma. POC: Donald Shook, (724) 367-1096, deshook@7thininfantry.com, <http://www.17thininfantry.com>

SEPTEMBER

USS Hyades (AF-28), 3-7 Sept. Nashville, TN, Guest House Inn & Suites. POC: Robert J. Stearns, 1801 Carriage House Way, Williamsburg, VA 23188-2754, (757) 345-3635, navybaker@att.net

14th Inf, 25th Div. (Korean War, 1951-53), 4-7 Sept., Columbia, SC. POC: Judge C.E. Eisenhower, (803) 788-6804

6th-150th Helicopter Co., 4-7 Sept., Westmont IL (suburb of Chicago). POC: Dolores Ryan, (708) 499-4599, gramstoy32@msn.com

8th Cavalry Regiment/10th Infantry Division, Basic Trainees, 5-7 Sept., Branson, MO, September 5-7, 2008. (Specifically Fort Riley Basic Training Companies HHC 1 Bn., 85th Inf. and Item Company, 87th Inf. Rgt. Dec '53-Jan '54. Also George Company, 86th Inf Rgmt., Feb-April '54 and 8th Cav Rgmt., May '54-Nov '56, of Camp Crawford, Hokkaido and Camp Whittington, Honshu, Japan. POC: Steve Bosma, 7109 Via Portada, San Jose, CA 95135, (408) 270-1319

1st Radio Squadron, Mobile, 7-11 Sept., San Antonio, TX. POC: Phil/Helen Perry, 1904 Colonial Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112, (717) 545-0974, perryper-ry101@aol.com

USS Sphinx (ARL-24), 8-11 Sept., Branson, MO. POC: Frank Ironi, 954 Lilac Drive, Sauk Centre, MN 56378, (320) 352-3271

90th FA Bn. Assn., 25th Inf. Div., 8-12 Sept., San Antonio, TX, Holiday Inn Market Place, (210) 225-3211. POC: Andy Lucas, (479) 442-4612, AJSJ90@aol.com

USS Colonial (LSD 18), 10-13 Sept., Kansas City, MO. POC: Loren Kerby, 3013 Emerald Ct., Platte City, MO, (816) 858-3158, kerbyplatte@aol.com

U.S.S. Valley Forge (CV45-LPH8-CG50), 17-21 Sept., Renton, WA. POC: George Wakefield, 952 Division, Aberdeen, WA 98520, (360) 532-3047

Society of the Third Inf. Div. and attached units in wars and peacetime, 18-21 Sept., Columbus, GA, Sheraton Hotel 4 Points. POC: Linda Irvine, (360) 663-2521, info@theReunionBrat.com

50th AAA AW BN (SP), 21-25 Sept., Charleston, SC. POC: Charles Baumgarger, (803) 266-4366, baumalou@tds.net, Nelson Ruiz, (321) 267-1106, Jack Stikles, (660) 438-9781, Gmagpa@usawide.net

44th Engineer Battalion Association (Korea, Viet Nam, Iraq), 23-27 Sept., San Antonio, TX. POC: LTC Kenneth D. Jobe (Ret), (747) 428-0328, kejo425@aol.com; Bernie Resnick, (603) 434-6406, BigBMR@aol.com; Joe Sopher, (740) 465-5015, jelesopher@aol.com

40th Inf Div. (all units), 24-28 Sept., Carlisle, PA. POC: Paul T. Swartz, 661 Greenville Rd., Mercer, PA 16137, (724) 662-2269, Phswartz@infonline.net

45th Inf. Div. ("Thunderbirds"), 25-27 Sept. POC: Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111, (210) 681-9134.

VS-931, VS-20, & USS Sicily (CVE-118) Joint Reunion (U.S. Navy), 28 Sept.-1 Oct., Reno, NV. POC: J. Robert Wagner, 2996 Runnymede Drive, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-7179 (Ph), (610) 277-4374 (Fax), bobwagner@msn.com

G-3-1 Korea Association (open to any who served with George Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st MarDiv., 15 September 1950 – 15 March 1955), 28 Sept. – 3 Oct., Dana Point Marina Inn, Dana Point, CA. POC: J. R. "Bob" Camarillo, (805) 647-9319, retired2x@sbcglobal.net

194th Eng. Comb. Bn., 29 Sept.-2 Oct., Laughlin, NV. POC: Bob Sanford, 432 Walnut Hill Road, Woonsocket, RI 02895-2727, (401) 766-8262, BobLorSan2@aol.com, or Chuck Havey, 715 W. Saint Moritz Drive, Payson, AZ 85541-3693, (928) 472-6956, cshavey@msn.com

USS Meredith [DD890, 726, 434], 30 Sept.- 5 Oct., Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky. POC: Harry Wrede, 377 Conkintown Road, Ringwood, NJ 07456, (973) 839-0332, hlwcaw@aol.com

160th Infantry, 16-18 Sept., San Francisco, CA, Marine Memorial Club. POC: David A. Mays, 114 Kathy St., Florence, AL. 35633, docmays@comcast.net

OCTOBER

ASA KOREA (Army Security Agency), 2-5 Oct., (All ASA soldiers who served during Korean War and after), Charlotte, NC. POC: Don Adair, 9800 Sao Paulo Drive, Huntersville, NC 28078, (704) 399-2200, donadair@bellsouth.net

USS Rochester (CA-124), 2-6 Oct., Washington, D.C. POC: Edmund Willis, 505 E. Braddock Rd., Apt.#408, Alexandria, VA 22314, (703) 683-8885, willis885@verizon.net

USS Waldron (DD-669) Alumni Association, 2-6 Oct., San Antonio, TX, Holiday Inn Riverwalk Hotel. POC: Ron Wells, 4102 Aldama Drive, Austin, TX 78739, (512) 282-4507, hughronwells@yahoo.com, www.usswaldron.org

630th Engineers Light Equipment Company – Korea, 8-10 Sept., Branson, MO. POC: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072, (636) 285-4402, ogvccv@att.net

4th Fighter Interceptor Wing (Korea), 8-11 Oct., Tucson, AZ. POC: Andrew Whipple, 610 Andrews Blvd., Lady Lake, FL 32519, (352) 259-7792, andrewl-Whipple@aol.com

92nd AFA Bn., 26-29 Oct., Killeen TX. POC: Guy McMenemy, (281) 469 2819, bravecannons@sbcglobal.net

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304 (Telephone: 703-461-0061)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Assigned Membership Number: _____

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00

MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00

Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages up to and through 35 years of age:\$600

Ages 36 through 50 years of age:\$450

Ages 51 through 65 years of age:\$300

Ages 66 years of age and older:\$150

Please Check One:

☐ Regular Member ☐ Life Member ☐ Associate Member

☐ Medal of Honor ☐ Ex-POW ☐ Gold Star Parent ☐ Gold Star Spouse

☐ United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces ☐ Honorary

(Please Print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle/Maiden Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Year of Birth: _____

Email _____

Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # _____

All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Division _____

Regiment _____

Battalion _____

Company _____

Other _____

Branch of Service

☐ Army

☐ Air Force

☐ Navy

☐ Marines

☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service:

Within Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

Without Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership," complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" form on next page.]

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD

Expiration Date _____ Your Signature _____

Adopted 07/25/2007

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1 above, persons who make application for membership and qualify under one of the categories listed below, are required to fill in the appropriate blanks, sign in the space provided below and attach this page to the completed membership application form on previous page.

Check One

- ☐ Medal of Honor: I am a recipient of the Medal of Honor for service during the Korean War and the date on which it was awarded was: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Ex-POW: I was held as a Prisoner of War at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present, From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ UN Command/Korean Armed Forces: I served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era (June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955): From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Gold Star Parent: I am the parent of : Name [print] _____, who was () killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Gold Star Spouse: I am the spouse of: Name [print] _____, who was () killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Associate: I have a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association and agree to accept the terms and conditions set forth in its charter and bylaws.
- ☐ Honorary: I was elected as an honorary member of KWVA by a vote of the Board of Directors on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes indicated is true and correct."

Signature: _____ Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualifications of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

A. Regular Members.

- 1. Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, said service being within Korea including territorial waters and airspace OR who served outside of Korea from June 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 is eligible for Membership.
- 2. Medal of Honor.** Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service during the Korean War is 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 hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for life membership.
- 4. United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces.** 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 is eligible for membership. However, UN/Korean membership of the Association may not exceed 10% of the total membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
- 5. Gold Star Parents.** Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
- 6. Gold Star Spouses.** Any person whose spouse was killed in action, missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

B. 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.

C. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors.

D. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the United Nations Command, or the Republic of Korea under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEBSITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/25/2007



Last Call

All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

Alabama

- ★ R. L. Patton
- ★ William M. Pitt

Arizona

- ★ Irving Karp
- ★ Robert J. Ruland

California

- ★ Paul R. Chamberlain
- ★ Seymour Garfield
- ★ Delbert Larrabee

Connecticut

- ★ M. Tom Sugamura
- ★ Warren D. Tiffany

Distict Of Columbia

- ★ A. E. Griffith Bates Jr.

Delaware

- ★ Kenneth T. Cahall
- ★ Allen S. Hedgecock
- ★ Robert R. Owens
- ★ John Patton Jr.
- ★ Benjamin Pernol Jr.
- ★ Russell Thomas Rash
- ★ Richard D. Scouten
- ★ Raymond T. Warrington
- ★ Jerome Zaback

Florida

- ★ John A. Gracia
- ★ Donald K. Moody
- ★ Donald E. Sampson
- ★ Robert J. Tizzard

Illinois

- ★ Won Kil Lee
- ★ Fred W. Eftink
- ★ Vincent L. Klingler
- ★ Oliver J. Nasby
- ★ Fred E. Niemann Jr.
- ★ Gerald R. Rummenie
- ★ Gerald L. Severns
- ★ Charles E. Williams
- ★ Ralph G. Wright Jr.

Indiana

- ★ Norman Ascherman
- ★ Rex Biddle
- ★ Marcos Botas
- ★ James E. Coomes
- ★ Paul R. Kiger
- ★ Walter H. Sprunger
- ★ Loren E. 'Monk' Sturgeon
- ★ Richard R. Zuniga

Kentucky

- ★ Earl W. Overbey

Louisiana

- ★ Bill R. Doyle
- ★ John F. Knight

Massachusetts

- ★ George E. Berteletti
- ★ William S. Callahan
- ★ Joseph M. Degrazia
- ★ George P. George
- ★ William J. Hughes Jr.
- ★ Guy G. Massa
- ★ James G. Morse
- ★ James M. O'Donnell
- ★ Vincent A. Polito
- ★ Russell I. Putnam Sr.
- ★ Louis E. Sinagra
- ★ William L. Stuke Jr.
- ★ Richard F. Surman
- ★ Arnold H. Tack

Maryland

- ★ Scheller L. Garlock
- ★ LTC Arthur W. Garrett Ret.
- ★ Edward A. Nordell
- ★ Frederick V. Savadge
- ★ Curtis Lee Steele

Maine

- ★ Kenneth D. Mitchell
- ★ Dana A. Smith

Michigan

- ★ Marion Frank Bale
- ★ John J. Deluca
- ★ Richard L. Lamoreaux
- ★ Carroll Wm. Loomis
- ★ Donald H. Tackebury
- ★ Harold A. Truxton

Minnesota

- ★ William E. Boyes
- ★ Edward D. Peckham

Missouri

- ★ Cyril W. Aubuchon
- ★ Stuart L. Ballou
- ★ Floyd H. Depew
- ★ Bernie Engler
- ★ Robert Mathew Lindner
- ★ Franklin Leroy Yarbrough

North Carolina

- ★ Edgar G. Kornegay

North Dakota

- ★ Mark B. Foss

New Hampshire

- ★ David Wright

New Jersey

- ★ Howard Bonner
- ★ James J. Butler
- ★ Rex Canyon
- ★ Joseph A. Cappelletta
- ★ Stephen J. Franz
- ★ Oleg Guseff
- ★ Joseph A. Hatch
- ★ Joseph C. Howe
- ★ Frank W. Jenkins
- ★ Martin J. O'connell
- ★ Vincent Paduani
- ★ Anthony F. Picciano
- ★ Bob Poletto
- ★ Edward J. Sabol
- ★ James E. Schneider
- ★ Joseph J. Talaious
- ★ William Vanderveer

Nevada

- ★ Peter Rivenburg
- ★ Edwin D. Savlov

New York

- ★ Lawrence S. Bangser
- ★ Vito A. Bortugno
- ★ Joseph G. Calhoun
- ★ Peter Carriles
- ★ Pat Cinelli
- ★ James H. Corcoran
- ★ Anthony Fasano
- ★ William R. Gordon
- ★ Shirley Graven
- ★ Norman H. Hughes
- ★ Richmond Hurd
- ★ Walter T. Jefferys
- ★ Frank J. Kinsley
- ★ John P. Loecher
- ★ Angelo A. Mittrione
- ★ Walter H. Niles
- ★ Bernard G. Phillips
- ★ Richard Rispole
- ★ Leo Rosenthal
- ★ Randolph R. Rotte
- ★ John J. Ryan
- ★ Sal Saliano
- ★ Arthur R. Shelmandine Jr.
- ★ James M. 'Jimmy' Sokoloski
- ★ Cliff Spieler

★ Jacque A. Vannname

Ohio

- ★ Denver O. Curtis
- ★ Richard J. Dobbratz
- ★ Louis J. Dudas
- ★ Frederick P. Ellis
- ★ Lawrence J. Flury
- ★ Earl Gibson
- ★ Howard E. Kohler
- ★ Lawrence W. Kreske
- ★ John T. Patton
- ★ Wayne R. Rader
- ★ Roy J. Ravary
- ★ Edward M. Sunyak
- ★ William C. Zeh
- ★ Marvin W. Beck
- ★ Phillip V. Bevans
- ★ Howard L. Myers
- ★ Patrick J. O'Hogan

Pennsylvania

- ★ John D. Bowman Jr.
- ★ Ronald E. Raffensberger
- ★ Elmer D. Saxton Sr.
- ★ Edward A. Stahl Jr.

South Carolina

- ★ Harold W. 'Carly' Harmon
- ★ Henry L. 'Hank' Marshall

Tennessee

- ★ Donald J. Mckenzie

Texas

- ★ Forrest D. Bruce
- ★ Roscoe A. Gutekunst
- ★ Jose Luis Munoz
- ★ Robert J. Richardson
- ★ Manuel R. Urquidi

Virginia

- ★ Finis H. Garrett
- ★ Howard D. King
- ★ Clarence L. Mccall
- ★ John C. Werner II
- ★ Homer A. Wright

West Virginia

- ★ Donald E. Seleski

Wisconsin

- ★ Gerald A. Larson
- ★ Lloyd E. Oler Sr.

Wyoming

- ★ James B. Minter

Bill Wray Sees Naval Action In Two Wars

Best Remembers Helping Young Boy

By Paul Culp

Bill Wray, 83, a North Dallas resident, volunteered for the Navy in 1942. He left San Francisco aboard the US Navy Destroyer *USS Tingey* shortly thereafter. He saw continuous action in the Pacific throughout WWII. His ship supported landing assaults from Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Saipan, and Tinian to the Marshall Islands. Kamikaze attacks were frequent problems. He was constantly at sea for over three years, finally touching land when his ship made Tokyo Bay after the war. In 1946 he became a civilian and went back to his home town, Chicago...for a short while.

Bill was recalled in 1950 for the Korean War. That year he joined the crew of the heavy cruiser *USS Helena* (CA 75) as Gunners Mate 3rd Class. The ship had 8 inch, 5 inch and 20 mm and 40mm guns. Once again Bill sailed from San Francisco to serve his country.

The *Helena*, the third ship named in honor of Helena, Montana, went into action on April 2, 1951, firing more than 35,000 rounds at the Communists along the Korean Coast during a long tour of duty. During the ship's eight month tour, the *Helena* took two direct hits on its decks from shore batteries. One of the hits tore a 4ft x 4ft hole in her main deck. The ship remained in action and continued firing on both occasions. As part of Task Force 95, *Helena* received the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, awarded by President Syngman Rhee of the Republic of Korea.

The ship headed home to Long Beach, California from Korea in December, 1951. On the way home the crew decided to collect money to help a deserving, disadvantaged young person from Helena, Montana. The *Helena* Chamber presented several choices and the sailors selected seven-year-old Terry Wayne Ellis.

Wray's story ended here. He had no idea what happened to young Ellis, but he would love to know. So a search of Ellis's in Helena found a Terry Ellis, but no answer to the phone number listed. It might not be the right Ellis. The story in a 1951 newspaper clipping from Long Beach listed a Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Samson as foster parents.



USS Helena (CA 75)

"Of all my war experiences I will never forget the look on the boy's face as he stood at the wheel of the ship and 'steered' the Helena," said Wray, who posed in a picture with Terry that appeared in the press world wide.

Checking the name found Ralph Samson, unlisted. So I called another Samson at random. A Lucille Samson answered. She was not a relative, but knew that Ralph was dead, but his wife was still living. She was at her Helena home just for a few minutes before returning to her lake home, but she would love to try and find more information. In fifteen minutes she called back with Mary Samson's phone number and the phone number of the place where Terry Ellis worked.

A call to the Country Club where Ellis worked got a return call from Terry Wayne Ellis. Then, a call reached his "mother," Mary Samson, alive and well. She confirmed what Ellis had said. Ellis is now nearly 64 years old. He has lived in various places around the U.S., but he returned to Helena about 14 years ago. This is his story.

Terry Wayne Ellis had been abandoned by his mother at birth in California. He never knew his father, who died. Ellis suffered from serious intestinal problems that required special treatment not available in California at that time. As a ward of the state, he was sent to a hospital in Helena, Montana.

Mary Samson, a nurse at the Helena hospital, who was an Army nurse in Europe during WW II, knew of a children's hospital in Boston that could perform the complicated life saving surgery. She went with the boy to Boston. The surgery was completed successfully when Terry was about 3-1/2 years old.

During the Boston trip the young boy kept asking Mary if he could live with them. When he returned to Helena he asked Mary's husband, Ralph, the same question. Finally, the Samsons got permission from the authorities to take the child, as long as they lived near the hospital where he could receive emergency treatments.

In kindergarten, he was not allowed with the other kids. But, Mary got permission for him to attend regular classes from first grade on, which he did for the rest of his schooling.

At seven years old he was selected to meet the *USS Helena* in California.

Terry, with his "parents," went to meet the *Helena* at Long Beach, California December 9th, 1951. In a shipboard gala presentation attended by the Governor of Montana and the mayor of Helena, Ellis received a check for nearly \$6,500. Ellis said that Mr. Samson worked at a local bank and invested the money, which he used for education after high school. He became an ordained minister in 1971 and has three children, one of whom is adopted.

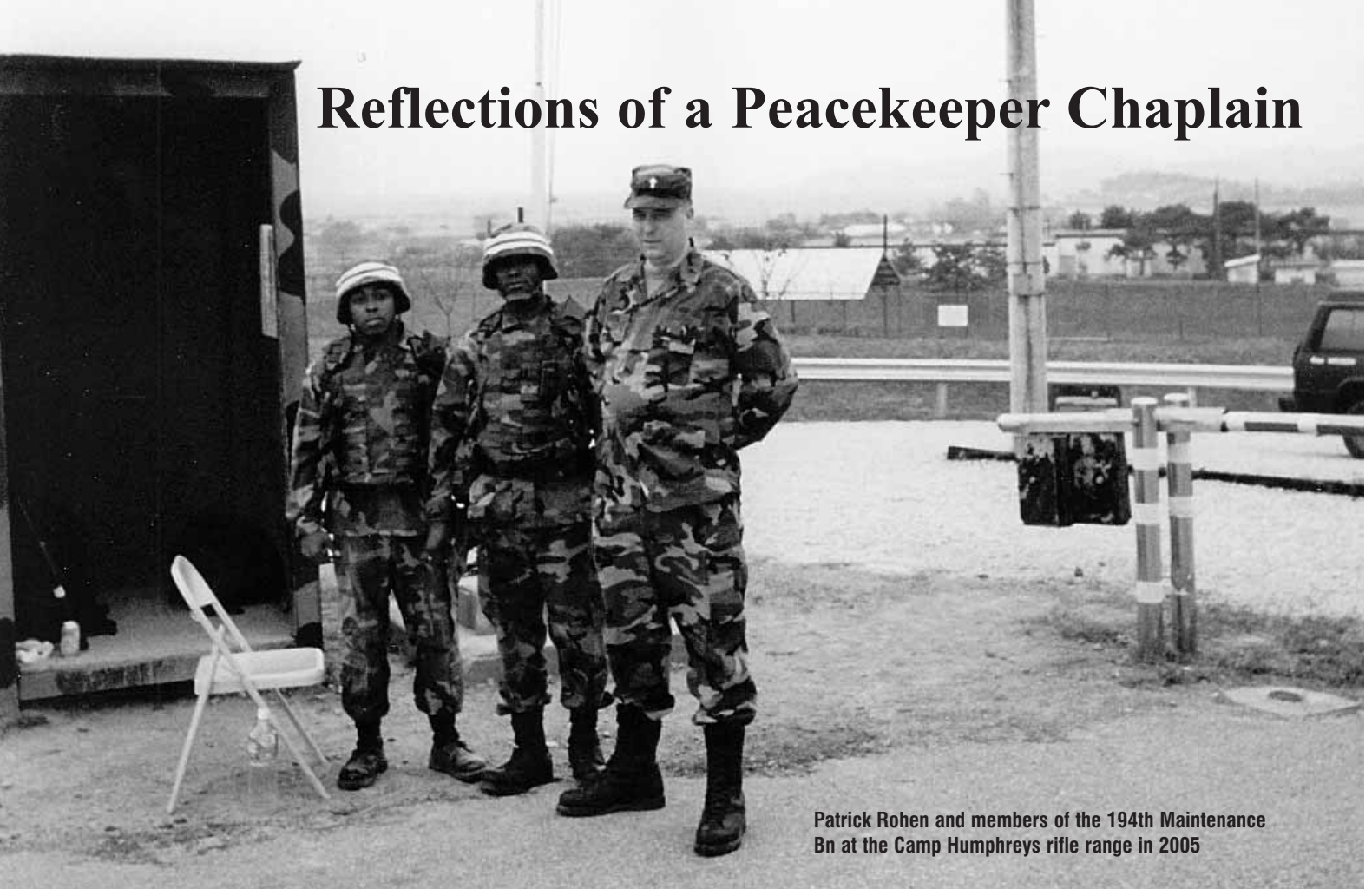
"I really appreciate what the sailors did for me and would love to get in touch with some of the crew," he said during the recent phone interview.

"Of all my war experiences I will never forget the look on the boy's face as he stood at the wheel of the ship and 'steered' the *Helena*," said Wray, who posed in a picture with Terry that appeared in the press world wide. "I plan on calling him for a phone reunion," he added.

After the Korean War, Wray pursued his career with the Philips Electronics company and served with Philips several years on the West Coast before being promoted to Dallas in 1965. He retired as area Sales Manager for Philips in 1997.

The *USS Helena* was launched on April 28, 1945 and commissioned on September 4th, 1945. It is the third U.S. Navy ship to bear the name of the capital of the State of Montana. She was one of the first cruisers to shell the enemy during the Korean War. Stricken from the Naval Register on 1 January 1974, *Helena* was sold for scrap November 13th the same year.

Reflections of a Peacekeeper Chaplain



Patrick Rohen and members of the 194th Maintenance Bn at the Camp Humphreys rifle range in 2005

By Fr. Patrick Rohen

I was raised in Toledo, Ohio, where I was born on June 15, 1957. My father served in the Air Force during the Korean War, and I always listened with interest whenever we talked about his time in military service.

The day after I graduated from Anthony Wayne High School (June 1, 1975), I left at seventeen years of age for active duty with the Air Force. For the next five years of my life I served with the Strategic Air Command, as well as with NATO forces in Europe, during the Cold War. After I got out of the Air Force, I graduated from The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, received my Bachelor of Science degree from The University of Toledo, and eventually received my Master of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees from Saint Meinrad Seminary, Indiana.

During my years of college and graduate school, while serving in the Ohio Army National Guard, I also completed Army ROTC and Army Chaplain School. In 1996, I was ordained as a Roman Catholic priest for the Diocese of Toledo.

I returned to active duty, this time as an Army chaplain (CPT), in July of 2003. After my first assignment with the Air Traffic Services Command (the Army has a separate command for air traffic controllers) and Catholic Post Chapel at Fort Rucker, Alabama, I was subsequently transferred in January 2005 to Korea. Upon my arrival there, I was tasked with the following dual assignment: 194th Maintenance Battalion Chaplain, with the additional assignment as Area III Roman Catholic Pastor.

The specific duty locations in which my ministry took place were primarily, although not exclusively, at Camp Humphreys (formerly known as "K-6"), as well as at Camp Eagle and Camp Long. I remained in Korea until January 2006, at which time I transferred to Fort Drum, New York, and finally returned to Toledo in May of 2007.

Presently, I am working as the Catholic chaplain at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky, Ohio (home of the Cedar Point Amusement Park, which, coincidentally, is where Knute Rockne developed the forward pass for Notre Dame).

It is from the Ohio Veterans Home,

founded in the 1880s, where I offer you some of my reflections about what it was like to serve in Korea as a "peacekeeper" chaplain, in the midst of our nation's ongoing involvement in the Global War on Terrorism.

Let me begin by stating the following: life for me in Korea as an Army Catholic chaplain was in no way similar to that of Father Mulcahy of the M*A*S*H* television series. I was one of only a very small number of active duty Catholic military chaplains in Korea at that time. Although we were short of Catholic chaplains in particular, we were also short of all chaplains, regardless of their denominations, in general.

Additionally, as it became clear to me shortly after my arrival in Korea, the military was short of mental health workers. Thus, because of the shortage of mental health workers, much of what I did as an Army chaplain was related to pastoral counseling; that is, in the counseling of Soldiers and their dependents, as well as at times with Airmen and Marines.

The word "counseling," based on my experience as an Army chaplain, does not truly do justice to the challenging mission

with which we Army chaplains were often times tasked. The responsibility of counseling Soldiers, many of whom were in crisis at the times I met with them, was hard work. There were days that I saw between 3-4 Soldiers who were truly in need of help, some of whom were potentially a threat to themselves or others.

I cannot begin to explain the fundamental importance of the professionalism that is required in taking care of Soldiers who have problems. Indeed, one false move, or the failure to pay attention to a warning sign, could have resulted in a disaster. I can personally attest to having worked closely with the chain of command in facilitating numerous crisis intervention cases on a regular basis. This was highly stressful for me, as I had the additional task of providing the spiritual coverage that the Catholics, in specific, needed (the Sacraments); that is, on top of the almost overwhelming load of pastoral counseling at the battalion level.

Many of the Soldiers I saw came from families back home that clinicians refer to as “dysfunctional.” We did have mental health workers who were outstanding in their professions, but we simply did not have enough of them. Thus, over and over again, I had Soldiers in my office who were encountering everything from anxiety to attempted suicide. I saw Soldiers in the field, in my office, in the main stockade (it is now located at Camp Humphreys), at the chapel, at the PX, in the chow hall, at the motor pool, in the air on a Chinook, and also up at the DMZ.

We talked about anything and everything. I saw young women and men from all walks of life, and I saw them from the lowest enlisted ranks all the way up to the general officer level. Although it was not always within the context of an emergency situation, some of the most important and mission essential ministry took place during such occasions. (I refer to these occasions as “formal pastoral crisis interventions.”)

I would calculate that in my entire tour of duty in Korea, I saw at least 150 Soldiers who were truly in need of professional help. Some of these particular Soldiers were suffering from clinical depression, some had encountered domestic violence, and others came from homes where either one or both of their parents were addicts.

Frequently I found myself in situations, without in any way compromising confidentiality, working with the chain of command,

the other chaplains, and the medics to help these Soldiers recover and successfully execute the mission.

Generally speaking, I found that the NCOs, other officers, including the chaplains, and our Korean allies were of high caliber. During my time in Korea, I had the privilege of working with an outstanding chaplain assistant, an outstanding executive officer (XO), an outstanding commander, and a fantastic chaplain supervisor. We did our best, all of us, to be both collaborative and proactive in taking care of the troops with whom we served.

Additionally, I will never forget the pastoral visit I had with General Leon LaPorte, who I understand was the longest serving commanding general of forces in Korea since the actual war began. General LaPorte impressed me as a “soldier’s soldier,” and it was obvious to me that he cared and did his best for our Soldiers, their families, and the people of Korea. To General LaPorte I would say the following: “Well done, General.”

Some interesting changes took place in Korea during my tour. When we traveled to Korea from Seattle, the Army still used a charter jet. Towards the end of my tour, however, the Army ended travel by that mode and switched to flying Soldiers to their assignment in Korea, from the United States, by standard commercial jet (Korean Air Lines, Northwest, and others). Additionally, a tremendous amount of construction was going on when I left; that is, new and more adequate barracks and offices were being constructed for our personnel.

One of my most enduring memories was our trip to the DMZ. The DMZ is still the DMZ; that is, it is a dangerous, sobering, and tense place.

At the conclusion of my tour I was given an authentic piece of barbed wire from the DMZ, one that is handed out to those who successfully complete their mission as a peacekeeper in Korea.

Patrick Rohen at the Camp Humphreys motor pool in 2005 with 194th Maintenance Battalion soldiers

A rather humorous memory that I have of Korea is a time when we conducted a field service on a cold, windy day. For some reason I had taken some extra cigarettes with me to field. When the troops found out that their chaplain had cigarettes, the chapel tent was filled to capacity. I remember my chaplain supervisor saying, “Chaplain Rohen, I don’t know whether or not we saved any souls today, but we sure did ruin a few lungs.” In retrospect, however, this may have opened a few doors to minister to some Soldiers who might otherwise have never attended a worship service.

Although Korea is not mentioned as much as the other areas of the world where we have troops stationed, it is, nonetheless, a vital and ongoing part of the Global War on Terrorism. One needs only to consider that Seoul is less than an hour away from Kim Jong-il (the “Dear Leader”) and his North Korean threat. Hardly a day went by when I did not think about the consequences of a potential war with him, as well as the associated horror and slaughter that were sure to follow.

Serving in Korea was both an honor and a privilege. I have the utmost respect for those who served there during the Korean War, the Cold War, and those who continue to serve there during the ongoing Global War on Terrorism.

Let us pray that “The Land of the Morning Calm” may someday attain a true and lasting peace, and that the sacrifices of so many may never be forgotten.



Members in the NEWS

Sal Schillaci and Kenneth Fentner

Messrs Schillaci and Fentner, members of Chapter 63, Western New York, were featured in the October 31, 2007 issue of the Amherst [NY] Bee. As this paragraph from the p. 41 article explained:

The two Korean War veterans have facilitated the creation of a monument dedicated to the 24th Infantry Division, who served during World War II, the Korean War and the Gulf War. They traveled to Hawaii to see that monument placed at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, and they participated in a return tour of Korea.

Both men served in Korea. Mr. Fentner served there in 1952-53 and Mr. Schillaci in 1952.

To read the full story, access www.amherstbee.com/news/2007/1031/11festyles/090.html

Dallas Mossman, Jr.

By Bob Simon

The Saginaw/Frankenmuth Chapter (CID 251) honored Dallas Mossman, Jr. at its 2007 Christmas Party at Zehnders Restaurant in Frankenmuth, MI on Dec. 5, 2007. Eighty-one KWVA vets and wives or friends were present. The highlight of the evening was a presentation of a "Commendation" to Dallas Mossman, Sr., which National President Lou Dechert sent in response to my request to honor him.

BELOW: Dallas Mossman with a friend, Doris O'Conner, at CID 251's 2007 Christmas Party



Bob Simon (L) receiving plaque from Jacob Klemm (R) for appreciation and leadership as last year's Commander. (This is a tradition with CID 251. The immediate past commander receives a plaque for outstanding leadership and devotion to the organization.)



KWVA member Bill and Mary Lou Dolson with their guest, Army Recruiting Sgt. Shawn A. Seymour, at CID 251's 2007 Christmas party

Dallas Mossman Sr. was in the 2nd Division infantry when he was overrun and captured. He spent 3 ½ years in three different POW camps and was marched bare-footed to the three sites as our allies advanced north. Mossman was also President of the Korean War POW's Association for 2006-2007, I'm told. He attends every Chapter meeting and he speaks to students at major colleges and high schools.

Dallas works with us on Rose of Sharon sales and our five Ice Cream Socials at the VA Hospital. He is also on our Board of Directors and contributes fresh ideas to the membership. Dallas Mossman Sr. is known throughout the United States, especially among ex-POWs.

Whatever the definition of HERO is, it

BELOW: Irma Weber and CID 251 members Carl Weber and Al Tank and an unidentified woman at Christmas party, with other members of the KWVA and their wives in the background



Past Commander of CID 251 Bob Simon (L), Dallas Mossman, Sr. (C), holding plaque, and current Chapter 251 Commander Jacob Klemm (R) at 2007 Christmas party



describes Dallas Mossman Sr. He is a true Hero.

Robert J. ("Bob") Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail, Saginaw, MI 48603, (989) 792-3718, robsimoncondo@charter.net

Bob Balzer

Bob Balzer, a member of Chapter 153, Central Florida, built a custom case as a volunteer project for the presentation of medals to Army medic Nick Rogers' widow, Kelly. The medals were presented to Mrs. Rogers at a special ceremony in Deltona Veterans Park.

Rogers was killed in action in Iraq.

CID 95 members stand behind their "Battlefront Christmas Tree" (L-R) Commander Tom McCaw, Vice Commander Russ Klein, Chaplain Bill Cummins, Henry Weilmunster, Bob Inman, Harold Hangsleben, Irv Wittmer



Bob Balzer of CID 153 presents custom case to Kelly Rogers (Photo supplied by Kathleen Rasche of Forum Publications)

Kermit Holtgrewe

Members of Chapter 95, Imjin, [IL] honored their deceased Chapter Commander, Kermit Holtgrewe with a "Battlefront Christmas Tree" at the site of their monument in Swansea, IL. This is done each year in honor of Holtgrewe, who actually experienced a "Battlefront Christmas Tree."

The tree shows results of simulated napalm burns and is adorned with C-rations cans, dog tags and chains, spent shells, bits of tinfoil, pictures of loved ones—and anything else a soldier could scrounge.

It represents extreme hardship under wartime conditions, while still trying to maintain the Christmas spirit.



CID 95's "Battlefront Christmas Tree"

The Purple Heart

Purple and gold with bas relief
This medal's never sought
For money cannot buy it.
With blood shed it is bought.

It is a gift unwanted
By a family left to grieve
Or unsought and unexpected
By the one who may receive.

With pride it may be worn
Or with tears, put on display
It may be left on its satin bed
To be gently packed away.



Given during war, or after
To the wounded or the dead
Only God can know the teardrops
And the blood that has been shed.

Judy Knight 2-2008

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
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.

From Our Chaplain...

A carrot, an egg, and a cup of coffee:

You will never look at a cup of coffee the same way again.

A young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it, and she wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as if no sooner was one problem solved that a new one arose.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to a boil. In the first she placed carrots, in the second she placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She let them sit and boil without saying a word.

In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in another bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a third bowl. Turning to her daughter, she asked, "Tell me what you see."

"Carrots, eggs, and coffee," her daughter replied.

Her mother brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did, and noted that they were soft. The mother then asked the daughter to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg.

Finally, the mother asked the daughter to sip the coffee. The daughter smiled as she tasted its rich aroma. Then she asked, "What does it mean, mother?"

Her mother explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity: boiling water. Each reacted differently.

The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior. But, after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened.

The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were in the boiling water, they had changed the water.

"Which are you?" she asked her daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?"

Think of this. Ask yourself, which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong, but do I wilt with pain and adversity and become soft and lose my strength?

Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit? But, after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship, or some other trial, have I become hardened and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and hardened heart?

Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water, the very circumstance that brings the pain. When the water gets hot, it releases the fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst you get better and change the situation around you. When the hour is the darkest and trials are their greatest, do you elevate yourself to another level? How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?

May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes their way. The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches.

When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so at the end, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

As we approach the election of the people who lead the KWVA for the next few years, let us each look into our hearts and be guided by what is best for the organization and the people we serve.

Set aside personal and petty differences—and simply do the next right thing.

Chaplain Ruffing



Chipyeongri

Soldiers from the ROK 20th Mech. Div. celebrate the Combined Forces' U.N. victory of the Battle of Chipyeongri during a reenactment at the annual Chipyeongri Memorial Ceremony in Korea February 15, 2008. Photo by Yu, Hu Son: Courtesy of U.S. Army

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