

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

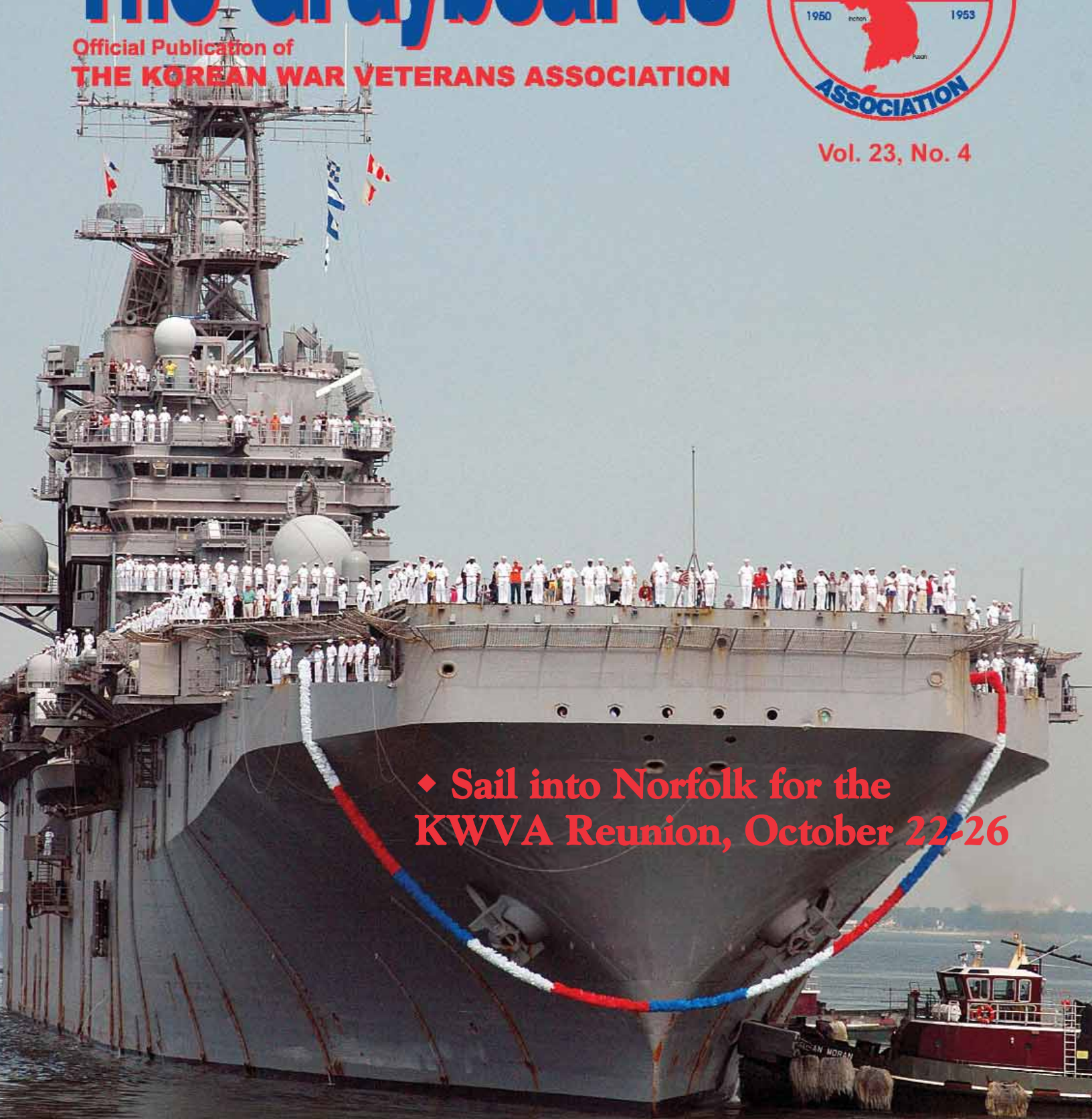
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♦ Sail into Norfolk for the
KWVA Reunion, October 22-26



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Attention Members

Pending appointment of the Judge Advocate, Bylaws Committee Chairman and Resolutions Committee Chairman any Judge Advocate questions, proposed bylaw changes or proposed resolutions are to be submitted to Secretary Frank Cohee. All open positions will be filled and approval of the Board of Directors obtained by the end of the Board of Directors meeting to be held at the Annual Convention/Membership Meeting in Norfolk, VA, October 22-26, 2008.

See detailed list of committees
on the WWW.KWVA.ORG



From the President

William Mac Swain

My first remarks are to those who voted in this last election. I appreciate those who voted for me and their confidence that I have the capability to continue the good policies that were set during the last four years of the previous administration. I also appreciate those of you who voted for others. That, of course, is the way democracy operates.

I hope to show you that even though the candidates who some of you supported were not elected, you might become convinced that those who were dedicated to work for the betterment of the KWVA. I will work to improve upon the successes of the past administration and to revamp those policies that have not been accepted by the membership.

Transition from one administration to another may seem like an easy task, but without the cooperation of the past administration, often times it is a long and tedious job. In this case, Past President Dechert and his staff have been very helpful, including with the change in the Membership Office staff and relocation and the sudden passage of our request to be chartered by Congress.

The financial changeover was made during the first few days after June 25. Thus, we were able to maintain dues deposits and bill paying with no interruption. In fact, dues are now direct deposited after being received at the Membership Office in Charleston, IL. We no longer have to mail checks to be deposited by the Treasurer in another state.

I have requested that each Director, both newly elected and those carried over, inform me in what capacity they would like to be considered to serve the membership, either as a Committee Chairman or on a Committee.

As I prepare this message, I am still receiving requests for assignments. I do not want to fill the positions with individuals who are not interested in improving the operation, but with those who are dedicated to doing so. Therefore, I have decided not to rush the appointment process, because it is more important to obtain Chairmen who

All elected Officers and Directors have been sworn in by Business without a Meeting and took office on June 25, 2008 per the Bylaws.

are qualified individuals and are ready to tackle any and all problems as they arise. I will keep those already filling the slots until the Board has approved new individuals.

All elected Officers and Directors have been sworn in by Business without a Meeting and took office on June 25, 2008 per the Bylaws.

Obtaining the Charter has now been accomplished. The process of fulfilling the requirements that come with the Charter must be obtained, and processes to accomplish these requirements placed into effect. This also will be a slow process. Other requirements have also come to light, and solutions need to be found for them.

I ran for this office knowing a few of the problems, and I will say that the major problem was unrest by some of the membership. The main problem has been either the misunderstanding of the processes the Board of Directors works with or of how to communicate between individuals. I will be working to solve this problem.

Let's start with this: if you hear things that you believe might be true—or untrue—please check with a Board

Member you trust and try to solve a possible misunderstanding before sending an e-mail to other members, and especially outsiders. The possibility is that any problem can be solved once the facts are learned and explained.

A problem disseminated by e-mail does not solve the problem; it only causes the problem to become larger by added mistakes in answers or untrue statements. True statements are easy to make if the facts are obtained and the other person really listens.

If people refuse to listen, there is no use in arguing to try to convince them.

The Board of Directors will be voting on all of those Committee Chairmen who I, along with the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, request to be approved. I hope that each of our members will give the Board of Directors his or her support, and give us the time to become a team for you.

God bless the KWVA and its purpose for veterans of the Korean War era.

*William Mac Swain
KWVA President*

The Membership Office Has Moved...

Due to personal reasons, our dear friend Annelie Weber, who has manned the KWVA Membership Office in Alexandria, Virginia for the past 1-1/2 years, is unable to continue working for the KWVA.

The new Membership Administrative Assistant is Jamie Reynolds. She has been assisting Annelie for the past year and is already up-to-speed on what needs to be done to help our members! Jamie is the daughter of our Webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer.

The phones and FAX are now working in the new location and we can all call and welcome Jamie as the office begins operations.

Use the email address to report changes in

Department, Chapter and Member information or to get information concerning same.

New Mailing and Email Addresses:

**Korean War Veterans Association
PO Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

Email Address: Membership@kwva.org

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**Phone: 217-345-4414
FAX: 217-345-4415**

Thank you—and Welcome Aboard, Jamie!

*William F. Mac Swain
National President and Chairman
of the Board*

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In memory of "Big Al"

"Big Al" Lerz died on 9 July 2008. The name may not mean anything to some of you—or maybe it does. He served in Korea well after the war ended, and emerged from his Army duty as a better-prepared citizen.

Al was a classmate of mine in the Waterbury, CT Crosby High Class of 1958. He, like so many others in our class, joined the military after high school. We joined because our choices were limited, and military service for most of us was *de rigueur*.

Waterbury was known back in 1958 as the "Brass Capital of the World." Many of you who fired a round from an M1, a 155 howitzer, an 81mm mortar, a pea shooter, or any other weapon in Korea probably had Waterbury to thank. Waterbury's economy depended on the brass goods produced by Scovill, American Brass, Chase Brass & Copper, or the other factories in the city for survival. Ours was an industrial city, and our fathers, for the most part, were unionized, "blue collar" workers.

Even though "Big Al," me, and 374 other kids composed the senior class at Crosby, we knew that at some point most of us males would be going into the military, even if we were attending the city's elite institution of higher education.

Crosby was the college prep school in Waterbury. The other two public high schools were Leavenworth and Wilby. The former was the trade school; the latter was for nursing and secretarial sciences students. They weren't the only high schools in town, though. There were four others: Sacred Heart, Catholic High (strictly girls), Notre Dame (also strictly girls), and Kaynor, a state-operated technical school. (Several of my male friends applied for acceptance to Catholic High and Notre Dame, but they couldn't pass the physicals.)

Not many males attended Wilby. As it turned out, those few who did were the smart ones. The male to female ratio at Wilby was at least five girls to every

... those of us who entered the military learned a couple "big" lessons. We could—and did—learn a lot from our military experiences. We matured, and we learned the value of serving our country.

boy. Those of us studying at Crosby, where the student body was split almost evenly, were supposed to be preparing for college—and we weren't smart enough to figure out that Wilby presented better social opportunities? No wonder we ended up in the military! But, no matter which high school we attended, we shared one common fate: we all had military obligations after graduation.

Truthfully, our options were limited. We could graduate, go to work in a brass factory, realize that we wanted something better, join the military, realize that the something better was working in a brass factory, serve our enlistment, and return to Waterbury to work in a brass factory. Or, we could graduate, go into the military, realize that we wanted something better, convince ourselves that "the something better" was a job in a brass factory, complete our enlistment, return to Waterbury, and work in a brass factory. A few of our luckier friends did go to college right after high school—and almost everyone of them served in the military after they graduated from college.

Most of us did not have the latter option available to us at the time. Our families could not afford college costs, even if some institution of higher learning was desperate enough to accept us. I was accepted at two colleges, but I knew my father would be hard pressed to come up with tuition money. (I, like "Big Al" and so many of my fellow service veterans, took advantage post-active duty of one of our most valuable benefits, the GI Bill, and used it to finance our college studies.)

Dad had scrimped and saved to put my three older sisters through nursing school, and I had one sister only 21 months younger than me who was much

more deserving of post-high school education. (She, too, eventually attended nursing school—and earned a degree from Boston College later on.) Besides, I was seventeen years old and I could not see what possible good a college education would do for me. So, I opted for the USMC.

Only one other member of our class, John Shea, did the same. The others chose lesser services. (Just kidding!) John, me, and Jackie Sforza, a graduate of Leavenworth (the high school, not the prison) headed off for Parris Island in August 1958. That proved one thing: graduates of a college prep school are no smarter than graduates of trade schools. "Big Al" headed off to the Army and a stint in Korea.

"Big Al" acquired his nickname for three reasons. He was physically imposing, hence "big." He had a cousin in our same class whose name was also Al Lerz. He was not as big as "Big Al," at least not vertically, so we used the sobriquet "Big Al" to distinguish between the two Als. (Anybody want to hazard a guess as to what the smaller Al's nickname was? If you guessed "Little Al," you are right. Those of us who attended a college prep high school were original, if nothing else.) "Big Al" also had a big heart. Everyone looked up to him both physically and respectfully. The nickname did fit.

Anyway, those of us who entered the military learned a couple "big" lessons. We could—and did—learn a lot from our military experiences. We matured, and we learned the value of serving our country. That is what separated us from so many of today's young folks. Mandatory military service does wonders for the character of individuals who serve, and it spreads the responsibility

for providing the freedoms we cherish as individuals and a country.

That lesson is missing in society nowadays. There is a simple answer to easing the burden on today's overburdened military: make military service mandatory, and we won't be sending the same Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Airwomen, etc., into harm's way over and over. Of course, a better answer might be to stop going to war, but that possibility is about as likely as finding the answer to which branch of the armed services is the superior one. (I know the answer, but if I reveal it, some of you are likely to argue with me.)

The benefits to military service are legion. I know it, you know it, "Big Al" knew it, and the male members of my high school reunion committee with whom I work to put together our gatherings every five years know it. Each of the males who work on the committee served in the armed forces. We banter often about our military service, and we all agree that we benefited greatly from it. If only graduates from today's high schools could do the same fifty years from now.

Fifty years? Yes, it has been fifty years since I graduated from high school. Our class will hold its 50th-anniversary celebration of that event on 13 September. This will be the first time we will do so without "Big Al" in attendance.

Our class members will miss him (and John Shea, too, who assumed his guard post at the Gates of Heaven in February 2008). But, we will remember "Big Al" as we remember all our classmates who have moved on to the big class reunion in the sky. We thank him for his service as we remember our own.

Thank you, "Big Al"—and thank all of you who have served and kept our country free.

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Welcome to the Norfolk, Virginia Reunion, 22-26 October 2008

By Warren Wiedhahn, Reunion Chairman

The state motto is "Virginia is for Lovers," and we who live in the Commonwealth would "Love" to have you join us in October to show off our beautiful state. A very high percentage of Korean War veterans live here, and we intend to "Welcome" the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) with true Southern Hospitality!

Norfolk is noted for many things, including one of the deepest natural ports on the entire east coast. Consequently, "water"—the ocean, rivers and bay—is a major attraction. Our beautiful Sheraton Hotel is right on the bay, which you can see from almost any place in the facility.

We will get to see plenty of that water. Thursday night we will transit the bay in a modern and comfortable launch, sailing by the Navy's carriers, destroyers and cruisers tied up at the Navy Base as we enjoy a leisurely dinner cruise.

The "General Douglas MacArthur Memorial and Museum" is a centerpiece of the reunion. Just two short blocks from our hotel, it is not just "brick and mortar." The Memorial is a living, breathing

Norfolk is noted for many things, including one of the deepest natural ports on the entire east coast. Consequently, "water"—the ocean, rivers and bay—is a major attraction.

Research Center containing over a million of the General's reports, messages, photographs, newspapers and motion pictures of his over forty years in the U.S. Army. The "Memorial" will be the location of the Reunion's opening Ceremony Thursday morning.

The "Memorial" is also the final resting place of General and Mrs. MacArthur. The crypt is surrounded by inscriptions, banners and flags heralding his long and glorious career in the service of our country!

"Red, White and Blue Patriotism" will be the theme of the 2008 Reunion. Korean War veterans and their families, of all ages and eras, are cordially invited to attend. We guarantee all of you a "Warm Welcome" in this congenial and historic Virginia city!

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 J Tilford Jones, 6958 Heatherknoll Dr., Dallas, TX 75248-5534. 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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| 45th Inf. Div., all KIA | | Stark County Sheriff's | OH |
| Thomas E. Wood | GA | Eli Hostetler | |
| Chapter 270, KWVA | TX | Citizens Academy Alumni | |
| | | Daphne H. Winters | |

Let's have 'More Folk' in Norfolk

■ KWVA to hold 2008 Reunion in Norfolk, VA

One of the best ways to heal old wounds is with a "Reunion of Fellow Warriors, and their families" who share a common destiny! That is exactly what the KWVA will be doing in October when members get together at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel.

The Reunion Theme is "Red, White and Blue" to celebrate a patriotic gathering in the historical city of Norfolk, Virginia. You will be surrounded by the mighty U.S. Navy Fleet and members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

We will also bring Wounded Warriors in as our guests to thank them for their sacrifices to "Freedom!"

No doubt you want some details about dates, place, cost, etc. Here they are. (We will provide more in-depth coverage on the web-site: www.KWVA.org)

DATES

- 22 - 26 October 2008

PLACE

- Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel
777 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23510

CONTACT

- Ph: 800-627-8042 (Central Reservations) or
Local 757-622-6664

RATES

- Guest room rates: (Single or double)
Deluxe City View \$99.00
Deluxe Harbor View \$119.00

Mention: KWVA Annual Reunion!

NOTE: Group rates will apply three days prior to, and three days after, the Reunion dates.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

- We are working on arranging for a shuttle from the airport: No shuttle is set at this time, but we are working on it.



Norfolk Harbor

AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Norfolk is situated in a burgeoning area which offers a great deal of sightseeing opportunities—and it is easy to get to by plane, car, bus, or ship. (The airport is conveniently located between Norfolk and Virginia Beach.)

Colonial Williamsburg is a short ride north up I-64. Virginia Beach and its magnificent boardwalk, fine seafood restaurants, Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center, unique Mount Trashmore Park, and expansive beaches is a short ride to the east.

Norfolk has its own attractions: the battleship USS Wisconsin, the science museum Nauticus, and the General Douglas MacArthur Memorial are a short distance away from our Reunion hotel. Of course, there is the Naval Base, which is always worth a visit.

If you have had enough of ships, you can always visit the U.S. Army Transportation Museum at Fort Eustis, or just pick a quiet spot near Virginia Beach and watch the pilots from Oceana Naval Air Station play with their state-of-the-art jet aircraft.

And, if you really want a thrill, ride across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. (It now accepts E-Z Pass for those of you driving.) It's about as long as the distance between the U.S. and Korea. (Well, not quite: it's only 17.6 miles, but it is a great ride on a sunny day.)

All you have to do is circle the dates—22-26 October, 2008—on your calendar.

See you in Norfolk.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Warren Wiedhahn

National Reunion Chairman, KWVA



KWVA Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia
October 22-26, 2008
KWVA Reunion Agenda

Wednesday, October 22

- 1300 - 1800 Reunion Registration desk open.
- 1300 - 2200 Hospitality Room open.
- 1300 - 1700 KWVA Committee meetings.
- 1800 - 1900 Welcome Reception – light finger food, in the hospitality room.
Dinner on your own.

Thursday, October 23

- 0730 - 0830 Reunion Registration desk open.
- 0900 - 1100 **MacArthur Memorial (Opening Ceremonies)**
- 1100 - 1500 **Nauticus (USS Wisconsin and the Hampton Roads Naval Museum)**
- 1530 - 1730 Reunion Registration desk open.
- 1830 - 2230 **Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise**

Friday, October 24

- 0800 - 1300 Board of Directors Meeting.
- 0930 - 1530 **War Memorial / Mariner's Museum**
Dinner on your own.

Saturday, October 25

- 0900 - 1130 General Membership Meeting.
- 0930 - 1200 Special Ladies' Brunch with entertainment
Afternoon free to explore downtown Norfolk on your own.
- 1800 - 1900 Cash Bar.
- 1900 - 2300 Banquet Dinner, with guest speaker.

Sunday, October 26

- 0700 - 0800 Catholic/Protestant Church Services.
- 0830 - 1000 Memorial Buffet and Service.
Farewells and departures.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.:

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$7 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.



**KWVA Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia
October 22-26, 2008
TOUR DESCRIPTIONS**

MACARTHUR MEMORIAL/ NAUTICUS

Thursday, October 23

Downtown Norfolk is home to the MacArthur Memorial, the final resting place of the late General and eleven-gallery museum. We'll have a Memorial Service and official welcome in the main gallery, and then you will have time to explore the museum and the General's legacy on your own. Be sure to visit the gift shop and see a film summarizing the General's life and achievements. We'll then depart for Nauticus, an exciting 120,000 square-foot science and technology center that explores the power of the sea with interactive and educational exhibits. On the second deck of Nauticus is the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, which features a large collection of naval artwork, ship models and underwater artifacts. Also part of Nauticus is the USS Wisconsin. The Wisconsin is one of the largest and last battleships to be built by the U.S. Navy, and the main deck is open to the public.

9:00 am board bus, 3 pm back at hotel.

\$40/Person includes bus and escort. Lunch on your own.

SPIRIT OF NORFOLK DINNER CRUISE

Thursday, October 23

Board bus for the Spirit of Norfolk, the premiere cruise boat on Norfolk's waterfront. The harbor dinner cruise with live musical entertainment features the sights of Hampton Roads harbor, the mighty ships at the Norfolk Naval Station, and a lavish dinner buffet. Please note: The ship is approximately three blocks from the hotel; transportation is not included in this event. The Spirit of Norfolk starts boarding for the cruise at 6:30pm.

\$60/Person includes dinner cruise only (no transportation). Cruise is from 7pm-10pm

MARINER'S MUSEUM / WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Friday, October 24

Begin your day at the Mariner's Museum, where you'll find one of the largest international maritime history museums filled to the crow's nest with prized artifacts that celebrate the spirit of seafaring adventure. Explore over 60,000 square feet of gallery space with rare figureheads, handcrafted ship models, Civil War ironclad USS Monitor artifacts, paintings, small craft from around the world, and much more. The much-anticipated USS Monitor Center opened to the public on March 9, 2007. This \$30 million addition to the Mariners' Museum truly represents one of the nation's premier Civil War attractions. You can walk on a full-scale replica of the Monitor and enjoy exciting interactive exhibits. Lunch will be on your own at the Mariner's Museum Café, where you can enjoy a variety of fare from soups to salads to sandwiches and desserts. After lunch we'll go to the War Memorial Museum; this museum outlines the history of all America's wars, with special emphasis on World War II. It contains one of the largest collections of propaganda posters and boasts several specialized exhibits, such as women and blacks and their changing roles in the military.

9:30am board bus, 3:30pm back at the hotel

\$50/Person includes bus, escort, and admission. Lunch on your own.

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices.

Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.



KWVA Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia

October 22-26, 2008

KWVA GROUP ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

To register for activities and tours sponsored by the KWVA Reunion, please fill out the form below:

To register by mail:

Please send total amount payable, in the form of check or money order to:

**ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC/ ATTN: KWVA
PO BOX 11327
Norfolk, VA 23517**

If you register by mail, your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Checks returned for insufficient funds will be charged a \$20 fee.

Registration Deadline: September 22, 2008.

**NEW FOR 2008! REGISTER ONLINE AND
PAY BY CREDIT CARD!!**

www.armedforcesreunions.com/kwva

Registration Deadline: September 22, 2008.

After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. All new registrations accepted at the reunion will be charged a \$10 onsite processing fee. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

| Tours and Activities | Price Per Person | # of People | Total |
|---|--|-------------|-------|
| Thursday: MacArthur Memorial /Nauticus | \$ 40 | | \$ |
| Thursday: Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise | \$ 60 | | \$ |
| Friday: War Memorial/Mariner's Museum | \$ 50 | | \$ |
| Meals | | | |
| Saturday: Ladies Brunch | \$ 16 | | \$ |
| Saturday: Banquet (<i>Please select your entrée</i>) | | | |
| Entrée 1: Roasted Salmon | \$ 38 | | \$ |
| Entrée 2: Roasted Prime Rib | \$ 40 | | \$ |
| Memorial Breakfast | \$ 18 | | \$ |
| Registration Fee | | | |
| Includes Hospitality Room and administrative expenses. | \$ 20 | | \$ |
| NOTE: Medal of Honor recipients – complimentary registration and Saturday night Banquet | MOH: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Total Amount Payable to: Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. | | | \$ |

PLEASE PRINT

FIRST: _____ LAST: _____ NICKNAME: _____

KWVA MEMBER #: _____ KWVA CHAPTER # _____ POW: ☐ Yes ☐ No

BRANCH OF SERVICE: _____ MAJOR UNIT ASSIGNED: _____

YEARS IN KOREA: 19____ - 19____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

SPOUSE/GUEST NAMES: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____ PH. NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: _____

(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)

Must you be lifted hydraulically onto the bus while seated in your wheelchair in order to participate in bus trips? ☐ YES ☐ NO
(Please note that we cannot guarantee availability.)

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Cancel hotel reservations separately with the hotel. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.



KWVA Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia

October 22-26, 2008

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel

777 Waterside Drive

Norfolk, VA 23510

(800) 627-8042 or (757) 622-6664

Our downtown Norfolk neighborhood will immediately make you feel at ease. Waterside Marketplace, featuring over 100 specialty shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues, is just steps away. Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel offers the services and amenities you need for a comfortable and convenient stay.

Hotel Information:

- **Rate is \$99 per room per night** plus state and local taxes (currently 13%+ \$1 flat bed tax per room).
- **Check in time is 4:00 pm; check-out time is 11:00 am.**
- Reservations must be guaranteed by credit card.
- Rate will be honored 3 days before and after reunion dates, based on availability.
- **Cutoff Date: 9/30/08.** Reservations received after this date will be processed on space and rate availability.
- **Cancellation Policy:** Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 24 hours prior to date of arrival.
- **Reservation Guarantee:** Must provide credit card number with expiration date to reservation agent. Hotel accepts the following card types: AMEX, DINERS, VISA MASTER CARD, and CARTE BLANCHE, DISCOVER.

Guest Rooms include:

- Refrigerator
- Free Newspaper
- Iron/Ironing Board
- Handicap Accessible Rooms
- Hairdryer
- Wake-up Service

Hotel Amenities:

- Outdoor Pool
- Room Service
- Fitness Center
- City Dock Restaurant
- Gift Shop

Parking Information:

Dominion Tower Parking Garage (Adjacent to the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside)

- Overnight Valet Parking: \$20.00 per night
- Overnight Self Parking \$5.00 per night

Airport Information: Airport is located just 15 minutes from the hotel.

Airport Shuttle Service: To make reservations, call (866) 567-7213.
(Located outside baggage claim, booth marked, "Airport Express Shuttle Service.")

Current Rates:

- One way: \$25.00 for one person \$5.00 each additional person
- Roundtrip: \$49.00 for one person \$5.00 each additional person
- For Cab Service, Call (757) 855-6611
- Current Rates are approximately \$45.00

Cab Service

RV Hook up Service

Local Campgrounds
(Reservations 2-3 weeks in advance are recommended)

Holiday Travel Park
1075 General Booth Blvd
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
(757) 425-0249

KOA Campground
1240 General Booth Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
(757) 428-1444

Wheelchair Rental:

Scoot Around Rentals: Call (888)441-7575 for details. Manual and power wheelchair by day or week

TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION REUNION

OCTOBER 22-26, 2008

PLEASE CALL (800) 627-8042

Please be prepared to give the following information when making your reservation:

- Name (If sharing name of co-occupant)
- Address
- Telephone number
- Arrival date / departure date
- Handicap accessible room
- Smoking or non-smoking room
- King size bed or 2 double beds

CALL FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Korean War Veterans Association of the USA is called for Saturday, October 25, 2008. The meeting will take place at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk VA 23510 beginning at 0900 and continue, with recesses, through the completion of all business properly brought before it.

Members with items proposed for the meeting must insure that they reach Secretary Frank Cohee, KWVA, not later than September 15, 2008.

Order of Business:

- Call to Order
- To The Colors/Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
- Administrative Announcements
- Roll Call and Introductions/Recognition of New Officers/Directors
- Introduction of Distinguished Visitors, Major Staff and Others
- Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, Reno, NV, Oct. 23- 25, 2007
- Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting, Reno, NV, Oct. 25, 2007
- Annual Treasurer's Report
- Old Business
- Reports from Committees
- For the Good of the Order
- Motion to Adjourn
- Benediction
- Salute to the Colors

Submitted by Frank Cohee, National Secretary

Approved by William F Mac Swain, National President, KWVA/US, Chairman and Presiding Officer, Board of Directors

KWVA Annual Membership Meeting Rules Of Decorum & Debate

(Based on Robert's Rule of Order Newly Revised 10th Edition)

1. A voting member must obtain the floor and be recognized by the presiding officer using his position and name before addressing the assembly.
2. The voting member is to stand when addressing the assembly, and if the member makes a motion, that member has the first right to speak to the motion.
3. Voting members must be courteous and never attack or question the motives of other members.
4. Discussion shall be focused on the matter or idea in question and not on personalities.
5. Voting members are limited to 10 minutes on each subject during discussion and may speak the second time only if all other voting members who wish to speak have spoken on the pending motion.
6. A voting member may speak more than twice if the assembly grants additional time, by a majority vote of the voting members present.
7. The Chair may recognize non-voting members attending the meeting only after voting members have completed their discussion on the pending motion.
8. The Chair may call for voting by a show of hands, or a voice yea or nay or standing vote. A secret ballot vote may be called for by a request of one-fifth (1/5) of the voting members present.
9. The above rules may be amended, suspended, or rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of at least a quorum of the voting members present.

Manuals & Rituals

One issue that is prevalent among KWVA Chapters is that the Association has no manual or rituals. That is certainly true from the National Level.

Another request to National is for Chapter- or Department-level Bylaws. There may be no examples of them at the National Level, either. Departments are advised to consult with the new Department of California for an example of Department Bylaws. The California Department is new, and they developed their Bylaws correctly according to today's situations. The Department can be contacted at:

Department of California
3361 Williams Rd
San Jose, CA 95117-2579
Mike Glazzy
408-296-8282
MGlazzy@sbcglobal.net
Website: <http://www.dcakwva.org>

Chapter 180, CENLA [LA] developed a Ritual, Drill and Ceremonies Manual for its own use. It is printed in booklet form, and copies are available on request. Chapters can modify its contents to fit their individual situations.

CID 180 also has its Bylaws in booklet form; they, too, are available on request. Other Chapters would probably have to modify the Bylaws considerably depending on their State's requirements and their own preferences. But, CID 180's Bylaws may provide a starting point.

Contact Chapter: CENLA [Central Louisiana]
 C/O Lee Stewart, Adjutant [Ph: 337-239-7341]
 916 Marvin Av
 Leesville, LA 71446

And, if any other Chapter or Department has viable examples of Bylaws, ritual manuals, or other documents that they are willing to share, they can contact Frank Cohee at 4037 Chelsea Lane, Lakeland, FL 33809, (863) 859-1384, FCohee@kwva.org.



Solving the mystery of the “Missing Dart”

We receive many inquiries regarding people who served in the Korean War—and a lot of other wars as well. We cannot help everybody, but we can—and do—try. Our willingness to help is not purely altruistic. The fact is that we learn a lot about the processes involved in uncovering information about veterans and about the people with whom we deal.

Unfortunately, we cannot always help the people who come to us. Therefore, when we succeed we are understandably happy. Sometimes we get lucky and find what people are looking for right away. At other times, the process is lengthy and time consuming.

And, we have learned, the more help we can get from people not involved directly in the process, the higher the chances are of success. (Look at our “Recon” section for examples of the help we seek—and often get.)

This thread of emails back and forth between Ginny Sanders and KWVA Secretary demonstrates the process and the results. It manifests the success that can be earned through mutual cooperation and teamwork. Hopefully, some of you may add to Ms. Sanders’ store of information—which will put an even happier ending to the story.

Hello, Mr. Cohee....

Is there any way to find out what branch of service someone was in who served in the Korean War? My sister-in-law’s father served in the Korean War but she doesn’t know what branch of the service he was in. He passed away in 1976 and there are no other family members alive. So she has no one to ask.

I am researching her family history for her and it would mean so much to her if I could find out something about his military service.

His name was James Paul Dart and he lived in San Francisco.

Thank you for any help that you could give me.

Ginny Sanders

Start with our website....

Ginny:

The only sure way that I am aware of to find out someone’s branch of service is to get a copy of his military service records. You can do this by going to our web site, www.kwva.org, and on the right hand side of the home page click on “How to Request Military Service Records or Prove Military Service.” Then, just follow the instructions.

There is another possibility; if your sister-in-law, or anyone, for that matter, knows the unit that her father served with or maybe has a picture of him that shows a patch on the left shoulder, we can probably determine his branch of service.

I hope this has been of some help and please let me know if you are successful. Best regards,

*Frank Cohee, National Secretary,
Korean War Veterans Association*

Maybe Mr. Dart was in the Navy....

Mr. Cohee:

Thank you so much for responding to my e-mail. Unfortunately, my sister-in-law does not have a picture of her father, which is one reason I was so interested in obtaining his military records. I was hoping that I might be able to obtain a photograph of him through these records.

I have looked at the site “How to Request Military Service Records,” but I thought that I needed to know what branch of the service that he was in before they could help me. My sister-in-law is guessing that her father was possibly in the Navy, since he worked at the shipyard in San Francisco.

She does know that her father fought in land battles while he was in Korea. Do you know if the Navy ever fought in land battles in Korea?

Thank you for all of your help.

Ginny Sanders

Practically everyone fought in land battles....

Ginny:

There were times that everyone was fighting land battles in Korea, no matter what branch of service. However, if your sister-in-law’s father was fighting land battles, he was probably not in the Navy.

I would go ahead and send in the request and use the Army as the branch of service. If it is returned unknown, then resubmit it and put the Navy as his branch of service. Of course, he could have also been in the Marines.

I had some more thoughts about what she might do. She should contact the local Veteran’s Service Officer (listed in the “Government” pages of her telephone directory), who might be of some help.

Another good possibility is to contact her local congressional representative. Believe me, they can really be helpful in these situations.

Once again, good luck.

Frank Cohee

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 |

Records received!....

Mr. Cohee:

I wanted to let you know that I have received some military records for Jim Dart. I was able to get his Certification of Military Service and Report of Separation From the Armed Forces of the United States.

I learned that Jim served two terms in the Army. The first term was from 7/30/48 through 5/9/52. Jim was a Private First Class and was in the Army 24th Infantry Division, 52nd Field Artillery Battalion.

His second term was from 6/29/55 through 8/29/58. I have been in touch with several Korean War veterans and I am trying to find someone who might have known Jim. I know that my chances of finding someone are small considering how many men were in this battalion, but I am following every possible lead that I get.

I just wanted to give you an update and let you know what I have found.

Ginny Sanders

Now it is the KWVA's turn....

Ginny:

Thank you for the update. It always is a pleasure to hear from someone that we have tried to help and find that we were successful.

Because you have now identified the unit we might be able to

help some more. I am copying our data base expert, Jake Feaster, and asking him to identify all of our members that were assigned to the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion and to send that information directly to you. You can then contact those individuals by phone or mail and maybe we will get lucky.

Good luck and best regards,

Frank Cohee

If anyone remembers Jim Dart, please let us know. Just contact KWVA Secretary Frank Cohee at FCohee@kwva.org. He will forward the information to Ginny Sanders—and help close the door on the "Mystery of the Missing Dart."

From Our Chaplain...

An article in today's newspaper reported that the Department of Veterans Affairs announced yesterday that it will open 39 new vet centers across the nation to provide counseling for combat veterans. The VA already runs 232 vet centers across the nation. Services are provided free to veterans of combat in any war, as well as to family members who lost a loved one in combat.

This is encouraging, but I wanted to call to your attention a source of help that we often overlook. That help is the combat veteran himself. Let me tell you about a veteran of the Korean War who I met at Fort Benning when they dedicated the monument placed there to honor the 17th Infantry Regiment (The "Buffalos"). This individual told me the following account of his experience:

"I went into Korea with the 17th Regiment 7th Infantry Division and stayed with that unit until I was evacuated from Korea. We traveled to the northernmost point, along the Yalu River, that any American forces reached during the war.

When my tour of duty was over, I returned home. I was not the same person.

It seemed that I crawled inside myself and died. This feeling of being dead inside lasted almost 40 years.

One day a friend talked me into attending a reunion of the 17th Regiment. I went along with him and was able to talk with—and look into the eyes of—men who had been with me and experienced the same thing that I had experienced. Being with them was like being born again.

My life changed I came out of my shell and began to enjoy life. I have been in contact with other veterans ever since, sharing our experience, strength and hope with each other."

As a Chaplain I have had this same or similar conversation with other veterans. I would recommend this kind of activity to any of our comrades who have experienced any type of problem in dealing with their combat experience.

My prayer is that you do not stay in the shadows of long gone days, but walk freely together into the sunlight of a new life.

Blessings,

Chaplain Ruffing

Accordion War: Korea 1951

Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company

Charles Hughes

Accordion War: KOREA 1951

"Wow! What a book you have written... Thanks for telling our story..."
Bob Gates, Marine rifleman, Korean vet.

"...extremely well written...it could be a best seller."
Harry "Ace" Martucci, Marine rifleman, Korean vet.

"Couldn't put it down...I savored this one... Thanks for writing this book."
John Simpson, Marine rifleman, Korean vet.

"This is a gripping work and a must reading."
Korean War Project Newsletter

"This book is hard to put down. The writing is terrific...Well done Doc."
GySgt John Boring, USMC (Ret)
Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines, Sept. 2007.

Order: www.trafford.com/06-0192, amazon.com or send check or money order for \$25 to: Charles Hughes 2303 Elaine St. Arkadelphia, AR 71923 for an autographed copy.

KWVA Federal Charter 2008

On June 17, 2008, the House of Representatives voted to approve Senate Bill 1692, granting a Federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association. Our organization now has the same rights and privileges already exercised by The American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Vietnam Veterans of America... to name but a few. The Korean War Veterans Association is at last included when the Veterans Administration or Congress seeks advice from a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) concerning veterans issues.

At this time, we should reflect on the many obstacles that have been overcome in pursuing this quest. The initial step was taken by Blair Cross, a member of Chapter #33, in the Greater Baltimore, Maryland area, who was also a long-time life member of the Jarrettsville, MD Veterans of Foreign Wars Post.

In late 1998 he discovered that Chapter #33 could not purchase rifles from the U.S. Government because the National KWVA did not have a Federal Charter. This setback spurred him into action. At a meeting on January 20, 1999, Chapter #33 approved the formation of a committee, chaired by Blair, charged with the pursuit of a Federal Charter.

Blair then took this matter to the National KWVA and obtained the support of President Harley Coon and the Board of Directors. President Coon named Blair as National Chairman for the Federal Charter and Washington, D.C. Affairs Representative.

At the March 17, 2000 meeting of the Maryland Chapter, Blair related his meetings with Maryland Congressmen and Senators. He subsequently met with Congressman Steny Hoyer, who agreed to submit a Bill to the House of Representatives.

Senator Paul Sarbanes agreed to submit a companion bill to the Senate. However, the House Judiciary Committee had placed a moratorium on the granting of Federal Charters to Veteran Service Organizations, which dated back to 1992. The moratorium was effective under both Democratic and Republican leadership. Nevertheless, the House did periodically permit a Federal Charter to be issued under special circumstances. Apparently the KWVA did not qualify as "special."

Clearly, there were long odds and formidable obstacles to be overcome. Blair continued to press for sponsors of the bills as each new Congress began work. Unfortunately, his health began to fail in 2003. At that time, he had 112 co-sponsors for the House Bill. Finally, early in 2004, Blair agreed that, because of his failing health, the organization needed someone else to pursue this goal. Bob Banker agreed to take over the task.

In February of 2004, the national KWVA had a Board meeting in Washington, D.C., at which time they agreed to consider Bob Banker's proposed plan to continue the organization's pursuit of a Federal Charter. The plan was approved.

Bob enlisted eight members from Chapter # 33 to form a Telephone Committee. The goal was to call all of the Chapter Presidents in the U.S. to persuade the leadership in each Chapter

Our organization now has the same rights and privileges already exercised by The American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Vietnam Veterans of America... to name but a few.

See Press Release on page 23

to contact their Representatives to request co-sponsorship of the National Korean War Veterans Association Federal Charter Bill. In addition, six members of this group agreed to walk the Halls of Congress to contact Representatives and/or their aides in charge of Veterans Affairs.

A total of thirteen trips were made to Washington, D.C., and 185 Congressional offices were visited. During this time, the number of co-sponsors increased to 156.

Following the election of Louis Dechert as President of the KWVA, on July 27, 2004, his aide, Charley Price, requested that no further efforts be expended because it had been decided to change the wording of the Bill in preparation for the next Congressional session commencing in 2005. Charley spent considerable time and effort to complete this task, and a new Bill was introduced on July 27, 2005.

Over the next year Charley made many attempts to have this new Bill approved, but once again the moratorium proved insurmountable. Subsequently, Charley had to step aside due to other time-consuming business activities. Charley should certainly be given full credit for changing the wording of the bill so that it would better describe the KWVA as a 501(c)(19) Veteran Service Organization.

Late in 2006, President Dechert appointed Ed Buckman (Chapter #270 - Dallas, TX) and Bob Banker as Co-Chairmen of the Legislative Committee to continue the quest for a Federal Charter. Ed and Bob had a number of discussions concerning the format and approach for the introduction of the new bill.

It was evident that previous Bills depended upon the party affiliation of the sponsoring Congressman. As an example, during the Congressional session of 2003/04, the bill was introduced by Congressman Walsh, an upstate New York Republican, rather than Congressman Hoyer, a Maryland Democrat. We therefore decided that the Bill should be bi-partisan in order to avoid party politics.

Ed suggested that Congressman Sam Johnson of Dallas, a much respected Republican and highly decorated Air Force fighter pilot in both Korea and Vietnam (as well as a guest in the Hanoi Hilton for seven years), be included in the initial Bill. In fact, Ed's Chapter was named for Congressman Johnson.

Bob approached the office of Congressman Hoyer in December 2006 and presented this request, which was ultimately approved. H.R. 2852 was truly a bi-partisan Bill.

The moratorium remained in effect, even though the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Congressman John Conyers (D-MI), was a co-sponsor of all previous Bills and indeed was a co-sponsor of H.R. 2852. The Bill languished in the Sub-committee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law under the responsibility of Chairwoman Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), who continued to enforce the moratorium.

Finally, we began to hear some encouraging news, and the final stage of a ten-year battle was underway. When H.R. 2852 was introduced on June 25, 2007, Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), who had succeeded Senator Paul Sarbanes, also introduced Senate Bill 1692. In short order, this Bill was approved without dissent and sent to the House, with the result that the House of Representatives had two bills to consider. At this time it became clear that our best chance for a Federal Charter was through the efforts of Congressmen Hoyer and Johnson.

We came to the conclusion that active solicitation of co-sponsors was not a priority. In fact, we purposely avoided any further action, feeling that the goodwill and efforts of two of the most powerful politicians in the Capitol should be allowed to work unhindered. Ultimately, their powers of persuasion prevailed, when the House voted to approve S.1692 on June 17, 2008, without dissent.

There have been many moments when we were convinced that our efforts were not going to be rewarded. However, through Ed's perseverance in maintaining contact with Congressman Johnson and Bob doing the same with the office of Congressman Hoyer, the long anticipated bill was finally passed.

Although there was very little notification that the Bill would be voted on June 17th, Bob volunteered to observe the proceedings and sat in the House Gallery. Congressman Hoyer and Congressman Johnson spoke eloquently on behalf of the Bill. Finally, the vote was taken: the Bill was passed.

After the official Presidential signature was appended on 30 June 2008, the long awaited Charter was granted to the Korean War Veterans Association.

The efforts of many people have been involved in the quest for the Federal Charter since 1985 without success. Finally, in 1999, Blair Cross launched a vigorous campaign to obtain a Federal Charter. Acknowledgments are due to Past President Harley Coon and the Board of Directors who approved Blair's request. Thanks are extended to members of Chapter #33, in particular Anthony Cirincione, Jack Cloman, Carl Collier, Sam Fielder, Jr., Ray Glock, James Hussey, Charles Reed, Jr. and Boris Spiroff.

Acknowledgments are also due for the efforts of Past President Dechert, Charley Price, General Ray Davis, Director Jeff Brodeur, Roy Burkhart, Don Duffy, Col. William Weber, Annelie Weber and Sherman Pratt.

If we have omitted any names, please accept our apologies. In addition, thanks are also given to the local Chapter Presidents and members who aided this cause by contacting their local Representatives.

Now that we have the Federal Charter, we have the responsi-

bility for implementing it throughout the Association. That task will be tackled with the same determination given to the effort to obtain the Charter, albeit in a much shorter time frame.

The acquisition of the Federal Charter is our generation's gift to the future of the KWVA and all that it stands for and, more importantly, for those who follow us—the Korean Service Veterans. A baton is confidently passed to the younger generation with our highest expectations for the future.

*Edwin R. Buckman, National Legislative Director
Robert S. Banker, Past National Legislative Co-Director*

**Visit the Korean War Veterans Association
Website: www.KWVA.org**



Right cover, wrong date

Some astute readers have noticed that the date on the cover of the May/June 2008 issue was off by one year. It should have read May/June 2008. We hope that no one looked at the date, said "I read this issue last year," and put the magazine aside.

We do not repeat ourselves from issue to issue, so the content is new even though the date is old, and the date is correct inside the magazine.

I repeat, the date is wrong, but the content is new. We will be more diligent in the future—even though being able to go back a year in time is a welcome idea.

Dallas Mossman, Sr....

There was a short story on p. 76 of the March/April issue regarding Dallas Mossman. We have a couple revisions to report.

First, the gentleman is Dallas Mossman, Sr., not Jr. And, he was the President of the 2nd Inf. Div. Association, not the Korean War POW Association.

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92nd ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

PART II:

Continued from the May-June Issue of The Graybeards, Vol 22, No. 3

Unit History For December, 1950

3 December broke with the news of an enemy attack in the vicinity of Majong-dong. A CCF patrol had set a charge to a bridge and partially blown it. Three CCF were killed by the machine gunner guarding the bridge. Battery "B" was displaced forward to the vicinity of Majong-dong, from which positions it could give good support.

One target, an estimated 150 CCF troops, was promptly taken under fire with considerable casualties. Later, a group of enemy was spotted working their way up on a hill to the left flank. Battery "B" promptly shifted a platoon to the left and engaged the enemy in direct fire at 900 yards. The Battalion Commander of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Regiment, 3rd Division was extremely grateful for services rendered.

5 December found the Battalion Commander and S-3 reporting to Headquarters X Corps Artillery at 0100 hours, where a special mission was discussed. The plan called for Batteries "A" and "C," with stripped FDC, to move to the recently surveyed positions at Chinhung-ni, from where these batteries would fire several pre-arranged concentrations on selected enemy targets. The two batteries would return to their Oro-ri positions by dark.

Returning to the Battalion CP at 0315, the Battalion Commander alerted the Battery Commanders for displacement at 0730, and the S-3 proceeded to prepare data for the enemy targets. Reconnaissance

parties headed by the Battalion Commander departed at 0700 hours, followed by the stripped batteries under the Battalion Executive at 0730.

The Batteries closed at Chinhung-ni at 0920 hours. Two 608 radios from the 96th FA Bn. linked the FDC with liaison planes that did not have "overlap" channels to work with our 500 series radios.

Registration was not permitted by reason of the large number of C-82 and C-119 transports air dropping supplies to the cut-off forces. The artillery concentrations were fired promptly at 1130 hours, lasting through 1200 hours. Air OP's reported the concentrations were "on the button." With another job well done, under severe winter weather, the Red Devils enjoyed a hot meal at 1245 and returned to their Oro-ri positions, closing there at 1545.

By 6 December, the overall picture was one of withdrawal under pressure in the Eighth Army sector. The Chinese communist forces had succeeded in driving a sizeable wedge between X Corps and the Eighth



DoD photo of 92nd AFA Bn, Battery B, in support of the 7th Division in December, 1950. Taken at Chinhung-ni, which is about 15 miles south of the Chosin Reservoir and 40 miles north of Hungnam

Army. The 1st U.S. Marine Division and elements of the 31st and 32nd RCTs of the 7th Infantry Division were surrounded by elements of 7 Chinese Communist Divisions in the Chosin Reservoir area, where they had managed to consolidate themselves in the vicinity of Haragu-ri, on the southern tip of the great reservoir.

Elements of the 7th Division, to include the 57th Field Artillery Battalion, were compelled to destroy and abandon much of their equipment and flee across the ice to Hagaru-ri and Koto-ri, to the south, where other Marine and Army forces were cut-off. This area was characterized by steep jagged mountains ranging through 6000 feet from the central dorsal of North Korea. They leveled off north and west of Koto-ri into a great plateau. Located in this area, three great reservoirs furnished hydro-electric power to all of Korea, Manchuria and Vladivostok, Siberia.



Task Force Dog, Dec. 9, 1950 (Mattingly)

Task Force Dog December 9, 1950

Brrrrr! Bundled up at Chinhung-ni North of Sudong North Korea during the time, the battalion went up to shoot for the 1st Marine Division & 31st Inf. Regt., which were breaking out of the trap at Koton and Choson Reservoir. (Mattingly)



Begin: Personal Reflections by Hal Remspear HQ Btry 50-51

“Early December 1950; we were at Chinhung-ni providing support for the Marines fighting their way out of the Chosen reservoir. The night they were supposed to start passing our position on their way to Hungnam, the Colonel (Lt. Col. Lavoie) called me to his tent. He was handwriting a message that I would encode on the M-209 cryptograph device. It turned plain language into 5 letter code groups.

“He offered me a drink, a bottle of whiskey or bourbon the size that the airlines serve, and I sipped it while he finished writing. He asked me how my morale was. When I said, “Lousy, sir,” he asked why. I said it was too cold for people, we had no winter clothing, the ground was too hard to dig a foxhole, the food was lousy and we were always on the edge because of the sporadic enemy mortar rounds coming in.

“He wrote one more line and gave me the message to read. His words were, ‘Despite extreme cold and the absence of winter sleeping bags, the morale of the command remains high and proud of their participation in this effort.’ The message was long and took a long time to encode and then send via Morse code to one of my cohorts back in Hungnam.”

End: Personal Reflections by Hal Remspear HQ Btry 50-51

The only approach to this area from the east was from the axis Hamhung, Ori-ri, Majong-dong, Chinhung-ni, and Koto-ri. This approach was by a treacherous winding mountain road following a creek-bed to the summit area between Chinhung-ni and Koto-ri. Both sides of the road were dominated by almost vertical cliffs.

Numerous bridges over branch streams and precipitous gorges made this a serious defile that a determined enemy could command at will by blowing bridges and digging in on the high ground. Several valleys, generally from the northwest, fed into this central valley, providing excellent avenues of approach. December featured sudden snow falls and bitterly cold winds from the frozen north that blasted through the passes and all connecting val-

leys. The combination made frostbite casualties a great handicap among front-line troops.

Following a briefing, the Corps Artillery Commander informed the Battalion Commander that plans were now complete to assist in the relief of surrounded Marine and Army forces. With some 3,000 casualties, the relief of the surrounded Marine and Army forces had been delayed to facilitate the evacuation of their casualties by air. This having been accomplished, “Task Force Dog” was organized under Brigadier General Mead of the 3rd Division for the purpose of relieving Marine and Army units at Chinhung-ni and holding that area open until the surrounded forces were com-

pletely pulled out. This Battalion was to support the Marines in their attacks, as well as “Task Force Dog.”

10 December blew in with a blasting frigid wind that contributed to a temperature of 10 below zero. Clear skies gave our air complete command of the situation. Marine convoys from the north continued to roll by since they had been doing since an early hour. Long columns of weary Marines followed vehicle convoys moving slowly but steadily. Specific plans for the delaying action by Task Force Dog, following the passage of Marine and 7th Division elements, were formed as a rear guard action.

11 December arrived. By 1000 hours word was received that the tail of the

Excerpt from book “Grasshopper Pilot” By Jim Stegall - Liaison Pilot with the 49th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division:

“The weather at Hamhung was just about at the freezing mark, but at the Chosin Reservoir it was around zero in the daytime and 20 below at night. For this flight I was carrying a five-gallon container of blood plasma. As I started my climb I could see Chinese soldiers all over the countryside. Some would look up; others were just milling around. No one seemed interested in firing at me.

“I climbed to around 5,000 feet and was near my destination when suddenly my engine quit. No chance to restart as the L-4 is a hand prop job. My only thought was that I must glide back to where our troops were on the main road that goes from the Chosin to Hamhung. I was in a glide for ten or fifteen minutes and had our forward position along the road in view. I could tell that I would make it. Of course, there was no landing area, so I turned back into the north wind; and as I neared the ground, I picked out two trees to crash into. The right wing hit first, then the left, and the plane dropped to the ground.

“As I sat there dazed, I looked up and saw soldiers running toward me—friendly GIs, thank goodness. I had crashed right beside the 92nd Armored Field Artillery Battalion, the forward most unit along the main road. They got me out and escorted me over to their headquarters. They notified my unit that I was safe, but there was no way to send me back as all traffic would be moving up, not back.

“I remained with them for about a week. During this time we disassembled what was left of my plane. The fuselage was tied onto the top of a half-track, and one wing was tied to the side of the kitchen truck (2 1/2 ton). The other wing was demolished, so it was left there in North Korea. These were great guys and a great combat unit. They took good care of me”. (Jim’s plane was loaded on a half track by the 92nd AFA Bn).

“This was the beginning the treacherous journey to Hungnam running a gauntlet in sub-zero degree weather under constant enemy fire. The Marines had broken out of the Chosin perimeter and were advancing along the main highway toward our position at Chinhung-ni. We (the 92nd AFA Bn) would fall in behind the Marines when they had cleared our position. We watched as the Marines came by. It was a heart-rending sight.

“Bedraggled troops came by with their dead comrades on hoods of trucks and across howitzer barrels - any place they could put them. I was given a carbine and assigned to ride in a 2-1/2 -ton truck. Our convoy fell in after the Marines had cleared. The guns on the armored vehicles were lowered to direct fire - like a rifle. It was an imposing sight, so the 92nd had little trouble along the corridor back to Hamhung.”



B Battery about to run the gauntlet from the 92nd AFA position just south of Koti-ri to Hungnam on the coast: December 11, 1950 (note Jim Stegall's L-19 on top) (Harrison)

Marine column would soon pass our Forward Observer, Lt. Stofflet. On this signal, long range artillery fire was placed on prominent high ground and likely avenues of approach. This artillery fire was marched forward as the tail drew closer to our Chinhung-ni position. Our batteries were ordered to march order successively and form, ready to fall in their prescribed column position. Somehow, the Marine tanks turned out to be the final element and the battalion did not move until approximately 1410.

Meanwhile, the infantry covered avenues of approach and high ground with mortar and automatic weapons fire. Once on the road, the column progressed very slowly, primarily due to the slow progress of the foot troops ahead. Sundong-ni continued to be a constant threat to the column as the enemy appeared determined to harass, if not cut, the column there.

Evidence of bitter action was at hand on all sides in the Sundong defile, where the enemy had persistently displayed determination. Smoldering truck-loads of ammunition and burned equipment, intermingled with charred and gutted bodies of Marines, gave testimony to the enemy's guerilla tactics in catching the column on the road bumper to bumper. Setting fire to one or two vehicles was sufficient to block the entire column and pin down several hundred men. Constant small arms, automatic weapons and mortar fire appeared along the column. One mortar shell landed two vehicles to the rear of the Battalion Commander, wounding Lt. Mooney, General Mead's aide.

Another man was wounded in the truck ahead of the Battalion Executive by small arms fire.

Fortunately for the battalion, no one was wounded, nor did any vehicles fall out. The battalion closed in its assembly area in Hungnam at approximately 1930 hours. Worn, tired and dirty, the Red Devils enjoyed a hot meal prepared by Service Battery. By 2000 hours, all men were tucked in, dead to

the world after some 72 hours without sleep and several days of active combat with "Task Force Dog."

As direct support artillery for "Task Force Dog" on its mission of holding the Chinhung-ni area open for the evacuation of the cut-off Marine and Army forces, this battalion displayed exceptional professional skill, spirit and cohesion.

20 December: Based upon an eight-hour estimate to effect the interchange of personnel, arrangements were made for two LSUs to be made available at 0500 hours for the loading of battalion personnel. Since the men had no rations, a message was sent to the Randall requesting a hot breakfast for 500 men upon their arrival aboard, estimated at 0630 hours. With their guns out of action, the Red Devils gathered their personal belongings and awaited the call to port.

The night of 21-22 December—fortunately—was not bitterly cold, although the weather was raw and penetrating. Through the night men huddled together around small scattered fires as Naval gun fire and remaining artillery pounded away at the enemy. The As the dirty, tired, and weary Red Devils bunched together for warmth, their spirits were high. Pride and satisfaction were in their hearts for a job well done. Now they knew that together, with each doing his job to his level best, they could fight, sustain and survive. Their combined efforts, in this beach-

head, had contributed materially to its success. At 0330 hours, the Battalion S-3 proceeded to the battalion position and guided the members to the lighter loading area at Green Beach.

All men were aboard the LSUs by 0530 hours, at which time they set off for the Randall at the anchorage. Wiggling up a rope ladder one by one, all men were aboard the Randall by 0630 hours—just as the announcement came over the ship's speaker system that breakfast was served. The clean, freshly painted interiors of the Randall were a welcome sight to the dog tired and weary Red Devils. Following the hot breakfast, everyone settled down



A Battery Howitzer – Hungnam; December, 1950 (Harrison)

for much needed and well deserved sleep.

24 December: by 1400 hours heavy explosions were heard and seen inland as ammunition dumps were destroyed by demolition crews. Gradually, explosions drew nearer. Underwater demolition teams destroyed remaining piers and beach facilities. Finally, at 1500, the USNS Randall set sail as Naval batteries bombarded the shore line mercilessly. Under a heavy cover of fire, all ships at anchorage pulled out in convoy, protected by destroyers, thereby bringing to a successful completion the intricate military



Dec. 24, 1950: The USNS Breckenridge as it is circled by LCVP's carrying the last troops off the beach at Hungnam. We came from Yokahama to Inchon on the Breckenridge in Sept. 1950 (Mattingly)

feat of extracting 60,000 troops from a beachhead under a numerical superior enemy.

As Christmas Eve grew near, men gathered and talked of home, speculating as to what their families might be doing. The speaker system played Christmas carols, adding a bit of color to the occasion. Appropriate Church services were held to include a Midnight Mass in the mess hall.

With all troops now afloat and leaving North Korea, what might be called phase two was now brought to a close. Considering the period from the Inchon landing 15 September through Pusan 1 November as phase one, this second phase converged from the amphibious landing at Iwon 6 November through this date 22 December.

This second phase, intended to bring final defeat to the enemy in North Korea, culminated in a complete reversal by the intervention of Chinese Communist Forces. Under terrific pressure on all fronts, all UN Forces were in the process of withdrawing and extracting themselves from North Korea with what equipment they could salvage. The confusion brought on by this situation introduced many questions to the mind.

While physically outnumbered 10 to 1, our forces represented the most modern, the best equipped, and the best clothed Army in the world. Our weapons were the best known to science. Yet, this modern mechanized force of air, tanks, infantry artillery was being driven back by plain foot troops sparingly equipped with small arms, automatic weapons, few mortars and artillery pieces.

While we pushed in coordinated attacks, they infiltrated their mass on our flanks, cutting our supply routes and crippling our rear installations. With their human mass they consistently dominated the high ground as we sought the valleys for their road nets. On more favorable flat terrain, such as the Hungnam beachhead, keyed around a series of small hills dominating flat level approaches from the west and north, we could hold them at bay.

The Hungnam beachhead had proved terrifically expensive to the enemy, where he had repeatedly tried to rush in his

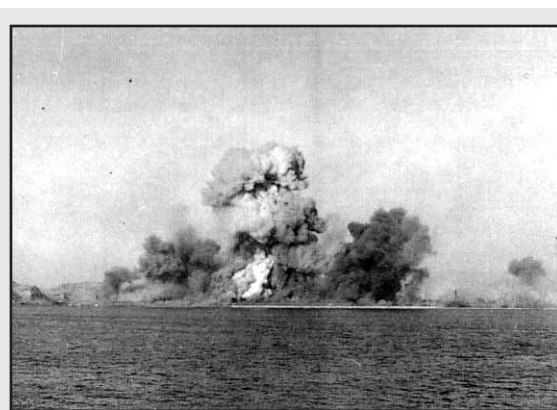
human mass just to find our artillery and tactical air butchering him in his tracks. Unprecedented in our warfare experience, this onrushing mass of humanity was not without effect upon the American soldiers' minds. This complete disregard for human life was contrary to our high evaluation of one human life, which we sought to protect and preserve at great expense. Yet, the American soldier, blazing away at his machine gun, was charged by masses of humans. As he mowed them down, there were always more in the form of an endless chain of humans that just kept coming, no matter how many he killed."

End - Excerpts From "92nd AFA BN Book By Col. Leon F. Lavoie"

Begin Excerpt From "Personal Reflection By Clyde Hancock C Btry 1950-51"

"I shall never forget when the reality of being in a war really hit me. The landing on the beach, the planes making bomb runs, and the battle ships firing the big guns didn't do it. It came a few days after we were in Korea and our 155mm Howitzers arrived. We were in our first firing positions at Suwon at the end of the air field. In one of the first few fire missions, a man in Battery "B" was killed. We all heard the news, but we did not see the blood.

"The next day or so we got word that some enemy heavy tanks were approaching our position. "C" Battery, of which I was a member, was called on to pull two of our 155mm howitzers out of position and move forward a few miles, set up a road block, and stop the enemy tanks



Demolition of Hungnam Harbor: Dec. 1950. Photo taken from the USNS Randall (Remspear)

should they appear. I was a member of one of the howitzer crews chosen for the task.

"We moved into position with one howitzer on each side of the road, aimed the howitzers in on a spot in the road, and waited. Part of each crew was to stay on the howitzer awake and ready to fire, while part of the crew was to get some sleep. Sometime in the early hours before dawn I was given permission to bed down, which I did in a small building near the road. Daylight came, but no enemy tanks came with it. Then someone called my name and instructed me to get up and wake the other men with me. With my eyes not ready to open, and my body not yet ready to wake up, I tried as best I could to follow orders.

"The first person I tried to wake was dead, and so was the second. They were soldiers killed in the battle for Seoul. Unknown to me and the men with me, we had bedded down where the KIAs had been collected for removal from the battle field. When I saw American blood brought by weapons of war from an enemy, the reality of war set in.

"Sometime in early October 1950 my

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unit was pulled out of the front lines and given orders to prepare for an invasion with the 1st Marine Division somewhere on the east coast of North Korea. We moved toward the Port of Inchon. Finally, we were loaded on the landing crafts. Battery "C" men and equipment were aboard LST Q074, a US Navy vessel with a Japanese crew. Bunks were in short supply and large demand, so three men were assigned to each bunk in eight-hour shifts. I made friends with some of the crew and was allowed to eat in the crew's mess and sleep in their lounge.

"After fourteen days aboard Q074, we sailed into Pusan Harbor and were transferred to a navy ship for the sea voyage north by way of the Sea of Japan to a place called Iwon. It is now November, and the weather has already turned bitter cold. We supported the Marines for about three weeks, and then we were told the war was all but over, and that we would be getting ready to leave Korea and would be home in the good old U.S. of A. by Christmas. However, we didn't know about the plans the Chinese had made that included us.

"Thanksgiving Day 1950 until Christmas Eve 1950 will forever remain in this old soldier's mind as one continuous nightmare. Either Thanksgiving or the day after we were given orders to load up lock, stock and barrel, and be ready to move with gas tanks full and weapons at the ready. The weather was bitter cold, snow was falling, and we were headed in the wrong direction to be going home.

"When the orders came down we headed out for a place we would later refer to as the Frozen Chosen. After all these years, I cannot recall just how long it took us to make the move, but I can still see the narrow snow covered roads,

the hairpin curves, and the steep mountainsides in my mind. After much weary travel fighting sleep and the cold, we arrived at our assigned position and began to take the enemy under fire sometime around the last of November or the first of December, 1950.

"As time went on, things turned for the worst. The weather turned colder each day, until it reached 30 degrees below 0. Just a short time after our arrival in the Frozen Chosen, we were surrounded and cut off by the enemy. Ammunition and food ran dangerously low and warm clothing was not to be had. I was afraid to go to sleep thinking I might freeze to death, and afraid to go on guard duty for fear of being killed by the enemy. After a while, I didn't much care, because I thought I would die one way or the other.

"One cold day, while we were engaging the enemy in all directions, we were told that help, food and supplies were on the way. The overcast skies then turned gray with blowing snow and the air drops would be at least hindered, if not prevented altogether. We then heard the roar of aircraft engines which we couldn't see. It seemed they had missed us altogether as they were flying north and the sound of the aircraft began to fade. Then, all of a sudden three or four flying box cars approached from the north at what appeared to be less than a thousand feet and dropped cargo in various colored chutes. It appeared that Christmas had come early for the 92nd AFA BN, but it was not to be.

"As we rushed to get the much needed food and supplies, we found much to our dismay that it was not for us. As I recall, it was all .30 caliber ammo for M1s—no food. A day or so later, some soldiers that had been trapped just to the north of us broke out and began their march to the sea and safety. I watched as the column went by. Some of the men had burlap sacks tied around their feet for warmth. Many of them never made it to the waiting ships at Hungnam.

"Soon it was time to start our march to the sea and the waiting ships. It was a fight all the way, and I shall never forget that day and some of the things I saw. We approached a place on the road where the enemy had held until early that morning,

and a place where much U.S. equipment had been destroyed and many U.S. servicemen had been slaughtered.

"As our column slowed to work our way around the dead and through the wreckage, I looked down from the ring mount of the half track on which I was riding. There by the road lay a soldier that I had remembered seeing pass by our position a few days before. I shall never forget what I saw.

"The young man had been killed by the enemy just a few miles from the waiting ships and safety. He had fallen to the cold ground on his back, his right hand still holding his weapon. Near his left hand was his wallet with the wind turning the pictures. I still see him in my mind and still wonder if he died looking at pictures of his loved ones.

"I shall never forget the planes from the carriers dropping napalm on the enemy so close to us that we could feel the heat. We finally arrived at the sea port of Hungnam and took up firing positions. We fired our 155mm howitzers until the very last minute before they had to be loaded on the ships. When the howitzers were gone, we more or less fought as a rear guard until we were given orders to load on the landing crafts that would take us out to the waiting ship."

End - Excerpt From "Personal Reflection By Clyde Hancock C Btry 1950-51"

Begin: Excerpts From "92nd AFA BN Book By Col. Leon F. Lavoie"

On 25 December, Christmas Day 1950, the USNS Randall was at sea, closely approaching Pusan. The ship was devoid of the usual Christmas dinner, but the troops made the most of it, content to be warm, safe and in clean surroundings after the tenseness and severe weather of the past weeks. At 1400 hours the Randall anchored in Pusan harbor in the company of many vessels.

Shortly thereafter, on 28-29 December, the battalion unloaded its equipment and held a complete T/O&E inventory to evaluate shortages resulting from combat operations in North Korea. On 28 December, the battalion enjoyed its Christmas meal of turkey, sweet potatoes, fruitcake, candies and beer.

...to be continued



3rd Howitzer Sec. Btry C fire mission 1950 (Hancock)

The following is a joint Press Release dated June 17, 2008, from Senator Benjamin L. Cardin and Congressmen Steny Hoyer and Sam Johnson:

LEGISLATION GRANTS OVERDUE FEDERAL CHARTER TO PREMIER KOREAN VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION

Washington - U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD), House Majority Leader, Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and U.S. Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX) hailed House passage today of legislation they have sponsored to grant a Federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), one of the few veterans' service organizations of its size that has not been recognized with the prestigious classification. The bill, which has already passed the Senate, [was] sent to the President. "Korean War Veterans deserve the same official recognition for their struggles and sacrifices on behalf of freedom that other veterans enjoy," said Majority Leader Steny Hoyer. "Granting this Federal Charter delivers a long overdue honor to the 5.7 million Americans who fought and served during the Korean War. It is but a small expression of this nation's eternal appreciation for the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of our Korean War veterans."

"The Korean War is often referred to as the 'forgotten' war, and recognition of our veterans from this war is long overdue," said Senator Benjamin L. Cardin. "This legislation would let the nearly 1.2 million American veterans of the Korean War who are still alive know that we have not forgotten them, and we honor the sacrifice they made for our nation."

"We owe a debt of gratitude to the brave men and women who valiantly served in the Korean War," said Congressman Sam Johnson, a 29-year Air Force Veteran who flew 62 combat missions during the Korean War. "Many paid the ultimate price for freedom. The Korean War veterans want, need and deserve a national charter and the prestige it offers. I'm gratified that we could finally make it happen. Considering the Korean War armistice occurred in 1953, the proclamation of a national charter is long overdue."

Congress has long recognized various military and veteran "patriotic" organizations in public law as a means to acknowledge that a group serves the public interest by providing member services and community support. In addition to bestowing special recognition, granting this charter to the Korean War Veterans Association would allow it to expand its mission and further its charitable and benevolent causes.

Specifically, it will afford the Association the same status as other major organizations and would allow it to participate as part of select commit-

tees with other Congressionally-chartered veterans and military groups. A Federal Charter will also help the Association gain accreditation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, which will enable its members to assist in processing veterans' claims.

President of the Korean War Veterans Association Louis Dechert said, "The vote taken today in the House of Representatives granting a Federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association is an historic moment for our organization, providing for equal status with the many other fine hard working Veterans Service Organizations with whom we have been serving for so many years. The Korean War Veterans Association will accept this Federal Charter with gratitude and will initiate the efforts necessary to carry out the charter responsibilities conferred on us by The Congress.

Continued Dechert, "This action is the culmination of many years of effort on the part of Congressmen Hoyer and Johnson in the House, Senator Paul Sarbanes - who successfully obtained passage of the KWVA charter bill in each session during the past four years - and Senator Cardin - the lead Senate sponsor in the current session of Congress. We are grateful to them for all their efforts on behalf of the nation's Korean War veterans."

The Korean War, often overlooked in American history, is anything but forgotten by the nearly 1.2 million American Veterans of the Korean War still alive today. During the three-year course of the war, some 5.7 million Americans were called to serve, and by the time the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed in July 1953, more than 36,000 Americans sacrificed their lives, 103,284 were wounded, 7,140 were captured and 664 were missing.

The KWVA is the only fraternal veterans' organization in the United States devoted exclusively to Korean War veterans and the only U.S. member of the International Federation of Korean War Veterans Association. Incorporated in 1985, the 25,000-member charitable association has established a strong record of service and commitment to fellow Korean War Veterans, ranging from efforts on behalf of Project Freedom to its successful effort to construct a national Korean War Veterans Memorial on the National Mall.

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or material 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

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Summit Brings Renewed VA Drive for Women Veterans

■ Peake: Reinventing to be “Women-Centric”

WASHINGTON – An aggressive push to ensure women veterans receive the highest quality of care in VA medical facilities was pledged by Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake at a recent VA National Summit on Women Veterans’ Issues.

Although VA already has services for women patients equal to those men receive, Peake told the audience of more than 400 women-veteran advocates, “We are reinventing ourselves by expanding our women-centric focus to initiate new programs that meet the needs of women veterans.”

Citing the demographic shift that brings increasing numbers of women to VA for care and the need for changes, Peake announced formation of a work group to focus on women’s needs in prosthetics and rehabilitation, hiring women’s advocates in VA medical centers, developing quality measurements specifically for women patients, purchasing more state-of-the-art, specialized women’s health care equipment, and expanding medical education in women’s health for VA care providers.

Summit attendees also learned that VA recently established a work group whose goal is to ensure every female veteran enrolled in VA care has a women’s health primary care provider, especially to meet gender-specific needs.

The June 20-22 conference in Washington focused on how to ensure VA meets women-specific health needs and how to inform more women veterans of their VA benefits. It was the fourth women’s summit, which VA holds every four years.

Summit co-sponsors included the American Legion Auxiliary, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Other assisting veterans groups included the Blinded Veterans Association, Military Officers Association of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America and TriWest.

VA Announces On-Line Claims Applications

WASHINGTON (July 16, 2008) - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today that on-line applications are now accepted from veterans, survivors and other claimants filing initial applications for disability compensation, pension, education, and vocational rehabilitation and employment benefits without the additional requirement to submit a signed paper copy of the application.

Effective immediately, VA will now process applications received through its on-line application website (VONAPP) without the claimant’s signature. The electronic application will be sufficient authentication of the claimant’s application for benefits. Normal development procedures and rules of evidence will still apply to all VONAPP applications.

VONAPP (www.va.gov/onlineapps.htm) is a Web-based

system that benefits both internal and external users. Veterans, survivors and other claimants seeking compensation, pension, education, or vocational rehabilitation benefits can apply electronically without the constraints of location, postage cost, and time delays in mail delivery.

VONAPP reduces the number of incomplete applications received by VA, decreasing the need for additional development by VA claims processors. The on-line application also provides a link to apply for VA health care benefits and much more.

Over 3.7 million veterans and beneficiaries receive compensation and pension benefits from VA and approximately 523,000 students receive education benefits. Approximately 90,000 disabled veterans participate in VA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program.

For more information about VA benefits, go to VA’s website at www.va.gov, or call our toll-free number at 1-800-827-1000.

Busan vs. Pusan

An alert reader of *The Graybeards* pointed out the spelling of Pusan as Busan on the back cover of the May/June 2008 issue. “Why,” he asked, “is the name of the city spelled two different ways? I was in Pusan during the Korean War, not Busan.”

We investigated. Here is what we found.

There are multiple spellings of just about everything in Korea, including people’s names and cities. The government decided a few years back to simplify spellings by establishing an official way to write Korean names using the Roman alphabet. The translation was based on pronunciation. The government opted to change the signs and names of places to reflect the “new way” of writing.

In the process, Pusan became Busan. The only city name that was not subjected to the new rules was Seoul, because of its international recognition. The changes did not catch on with the Korean people right away—if at all.

A lot of Koreans either don’t know about the official changes, or they just don’t care. So, many Koreans continue to use the old spellings. (Imagine citizens of any free country ignoring government-initiated changes! What a concept! Americans would never do that.)

We at *The Graybeards* do not subscribe to either spelling officially. In our magazine, the names Busan and Pusan remain interchangeable.

Potatoes, botatoes....Hopefully, our readers will recognize both spellings—even though most of them will always remember the location as Pusan.

If anybody else has any thoughts on the matter, please let us know.

**Subsidized Revisit
Korea Tour Program 2008**
September 26th Thru October 2nd
November 13-19
Ask about the China tour extension



Register Now for May 2009

Military Historical Tours / KWVA's Revisit coordinator

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Parades as Recruiting Tools

As we have mentioned before, parades are great ways for Chapters to recruit. Here are a few Chapters that are learning that as they participate in a variety of parades across the country..

If anyone has stories of how participating in parades has helped them recruit, please let us know.

60- ADIRONDACK [NY]

Our Chapter had a sizable contingent in the Glens Falls Memorial Day Parade this year.



CID 60 contingent at Memorial Day service

Honor Guard from CID
at Memorial Day service



Marchers from CID 60
get ready to step off



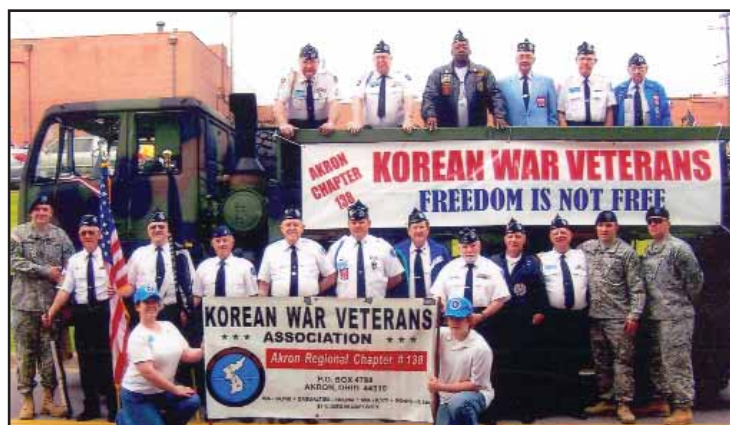
Grand Marshall of the Glens Falls Parade, Memorial Day, Gene Slavin and wife Patti. Gene is the founder of Chapter 60, Past President and current Sec/Treas.

138 – AKRON REGIONAL [OH]

Chapter members participated in the 2008 Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio Memorial Day parade. Some of them rode in a truck furnished by the 1st Battalion of the 145 Armored Regiment Akron, Ohio.

The Chapter's Color Guard marched the route.

Carl L. Canon, 4512 Conestoga Trail, Copley, OH 44321



CID 138 members aboard the truck at the 2008, Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day parade. Dean Johnson's grandchildren hold the Chapter's banner. Standing (L-R) truck driver, Frank Thomas, Edward Rose, Jack Palm, Carol Camp, Don George, Bob Hedrick, Bob Britt, John Shaffer, Dean Johnson, two assistant drivers from the 145th (Standing in truck, L-R) Dick Hudak, Sonny Fool, Harvey Leek, Norm Swope, Jackson Holiday, Ken White



CID 138 Color Guard in the Memorial Day Parade. Dean Johnson's grandchildren hold the Chapter's banner. (Front, L-R) Carol Camp, Edward Rose, Jack Palm and Frank Thomas (Back, L-R) a member of the 145th Regiment, Don George and Bob Hedrick

159 – SUNSHINE STATE [FL]

Chapter members participated in a Memorial Day Parade on 26 May 2008. We formed the single largest representative unit in the parade.

The night was beautiful, as the nearby photos taken at the City of Largo, Pinellas, Florida, Court of Honor, attest.

Peter H Palmer, Chapter President, via email, palmersp@gte.net



Members of CID 159 march in Memorial Day Parade on a beautiful spring evening



209 – LAREDO 1950 [TX]

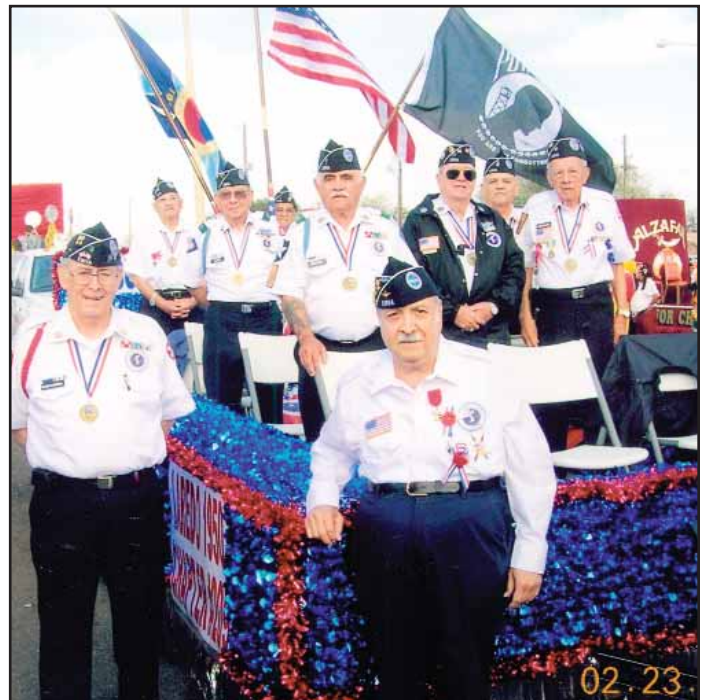
We celebrate Washington's Birthday with a parade and activities. This year's celebration lasted a whole week.

We participated by entering a float in the parade. This year we received an award as the Patriotic Float of the Parade. This is the second consecutive year that we have earned this reward.

Pete Trevino, 1307 Stewart Street, Laredo, TX 78043



CID 209 members in George Washington Day Parade in Laredo (L-R) Hector Castaneda, Rey Reyna, Neto Sanchez, Mike Villarreal



"Floating" through the Laredo George Washington Day Parade (L-R) are CID 209 members (Front, L-R) Hector Castaneda, Robert Ramirez (Back, L-R) Sam Brewster, Paulino Lucio, Eddie Sanchez, Nico Nanez, Rey Reyna, Tony Martinez, Sal Sciaraffa, Jesse Gonzalez

222 - DON C. FAITH (MOH) [TX]

Chapter members participated in the Memorial Day Parade in Harker Heights, TX. The entry was put together by Jesse Perez and Jim Apple.

CID 222 is based in Killeen.



CID 222's entry in the Harker Heights Memorial Day Parade

299 - KOREAN VETERANS OF AMERICA [MA]

The Chapter sent a contingent to the Fitchburg, MA Fourth of July Parade. Note how prominently the KWVA's website address is featured on the Chapter's banner.



CID 299 members "step off" in the Fitchburg Fourth of July Parade

Shannon McKenna and Abrianna McCall, granddaughters of CID 299 member Ken McKenna, carry the Chapter's banner. Pauline Lagace and driver Ken McKenna occupy the driver's seat. Art Griffith and Carl Pohl are flag bearers



Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:

www.KWVA.org

Memorial Day

CID 299 Represents KWVA at Arlington

Chapter 299, Korea Veterans of America, represented the KWVA again at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day and came through with flying colors. They looked outstanding.

Al McCarthy, Ken McKenna



CID 299 color guard members Art Griffith and Otis Mangrum representing KWVA on Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery



Art Griffith, KVA Photographer Pauline Lagace, Otis Mangrum, KWVA Nat'l Director Tom McHugh and Commander Al McCarthy laying the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



CID 299 Commander Al McCarthy, Vice Commander Art Griffith, KVA photographer Pauline Lagace, Color Guard Sgt. Otis Mangrum, Tom McHugh before they laid the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



Tom McHugh, Art Griffith, MOH recipient John Baca, Otis Mangrum in DC on Memorial Day



CID 299 members at Korea Monument with Dir. McHugh for Memorial Day event

Tour News

Revisit Korea

By Bob Mount

During the period of 21 June 2008 - 26 June 2008 I was a guest of The Sae Eden Presbyterian Church of Seoul, Korea for a revisit trip. I consider it an honor to have been one of 20 selected from the many applicants and I appreciate this opportunity. After all, I was just a common GI with only my service in Korea from July 1950 to August 1951 as a combat engineer, and no acts of heroism, to recommend me.



Leo and Michael Ruffing in Korea

Let me tell you about the church and the Korean people. They treated us veterans to the best hotel, the best food, and some of the most solemn ceremonies their country has to offer. This is a large church with a sanctuary that seats 5,000. In every way possible they made us feel welcome and appreciated. They honored us with so many "thanks to you" speeches I could not count them all.

Our first event was a "Service to promote the Friendship & Relationship between ROK and USA" at the church. For our entry, their walkway into the church was lined on each side with the little children of the church. All their choirs with their accompaniment were in full voice, and the sanctuary, filled to capacity, erupted in thunderous applause as we walked down the center aisle (led by the American flag). To say this was an emotional moment is a gigantic understatement.

RIGHT: A picture of serenity at the anything-but-serene DMZ



ABOVE: Leo Ruffing and MajGen George Edwards, USAF (Ret) pay respects after placing a wreath at the War Memorial along the DMZ on the border of North/South Korea

RIGHT: Leo and Michael Ruffing at the Bridge of No Return, where the POW crossed from captivity to Freedom, in Korea



I believe the country teaches the importance of the veterans sacrifice (from all countries, including their own) in their schools. This was apparent in two specific incidents.

After many speeches, each giving thanks for the veterans who saved their country, there was a banquet in their social hall, which had been prepared in their church kitchen. During the meal we were treated to a performance of traditional Korean music.

During our stay we were taken to the DMZ and toured the negotiating facilities, visited the Martyrdom Cemetery (where we placed a wreath on two grave sites, one holding the US missionary who was the first to bring the Bible to Korea), had lunch at the mess hall of the 1st Division of the ROK army (where the band was out in full dress for our arrival and departure), placed a wreath at the National Memorial Cemetery (equal to our Arlington National Cemetery), and attended a reception for veterans hosted by the President of the Republic of South Korea.

We also witnessed a celebration at the Gang-Chung Gym (used for gymnastics during the Olympics), where there were many floor presentations of traditional Korean music and formations. There were many other events; these are just some of the highlights.

I believe the country teaches the importance of the veterans sacrifice (from all countries, including their own) in their schools. This was apparent in two specific incidents.

The first occurred at the Seoul Tower. When a group of visiting school children learned we were veterans, they crowded around us, anxious to have their picture taken with a veteran. The second was at the Gang-Chung Gym. There, a group of touring college students had marched on the floor. Upon learning there were US veterans present, they asked if one of us could come out to meet them. I was selected and went out for greetings and photos with them.

South Korea is a newly developed, modern country with all the congestion and crowded highways of any large urban area. Their economy is the 10th strongest in the world, and they did it all in the last 50 years. It is wonderful what free people can do.

Bob Mount is a member of Chapter 142, Frederick, MD. Reach him at 6518 Fish Hatchery Road, Thurmont, MD 21788, (301) 898-7952, rmount252@comcast.net

NOTE: KWVA Chaplain Leo Ruffing was on the same trip. He submitted the photos that accompany this article.

Tell America

105 – CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

During June 2008, CID 105's Tell America crew hosted over 900 students at the Onondaga County War Memorial in Syracuse, New York. We have done this on a regular basis, along with visits to area schools, since the program began.

Chapter members visited Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School. They presented a dis-

play of Korean War information, including a sandwich board containing C-rations.

Fred Shively of Covington, OH and CID 108, Western Ohio, was kind enough to supply the C-rations, for which we thank him.

Jim Low, 114 Wembridge Drive, East Syracuse, NY 13057, (315) 437-0833



Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School students David Antosh and Griffin Feiner flank Jim Low of CID 105 at Tell America presentation

175 – LT. Baldomero Lopez, MOH [FL]

We are submitting two selected essays of students from one of the schools we visit in the School Program. We are fortunate to have such an active program within our Chapter.

Members of the Chapter are scheduled to go to the area

schools for the upcoming Veteran's Day week, in November. Generally, we go into approximately twelve schools in that time frame. However, we are limiting that number to eight schools for the 2008-2009 school year.



TV cameras roll as the Tell America Staff honors two POW from WWII and the Korean War, Melvin Butler and John Pequignot, CID 259 members

We make visits to schools throughout the school year, but more emphasis is naturally easier to generate during Veteran's Day week. We have an adequate number of veterans in the Chapter who respond when we need them, so when more than one school is scheduled for the same time, we can assign different groups to each of the schools.

The students ask questions and always appear to be very interested in our accounts of the

Korean War. They are especially enthralled with the presentation of the POW/MIA table. We look forward to an upcoming, inspiring and active School Program for the Lopez Chapter in Tampa, this year.

Finally, we offer special thanks to Sam Hayes, the Director of the School Program for Chapter 175. Reach him at 7209 Richard Avenue, Tampa, FL 33614, (813) 886-4038.

Clarence Clifton, 819 Sidney Washer Rd., Dover, FL 33527

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is a holiday to remember the loved ones who brought victory and success to our great country.

Men all over the world left their families to serve America.

You may think nothing of it, but it's a big risk!

You might survive or you might die, but believe it or not,

It's worth it!

I would love to serve in the war,

But the risk is a big one!

Dads and Moms all over the world

Go to the Army, Marines and much more to give us the Liberty and freedom we have today.

So next time it's Memorial Day,

thank our veterans-

the brave freedom fighters we call

Heroes.

By: Cheila Nobote

Fourth grade

Twin Lakes Elementary

Memorial Day, a day to honor those who fought and died at war.

Those who gave up their lives [to] better our country,

Who live only in our hearts and memories.

Admire their bravery and dedication

to our country we call home.

Memorial Day, a day to thank those men and women who fought for our freedom.

Once a year it comes around,

one day to remember all those men and women.
 All those soldiers who fought and passed away.
 Everlasting thoughts of the days when their loved
 ones were alive, fill up with tears of sadness
 in people who lost someone.
 So now you know to be thankful
 for your freedom
 And remember those who fought for it.

By: Stephanie Suarez
 Fifth grade
 Twin Lakes Elementary School

CID 259 Featured on TV

On June the 9th, the Tell America television network featured Chapter 259 of Central Indiana on its Tell America program. In doing so, TV 57 and the Verizon Television network honored Commander Tine Martin, Tom Gill, Melvin Butler, and John Pequignot as "Veterans of the Year" for outstanding achievements in 2008.

Cpl Dale Parish interviewed Commander Martin, who said that, "Their service to their community is a top priority, as far as the visitation, and granting the needs of our veterans, both past and present."

Producer James Yaney interviewed Tom Gill of Chapter 259 about the 100 missions he recorded over North Korea during the Korean War and how he

received from the President of the United States the Distinguished Flying Cross with three clusters. His stories of heroism and dedication impressed the Tell America viewers.

Mr. Yaney also interviewed two POW, Melvin Butler, of Chapter 259, and Silver Star recipient John Pequignot, who is on Yaney's Tell America staff at Comcast cable TV and Verizon Fios.

The TV show is in its third year, with over 100,000 viewers. Yaney said he is proud to be a veteran both of the KWVA and of its administration and members.

*James E. Yaney, Sr., 1349
 Wilson Lake Rd., Columbia City,
 IN 46725*



Director Elizabeth Lord and Audio Specialist Jean Yaney, two proud—and very supportive—staff members who donate their time for Tell America shows and veterans' causes



Cpl Dale Parish, a co-host of the TV program Tell America, interviews Tine Martin regarding his extraordinary leadership in contributing to the veterans of Indianapolis



Producer James Yaney (R) interviews Melvin Butler (L), Purple Heart recipient, Korean War POW, and Tell America "Veteran of the Year"

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

(Plus postage, NO handling fees)

To order, contact Jamie Reynolds, Membership Administrative Assistant, P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407, Tel: 217-345-4414, email: membership@kwva.org



Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

60 – ADIRONDACK [NY]

Our Chapter has a Monument in Crandall Park, Glens Falls, NY. The names of our Korean War veterans who died or are MIA appear on the monument.

Our Chapter covers seven (7) counties in Northern New York State: Clinton, Essex, Hamilton, Fulton, Saratoga, Warren and Washington. The Memorial Monument was dedicated in a ceremony June 1994.



The Mobile Adirondack County Monument

We also have a duplicate portable Monument, which is a replica of our permanent monument. It is on a trailer bed which we display at our parades and other functions.

Our driver, Jack Downing, a Chosen Reservoir survivor, carries a notebook with information on each person listed on the monument—including photos of some of them.

Ray Waldron, Chapter Commander, via email



210 - BREVARD COUNTY [FL]

Monument Unveiling Ceremony

A long awaited Memorial Monument to all Korean War veterans was unveiled proudly on the grounds of the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center in Merritt Island. After three years of planning and fund raising by dedicated officers and members of our still relatively young Chapter, we saw our dream become a reality. The Chapter also gives thanks for the cooperation and efforts of



Unveiling ceremony of Brevard Korean Veterans Monument featuring CID 210 Member Chyung Kim, Major General John Cleland, and the "American Veterans Color Guard" in period costumes



Brevard Korean Veterans Monument



CID 210 President T James Snyder (L) and Chung Kim (R), Brevard Monument ceremony speakers

the Brevard Veterans Council for providing the site and coordinating with county officials.

The Unveiling Ceremony was performed at two BVMC venues. The first was inside the BVMC facility, a building that also houses a Military Museum. Here, Maurice Meisner, Chapter 210 member and Chairman of the Brevard Veterans Council, opened



Past President Julius Farago (L) and 1st Vice President Nick Beninate (right of President), the inspiring leaders of the Brevard Korean Veterans Monument Project.

the ceremony by Call to Order, followed by the Posting of the Colors by our guests, the “American Veterans Color Guard.”

Attendees, including community elected officials, other guests and Chapter 210 members, listened attentively to guest speaker Major General John Cleland, who reminded us of the great achievements by our military presence in Korea that, combined with the South Korean Army and other United Nations countries, recaptured the territory and ensured the freedom of South Korea.

He also emphasized the need and importance of such memorials throughout the USA, lest the sacrifices of our brave defenders, and the war itself, could be forgotten.

Current Chapter 210 President T. J. Snyder and Past President Julius Farago, who spearheaded the monument building project, also made encouraging remarks on our role in the liberation of South Korea and that nation’s miraculous industrial transformation as one of today’s greatest democracy.

Later, the Ceremony continued outdoors in an area that will eventually become “Memorial Gardens” to honor the men and women of all branches of our military services during all the wars in which America has participated. It is our hope that our Korean War Memorial Monument, as the first of many monuments expected to be erected in this budding Memorial Gardens, will be joined by monuments from all other military organization members of the Council.

The unveiling was performed by Major General John Cleland and CID 210 member Chyung Kim, who served in both the South Korean and U.S. Armies. The Unveiling Ceremony precedes a future planned “Dedication Ceremony” for the Korean War Memorial that will be performed as the Memorial Gardens develop.

All residents and visitors to Brevard County, Florida are invited to come see our monument and the Veterans Memorial Center Military Museum located at S. Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island.

Our fund raising efforts, under the inspiring coordination of Chapter 1st Vice President Nick Beninate, raised all the money needed to design, build and erect the monument by manning collection tables at local stores throughout the county.

*Charles W. Hackney, 8754 Palm Way
Cape Canaveral, FL 32920*

Air Base dedicates gate to 1st Air Policeman KIA

On 20 May 2008 the U.S. Air Force dedicated a gate at Osan Air Base to Cpl Joseph Morin, the first Air Policeman killed in the line of duty after the service was established in 1947.

As the story on the monument explains:

On 1 Nov 1950 Cpl Joseph R. Morin was killed in action while assigned to the 6149th Air Police Squadron, K-2 (Taegu) Air Base, Republic of Korea. Cpl Morin volunteered for duty with a search party detailed to find a pilot from a downed aircraft. While returning to his base, Cpl Morin was killed by a land mine when he dismounted from his jeep. The incident occurred six miles south of Hapchon, Kyongsang Namdo, South Korea.

We thank Curley Knepp for sending us the information and the photos.



Welcome to the J.R. Morin Gate at Osan Air Base



ABOVE: The rock upon which Morin is memorialized

LEFT: A close-up of the Morin story in English and Korean

Monument dedicated in Quincy, MA

There was a Korean War Veterans Memorial dedicated on 27 July 1996 in Quincy, MA that slipped under our radar screen. Here is the story from John "Butch" Mahoney:



The Quincy, MA Korean War Veterans Memorial

No matter how old the message on the Quincy Memorial is, the meaning is never lost



I grew up in Quincy, and I know both Frank Colleton and Paul Comi, who were the main speakers [at the dedication]. Both were graduates of North Quincy High School and Korean War veterans. I am a Korean War veteran, and I received all the benefits, college, health, etc. However, I was a non-combatant veteran. This allowed me to play college football, and I got drafted by the Boston Patriots (now New England Patriots.)

Jim Colclough played nine years for the Patriots and sang "God Bless America" at the dedication. *The Quincy Sun* did a great job describing and illustrating the historic event.

Today, six flags still fly almost every day at the Memorial. Two of the people whose names appear on two of the more than 1,000 bricks sold for the Memorial are Jake Comer and Larry Norton. Mr. Comer is the former National American Legion Commander; Mr. Norton is a 100% disabled Vietnam veteran.

Excerpts from the account in *The Quincy Sun*, 1 August 1996....

The names of the 38 [Quincy men KIA in Korea] were read by Korean War veteran Kenneth Lotterhand as an honor roll and each name was answered with a salute and an "accounted for" by members of the 126th Signal Company of the Massachusetts National Guard headquartered in Quincy....Several hundred attended the dedication, which capped a three-year effort by a committee headed by John (Butch) Mahoney and appropriately



Veterans march toward the Quincy Korean War Veterans Memorial



National Guard members head for the Quincy Korean War Veterans Memorial



Two of the bricks at the Quincy Korean War Veterans Memorial

was held on the 43rd anniversary of the ending of the war....This memorial in Quincy pays tribute to all Korean War veterans and the 38 from Quincy who sacrificed their lives to fight Communism and tyranny....Paul Comi, a three Purple Hearts veteran of the Korean War in real life and as an actor in the movie "Pork Chop Hill," lamented: "The average person's consciousness of this war emanates from the television show M.A.S.H. where the Korean War is presented as a romantic comedy...." Colleton...recalled the celebration July 27, 1953 on Korea's Hill 228 at the 10 p.m. ceasefire. "Rockets were fired into the sky in the greatest display of fireworks I have ever seen...."

*John W. Mahoney, 134 Oxenbridge Rd.
Quincy, MA 02170
(617) 773-4333 (H), (617) 686-3189 (cell)*

A Blast from the Past

Does anybody remember Richard “Dick” Shea, who was honored for his Korean War service? In the old newspaper photo below, Mr. and Mrs. Shea are presenting the Dick Shea Two Mile Trophy at the first Pilot Relays at Foreman field in 1954.

The photo is of particular interest since the KWVA is holding its reunion this year in “Dick Shea” territory.



Does anyone remember Dick Shea?

Chapter 191 (Hampton, VA) will honor Lt. Shea later this year by hanging a shadow box in the library of Churchland High School in Portsmouth, VA. That is the high school from which Shea graduated in 1944.

Leo Ruffing of Chapter 191 made a presentation to the 11th Grade history honors class and their teacher, Ms. Tracy Dussia, at the school earlier this year.



**Leo Ruffing at Churchland High School
Portsmouth, VA**



Thanks!

As we have noted in past issues, there is no shortage of thanks extended from Koreans to the veterans who fought for their country's freedom over fifty years ago. Here are more results.

Laredo Chapter Members Honored

Laredo Chapter [CID 209] members attended the Ninth Korean Appreciation Dinner hosted by the Baptist Community Church in honor of all Korean veterans. The Korean Community members are friendly and very gracious people. We had a grand time and a great dinner.



Ernesto Sanchez, CID 209 President, presents an Appreciation plaque to Rev. Mun, Myung Kwon of the Baptist Community Church, as Chapter member Paulino Lucio assists



Two lovely Korean ladies help CID 209 member Mike Villarreal and his wife register for the dinner



A Korean family joins CID 209 members at dinner

Ernesto Sanchez, Chapter President, presented a plaque to Rev. Mun, Myung Kwon on behalf of the Chapter in appreciation for their many years of friendliness and support toward the Laredo Chapter.

We are deeply grateful for their gesture.

Pedro Trevino, Jr., 3219 E. Lyon Street
Laredo, TX 78043

UKWV Sponsors CA Vet Dinner

Seventeen members of the Mt. Diablo, CA, Chapter attended a dinner sponsored by the United Korean War Veterans of Northern California in its 58th Annual Commemorative Ceremony of the Korean War. The ceremony and dinner were held on 25 June 2008 at the Korean restaurant, Sam Won Kal Bi, in Oakland, CA.

Dr. C. H. Suh extended the invitation to all area U.S. Korean War veterans. As he explained, "I am a Korean Korean War veteran. I served three years in the Republic of Korea Army during the war, and I was discharged with honor with the rank of captain."



Members and guests of CID 264 at dinner in Oakland



U.S. and Korean veterans gather together at the Sam Won Kal Bi Restaurant in Oakland



Dr. Shu is in the center of things (and the photo) at dinner



Bob and Mrs. Hooker, Bill Flaherty, Ron Silva attending Oakland dinner



Korean and U.S. veterans line and salute one another at Oakland dinner

Dr. Suh, who graduated with a Ph.D in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley in 1966, retired from the University of Colorado, Boulder, in 2001—after 35 years service on the faculty.

He serves presently as the Chairman of the United Korean War Veterans of Northern California (UKWV). The UKWV is a federation which comprises four separate Korean War Veterans Associations representing Sacramento, San Francisco, the East Bay, and Silicon Valley.

“We estimate that there are at least 400 Korean-Korean war veterans in Northern California,” he said.

The goal of UKWV is to strengthen Korean and American relations by remembering the Korean War.

Specifically, Dr. Suh explained, “We are hoping to kick off this

new joint-gathering on June 25th, which you may know is the anniversary of the day North Korea began the Korean War. It is hard to imagine that it has already been 58 years since the war began. The UKWV is interested in commemorating and remembering the war on this important day, and we are honored that you could join us.”

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Drive
Pinole, CA 94564-1236

Dallas Korean Community Honors Korean War Veterans

The International Education and Cultural Center (IECC) hosted KWVA Chapter 270 and the Korean War Veterans Association of Dallas (ROK Veterans) to a luncheon on June 25, 2008. The impressive event with attendant ceremonies took place at the Chef Hsu Restaurant in Dallas.



CID 270 members in blue shirts, the Dallas ROK veterans in white shirts, and two ladies from the Korean Community, at dinner (Photo by Gerri Randolph)

The ceremonies began with the American and Korean National Anthems. Next, attendees paused for a silent prayer for war victims, which was followed by playing a C-Span CD of Representative Sam Johnson’s speech on the House floor leading up to approval of a Federal Charter for the Korean War Veterans Association.

Don An, IECC Board Chair, gave a short welcoming speech. Then, attendees heard short commemorating addresses by CID 270 President J. D. Randolph and the local ROK KWVA President, Han Ki Lee.

The restaurant seating consisted of about 20 large round tables, each seating up to 10 guests. On each table there was a 40-inch lazy Susan turntable set in the center on a white tablecloth. Guest place settings included a plate with a neatly folded napkin, a glass of water, and a set of chopsticks. Forks were available on request. CID 270 member comments about the event follow:

Member Comments

• Keith Fannon, 2nd Vice President

“I was very pleased with the number of 270 members attending the luncheon, as well as the ROK veterans. Unfortunately, there seems to have been some miscommunication over at 215, since no one came. I thought that IECC did a wonderful job of organizing the luncheon. I thanked many of the Board Members, as well as Mr. An who, unfortunately could not speak very well on Wednesday.

“PS. For those that don’t know it, Mr. An paid the tab for the luncheon.”

• *Bill Carman, Director*

“What impressed me much was the planning and organization by the International Education & Cultural Center (IECC) to bring together the Korean War Veterans of Korea-Dallas and Chapter 270 of the Korean War Veterans Association.

The bi-lingual program moved well and was interesting to both the Korean Community in Dallas and the Chapter 270 members and spouses. The Chinese food was served quickly on huge lazy Susans, family style, and was delicious. The commemorative badge and belt buckle was a pleasant surprise, and will remind us of the occasion of comradeship we shared on this 58th Anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.

The IECC is to be commended for arranging this get together.”

• *Miles Brown, Chapter Co-founder*

“The well attended ROK Luncheon Meeting on June 25th was great, Beginning with the Korea and America National Anthem, followed with Congressman Sam Johnson’s (CD) Presentation of the KWVA National Charter Congressional vote and the rendering of Chapter 270’s New and Improved Digital Ceremonial Bugle, with the rendering of Taps, was simply fantastic.

The ROK members and guests were excited with the program, including, but not limited to, the ROK Korean Gifts, including a Korean belt buckle and lapel pin. The lavish assortment of Korean food was graciously presented, including mixed drinks.

Chapter 270 President J.D. Randolph made opening remarks, including the introduction of Congress Sam Johnson’s Congressional (CD) presentation, and the rendering of Taps, with Chapter 270’s Ceremonial Bugle.

Chapter 270 veterans and wives were well received by the Korean ladies, as well as the ROK veterans.

A copy of the CD was left with the President of the ROK Group, with the idea of a Korean translation of Congressman Sam Johnson’s remarks on the CD for future programs.”

Korean Society of New England host War Vets

The Korean Society of New England hosted its annual “Appreciation Dinner” for KWVA, KVA, and Korean veterans at the Asian Cultural Center in Woburn, MA. The event included a Korean folk singer, magician, fan dancer, mask dancers, and a video and speech to show the “return on investment” for the sacrifices made by all for Korea’s freedom.

A fabulous Korean dinner followed. Many thanks to KSONE President, Eric An, and Vice President Bob Campbell for a terrific evening!

The event was also covered by *New England Korean News*.

Albert McCarthy

albert_mccarthy@hotmail.com

Appreciation luncheon hosted by KAPAC

The Korean American Public Affairs Committee (KAPAC) hosted an Appreciation Luncheon Gala on June 23, 2008 at the Dae Dong Manor Grand Ball Room, Flushing NY. KAPAC President and CEO David Chulwoo Lee welcomed all guests, along with

Event Chairman John H Choi.

Speakers included Congressman Charles Rangel, Honorary Chairman of the Luncheon, Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy, and the Ambassador from the Republic of Korea to the United States, Ambassador Lee Tae-sik.

Representing National President Louis Dechert of the Korean War Veterans were 1st Vice President James Ferris and Director Thomas McHugh. President Dechert was in Korea attending the 8th General Assembly of the International Federation of KWVA.

KWVA Members had been invited from New Jersey Chapters 48, 52, 53, 87, 94, 170, 213 & 216, New York Chapters 55, 64, 65, 66, 90, 91, 171, 202, 208, and Connecticut Chapters 11 & 204.

Vice President Jim Ferris spoke representing the KWVA.

During the awards presentations, Tom McHugh accepted a Plaque for President Dechert from Ambassador Lee. Brigadier General Jim Ferris (Ret) was presented a Plaque from Brigadier General Kim, Beong Kil (Ret). In turn, General Ferris presented a Plaque to General Kim.

Tom McHugh then presented a Plaque to Kang, Sok Hee, President of the Korean War Veterans Association of Greater New York.

The luncheon followed an exchange of gifts, pins, etc.

As always, the friendliness and respect shown to all veterans by the Koreans and Korean-Americans could not have been surpassed.

NOTE: Luncheon information & 47 pictures of the Gala can be found at: www.kapacusa.org. To see the pictures click on MORE under the group picture.

Coming Home

By Norman Ross

They came on planes from a misanthropic
Place. They came in wooden boxes encased
In steel. Their covered shroud, a flag that said,
“A grateful nation thanks you for making the
Ultimate offering to the god of war”.

They went as boys, but came as men to a place
That they called home. But not on their own;
Not erect or in a chair, but boxed like books
And things and garments that we wear. Yet home
They came, to a solemn cadence of men at war.

Their friends and families waited, in rain and
Sleet and a bright intensive Sun. To a bugler’s
Wail, to a round of fired rifles, to a welcome that
They could not hear; nor could not see. It was a
World of no tomorrows. But they came home.

June, 2008

©2008, Norman Ross

Korean War Veterans Deserve Recognition



28,000 American troops still patrol the DMZ
Photo courtesy of Leo Ruffing

By Senator Benjamin L. Cardin and Congressman Steny Hoyer

NOTE: Senator Cardin (D-MD) and Congressman Hoyer (MD-5th) joined with Texas Congressman Sam Johnson (R) in introducing legislation to grant a Federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association.

Fifty-five years ago this July, the Korean War ended after great sacrifice. Waged for three years on the Korean Peninsula, the Korean War involved 5.7 million Americans, with 36,000 soldiers making the ultimate sacrifice. Yet, the Korean War, often referred to as the “Forgotten War,” has not commanded the recognition or respect that it deserves.

Fortunately, that has come to an end. In June, Congress passed legislation to grant a Federal Charter to the Korean Veterans Association (KWVA), one of the few veterans’ service organizations of its size that has not been recognized with the prestigious classification. The President signed the bill into law on June 30, in time for the July 27th anniversary of the end of the war.

Congress has long recognized various military and veterans patriotic organizations in public law. While a Federal Charter does not confer any special rights, privileges or benefits to a membership organization, it is a public acknowledgement that a group serves the public interest by providing its members important services and community support.

Granting this charter to the Korean War Veterans Association will focus more attention on issues of concern to Korean War veterans, and it will allow the KWVA to fully participate on veterans’ advisory panels and select groups with other congressionally-chartered veterans and military organizations. This is important because 13 states deny membership on veterans’ advisory panels to groups without a Federal Charter.

Incorporated in 1985, the KWVA is the

only fraternal veterans’ organization in the United States devoted exclusively to Korean War veterans, and the only U.S. member of the International Federation of Korean War Veterans Association. Over the last two decades, the 25,000-member charitable association has established a strong record of service and commitment to fellow Korean War veterans, ranging from efforts on behalf of Project Freedom to its successful campaign to construct a national Korean War Veterans Memorial on the National Mall.

This year marks the 55-year anniversary of the end of the Korean War, and reminders of this significant conflict are still with us. Currently, approximately 28,000 U.S. soldiers are stationed in Korea, many patrolling

the 155-mile wide demilitarized zone (DMZ) that stretches the entire width of the Korean Peninsula. Today, the DMZ is the last remaining Cold War-style frontier in the world, bristling with sensors, tank traps and automatic artillery.

It’s important that we never forget the sacrifices made by Americans during the Korean War and those who have served in Korea since the war’s end. Approximately 1.2 million Korean War veterans are still living, and this law gives them the recognition they deserve—and that is long overdue. It is a small expression of our nation’s appreciation and gratitude, and it will help ensure that those who served in the “Forgotten War” are no longer forgotten.

KWVA thanks MOPH for Service Officer training help



Art Hills, KWVA VSO (C) presents the National Appreciation Award to the MOPH as Paula Curran, NSO, Appeals Management, Wash., D.C. (L) and Jack Leonard, National Service Director, MOPH (R) look on (Photos by Forrest Powell, MOPH, NSO Chugiak, Alaska)

The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) has been instrumental in training KWVA National Veterans Service Officer Arthur (“Art”) E. Hills in the finer points of his duties. The MOPH’s help includes underwriting some of the costs involved in the training.

MOPH also provided a great deal of support for the KWVA in its pursuit of a federal charter. As a means of thanking the

organization for its support, Immediate Past President Lou Dechert asked Art Hills to present a National Appreciation Award from the KWVA to MOPH at its annual Service Officer Training in Chandler, Arizona, April 2, 2008.

That has been done—and the members of the KWVA add their thanks as well.



Chapter & Department News

NOTE 1: CID = Chapter Identification

NOTE 2: If you have submitted Chapter news, and it has not appeared recently, please check with Membership Management Supervisor Jake Feaster to determine if your Chapter is included on the Non-compliant list. He will tell you if it is, why it is, and how you can get it in compliance.

6 SANTA CLARA COUNTY [CA]

Remembrance Memorial for California Korean War Veterans Official State Memorial, Gustine California

Concerning the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the Memorial for Korean War Veterans, made official by the recently passed Assembly Bill 2508, some facts may have been overlooked in the article on p. 7 of the March/April 2008 issue. Here is more information.

The members from Chapter 6, Santa Clara County, who sat on the Board of Directors were Frank Broz, Clay Mueller, John Wulfstange, Lt. Col. Bill Mar and me.

The final design was reached by me and the architect, Edwin Bruce. It was accepted by the Board as the design fit the amount of money we had. That made the decision simple.

The Memorial Board was a 501(c)3, and separate from the Chapter. That is what allowed us to raise the necessary funds. Joe and JoAnn Velasquez of the Santa Clara County Chapter were among the major contributors.

The Poem, "Eulogy for a Veteran," was inscribed on the Memorial at my request. I felt the poem spoke to the living through the 2,545 names of men from California, inscribed on the Memorial, who were KIA/MIA from the Korean War, and it was the right thing to do.

Ron Jabaut, 487 Millpond Drive, San Jose, CA (408) 885-9935

11 GREATER DANBURY AREA [CT]

The Chapter presented the Bethel, CT CVS store with a citation to recognize its support for our 18 July 2008 Rose of Sharon Program. CVS has been very supportive of our Korean War veterans.

Store Manager Mary Marron accepted the citation for CVS.

Bernie Rotunda, P. O. Box 2632, Danbury, CT 06813



Bernie Rotunda, CID 11 President, presents citation to Mary Marron

12 CAPTAIN PAUL N. DILL #2 [DE]

On August 24, 2007 our Chapter celebrated the 10th anniversary of its naming in honor of Captain Paul N. Dill. The ceremony was held at the Veterans Cemetery in New Castle County, Delaware.

After the ceremony ended, a meal was served at VFW Post 475, Newark, Delaware, by the ladies auxiliary.



Capt. Dill's widow, Florence, and their son Michael setting the wreath at Captain Paul Dill's phantom marker

Chapter Vice Commander Franklin Davidson, Honor Guard Captain Gene Rose, and Al Lawler presented displays of Korean War memorabilia at the Newark, DE Senior Center at a ceremony honoring veterans.



The ceremonial display at Capt. Dill's marker

Visitors looking at the displays kept the veterans busy talking and answering questions about them.

John R. "Mick" Schroeder, 560 Howell School Rd., Bear DE 19701 and Franklin H. Davidson, 1703 Delpenn Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810



Commander Schroeder leading the guests with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag at CID 12's event



CID 12 honor guard firing a three-round salute, with Gene Rose leading the Honor Guard



The Acme Market in Wilmington DE presented CID 12 with a check for \$250.00 for its Rose of Sharon project (L-R) Frank Howerton, Frank Daney, Vice Commander Ed Pickhaver, store manager Bob Richards, Dave Torres

CAPTAIN PAUL N. DILL

Paul Dill was born in Denton, Maryland in 1916. His family moved to the New Castle, Delaware area, where he attended school, graduating from William Penn High School with the class of 1935, and continuing his education at Beacom College.

He enlisted in the Army in 1941 and served until 1947. During World War II, then 2nd Lt. Dill was assigned to the 77th Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater. While serving in that area, he participated in the liberation of the Philippine Islands. Twice he was wounded in action; he was awarded two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Presidential Unit Citation.

When the war ended, Lt. Dill returned home from active duty and spent the next two years in the business world. He was recalled to active duty October 19, 1948 and resumed his military career. In July of 1950, less than a month after the beginning of the Korean War, he was transferred to Korea and placed in command of Company M, 31st Regiment, 7th Infantry Division.

As a Company Commander, now First Lt. Dill participated in most of the major battles, including the Inchon Invasion, the recapture of Seoul, and the advance to the banks of the Yalu River.

On December 1, 1950, his unit came under heavy attack by the Chinese Army, which had entered the war in support of North Korea. Lt. Dill's unit was forced to retreat from the banks of the Yalu River to the Chosin Reservoir area. He was wounded several times during this action, but remained in command of his company.

The attacking Chinese greatly outnumbered the Americans and began to overwhelm the unit. On December 2, 1950, recently promoted Captain Dill was critically wounded. He received first aid from the medics in his outfit and was placed on a truck for evacuation to the south. Soon after the truck left the company area it was captured by a Chinese patrol.

Captain Dill was reported missing in action by the War Department on December 3, 1950. His body was not recovered.

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Representatives of the local Korean community presented Korean Peace Medals to three CID 19 members, Col (Ret) Ben S. Malcolm, Donald A. Byers, and Perry Sweppy, Jr., at a 58th Anniversary dinner.

The Chapter received another gesture of kindness at its recent luncheon/meeting when Korean Consul Heechul Lee presented a check of appreciation to our President, Thomas Harris.

*James Conway, 1184 Fourteenth Place NE
Atlanta, GA 30309-3505*

Col (Ret) Ben S. Malcolm of CID 219 receives his Korean Peace Medal



CID 19 member Donald A. Byers is presented with his Korean Peace Medal

Perry Sweppy, Jr. of CID 19 receives his Korean Peace Medal



Korean Consul Heechul Lee presents check of appreciation to CID 19 President Thomas Harris

27 SANGAMON COUNTY [IL]

At 10 a.m. on Memorial Day, May 28, members of our Chapter placed a wreath at the Illinois Korean War Memorial at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL. At the same moment, two veterans of WWII placed their wreath at the WWII Memorial, and veterans of the Vietnam War honored their Memorial with a wreath.

Not all of the Chapter members who attended the ceremony appear in the nearby photo. Among those who do not are Gaylen Lael, Keith Larson, and George Pembek.

*Walter Ade, 3348 S. Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62703, (217) 725-4576*



Members of CID 27 at wreath-laying ceremony (Front, L-R) Don Fritcher, Walter Ade, Milton Miner (Back, L-R) Richard Zanetello, Robert Norton, Robert Wolf

30 INDIANA CHAPTER 1 [IN]

Many of our members participated in a Memorial Day ceremony planned by Color Guard Commander Garry Sink.



CID 30 members gather around monument in preparation for Memorial Day ceremony

We have new officers. They include:

- Commander – Ken Roemke
- 1st Vice Commander – Garry Sink
- 2nd Vice Commander – Carl Fowler
- Sec/Treasurer – Cletus Rumschlag

Mary Anna Roemke, P.O. Box 8795
Indianapolis, IN 46898



Officers of CID 30 (Front, L-R) Trustees Jim Leslie, & Allen Clendenen, (3rd Trustee, David Martin, was absent), Carl Fowler, Bernard Wisniewski, Ken Roemke, Garry Sink, Cletus Rumschlag (Back, L-R) Mary Anna Roemke, Publicity Director; Fred Ireland, Sgt. of Arms; Jean Mendenhall, Newsletter Editor; Nancy Sink, Entertainment; Bud Mendenhall, Judge Advocate; Marian Wisniewski, Reporter; Dick Allen, Vet. Affairs; Ron Barnhardt, Memorial Walkway. Also absent from the picture is Lynn Shady, Tell America Chairman

42 LEE COUNTY [MS]

Our recently reactivated Chapter, based in Tupelo, is the only KWVA Chapter in the State of Mississippi. We participated recently in the Dedication Ceremony of our new Veterans Memorial Park, located in Tupelo, Lee County, Mississippi.

To date we have 27 members. We feel that any publicity we receive could result in recruiting new members, and/or formation of additional Chapters in our state.

Robert L. Wilson, President
1581 Gun Club Rd., Tupelo, MS 38801



The Veterans Memorial setting in Tupelo, MS



ABOVE: CID 42 members gather around the Lee County Veterans Memorial (L-R) Emery W. "Buck" Coffey, George D. Bogardus, Jr., Kerrie W. Weathers (Chapter Treasurer), Robert L. Wilson (Chapter President)

LEFT: The Veterans Memorial inscription in Tupelo, MS

54 THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

On 30 April the Chapter presented a cash award of \$100.00 and the Korean War Veterans medallion to Jay Edmonds for his bravery and sense of civic pride, both of which have been instilled in this young man by his participation in the Air Force JROTC at his Williamstown High School, Williamstown, New Jersey.

Korean War veterans Fred Connolly and Bill Millison presented the awards .

Edmonds and two of his brothers ran into a burning apartment building in May 2007 to save their neighbors' lives. According to an account in the local Monroe Township newspaper, the boys



Fred Connolly, Bill Millison, and Jay Edmonds (L-R) at CID 54 award ceremony honoring the young hero

decided to run into the burning building before the fire department arrived.

"We weren't even thinking. We just ran in there," Jamaul [Jay's brother] told a newspaper reporter the day after the fire.... "It just felt like the right thing to do." Apparently, a lot of local people, including the members of CID 54, thought so.

The Township honored all three brothers, Jay, Jamaul, and Justin, for their bravery. Jay not only received the award from the KWVA, but he earned the Air Force Junior ROTC's Gold Valor Award as well. That is described as the equivalent of the Medal of Honor of the Air Force Junior ROTC.

60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand (20th District NY), recognized our Chapter for the diligent work we did lobbying her and her staff to support and get the National Charter KWVA out of Congress and to the President for his signature.

We also told her that Clara Norris, widow of founder Bill Norris, was in her Congressional District, and it was important for her to recognize Clara on behalf of her husband.



Members of CID 60 (L-R) Bill Shaw, former Commander, Clara Norris, Ray Waldron, current Commander, Linc Orlogio, Parade Chairman, Paul O'Keefe, member



CID 60 members and guests (Front) Ray Waldron, Clara Norris, Dolores Grasso, Ralph Grasso, Jane Rydzynski, Paul Darling (Quartermaster) (Back) Paul O'Keefe, Bill Shaw, Linc Orlogio

Clara and her son John were presented with a flag and certificate.

We have new officers in place as of now. In the nearby photo with the officers is a guest, Joseph Jong Park, the Chairman of the Korean War Veterans Assoc. of NY. He was a ROK soldier and also served in the Vietnam War.

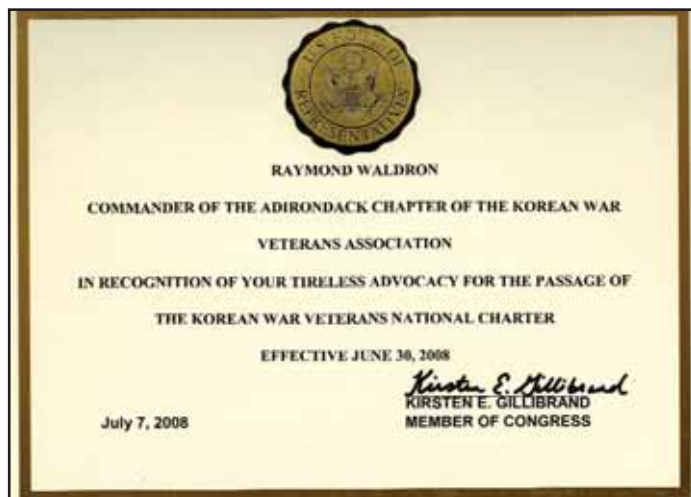
Ray Waldron, Commander; via email, exadray@aol.com



Mike Russo (Kirsten Gillibrand's staff member), Clara Norris, and Ray Waldron gather for CID 60 presentation ceremony



John Norris, son of Bill and Clara, Clara Norris, Kirsten Gillibrand.



Certificate that was presented to the Norris family



CID 60's new officers are installed

64 CENTRAL LONG ISLAND [NY]

Members of our Chapter “flagged” the graves at Pinelawn National Cemetery for Memorial Day, as is their custom.

*Larry Busini, 80 Rhoda Ave,
North Babylon, NY 11703*



Larry Busini, CID 64, at Cpl John Parry's grave (Parry, USMC, was KIA in Korea 11/20/1952; see the story on p. 8 of the Jan/Feb 2008 issue)



CID 64 group at Pinelawn Cemetery (L-R) Bob Snider, his son Matt, Matt's wife, Al Emanuelo, Jaycie, Frank Kershish, Larry Busini, Stan Urbanowski, his daughter Linda



More of CID 64's large group at Pinelawn Cemetery (L-R) Linda and Stan Urbanowski, Frank Kershish, Al Emanuelo, Irwin Saltzman, Larry Busini and his grandchildren Joseph and Michelle

100 NORTHERN VIRGINIA [VA]

Chapter 100 is once again active. The new officers are:

- President - Warren Wiedhahn (USMC)
- Vice President - Ken Moll (USAF) Class of 1950, USMA
- Sec/Treas - Don Byers (USA)



New CID 100 officers (L-R), Kenneth Moll (Vice President), Department of Virginia Commander John Dozier (with cap on), Warren Wiedhahn (President), and Donald Byers (Secretary/Treasurer)

In the reactivation process, we mailed meeting notices to 233 names/addresses. Of those, 19 were returned and sent to our Membership Administration office. Twenty-one of the recipients showed up at the first meeting.

John Dozier, Virginia Department Commander, drove up from the “Tidewater” area with Chaplain Leo Ruffing, John (Sonny) Edwards and Dick Hartrung. It was good to see them. (Dick and Leo are the “Co-chairmen” of the October Norfolk Reunion.)

We look forward to resuming our activities with the KWVA.

Warren Wiedhahn

133 SILENT WARRIORS [IN]



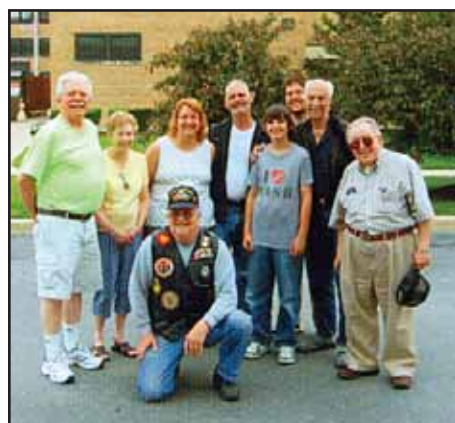
CID 133 President places wreath on Memorial Day at Covington Memorial Gardens

Chapter members were active in the Memorial Day celebration held at the Covington Memorial Gardens on 24 May 2008. President Mel Aldridge placed a wreath at the memorial in honor of Marcos Botis, the recently deceased President of CID 133.

The Chapter has the privilege and duty of putting up the display of 50 flags to honor the service members of each state and their service to our country. We carried out this duty

once again on the 2008 Memorial Day weekend events at the VA hospital in Fort Wayne, IN.

*James R. Clark, 4211 Brooklawn Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46815*



The CID 133 Flag Crew at the Ft. Wayne, IN VA hospital (Front) 1st VP James Clark (Back, L-R) Chapter President Mel Aldridge, his wife Joan, Carl Edwards' daughter Sherii, Phillip Monahan, Carl Edwards' grandsons Harlin and Connor, Carl Edwards, Howard Rice, Jr.

143 GREATER RICHMOND [VA]

Graham Nelms, Ned Jones, and other members of Chapter 143 participated in the first ever Memorial Day parade which took place in Henrico County, Virginia on 26 May 2008. They had previously participated in a similar parade which took place in the Bon Air section of the Richmond area.



Members of CID 143, including Graham Nelms and Ned Jones, at Henrico County Memorial Day Parade



New officers of CID 143 (L-R) Chaplain James A. Adkins, Commander Wallace E. Wampler, Secretary/Treasurer Jay H. Lowden, Jr., Second Vice Chairman John F. Thomas, First Vice Chairman James F. Jones, Jr.

The Chapter meets regularly at the Richmond Korean Presbyterian Church, which is located on Broad Rock Boulevard in South Richmond.

We have newly elected officers:

- Commander – Wallace E. Wampler
- First Vice Chairman – James F. Jones, Jr.
- Second Vice Chairman – John F. Thomas
- Secretary/Treasurer – Jay H. Lowden, Jr.
- Chaplain – James A. Adkins

*Jay H. Lowden, Jr., 3950 Monza Dr.
Richmond, VA 23234-2224*

168 QUAD CITIES [IL]

We participated in a variety of activities. Our Color Guard appeared at two churches and marched in the Geneseo Music Festival and East Moline 4th of July Parades. We introduced our new Chapter banner at the latter parade.

We also presented a \$500.00 check for homeless veterans.

*Arthur Holevoet, 16801 County Hwy 5
Atkinson, IL 61235*



CID 168's Color Guard, which appeared at Gladstone & Biggsville United Methodist Churches, (Back, L-R) Art Holevoet, Ed Davis, Keith Kramer, Ron Sears, Bob Berry, LaVern Smith (Front, L-R) Sheila and Bob Fitts (Pastors), Dale Phillips



Sharp-looking members of CID 168's Color Guard at Geneseo Music Festival Parade (L-R) Ron Sears, Dan Foulke, Dale Phillips, Art Holevoet, Keith Kramer



President Ron Sears of CID 168 hands check for \$500.00 to Rick Schomer, "Homeless Veterans Benefits Street Dance," as Chapter 1st VP Dan Foulke (R) and 2nd VP Bob Berry (L) look on



Cheerleaders (not members of KWVA yet) lead CID 168's Color Guard in East Moline [IL] 4th of July Parade (L-R) Ron Sears, Dan Foulke, Dale Phillips, Art Holevoet, Keith Kramer

170 TAEJON [NJ]

Commander Thomas Falato led 20 Chapter members and 2 12-year-old Chapter "Cheerleaders" in the 114th annual 4th of July celebration in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey.

A large crowd covered the sidewalks throughout the three-mile parade route. The cheerleaders performed cheers and cart-



Taejon Chapter (170) Commander Thomas Falato (L) and Color Guard member Alexander Atheras (R) at 4th of July Parade



CID 170 contingent gathers behind banner at 4th of July Parade: Sr. Vice Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole and New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis are on the left



Marchers from CID 170 pass in review at 4th of July Parade (Front, L-R) George Bruzgis, Dr. Richard Onorevole, followed by Chapter members, cheerleaders, and 2 ½-ton truck with Commander Falato wheels throughout the march.

Up front of the Chapter's contingent were KWVA-New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis and Sr. Vice Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole. As in the past, Henry Ferrarini led the Color Guard, singing cadence. Marchers responded in kind.

Captain James Lomauro marched with sword in hand as the Chapter marched past the reviewing platform.

Commander Falato rode on an Army deuce-and-a-half truck with Jr. Vice Commander Raymond Cohen and four other veterans.



Refreshments were provided at the end of the parade, including hot dogs, beer, and soda.

CID 170's "Cheerleaders," Colette Rake and Samantha Hutchinson



"Mount up"—CID 170 members aboard deuce-and-a-half for 4th of July



Dominick DiPaolo, Alexander Atheras, and Kenneth Green (L-R) of CID 170 share a moment at 4th of July Parade

Oh, yes: we won a trophy for "Best Uniformed Marching-Walker Group: Runner Up."

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

186 ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

KWVA members from several local chapters, including CID 186, attended an April 17, 2008 burial ceremony of a homeless City of St. Louis, MO, Korean War Air Force veteran, Sgt Dale M. Crowden (1933-2008). The funeral was held at the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis County.



KWVA members from several MO Chapters honor Sgt Crowden



Attendees at Sgt Crowden's funeral include Mayor of St. Louis (holding flag), 3 Gold Star mothers, and Honor Guard



Guests and American flags abound at Sgt Crowden's funeral



CID 186 members (L-R) Bob Osborn, Tony Benskin, Bob Greely at Chapter fundraiser



Members of CID 186's Tell America group (Front, L-R) Chris Christifulli, Art Miner, Dick Siap (Back, L-R) Tim O'Keefe, Bob Snowden, Frank Williams, Darold Woodcock

The members wanted to make sure that this homeless person would not be buried without his brothers honoring him for the last time. All the major local TV stations aired this activity.

Hoffmeister Funeral Home handled the burial. Hoffmeister does not charge any burial expenses for homeless veterans, which is a nice touch.

Our "Tell America" group remained active, as did other members who participated in a local fundraising function.

Salvatore ("Chris") Christifulli
923 Annabrook Park Drive, O'Fallon, MO 63366

191 TIDEWATER [VA]

Paul King, Chapter 191 Commander, met Katie and Peter Taylor and their daughter Hailey at our fund-raising event at the Commissary on Langley AFB, VA. Peter is currently serving as a US Navy photographer.



From left, Paul King, Katie and Peter Taylor, with daughter Hailey, and Jake Land at CID 191's fund-raising event

Chapter members participated at the annual Country Fair at the Veterans Administration Hospital grounds at Hampton, Virginia. Their participation enabled veterans there to visit a great number of Volunteers' booths to win prizes.

One booth was staffed by Chapter 191 members. Players were rewarded when they knocked their "Stuffed Kitty Cats" down with the bean bags. Everyone won and had a good time as they went to and from each booth.

Dick Hartung, via email
richardjhartung@juno.com

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:
Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net



CID 191's Stuffed Kitty Cats booth at the VA Hospital in Hampton, VA



259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

The City of Indianapolis, Indiana gave a 'belated' Welcome Home to Vietnam Veterans at the Indiana War Memorial with capacity crowds attending. Former POW Melvin Butler and Ernie Condra and other members of Central Indiana Chapter 259 were at this memorable event.

World War II, Korean War, and veterans of other conflicts were also on hand to show appreciation for those who suffered through the trying times of the Vietnam War.

CID 259 Vice Commander Jack Beaty was also featured in a



Former POW Melvin Butler and Ernie Condra of CID 259 at Welcome Home ceremony for Vietnam veterans



Members of CID 259 stand with family members and National Guard officers to pay respects to Sgt. Gene Clark (L-R) L.Terry McDaniel, Mel Baker, Keith Roberts, Tom Shepherd and Jack Beaty (by casket)

video presentation at the gathering to remember his U.S. Air Force duties during that time.

Many tears could be seen as memories were brought back to mind during the program in the Pershing Auditorium of the historic Memorial Building, while motorcycles adorned with flags waving lined the streets outside.

Members of Central Indiana Chapter 259 were present at Indianapolis Airport to pay tribute to the memory of U.S. Army Sgt. Gene F. Clark as his remains were returned from the Korean battlefield where he gave his life in November 1950. He had been serving with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 8th Calvary Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.

Sgt. Clark's funeral was conducted with great ceremony near his home in Muncie, Indiana, with proper coverage by local TV and print media.

Chapter Commander Tine Martin was visiting Korea and delivering gifts from the Indiana Governor to the President of South Korea when this event occurred. Vice Commander Beaty stood in for him.

*John M. Quinn, via email
saggi32@aol.com*

289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

In keeping with our Chapter's mission, which is to be "living witnesses for the Korean War," we hold bingo and watermelon and pumpkin pie parties at the Mountain Home VA Hospital in our area.



CID 289 members in the fifth Kingsport (TN) 4th of July Parade 2008 (Front of banner, seated) Ralph Yelton, Arles Pease (Behind banner, L-R) Fred Himelwright, Dan Shelton, Jim Simerly, Bob Shelton, Jeff White, Mack Dunford, Joe Cody (not shown Perry Hutchins)



Third Annual Watermelon Party sponsored by CID 289 at the Mountain Home VA Nursing Unit, Johnson City, TN, June 26, 2008 (L-R) Arles Pease, Jim Simerly, James Holton, Jeff White, Bob Shelton (not shown Fred Himelwright) and family helpers

We also march in local parades and hold public fund raisers, handing out Roses of Sharon to those that donate.

Carol Shelton, via email

DEPARTMENTS

NEW YORK

This year's convention took place at Quality Inn West Point, in Newburgh, NY on May 1st and 2nd. Attendance was a little less than we had hoped for, but much was accomplished and old acquaintances were renewed.

Irving Breitbart took T. James Lewis' place as President; Trustee Richard Faron took over the 1st Vice President position; Ed Grala remained as 2nd Vice President; and Mike Puntorioreo took the open Trustee position. Tom Riley, Salvatore Scarlota, and Seymour Lehman all stayed on as the remaining Trustees.

National 2nd Vice President James Ferris attended our meeting and answered many question from the floor. Unfortunately, he had to leave before the dinner to take care of National business at another location.

With the influence that Irving Breitbart has at West Point, we were able to place a wreath at the statue of Gen. MacArthur, accompanied by a Color and Honor guard of Cadets.

Our main speaker was Col. Ahn, a Korean medical doctor who is spending some time at West Point in an exchange program.

*Pictures and Report by
Joe Vogel, Sec. Dept of NY, KWVA*



New Department of New York President Irving Breitbart does the honors with the cake

Department of New York Past President Jim Lewis presents Col Ahn a gift basket



Col Ahn cuts the cake, which was donated by Tony Fallico of Syracuse, at the Department of New York Convention

Joe Calabria and John Darbenzio (Front) Joe Horton, Sal Scarlota (Rear) enjoy events at Department of New York Convention



Irving Breitbart, T. James Lewis, James Ferris, Ed Grala, Dick Compo and John Reidy at Department of New York Convention

Department of New York Convention attendees (Front) Irving Breitbart, Salvatore Scarlota, Dick Compo and John Reidy (Back) Ed Grala, Joe Horton, Dr. Lee, Jim Lewis, Joe Calabria, John Darbenzio



Ambassador visits Overland Park, KS

Mr. T.S. Lee, South Korea's ambassador to the United States, stopped in Overland Park, Kansas on the day after Memorial Day to meet with some sixty veterans from the Kansas and Missouri KWVA chapters.

The ambassador laid a wreath at the Memorial Wall to honor the fallen and those still listed as MIA. He spoke generously of his nation's debt to the U.S., and especially to the soldiers who died there.



Ambassador Lee places wreath in Overland Park, KS

Members of the Korean-American Ladies group attended the ceremony in continuing and staunch support for the local Chapters, as did representatives of the City Council, who are also generous supporters.

The Memorial, located at 119th Street and Lowell in Overland Park, is complete, except for an eight-foot bronze infantryman (a work in progress) who, it is hoped, will be in place for a dedication ceremony on Veteran's Day this coming November.

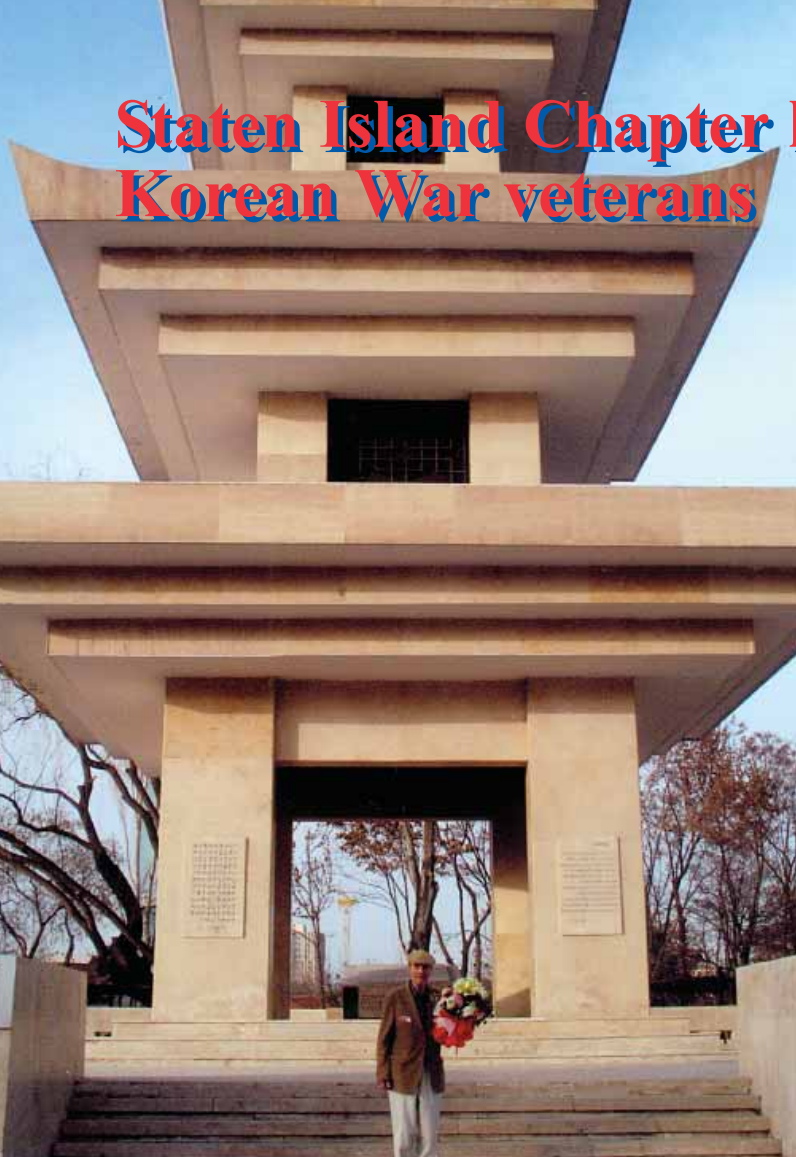
*Donald G. Dyer, via email
dddyer15@everestkc.net*

Have a Mini-Reunion?

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

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Staten Island Chapter honors Turkish Korean War veterans



The monument in Ankara donated by South Korea to Turkey

During March 2008, former S/Sgt Patrick R. (“King”) Sbarra, a member of CID 66, Cpl F. Allan Kivlehan, of New York City, placed a floral wreath on the Turkish Korean War Monument in Ankara to honor the many Turkish soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice in saving the Republic of South Korea. Former Staff Sergeant Sbarra was with “G” Co., 180th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. “Thunderbird” Div., which was in a position on the left flank of the Turkish Brigade. His platoon was supported by the Turkish soldiers in several battles. As a result, he became aware of their combat skills, courage and bravery.

The Turkish soldiers were highly respected and considered to be among the best combat fighting troops among the allied troops in Korea—and they were noted for the large

bonfires they kept going on the tops of their hills at night. They are remembered and honored at many of the Korean War national ceremonies in the United States.

Percentage-wise, the Turkish forces had one of the highest casualty rates—if not the highest—among the countries supplying troops in Korea. They suffered 717 KIA, 167 MIA, 319 POW, and 2,246 wounded. Turkey had only 5,455 combat troops in Korea at peak strength.

There always has been a special relationship between the Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter and the Turkish Korean War Veterans as one of our members, John Panarella, was actually attached to the Turkish Brigade and fought alongside them in many battles.

The Chapter also has a Turkish Honorary Member, whose relative was in the Turkish Brigade and arranges to have Turkish Ambassadors and other dignitaries at our Memorial Services, especially at the Chapter’s sponsored annual Memorial Service at the Korean War Monument located at the “The Battery” at the southern tip of Manhattan overlooking the New York Harbor.

The Turkish flag is always present. At times, several Turkish Korean War veterans have been there as well.

It was because of their exceptional military service during the Korean War that the government of the Republic of South Korea donated the Korean War Memorial to the Turkish people to honor the soldiers who died, were wounded, and who fought to protect the country of South Korea.

Sbarra, who had planned for many years to visit Turkey, finally



Patrick Sbarra places wreath at Turkish Memorial in Ankara

visited the country with the Gate 1 Tour Group. He informed the Group Leader, Harkan Basem of Istanbul, that one of the main reasons for his coming to Turkey was to place a flower wreath on the Turkish Korean War Memorial in honor of the Turkish soldiers with whom he fought alongside in Korea.

Harkan arranged for his assistant driver, Mr. Haleim, to take Sbarra to a florist and then to the Turkish Korean Memorial to place the wreath on it. A long time dream had come true.

Mr. Sbarra had mentioned to the authorities in Turkey that he would like to see a Civic Group or Tourist Organization raise funds to have a nearby florist place a floral wreath on the Turkish Korean War Veterans Memorial on the first week of each month in memory of all the Turkish soldiers who fought in the Korean War.

"It will give life to the Memorial," he said.

News release prepared by Former Staff Sergeant Patrick Sbarra and Ibrahim Kurtulos, Turkish Liaison Representative to the Korean War Veterans Association. Cpl. Allan Kivlehan Chapter. Kivlehan was the first soldier from New York City killed in Korea.

Patrick R. Sbarra, 220 Brainard Avenue, Cape May Point, NJ 08212, (609) 884.6652, Fax # 608. 884.7216 (Call home number first to turn on fax machine), j.sbarra@comast.net



SSgt Sbarra, in uniform, stands next to the Turkish Memorial Wreath, at the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Korean War

LOUSE PATROL

By J. Birney Dibble, M.D.

January of 1951. With the Marines of the Third Battalion of the Fifth Marines. In Korea, somewhere north of the 38th parallel. In the mountains that ranged along the eastern coast of the peninsula.

Battalion Surgeon Robert Kimbal didn't look at all happy. Surrounding him in a tight semicircle were the regimental surgeon, the C.O. of the Third Battalion, the Marine Division's epidemiologist, and two regular service company officers. From the dour look on everyone's faces, I could only conclude that Kimbal had somehow committed some heinous crime.

He had. And this is what had happened:

At about 1400 the previous day, Kimbal had gotten a call from a front-line company corpsman. Two Marines coming from the shower point down by the Soyang-gang River had told the corpsman that they had discovered body lice in the clean clothes they had exchanged for the filthy rags they had worn in combat for the past three months.

Kimbal concluded that the newly issued clothing had become infested. He closed the showers. This effectively closed the regimental clothing issue. This closed the entire division clothing issue.

Now the question was: who saw the lice? The service officers who had closed the showers? No. The medical officer (Kimbal) who had ordered the shower closed? No. Only the two men themselves.

So, find the men and check them. They were gone—headed for Japan for rotation home. That's why they were taking a shower in sub-zero weather in the first place.

We were ordered to examine the entire company from which the two men had left. We crawled along the front-line trenches, went into every bunker and every fighting hole. Examined everyone. Stripped them down in this same sub-zero weather. Turned their underwear and outerwear inside out.

Found no lice.

We reported to the colonel. He was livid.

"You, Dr. Kimbal, usurped my authority with that stupid order."

"Yes, sir!"

"Not only that, but you also usurped the authority of the commander of the First Marine Division."

Kimbal answered with the kind of a blank face that Jack Benny used when he was told by a gunman, "Your money or your life!"

"Yes, sir," Kimbal answered, "That's almost as bad."

The colonel stared at Kimbal for several long seconds, then roared with laughter and said, "Get out of here, doctor!"



SSgt Sbarra delivers a well-deserved salute to the Turkish forces

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

"Thunderbirds" who fly no more

A group of veterans who served together in the 45th Inf. Div., known as 'The Thunderbirds,' compiled their stories about an outpost named Queen on Christmas Hill in a book of the same name published in 2003. Now, many of those men, who were so young then, get together at mini-reunions to reminisce and remember their departed brothers.

Sam Gann listed several of the contributors and the men whose stories they included in their book who have passed on in recent years. They include Abe "Abie" Walter (NY-2001); Edward "Roadie" Rode (NY-2004); John McLain (TN-2005); Richard "Andy" Anderson (MO-2005); Andrew Terry (GA-2005); Bill Oelkers (NY-2006); Dr. Robert T. "Dr. Bob" Schorr (CA-2007).

In addition, two contributors' and members' wives have passed on: Mary Margaret Brown, wife of Harold (MO-2007), and Joan Farmer, wife of Jackie (TX-2004).

As Gann and his "brothers" have learned over the years, reunions are about more than just gathering with the living; they are also about remembering those who have departed. They live on in spirit—and they are part of the spirit of any reunion.

*Samuel Gann, 2201 E 65th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46220*

Christmas in July contributors at a happy time (L-R) Mary Margaret Brown, Harold Brown, Jackie Farmer, Joan Farmer



Christmas in July contributors gather at the Biltmore (L-R) Harold Brown, John McLain, Richard Anderson, Jackie Farmer, Edward ("Roadie") Rode, Wayne Pelkey, Bill Oelkers, Sam Gann, Ray Kalil



Dr. Robert T. Schorr,
MD, Korea, 1953



VF-114



VF114 pilots in San Antonio (L-R) E.E. "Dusty" Irish, Sam G. Kingery, James G. "Dagwood" Bumstead, Roger A. "Whitey" Hamre, Jean S. "Sam" Clauzel, William L. Redmon

Six surviving men who were pilots in VF-114 flying F4U-4B Corsairs early in the Korean War, from July 1950 to April of 1951, held a reunion in San Antonio in March 2008. Each of the six men participated in all the early actions from the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon invasion, Wonsan Harbor, Yalu River Bridge, and especially in providing close air support for the evacuation of the Chosen Reservoir.

Each of them holds the Distinguished Flying Cross and several Air Medals for those actions.

Bumstead and Irish were LTJGs. Clauzel, Redmon and Hamre were Ensigns and Kingery was flying combat as a Midshipman. He was commissioned Ensign while on that cruise.

*Roger A. Hamre, Capt. USNR (Ret), 120 Cumberland Green Drive
Cary, NC 27513, (919) 460-1557, rdhamre@bellsouth.net*

2nd Ranger Infantry Company

Members of the 2nd Ranger Infantry Company got together in Columbus, GA in October 2007 with RICA (Ranger Infantry Companies Airborne) for a reunion.

The 2nd Ranger Company was attached to the 7th Inf. Div. and 187th ABN RCT during 1950-51.

The company was awarded 4 Battle Stars and 1 Arrowhead in addition to a Company Infantry Streamer Arrowhead for a combat parachute jump on Munsan-ni, Korea, 23 March 1951.

*Herculano Dias
8124 Woodward Street
Savage, MD 20763
(301) 604-6148*

2nd Ranger Infantry Company members in Columbus, GA



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Book Review

Blood Runs Red White and Blue

William Abbott

World Liberty Foundation, 486 Dixie Ave., Titusville, FL 32796, (321) 269-2184, www.worldlibertyfoundation.net/publications.asp, 2008, 325 Pages, \$29.95

By Dr. Kris Barnett



William Abbott is described as a “soldier’s soldier.” Readers of his book *Blood Runs Red White and Blue* will learn exactly how Abbott defines “soldier’s soldier” and what circumstances led him to become renowned for his actions in his Army communications platoon. Furthermore, the characteristics that made Abbott into a first-class soldier apparently sustained him through his experiences as a POW.

The book traces Abbott’s tenure in Korea, beginning in 1948, and describes the Army’s assertion that Abbott was killed in action on December 1, 1950. In fact, the certificate of death is included in the book as evidence of Abbott’s untimely and tragic demise. However, while his family was led to believe he had been killed, Abbott was actually enduring life as a POW for nearly three years. Eventually, he returned stateside where he dedicated time and effort to physically healing from wounds sustained during various grueling and gory ordeals, as well as proving to the Army that he was actually alive. Both proved to be daunting tasks.

What is abundantly clear in Abbott’s narrative is his perspective on his role in the military and the beliefs that led him to serve his country. For Abbott, his love of and unwavering dedication to his country fueled his actions and sustained him even as his fellow soldiers in the POW camps collapsed and succumbed to constant brainwashing and swore allegiance to the Communist regimes.

This disloyalty from US soldiers did not sit well with Abbott, who writes:

“It is one thing to do the job you are trained to do as a combat soldier—and I make no apologies for my actions there—but it’s another thing to maintain allegiance as a POW” (p. 15)....

“The U.S. had been able to teach its soldiers how to shoot, how to march around a parade field, and be the best combat soldiers in the world. But no time had been spent on making them into patriots, which is required to function in captivity.” (p.16)

Indeed, Abbott’s tenacity and strong sense of patriotism allowed him to remain faithful to “Old Glory” and ultimately earn, according to him, the respect of the Chinese officers who had relentlessly tried to beat him down. However, this respect for being “a strong man with strong convictions” was earned only after numerous struggles in the POW camps, including escape attempts and one episode in which Abbott was punished for thwarting the prison guards’ attempts to convert US soldiers to communist beliefs.

Blood Runs Red White and Blue provides an interesting look at

one man’s recollections of his experiences from Japan, to the Chosin Reservoir, to POW marches and camps, and finally, back to the U.S. If the book leaves you wanting to know more about the author, included with each text is a CD supplement titled: “Old Glory: God Flies Her Too. A Portrait of Bill Abbott.”

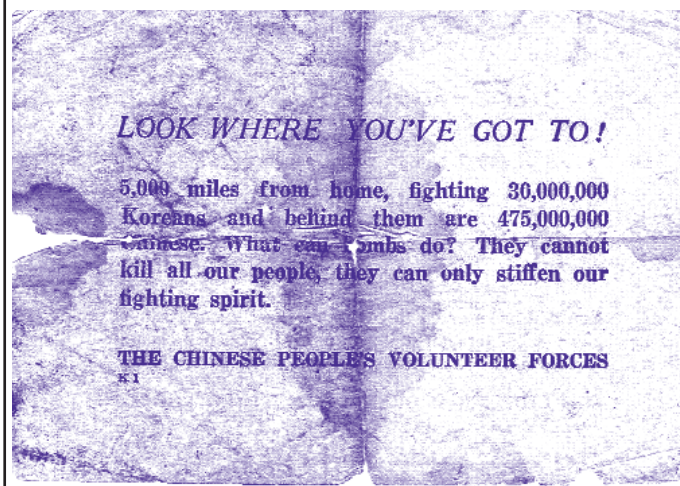
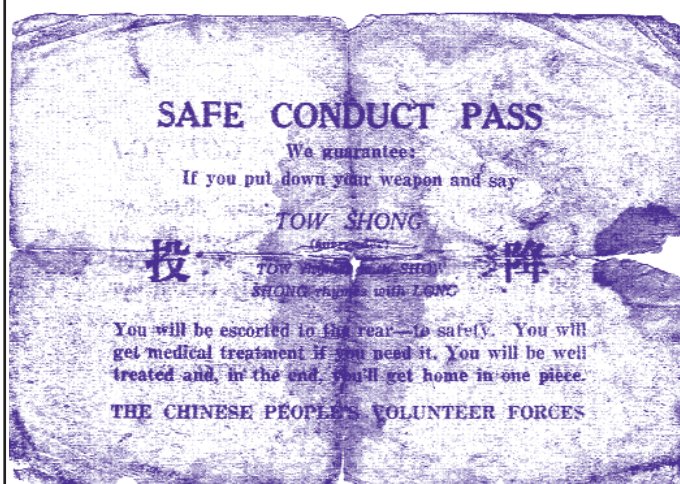
Weaving the narratives together, like the tight and perfect stitching on the American flag, is Abbott’s untainted love for his country, which is part of what makes a “soldier’s soldier.”

Safe Conduct Pass: Better Off Forgotten?

I was looking for an old picture one of my granddaughters wanted to see and came across something I had almost forgotten I had. It’s a Chinese Peoples Volunteer Forces “Safe Conduct Pass.”

I found it on the ground in Korea, probably March/April, 1951, when I was on an FO team with B/2/1, 1st Marine Division. It’s kind of beat up from carrying it in my wallet for a long time, but is readable.

Vince McCormick, Vmccormick@stny.rr.com



Whence comes the term ‘Maggie’s Drawers?’

This is an example of some of the emails that I receive and how they develop into interesting stories. I got this one from an organization regarding the M-1 Rifle.

“Say What”? They have 15,000 members. The KWVA has 17,000. What is wrong with this scenario? Anyway, here is the email.

I am a member of the board of the Garand Collectors Association. We are a non-profit organization with about 15,000 members. Our mission is the study and preservation of the history of the M-1 rifle.

We are interested in locating any service members who might have used the M-1 Garand in the Korean War and have a story to tell about it. The purpose would be to interview them on their experiences for an article in our Journal, which is published four times annually.

Most of our veterans’ stories have focused on WWII vets, but there are obviously a lot of vets from the Korean War who have information too. Contact the Association at: P.O. Box 7498, N. Kansas City, MO 64116, Info@thegca.org, 1-816-471-2005 (9-5 Mon-Fri), FAX: 1-816-421-1991, www.thegca.org

Steve Rutledge, Memphis, TN,
.....

I responded to Mr. Rutledge:

I am amazed that you have 15,000 members whose mission is to study and preserve the history of the M1 rifle, considering that we only have 17,000 active members in the Korean War Veterans Association. Makes one wonder what we are doing wrong.

I carried the M-1 in Korea. It was a fine weapon. I did not use it much because I was not an infantryman. I fired it a few times when we thought we were being infiltrated, but most of the time it was nothing. I could take it apart and reassemble it blindfolded,

but so could most everyone else.

Frank Cohee
.....

I forwarded Mr. Rutledge’s request to our editor, Art Sharp. He told me that he, too, used an M-1. “They were fickle weapons,” he observed. “The rounds I fired never went where I wanted them to. Maybe it was the bullets, not the weapon. It couldn’t have been me.”

Well, I suggested to him that it was not the bullets and certainly not the weapon. “When I fired it during target practice,” I noted, “I always—well, at least almost always—hit the bull’s eye, and I always got the expert marksmanship award. You must have got a lot of “Maggie’s Drawers.” God, those were the days.

That prompted a “confession” from Art:

“When I arrived at Parris Island in 1958 I did not know which end of a gun the bullet came out. So, the first thing the DIs impressed upon me was that I was not firing a gun; I was firing a rifle. They did that by asking me politely to recite the old mantra, ‘This is my rifle, this is my gun...’ a couple thousand times while circling the platoon and holding my gun...er, rifle, over my head as we were on a forced march.

“I was so naive I was going to hold the hole in front of the muzzle to my eye to see if the bullet did come out that end when I pulled the trigger. Fortunately, I never did that.

“As you no doubt know, the Marine Corps takes marksmanship seriously.

Something about every Marine is an infantryman...So, they set aside two weeks of boot camp for rifle qualification. I got through the ‘snapping in’ part okay, and even managed to launch a few rounds in the general direction of the target—not necessarily the one at which I was supposed to be firing—during firing week. I was a bit nervous on qualification day. If I did not shoot the required minimum of 190 out of 250 that day, I would be set back two weeks in the training cycle.

“I was doing okay on qualification day. I had a score of 188 as I prepared to fire my 50th and final round. I needed a two. As I stood and zeroed in—I hoped—on the target—my target, I was thinking all kinds of bad things. As I recall, we were firing in a standing position from 200 yards. I had a range instructor and a DI standing right beside me uttering words of encouragement. They knew as well as I did what I needed to do.

“I squeezed off the round in the general direction of western South Carolina and waited breathlessly for the result. ‘Oh, no,’ I thought as the dreaded red top of the ‘Maggie’s Drawers’ flag appeared tantalizingly above the top of the butts. ‘Two more weeks at Parris Island.’

“Then, the capricious Marine behind the targets took down the red flag and slowly—ever so slowly—raised what I really got: a deuce. I qualified with the minimum required—but I qualified.

“I never saw Maggie’s Drawers again after that experience at Parris Island—and I hope I never do again. No offense to Maggie, whoever she is!”

Well, Art’s tale sounded to me like the start of a story for *The Graybeards*. I had a few questions and comments for Art, though:

Have you ever worked in the pits where it was your job to put up the right flag for what the shooter hit? You had to patch all the holes before putting the target back up, manually of course, and those targets were not light.

How many holes do you think never got patched? If there was any doubt, I would give the shooter a flag that counted, rather than a “Maggie’s Drawers.” At the same time, if I was able to find out the shooter’s name, and he was not one of the good guys, so to speak, I would give him a “Maggie’s Drawers” no matter what he really got.

Then there were the shooters that would shoot as close as they could to the ground to try and hit you if you had put up a “Maggie’s Drawers.” I wonder what it is like nowadays. It’s probably all computerized. All kidding aside, the subject may be worth considering for publication to see what kind of experiences our members have had with “Maggie’s Drawers.”

Okay, that is the story of our experiences with “Maggie’s Drawers.” (We completely forgot about the study of the M-1 rifle.) If you want to submit a story to the editor about either your experience with the M-1, rifle qualification, working the butts, or “Maggie’s Drawers,” please do so.

By the way, does anybody know where the term “Maggie’s Drawers” originated?

Frank Cohee
National Secretary

Reunion Calendar 2008 – 2009

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.

SEPTEMBER

5th Air Force Track Team, Tokyo (1952)/"C" Co., 809th Engr. Avn. Bn., SCARWAF, Sept. POC: Bob Lucas, P. O. Box 27, Arcadia, MI 49613, (231) 889-49613.

88th Inf. Div. Assn. ("Blue Devils"), 2-5 Sept., Williamsburg, VA. POC: Bill Konze, 7318 Riverhill Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-1031, (301) 839-4427, www.88infdiv.org

Korean War Recon Marines, 3-6 Sept., Arlington, VA. POC: G. Richard Reed, (202) 237-2599, dickreed1@rcn.com

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

Tenth Corps, attached units, and others wishing to attend, 4-7 Sept, Rogue Regency Inn, Medford, OR. POC: John G. J. Pimental, P. O. Box 533, Wilderville, OR 97453, (541) 476-7898

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

300th AFA BN. 4-7 Sept., Cody, WY. POC: Don Crawford, 13813 IL Hwy 9, Good Hope, IL, 61438, (309) 456-3992

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, peryperry101@aol.com

40th Inf. Div., 160th Regt., Co. A (Korea), 8-10 Sept., Reno NV. El Dorado Hotel/Casino. POC: Roger Lueckenhoff, 208 Steeplechase Rd., Rolla, MO 65401-3784, (573) 364-4145, lueck@fidnet.com

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

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 Essex CV, CVA, CVS-9, LHD-2, 8-13 Sept., Seattle-Renton, WA, Holiday Inn. POC: Scharla Estep, 25109 Angela Ct., Damascus, MD 20872, (301) 435-3746, sr72v@nih.gov

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

E-2-7 1stMarDiv (Korea 1950-53); 9-13 Sept., Oceanside, CA, Guest House Inn, (760-722-1904). POC: Troy Watson, (469) - 831-7744, e37gunner@gmail.com or Chuck Tidwell, (843) 650-7082, Chubar84@aol.com

E-2-5 (Korean War, 1950-53), 10-13 Sept., Oklahoma City, OK. POC: Jack Nolan, (903) 595-0556, jackusmc46@sbcglobal.net

C-1-7, 1st Marine Division (Korea), 11-14 Sept., Colorado Springs, CO. POC: John Kane, 6108 S. Lakeview Street, Littleton, CO 80120, (303) 795-9357, marjoh58@comcast.net, or Bill Farrell, 19 Centre Village Drive, Madison, CT 06443, (203) 318-1889, willydoro@sbcglobal.net

61st Field Artillery Bn. All 61st Vets are welcome. 12-13 Sept., Colorado Springs, CO, Candlewood Suites, (719) 585-0011. POC: R. A. Weakley, (719) 547-0686, raaweaa@sisna.com

Heavy Mortar Co., 224th Inf Reg, 40th Inf. Div., 14-18 Sept., Las Vegas, NV, Gold Coast Hotel & Casino. POC Bob Humble, 305 S. Cedar Dr., Covina, CA (626) 966-6897, RIH1930@Verizon.net

72nd Engineer Combat Co., 14-19 Sept., Pigeon Forge, TN, Holiday Inn Express (\$53.99 per night), (888) 774-4366. POC: Robert C. Mount, 6518 Fish Hatchery Road, Thurmont, MD 21788, (301) 898-7952 (Ph), (301) 898-5549 (fax), rmount252@comcast.net

A-1-1, 1st Marine Division, (Korean War, 1950-53), 14-17 Sept., Cedar Falls, IA, Holiday Inn University Plaza. POC: John or Garnet Mehlert, (319) 476-3551

160th Infantry, 16-18 Sept., San Francisco, CA, Marine Memorial Club. POC: David A. Mays, 114 Kathy St., Florence, AL. 35633, docmays@comcast.net

32nd Inf. Regt. Assn. "The Queen's Own," 17-20 Sept., Atlantic City, NJ. POC: Helen Dyckson, (727) 697-2135, heland@verizon.net

U.S.S. Valley Forge (CV45-LPH8-CG50), 17-21 Sept., Renton, WA. POC: George Wakefield, 952 Division, Aberdeen, WA 98520, (360) 532-3047

24th Infantry Div. Association, 17-21 Sept., Springfield, MO, Hawthorn Park Hotel (Doubletree at time of reunion), 2431 North Glenstone Ave., Springfield, MO 65803-4735. POC: Gene E Spicer, P.O. Box 207, Dupont, IN 47231, (812) 273-6996 (Day), (812) 873-6548 (Evening), gspicer@seidata.com

Anti/Tank Co. 5th Marines (Korea), 18-20 Sept., Memphis, TN, Holiday Inn Select, (888) 444-7789. POC: CJ & George Barrette 715-852-3835, gbarrette@new.rr.com or Chuck Batherson, (734) 721-0764, chuckandbarb51@sbcglobal.net

Society of the 3rd 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

712th TROB, 21-25 Sept., Branson, MO. POC: Bob Shannon, (910) 949-3920, rgs1@embarqmail.com

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

25th Div. Signal Corps "Photo Section," (1951-1954). 24-28 Sept. (Tropic Lightning people welcome). POC: Rollee Berens, 18400 Brookfield Lake Drive, Unit 42, Brookfield, WI 53045, (262) 797-8897.

45th Inf. Div ("Thunderbirds"), 25-27 Sept. POC: Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111, (210) 681-9134.

Panama Marines (If you served in Panama at any time you are welcome),

25-27 Sept., San Diego, CA, Town and Country Resort and Convention Center, (800) 772-8527. POC: Jim Anderson, (800) 454-6270

75th Air Depot Wing, USAF (Korea, Japan, Europe, Kelly AFB, 1952-55) 25-28 Sept., Charleston, SC. POC: Walter A. Walko, 13616 Paradise Villas Grove, Colorado Springs, CO 80921, (719) 488-1106, wawlaw2@juno.com

11th Engineer Battalion Association (all years), 25-29 Sept., Hummelstown, PA, Comfort Inn Hershey. POC: Fred Boelsche, (201) 641-5828, fredb11theng@hotmail.com

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

USS Charleston (DD-658), 28 Sept.-1 Oct., Charleston, SC. POC: Guy Polley, 538 Parker Road, West Melbourne, FL 32904, ppgg4@yahoo.com

USS Kearsarge (CVA-33), All Crews, 28 Sept.-2 Oct., Bremerton WA. POC: Ed McKee, 2005 S. 2nd Ave., Cheyenne WY 82007, (307) 632-0743, LoMck3@aol.com

USS Wasp (CV/CVA/ CVS-18), 28 Sept-3 Oct., Branson, MO. POC: PH1 Richard G. VanOver, USNR (Ret), 6584 Bunting Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127-3635, (716) 649-9053. (Any members of Ship's Company, Air Groups and Marines who served aboard Wasp between 1943 and 1972 are invited to attend or join the Wasp Association)

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

6147th Tac Con Grp (Mosquito Assn.) and all supporting units, 30 Sept.-5 Oct., San Antonio, TX, El Tropicano RiverWalk Hotel. POC: Dick Souza, 79 Bradtstreet Ave., Lowell, MA 01851, (978) 453-3887, Skeeterloc@aol.com or Jack/Dee Fisher, (610) 926-3588, deeandjack@comcast.net

USS Renville (APA 227), 24-28 Sept., Deerfield, IL. POC: Lynda Rumble, 187 Lakeshore Dr., Mooresville, NC 28117, (704) 906-622, lyn-dahd01@aol.com, www.ussrenvilleapa227.com

OCTOBER

13th Engineer Combat Bn., 2-4 Oct., Colorado Springs, CO. POC: William F. Gavito, (303) 697-9530, PattyGavito@aol.com

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, don-adair@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

4th Fighter Interceptor Wing (Korea), 8-11 Oct., Tucson, AZ. POC: Andrew Whipple, 610 Andrews Blvd., Lady Lake, FL 32519, (352) 259-7792, andrewlwhipple@aol.com

44th Inf. Div. (Illinois National Guard, WWII & 1946-54), 9-11 Oct., Springfield, IL. POC: Howard M. Ferrill, (817) 579-1608, hfer-rill44@charter.net

28th General Hospital (Croix Chapeau), 15-18 Oct., Lafayette, LA. POC: Eddie Gautreau, 309 Coussan Rd., Lafayette, LA 70507, (337) 896-9596

Co. G, 179th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div., 16-18 Oct., Branson, MO. POC: Penn Rabb, Jr., 728 NW 46th Street, Lawton, OK 73501, (580) 357-1796, rabb-pa@prodigy.net

Yemassee Train Depot Marines, 17-18 Oct., Meet & Greet at Harold's Country Club, Yemassee, SC, Oct. 17, 4-6 p.m. Luncheon, USMC Air Station Officer's Club, Beaufort, SC, Oct. 18, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. POC: Roy Hughes, P.O. Box 265, Yemassee, SC 29945-0188, (843) 589-3385

92nd AFA Bn., 26-29 Oct., Killeen TX. POC: Guy McMenemy, (281) 469 2819, bravecannons@sbcglobal.net

A-1-7 (Korea, 1950-53), 26-29 Oct., Galveston, TX, Moody Gardens Hotel. POC: Guy Taylor, 501 21st Street, Galveston, TX 77440-2017, (409) 770-9882, taylor_nomads@hotmail.com

Engineer OCS, 29 Oct. - 2 Nov., Nashville, TN. POC: TEOCSA, Attn: E. T. Mealing, P.O. Box 14847, Atlanta, GA, 30324-4847, (404) 231-3402, TEOC-SA@comcast.net

NOVEMBER

MGCIS-1 (1948-1954), 19-22 Nov., San Diego, CA. POC: Floyd "Bud" Boline, 1431 Orkla Dr., Minneapolis, MN 55427, (763) 544-9428, bbbo-line@aol.com

APRIL, 2009

Coast Guard Combat Veterans, 27-30 April, Reno, NV, Atlantis Casino Resort. POC: CWO Baker Herbert, POB 544 Westfield Center, OH 44251 330-887-5539, USCGW64@neo.rr.com

307th Bomb Group/Wing (1946-54), 29 Apr.-3 May, Tampa, FL. POC: Tom Stevens, (913) 696-0447, stevenst@swbell.net

MAY, 2009

H/3/5 (Korea), 21-26 May 2009, Washington, DC Metro Area (Includes Natl Museum of the Marine Corps). POC: Roger H. Barnard, 10183 Red Spruce Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032-3620, 703.978.4467, rbarnard@cox.net

Mystery Photo

We received this photo of an unidentified Korean child near Pyongteck. It was taken in 1953. Okay, that is not much of a mystery—unless someone can identify the child or tell us where the heck is Pyongteck.

Submitted by John C. Weatherell, 1239 43rd Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33703





Recon Missions

PFC James M Jordan, 2nd ID, 23rd RCT, HQ Co., Sept. 1950—Sept. 1951

My grandfather was a proud Korean War veteran. He was a radioman. He landed at Inchon and was wounded by a mortar round on the first day of attacks on Heartbreak Ridge. He died three years ago this August. Since then I have been trying to piece together what little he told me with what I have found out about his service since his death.

What I have learned is that he was more of a soldier than I thought. He joined the Army voluntarily. When the Korean War broke out he volunteered for combat duty, transferring from the Fourth to the Second Division. He was slightly wounded on the first day of combat when he a bullet grazed his ankle. He never told anyone. He was too ashamed.

He was at Chosin, ran the gauntlet with the 23rd, and had an artillery round pick him up and throw him in the back of a jeep as it passed. He held the line at the landing strip with the Marines, using the bodies for cover. He told me about the harbor and told me he wished I could have seen it.

He was evacuated to the States for treatment of frostbite, but he was only there for a few days. He volunteered again to go back—and he was back in Korea before his family even got the letter he was home! Then, he went through the spring offensives. I have a picture of him on top of “Old Baldy.”

Finally, he was wounded so badly that he lost an eye and was covered in shrapnel. Again, he had to leave Korea to recover. Due to some glitch, he stayed in the Army even though he had only one eye. But, when he volunteered for combat duty in 1953, this fact came to light and he was given an early retirement and honorable discharge. He earned five combat stars for the five campaigns in which he participated.

Now, I want to find out more about him. Before, they were just stories that he told me. There was nothing really tangible. Today I have his stuff, watch, papers, etc.

One thing that I was researching was a story that he told me about Kunuri, where the 23rd captured a train. He was on the frontline and talked about how he could hear the steam hissing as the bullets would strike the train. Then, in a 1952 book that he was given about the 2nd's role in Korea, 1950-51, I saw a picture of an engineer wiring the train to blow. It was the same train he helped capture.

Maybe this is what I am looking for: facts that I can use to put together a timeline and biography of his story. He made a scrapbook for me, which I found only recently. I thought it was lost. What was inside was a very different view of Korea than I thought it contained. He had cut pictures from books and magazines and put them in there. It was his view of Korea, rather than a textbook's.

I miss him terribly. I remember him as short and unassuming. He never raised his voice to me in my whole life, and he taught me to fish. Being a soldier was more of a thing he did, rather than just a part of him. At least that's what he led me to believe. Now I know that he was a soldier till the day he died. He just didn't know how to

tell his story. I think this is the best place to start that story.

I do have one reminder of him. His picture appears in the book *History of the United States Army*, in the Korean War section—all three pages of it. It is a green, cloth-bound book with a brass Army logo on the cover. He takes up a whole page; he is the man leading a load of ammo past a tank. If you look closely you can see the bullet hole in his trousers by the ankle.

If you have any information about my grandfather, please contact me. Thanks.

William E. Ray Jr., P.O. Box 292
Nome TX, 77629 rooster_rugburn@hotmail.com

Sgt E. Paul Morin

I want to know if anyone knew or remembered my brother, Sgt. E. Paul Morin, who worked in Administration in Sasebo, Japan in 1951-1952. He was married in 1952 and had three children. His wife died at 28 years old in 1956; he died of cancer in October 1958. His children, ages 6, 4, and 2, never knew him.

I am a Korean veteran (non-combat) and I am 74 with health problems. My request is that anyone who knew him could send any information they might have about my brother that I can pass on to his children. He died 50 years ago this year.

Here is what I know based on newspaper clippings I have.

Cpl Morin joined the Army in August 1948 after receiving an Associates in Science degree from Becker Junior College. He was shipped overseas to Japan in August 1950. Paul was a battery clerk in a radar unit. He had been stationed in Texas after undergoing basic training at Breckenridge, Kentucky.

Paul was promoted to Sergeant First Class in March 1952 at Sasebo, Japan, where he was continuing to perform administrative work. In January 1953 he received the Army Commendation Medal and Ribbon “for performing duties normally assigned to a commissioned officer.” According to the citation, he “carried out his duties with diligence and devotion” and with great administrative skill.

Thank you for any assistance you can render.

Maurice L. Morin, 23 Scott Street
Bellingham, MA 02019, (508) 883-9396

William Chapin, USS Lipan

My husband, William Chapin, was on the *USS Lipan* from 1950 to 1954. I'm looking for guys who served with him. Contact him at: Bill Chapin, P.O. Box 1432, Paso Robles, Cal, 93447, (805) 239-1733, chap1tiger@sbcglobal.net or chap1tiger@yahoo.com

Nancy Chapin

Looking for stories about Turkish troops in Korea

My name is Col Ali Denizli. I am writing from Ankara, Turkey with warm greetings and brotherly affections to all the U.S. Korean War veterans. I am a retired Colonel from the Turkish military. My father was a Turkish Korean War veteran and I am a historian.

I have started to write a book about the Korean War in Turkish,

which I will have translated into English. I am a representative of the Turkish Korean War Veterans Association in Ankara, Turkey. I have decided to start doing extensive research on a book about the Korean War so it will not fade into history as the "Forgotten War."

I want to make this book comprehensive. I have accumulated over a period of time very extensive Turkish documents about the Korean War. But, I would like to include inputs from the very important U.S. side, especially what U.S. Korean War veterans and liaison officers and other U.S. personnel have to say about the Turkish soldiers and Turkish involvement in the Korean War.

For that purpose, I am trying to contact the U.S. Korean War veterans and liaison officers who worked with the Turkish brigade in the Korean War. I would be very happy if I can get in touch with as many of them as possible.

Here is some information—unfortunately, not much—that I have to go on to begin this search:

When the Turkish Government decided to send a brigade to Korea, an advisory group was attached to the Turkish Brigade. This group was called "The Turkish United Nations Brigade Advisory Group." It was composed of five US officers: 1. Col. Gummbly; 2. Lt.Col. Viver; 3. Maj. Munson; 4. Capt. Michael J. Lorenzo; 5. Unknown. The First Turkish Brigade was sent to South Korea on 17 October 1950. It was assigned to Eighth U.S. Army command. Not too long afterwards, it was assigned to the Ninth U.S. Corps as a reserve unit. On 25 November 1950, it was assigned to the Second U.S. Division command and participated in the Chongchon (Kunun) battle.

On 25 January 1951, it was assigned to the 25th U.S. division and participated in the battle of Kumyangjang-ni. Knowing the full name only of Capt. Michael J. Lorenzo, I want to start with him. However, I am not sure if he is alive and I do not know his address. Nor do I know the addresses of the other group of individuals mentioned above. I urgently want to get their recollections and reminiscences of the Korean War and their contact with Turkish troops in Korea. Also, I want the reminiscences of any other U.S. Korean War veteran military personnel who worked with the Turkish brigade or who have seen Turkish soldiers in action in Korea.

I would especially be interested in the November 23-November 30, 1950 time period in Korea. I am looking for anyone from the following U.S. military divisions and units: 2nd Division, 25th Infantry Division, and 72nd Tank Battalion. I would like to speak with tank platoon commanders, lieutenants, individuals with different ranks...

I will be happy to talk with anyone who was involved in the Korean War, especially U.S. Korean War veterans who fought side by side attached to the Turkish brigade during the Kunuri battle or other U.S. 2nd Division personnel who have memories of the withdrawing operations in Kunun -Canary-Sunchon Road. I would also be very interested in hearing from 2nd Division personnel who lived in captivity with Turkish Korean War personnel at the same prison camp.

Here is where you can write to me and send copies of pictures that you would like to share with me for this very valuable research: Col Ali Denizli Hosdere caddesi Halit ziya sokak No: 26/ 8, Cankaya -Ankara 06540, Republic of Turkey.

You can also reach me by phone at 011 90 312 441 62 78 or email at alidenizlim@yahoo.com.tr



Col Ali Denizli (R) and Turkish Korean War veteran and POW Cpl Veli Atasoy, who earned the U.S. Legion of Merit for his help provided to many wounded American POW, which helped save many of their lives



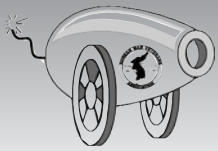
The Legion of Merit Award to Cpl Veli

Or, you can contact a friend of mine in New York who can forward your information, pictures and memoirs to me. He is a Turkish-American who lives in New York and is the Turkish liaison's contact of the Turkish-American community to the American-Korean War Veterans in New York. His name is Ibrahim Kurtulus; he is an honorary member with the Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association in Staten Island, New York. His phone number is (646) 267-7488 and his email address is Rizeli@aol.com.

I would appreciate if you honorable Korean War veterans would assist me in this research that will live forever with the new generation. With your help, we will make sure that the Korean War is not known as the "Forgotten War."

I conclude with my deepest appreciation for your kind attention and help. And, I reiterate our respects for all the nations who fought and died on the land of Korea. We, as Turkish citizens, pledge our friendship for all people of good will.

Col Ali Denizli



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.

Korean War Begins: Still "The Forgotten War!"

Yesterday, I received the latest issue of *The Graybeards*. I scanned it over and over for some mention of the anniversary of the start of the Korean War. I found none. I may have missed it? Perhaps it was in an earlier issue.

I was a mere teenager at the time, stationed at Camp Sakai, Japan. We were on maneuvers at Mt. Fuji! I was a member of Hq's Co and Easy Company, 2d Bn, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

As the anniversary date arrived, I was expecting to see some degree of recognition in our local newspaper, other newspapers, magazines and especially military organizations publications! Perhaps in my old age I failed to see, hear, or read anything!

I feel so sad that it remains the "Forgotten War."

Joe Mulcahy, CSM, Infantry (U.S. Army Ret.)
via email

More on Pusan Cemetery

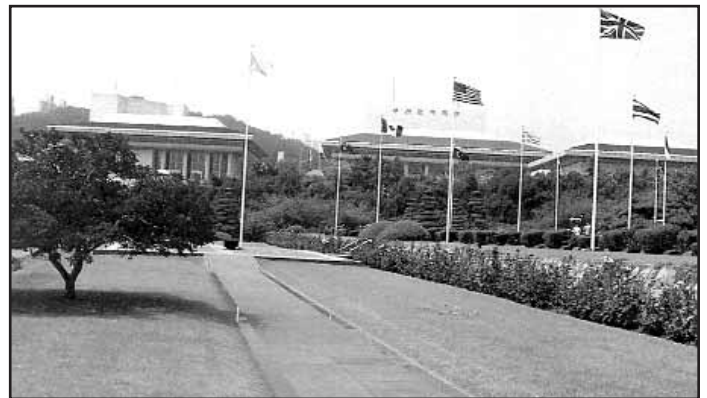
In the November-December 2007 issue of *The Graybeards*, on page 62, was an article and pictures by Arnold Van Duesen of the UN Cemetery in Pusan taken in 1953 or 1954. In June of last year I, along with my brother, took the "Return to Korea" trip sponsored by the KWVA and South Korean government. It was a terrific trip, which we enjoyed immensely.

After the tour we extended for another 4 days and took the KTX fast train to Pusan. I had been stationed in Pusan during 1953 and 1954. What a tremendous change to everything!!!!!!

While there, we went to the UN cemetery and took some pictures. I thought perhaps some of the Korean War veterans who



Leo Pimple (L) and Wayne Pimple (R) at Pusan Cemetery



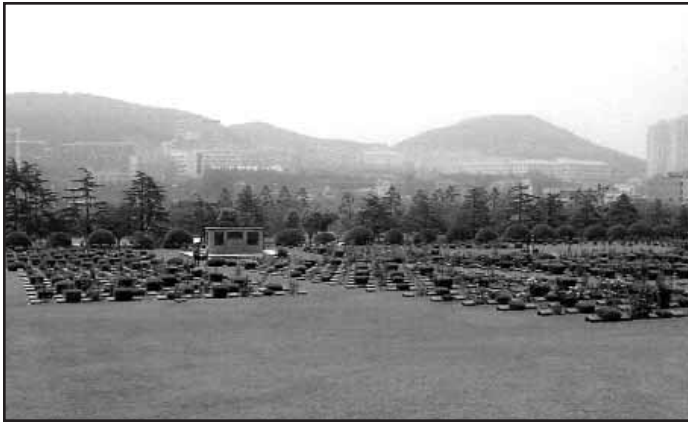
The American flag, along with flags from some of the other countries, at Pusan Cemetery. NOTE: All the crosses shown in Arnold's pictures have been replaced with granite stones.



Entrance to UN Cemetery, Pusan, Korea



The southern portion of the Pusan Cemetery. Note the large buildings in the background.



Another section of the Pusan Cemetery

had been there would be interested in some of the pictures I took and how changed it is.

Wayne J. Pimple, 113 Crestmore Rd.
Sterling, CO 80751, (970) 522-7040

I commanded that company

I recently received my first copy of *The Graybeards*. I saw a photo of a reunion held in San Diego. The men in the photo were all members of Co A, 223 Regt., 40th Div. I commanded that company, and I also served as a Platoon Leader, in 1952.

We were first camped on one of the many islands near Pusan. My Chief Warrant Officer, Stucky, was reassigned to Panmunjon because he was fluent in Mandarin. We were assigned as security for the transfer of POW, both Chinese and North Korean. Our ship was USS Mathews (AKA 96).

We spent over a month sending these prisoners back to Panmunjon, 600 at a time. I certainly have a deep appreciation for our Navy friends.

When this mission was over, the division stayed in Korea.

Robert D. ("Bob") Newton, LtCol, USA (Ret)
5 Oak Ridge Drive
Sharpsburg, GA 30277

Two different train wrecks

The pictures of train wrecks in the Jan/Feb and March/April issues depict two different incidents.

The picture on p. 68 of the Jan/Feb issue was of a train wreck caused by the Chinese when they turned the engine loose one night at Yongchon. It hit a 2 ½-ton truck and killed both men in it.

The rail line ran from North Yongchon to Seoul. It was a main supply route for the Army.

As a bridge builder with the 1092 Co. A Engineers, I helped build a trestle bridge as the rail was too dangerous for all traffic.

Virgil Meyer, 2426 A. Hwy
Otterville, MO 65348

One "Moore" Error

The main purpose for this note to you is to call your attention to the May-June 08 issue of *The Greybeards*. The caption of the upper left photo on page 33 has my name grossly wrong: my name is Link S (for Suh). White, rather than as noted "Liuk Suk White."

I, speaking as a former information officer, ran the largest military newspaper on the island of Okinawa in 1967 before heading for Vietnam. I am, indeed, familiar with the newspaper business. And, my gut feeling tells me the gross mistakes were made by the original news releaser, presumably from a source in Worcester, Mass. area, where, as the lay-out indicates, I was one of the keynote speakers.

Also, on the same caption, the name "Terry Moore" is mentioned. In courtesy to her, the fact she has been a well-known actress for at least six decades should have been noted by merely adding "actress" to her name. As to why her face is blurred in the same photo, this is beyond me, because I have a copy of the same photo, in which her face is clearly identifiable.

For your info, I am fairly well known among our KWVA members, chiefly because I go back to Bill Norris' time, well over two decades. All those who know me have known me from my autobiography I wrote, "Chesi's Story: One Boy's Journey From War to Peace," which came in time for the dedication of the Korean War Memorial in September 1995. Ever since, I have been trying to make it into a motion picture or a movie made-for-TV. It's been a helluva lot harder than what I had anticipated. But I plan to persist, for I owe virtually everything to the Korean war veterans for where I am today.

As my book notes, the GIs of the Korean War rescued and brought me to South Korea in December 1950 when I was an eight year old from my North Korean home city of Hamhung. And, with the daily passages of our Korean war veterans, I am trying all I can to try to have my book come out as a movie, so that some of the guys could see it before they, too, exit from this short life on earth. The story, when it comes out, should also educate our public of the enormity of the sacrifices our troops made during that atrocious war.

Our guys have been short changed. I'm trying to rectify this injustice. I now have come to the conclusion to write the screenplay for it myself, as this is the key in whetting the interests of most producers when deciding to make a movie from a book.

Link S. White

A rising tide floats all boats....uh, ships

This is in reference to your article in the May-June 2008 issue about the 92nd Armored Field Artillery Battalion. It was noted that this unit participated in the invasion of Inchon and the 20- to 25-foot tides at Inchon harbor were mentioned.

I have seen mention of these tides in several Korean War articles in other magazines, but none of them explain how these tides affected the ships involved in them.

My ship, *USS Washburn* (AKA-108), was engaged in the Inchon invasion. We were at anchor in the stream to offload our troops and their equipment. When the tide changed, the force of its movement was so strong that we had to steam our engine at 1/3 speed ahead to prevent us from being turned completely around.

Also, the LSTs were left high and dry on the beaches until the tide came in again. I'm sure that the LST crews also remember those tides.

Daniel W. Moore, 1940 McConnells Ave.
The Villages, FL 32162, (352) 751-5965

Free cigarettes...but pipe smokers had to buy their own

The pictures I submitted of M Co., 19th Regt., 24th Div. that appeared in Images of Korea recently—especially the one of me smoking the pipe—remind me of an irony.

It was April 1951 when the photos were taken. We received free cigarettes—but I had to send home for pipe tobacco.

Lewis A. Wright, 14528 Wiley Street
San Leandro, CA 94579

No wonder he was sad

In the spring of 1953, during a stop-over at a couple other bases in Korea, I stopped at Kimpo AFB (K-14) to see an old Nebraska friend, Jerry Koenig, with whom I had visited a couple times in the past.



Jack Wieseman (L) and Jerry Koenig (R)

Jerry had a reputation for figuring a way to have things go his way. This was a bad day, though. He had recently rigged up a bar in a vacant tent, complete with a 300-gallon tip tank for hot and cold water supply.

The night before I arrived, they got nailed by a “Bed Check Charlie” type, which resulted in shrapnel damage to the tank. That was a real problem to clean in the first place!

Anyhow, this explains Jerry’s sad look and white tee-shirt for mourning!

Jack Wieseman, 3910 Locust Street
Lincoln, NE 68516

YOUR VA AT WORK

■ Number of Homeless Vets Drops 21 Percent

Peake Selected to Chair Federal Homeless Task Force

The number of veterans homeless on a typical night has declined 21 percent in the past year, thanks to the services offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and its partners in community—and faith-based organizations, plus changing demographics and improvements in survey techniques.

The reduction of homeless veterans from more than 195,000 to about 154,000 was announced as Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake was elected to chair the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. Peake’s election to head the council coordinating the federal response to homelessness came as VA released the fourteenth annual Community Homeless Assessment, Local Education and Networking Group (CHALENG) report on homeless veterans.

“We are seeing significant progress in the fight against homelessness,” said Peake. “This success should encourage all those concerned about homeless veterans, for it shows we can make a difference in the lives of these veterans through our services and with our community partners.”

The decline in veterans’ homelessness was attributed, in part, to VA’s success in providing more services for homeless veterans and improved coordination of federal, state and local efforts.

VA provides health care to about 100,000 homeless veterans, and compensation and pensions to nearly 40,000 annually. The Department offers homeless veterans employment assistance and help obtaining foreclosed homes and excess federal property, including clothes, footwear, blankets and other items.

The Department has already approved funding for more than 12,000 beds in transitional housing programs, and provides about 5,000 veterans each year with residential services in VA hospital-based programs.

Other factors in the decline of homeless veterans include the substantial reduction in the number of poor veterans—from 3 million in 1990 to 1.8 million in 2000—and improvements in counting homeless people.

The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness is the coordinating entity within the federal government composed of 20 cabinet secretaries and agency heads that creates partnerships at every level of government and the private sector to end homelessness.

Disabled Veterans Memorial update

On 18 July President Bush signed the American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin Act into law. The bill authorizes the U.S. Treasury Department to mint a coin in 2010 to honor the millions of veterans who became disabled while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Proceeds from the sale of the coin will go to help construct the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial.

Congress has authorized the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial to be placed on a site adjacent to the National Mall. The Disabled Veterans’ LIFE Memorial Foundation describes the memorial’s

purpose as a way to “embody America’s lasting gratitude for the men and women whose lives are forever changed in service to our country.” By precedent, only two commemorative coins are minted each year.

Though the commemorative coin will help to raise a portion of the funds needed to construct the memorial, more money is needed for construction. For more information on the Disabled Veterans memorial or how to make a donation visit www.avdlm.com, write Disabled Veterans LIFE Memorial Foundation, Inc., 2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 302, Arlington VA 22201-3367 or send an email to info@avdlmf.org.

MIA Korean War Service Members Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced that the remains of four U.S. servicemen missing in action from the Korean War have been identified and returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

Representatives from the Army and Air Force met with the men's next-of-kin to explain the recovery and identification process, and to coordinate interment with military honors.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of the men'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.

The four men are:

◆ **Sgt 1st Class W. T. Akins**, U.S. Army, of Decatur, Ga. He was buried on June 26 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

In November 1950, Akins was a member of the Medical Company, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division then occupying a defensive position near Unsan, North Korea north of a bend in the Kuryong River known as the Camel's Head. On Nov. 1, elements of two Chinese Communist Divisions struck the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing the perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. Akins was reported missing on Nov. 2, 1950, and was one of the more than 350 servicemen unaccounted for from the battle at Unsan.

In April 2007, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (D.P.R.K.), acting through the intermediary of New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson and former U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi, repatriated to the United States six boxes of human remains believed to be those of U.S. soldiers. The D.P.R.K. reported that the remains were excavated in November 2006 near Unsan in North Pyongan Province.

◆ **Sgt. Gene F. Clark**, U.S. Army, of Muncie, Ind. He was buried June 28 in Muncie.

In September 1950, Clark was assigned to Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, then occupying a defensive position along the Nammyon River near a bend known as the "Camel's Head." On Nov. 1, 1950, parts



Sgt. Gene Clark, USA

of two Chinese Communist Divisions struck the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing the perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. Clark was reported missing on Nov. 2, 1950 and was one of the more than 350 servicemen unaccounted for from the battle at Unsan.

Between 1991-94, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. Among several

Jim Clark, Art Flotow, and Richard Looney of CID 133 attended Sgt Clark's church service on 28 June 2008. As Chapter Commander Mel Aldridge noted, "He gave his life and after all these years was able to come home."

boxes turned over in 1993, one contained a dog tag for Clark, and the accompanying North Korean documents indicated that the remains were exhumed near Chonsung-Ri, Unsan County, North Pyongan Province. This location correlates with where Clark's unit fought during the battle at Unsan.

◆ **Cpl. Steven Lucas**, U.S. Army, of Johnson City, N.Y. He was buried July 11 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

In late November 1950, Lucas was assigned to the Heavy Mortar Company, 31st Infantry Regiment, making up part of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), then engaging enemy forces east of the Chosin Reservoir near Kaljon-Ri, South Hamgyong Province, North Korea. On Nov. 29, remnants of the RCT began a fighting withdrawal to more defensible positions near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. Lucas never made it to the lines at Hagaru-ri and was last seen on Nov. 30.

Between 1991-94, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen.

◆ **Capt. William K. Mauldin**, U.S. Air Force, of Pickens, S.C. He was buried on July 18 in Easley, S.C.

On Feb. 21, 1952, Mauldin departed Kimpo Air Base, South Korea, on an aerial reconnaissance mission of enemy targets in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (D.P.R.K.). While over Odong-ni, Mauldin's RF-51 Mustang was hit by enemy fire and crashed near Sinan-ri, Hoeyang County, D.P.R.K. An aerial search of the crash site was conducted that day and the next, but found no evidence that Mauldin escaped the aircraft before it crashed.

Between 1991-94, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. One set of remains turned over in 1993 included fragments of aircrew life-support equipment, and were reported to be those of an American pilot recovered near Sinan-ri.

China admits taking US POW from Korea, burying him in Chinese cemetery

This excerpt appeared in a 19 June 2008 AP article by Robert Burns, an AP Military Writer.

WASHINGTON (AP) — After decades of denials, the Chinese have acknowledged burying an American prisoner of war in China, telling the U.S. that a teenage soldier captured in the Korean War died a week after he "became mentally ill," according to documents provided to The Associated Press.

Continued on page 74

The 58th Anniversary of The Outbreak of the Korean War

Hon. Charles B. Rangel Of New York In The House Of Representatives

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. RANGEL

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the sacrifice of the men and women who bravely served in the Korean War in defense of freedom. Today, June 25th, we commemorate the 58th anniversary of the start of the Korean War; the so called 'Forgotten War,' which claimed more than 36,000 American lives. Although the Korean War may receive less attention than other wars, it does not diminish the significance of the war and the freedom it preserved.

I proudly served my wartime tour in Korea as a member of the 503d Field Artillery Battalion of the 2d Infantry Division. The 503d Field Artillery Battalion landed in Korea in August 1950, arriving in time to participate in hard-fought battles that defeated the North Korean offensives against the United Nations forces on the Pusan Perimeter. During the battalion's 15 months in Korea, members of the 503d received 19 Silver Stars, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, and 79 Bronze Stars.

The battalion suffered 512 casualties, including 150 men who died in Communist prison camps and 79 who remain listed as missing in action. The 503d, a Black unit, shattered the biased and unfair negative stereotypes attached to Black men and women fighting in Korea and earlier wars.

Although today is a solemn reminder of the lives that were lost during the Korean War, it also serves as a reminder of the binding friendship we have forged with the Korean people. As a phoenix rises from the ashes, so has the U.S.-Korean alliance.

Madam Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD the heartfelt comments from the wreath laying ceremony at the Korean War Memorial by the Korean Ambassador, The Honorable Tae-Sik Lee:

Remarks By His Excellency Tae-Sik Lee, Ambassador Of The Republic Of Korea To The United States, On The Occasion Of The 58th Anniversary Of The Outbreak Of The Korean War, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Washington, Dc, June 25, 2008

Distinguished veterans, colleagues from the diplomatic corps, and honored guests:

June 25, 1950, began as a day like any other. But the consequences of that day, and the War that ensued, have left a lasting mark. Millions were killed, our country destroyed, our nation divided. Yet freedom-loving governments stepped forward, and alliances were formed.

In the brutal heat of summer, and the bitter grip of winter, over every kind of tough terrain—it was through countless individual acts of courage, sacrifice, and faith—that South Korea's freedom was preserved. We are here today to honor that courage, remember that sacrifice and, I hope, reward the faith of every fighting man and woman—from 21 nations around the

Congressman Rangel introduces Korean War-related bill

PRESS RELEASE

CONGRESSMAN CHARLES B. RANGEL

Contact: Emile Milne 202 225-4365

June 25, 2008

ON KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL DAY, HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RANGEL URGES AMERICA TO REMEMBER THE FORGOTTEN WAR

WASHINGTON, June 25—Congressman Charles Rangel (D-NY), a decorated Korean War veteran, today reintroduced the Korean War Veterans Recognition Act in the United States House of the Representatives to honor the great sacrifices and contributions made by the Korean War Veterans to preserve our freedom.

Fifty-eight years have passed since its outbreak on June 25, 1950, yet the Korean War has never formally ended. In lieu of a peace treaty, a cease-fire armistice was signed on July 27, 1953, leaving in its wake four million military and civilian casualties. HR6363 will commemorate the Korean War Armistice Day by displaying the flag at half-staff in remembrance and recognition of the Korean War veterans and a war that has yet to end.

"The truest heroes of the Korean War are the thousands who served without question and never returned home to their loved ones," Congressman Rangel said. "This bill is to honor them, especially, as well as to salute their comrades who placed themselves in harm's way in defense of their country. Even as we place this spotlight on the fighting men and women in the Forgotten War, I also wish to remember the tens of thousands of families, both Americans and Koreans, who suffered through this bloody conflict."

Indeed, the Korean War was one of the bloodiest wars fought in the coldest winters. In just three years, US suffered 54,246 casualties and 8,176+-plus POW/MIAs. A total of 26 nations were involved in the War (22 UN Allied, 1 Support; 3 Communist); yet few people understand that the lingering effects of the Korean War and the resulting stalemate continue to impact our world today.

Sandwiched between the World War II and the Vietnam War, the Korean War is often overlooked in the public consciousness and often referenced as the 'Forgotten War.' "The courageous service and sacrifice of our Korean War veterans must never be forgotten and deserve to be honored. Let us remember the 6.8 million American men and women who served during the Korean War period, June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955. Only 2 million are surviving today and nearly 1,000 die each day," Congressman Rangel said.

globe—who served to keep us free. Far too numerous to mention—but far too important to forget—we remember and honor these heroes, not just today, but every day.

Some may say that the Korean War has been known as the Forgotten War. But it has been my personal mission to try to rectify that—as I have met with thousands of veterans in dozens of cities across the country. And I know that, here today, I am among many allies in this effort to remember.

Clearly one of the most compelling monuments to the veterans of this War is this moving memorial on the national mall. I recently saw an interesting statistic—a list of the top most-visited National Park Service memorials. As you might expect, Arlington National Cemetery is first, followed by the World War II and Vietnam memorials. But the Korean War Veterans Memorial has risen to number 4—averaging more than 3.2 million visitors per year.

I think people are remembering. And the priceless lesson that “Freedom Is Not Free” could not be more appropriate today.

For Korea, freedom has meant the chance to energize our economy; institutionalize democracy; and join the responsible community of nations. Today, we are proud to do our part in the war on terror, in peace-keeping operations, and in international economic and social organizations as well. With the United States, we are working to transform our alliance for the challenges of the future—building on the legacy of such forward-thinking leaders as General Riscassi, General Tilleli and General Sennewald, who are here with us today.

To all our friends from other nations who answered our call for help—I would like to offer this verse from Ecclesiastes that says:

“A faithful friend is a strong defense, and he that hath found him, hath found a treasure.” A friend in need is a friend indeed. Certainly, the generous spirit of your friendship we will continue to honor and treasure.

To the veterans here today, you are our heroes and we remember you. And we hope you believe that Korea was a country worth saving—a people worth protecting—and a war worth fighting. Thank you very much.

Who can fly the POW/MIA flag?

We continue with our occasional articles about flag protocol.

A KWVA member asked us if he was allowed to display the POW/MIA flag on a pole outside his home. As he noted, an official of a local veterans organization told him he could not do so since he was neither a POW (although he says he came close to becoming one) nor MIA.

We launched an inquiry, and here is what we found:

In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff, the wife of a U.S. military officer listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War, developed the idea for a national flag to remind every American of the U.S. service members whose fates were never accounted for during the war. The black and white image of a gaunt silhouette, a strand of barbed wire and an ominous watchtower was designed by Newt Heisley, a former World War II pilot. Some claim the silhouette is a profile of Heisley’s son, who contracted hepatitis while training to go to Vietnam. The virus ravaged his body, leaving his features hal- low and emaciated.

They suggest that while staring at his son’s sunken features, Heisley saw the stark image of American service members held captive under harsh conditions. Using a pencil, he sketched his son’s profile, creating the basis for a symbol that would come to have a powerful impact on the national conscience.

By the end of the Vietnam War, more than 2,500 servicemembers were listed by the Department of Defense as Prisoner of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA). In 1979, as families of the missing pressed for full accountability, Congress and the president proclaimed the first National POW/MIA Recognition Day to acknowledge the families’ concerns and symbolize the steadfast resolve of the American people to never forget the men and women who gave up their freedom protecting ours.

Three years later, in 1982, the

POW/MIA flag became the only flag other than the “Stars and Stripes” to fly over the White House in Washington, D.C.

On August 10, 1990, Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, designating the POW/MIA flag:

“The symbol of our Nation’s concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.”

Displaying the POW/MIA Flag

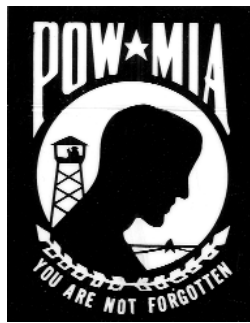
Congress designated the third Friday of September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day and ordered prominent display of the POW/MIA flag on this day and several other national observances, including Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

The 1998 Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 105-85) mandates that on these national observances, the POW/MIA flag is to be flown over the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Korean and Vietnam Veterans War Memorials, the offices of the Secretaries of State, Defense and Veterans Affairs, offices of the Director of the Selective Service System, every major military installation (as directed by the Secretary of Defense), every post office, and all Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers and national cemeteries.

The act also directs VA medical centers to fly the POW/MIA flag on any day on which the flag of the United States is displayed.

When displayed from a single flag pole, the POW/MIA flag should fly directly below, and be no larger than, the United States flag. If on separate poles, the U.S. flag should always be placed to the right of other flags. On the six national observances for which Congress has ordered display of the POW/MIA flag, it is generally flown immediately below or adjacent to the United States flag as second in order of precedence.

So, if you want to fly the POW/MIA, feel free. After all, you fought for our freedom—and that includes the right to fly a flag, as long as you observe protocol.



It pays to cross that bridge when you come to it

■ The story of Frank Aleksandrowicz

By KWVA Staff Writer Arthur G. Sharp©

Frank Aleksandrowicz finally got into a war—the Korean War. He also had an indirect connection with the 1951 movie *Yank in Korea*, which starred Lon McCallister, William Phillips, Brett King, and Larry Stewart. This 73-minute film was described as a “corny war actioner.”

But, let Aleksandrowicz explain how all this came about.

“I never got to see this film and the theater never asked for permission to use my name or photo. I worked for the *Erie Dispatch-Herald* (Erie, PA) from 1941 to 1942. I was drafted for World War II on September 21, 1942. I had a month over one year of experience as photographer when I was recalled by the U.S. Army from the reserve. I never went to meetings, and I never received a penny.

I was in the post-WII time, and I figured that we would be at war in five or so years after the end of the war. I was right. I was recalled at age 29 and went to camp with all the “kids” 18 or years or age. I ended up in the 519th Military Battalion, Co. A. I tried to get into the 167 Photo Co. However, my colonel declined to let me go. Either way, I am alive to tell you about my experience.

In the WWII period we had more photographers than needed when I was drafted. So, I was in the 769th MP Bn. I declined school in southern France in March 1945 for officer training. That put me in the right place at the right time to meet a girl on a bridge over the Meuse River during a visit to the city of Liege, Belgium.

When I was crossing the bridge with a buddy, he said, “Hey, Sarge, look at the beautiful girl ahead in that white fur coat.”

As we caught up to the young lady, I started a conversation with her.

“Are you married?” I asked.

“No,” she said.

“Could we see you tomorrow?” I continued

“Maybe some other time,” she replied.

I learned that she worked for some wealthy people. The man owned a steel mill in the Liege area. When I did get to see her, her uncle and wife met me when I was invited for dinner. The uncle was a Liege Police upper echelon police officer.

Eventually our relationship grew in to love. (Actually, we were in love right from the beginning.) My MP Battalion allowed me to make occasional visits to her. We went to the opera and fell deeper in love. Finally, we planned to marry. We had a few problems with bureaucratic red tape involving Bn. HQ and other military agencies, but we overcame them.

We held our wedding in July 1945, and stayed happily married until 30 November 2003, when she died. She is buried in Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery, which is located in Rittman, 50 miles south of Cleveland. (Aleksandrowicz once spent his own money to print 5,000 post cards featuring the cemetery.)

In the interim, I went to Korea and served with the 519 MP Bn., Co. A. I took some photos when I was there.



The Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery postcard

That is not the end of the story, though. Aleksandrowicz, a member of Chapter 69, Greater Cleveland [OH], has worked tirelessly on various Korean War-related projects since.

Two local newspapers ran stories about him recently to highlight a project he has been working on for the aforementioned cemetery. The first appeared in the *Bedford Times Register* on 10 April 2008. *The Medina County Gazette* printed a more in-depth piece on 17 May 2008 to give him credit for his most recent effort.

On 18 May 2008, there was a dedication ceremony at the cemetery for a six-foot-tall bronze statue of a veteran saluting the cemetery's flagpole. The statue cost \$65,000 to create—\$5,000.00 of which came from Aleksandrowicz' own funds. He and



Photographer Aleksandrowicz with *Erie Dispatch Herald* when drafted by Army in September 1942.

Cpl Frank Aleksandrowicz in 1943

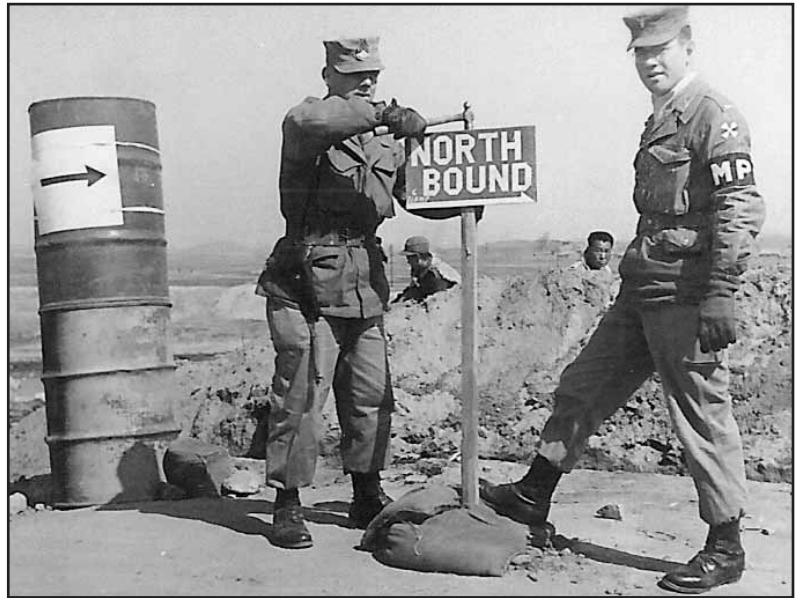




◀ The Aleksandrowiczes in 1945 after two months of marriage

519 MP Bn road sign north of Taejon, 1951 ▶

MP Aleksandrowicz on duty with 769 MP Bn during WWII ▼



Troops availing themselves of Red Cross coffee and on hospital grounds in Pusan, 1951

More ▶ ▶

members of the cemetery's advisory committee campaigned for 2½ years to get the statue in place. They received a nonprofit 501(c)(3) status from the IRS and raised \$55,000 toward their goal. They recruited Cleveland artist David Deming, president of the Cleveland Institute of Art, to sculpt the statue.

On the base of the statue is a quote from William Jennings Bryan: "The strength of a nation does not lie in forts nor in navies nor yet in grand standing armies, but in happy and contented citizens who are ever ready to protect for themselves and to preserve for prosperity the blessing which they enjoy."

Certainly, Aleksandrowicz is one of those happy and contented citizens. He has served his country to make sure that its citizens enjoy prosperity and blessings. He is a credit to the U.S. Army, the country, and the KWVA.

Reach Frank J. Aleksandrowicz at 343 Canterbury Road, Bay Village 44140, (440) 871-5081.

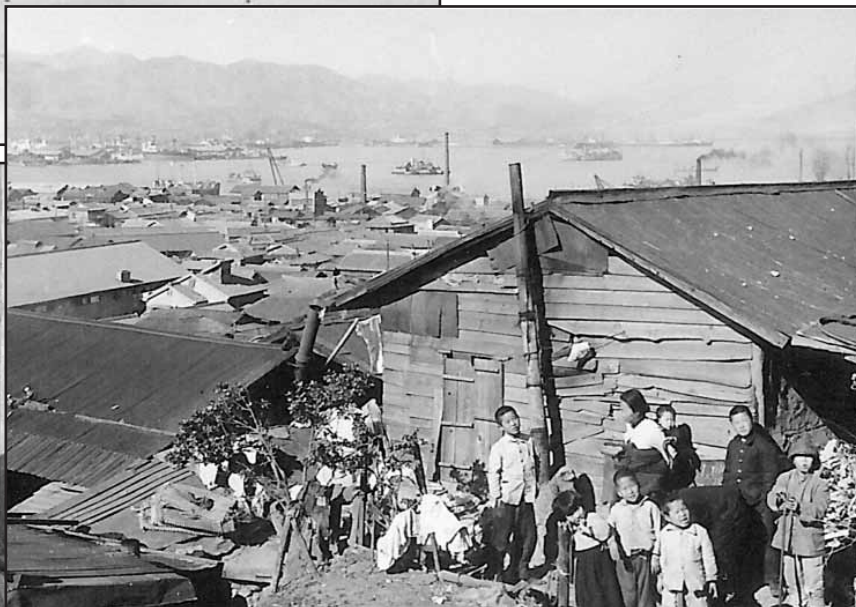


519 MP Bn near Seoul, 1951



◀ Putting an MP on a pedestal: 519 MP north of Taejon, 1951

A view of Pusan below the hospital grounds, 1952 ▼



◀ Local "Pusanians," Korea, 1951



◀ Korean women above Taejon, 1951

The Aleksandrowicz 55 years later (July 2000) ➤



It's Here! KWVA's 2008 Fund Raiser Win Prizes. Build KWVA's Image

Win!

Win a second honeymoon
Your bride will love you for it.

Win!

Benefits of the Fund Raiser

- Win valuable prizes!
- Receive a Federal Charter CD with your order.
- Help defray The Graybeards growing cost.
- Help maintain the Korean War Memorial.
- Support the training of Veteran Service Officers.
- Boost KWVA chapter formation.
- Prove to Congress that KWVA deserves its Federal Charter.
- Expand our membership.
- Tell America about the Korean War.



How You Can Win

- Open to KWVA members only.
- Complete the order form below.
- Make a suggested donation of \$20 per ticket. The more tickets you order the better chance of winning. However, no donation is required.
- Pay by check or credit card (sorry: no cash sales accepted).
- Limit one KWVA member for each order form.
- Mail this order for tickets by 9/16/08.
- Winner announced at 2008 National Convention in Norfolk Virginia October 22-26. You need not be present to win.
- Contact Marvin Dunn at (817) 261-1411 or MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com for information about this historic Fund Raiser

First Prize

- Win a 14-Day Hawaii Cruise for two

Second Prize

- 52 Inch HD TV

Third Prize

- 40 Inch HD TV

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Order Form

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

KWVA Member# _____

I would like to order _____ tickets at a suggested donation of \$20 per ticket for a total of \$ _____

I have not made a donation. Please enter my name in the drawing anyway. ☐

Make checks payable to: **KWVA**

Mail To: **KWVA Membership Office, PO Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ ☐ VISA ☐ Master Card

Signature _____

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

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:

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal Member

☐ 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 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD

Expiration Date _____ Your Signature _____

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

- ★ Richard C. Bryan
- ★ William C. Flippo
- ★ Fred L. Franks
- ★ William S. Guthrie
- ★ Elmer D. Myrick
- ★ John O. Smallwood Jr.
- ★ Robert L. Springer
- ★ Everett Vandiver
- ★ Luther D. Vines
- ★ Porches R. Wright

Arkansas

- ★ Richard A. Ball

California

- ★ Al B. Cathcart
- ★ Robin W. Goodenough
- ★ Duane B. Skogen

Connecticut

- ★ Manuel Antonio
- ★ Hilary Earl 'Larry' Stanchfield
- ★ Peter S. Targonski

Delaware

- ★ James E. Major
- ★ Richard Swartout

Florida

- ★ Maurice Balan
- ★ Murray Havelin
- ★ Tom Kelly
- ★ Richard H. Kennedy
- ★ Clarence John Meyers
- ★ John H. Proctor
- ★ John C. 'Chuck' Reed

Georgia

- ★ Thomas A. Evans

Hawaii

- ★ Shermaih K. Iaea Jr.

Illinois

- ★ Charles R. Beebe
- ★ Leonard Beyer
- ★ Herman R. Dykema
- ★ Gene L. Gray
- ★ Robert J. Hamilton
- ★ Charles 'Chuck' Oelrich
- ★ Joseph P. Siebert

Indiana

- ★ H. W. 'Tom' Wallace

Iowa

- ★ Forrest E. Winston

Kentucky

- ★ Stephen D. Burns

Louisiana

- ★ Stanley A. Zachary

Maine

- ★ Francis J. Murray

Massachusetts

- ★ Edward R. Anderson
- ★ Gerald W. Horton
- ★ Norman C. Johnson
- ★ William B. Noyes
- ★ Francis E. Patenaude
- ★ John N. Spinney Sr.

Michigan

- ★ Charles W. Hendricks

Minnesota

- ★ Douglas E. Ames
- ★ Elmer L. McIntyre
- ★ Follard E. 'Swede' Thurn

Missouri

- ★ Jack R. Calegari
- ★ Nathanael R. Cook
- ★ Russell S. Drysdale

- ★ William J. Mansfield
- ★ Vernon L. 'Von' Plummer

Nevada

- ★ Richard B. Rose

New Jersey

- ★ William J. McGuinness

New York

- ★ Don Finch
- ★ Jack B. Howey
- ★ Robert J. Krapp
- ★ James M. Lowry
- ★ Alfred F. Mosher
- ★ Donald O'leary
- ★ James B. Ray

Ohio

- ★ Phillip B. Brumenshenkel
- ★ John F. Dye
- ★ Daniel L. Hayes Sr.
- ★ Eli J. Hostetler
- ★ Francis Okuly

Oregon

- ★ Eugena Hawkins
- ★ Daniel D. Kinsey
- ★ Lee R. Wright

Pennsylvania

- ★ Herbert W. Nida
- ★ Richard H. Yetter

Rhode Island

- ★ Robert T. Wilcox

Tennessee

- ★ William W. Wright

Texas

- ★ Robert E. Brodeur
- ★ Curtis W. Ishee
- ★ Louis R. Kraniak
- ★ Charles D. Mcbee
- ★ Chester A. Shaw
- ★ Marvin T. Treadwell

Virginia

- ★ Amos T. Camp
- ★ Hugh L. Duff
- ★ Frank W. Paul
- ★ Samuel W. Smithers Jr.

West Virginia

- ★ Denver S. Fisher

Wisconsin

- ★ William P. Hopkins
- ★ Raymond R. Snyder
- ★ Donald L. Zinngrabe

Wyoming

- ★ Bert J. Farmer

MIA from page 65

China had long insisted that all POW questions were answered at the conclusion of the war in 1953 and that no Americans were moved to Chinese territory from North Korea. The little-known case of Army Sgt. Richard G. Desautels, of Shoreham, Vt., opens another chapter in this story and raises the possibility that new details concerning the fate of other POWs may eventually surface.

If new details do surface, we will keep you apprised.

Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____

Department/Chapter _____

Address _____

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

Other _____

Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by _____

Relationship to deceased _____

Send to:

Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

With this issue we start a new feature. We will publish a list of new members in each issue. Possibly, some of our veteran members will recognize the names of new "recruits" on the list, get in touch with them, and renew old friendships—or start new ones. (Hopefully, we will provide more detailed information about new members in future issues to facilitate the "getting in touch" process.)

For now, we offer a sincere "Welcome Aboard" to our new members—and urge them to recruit a friend or two to join them and the rest of us.

Arizona

R040419 Ira I. Cahn
R040421 Norman A. Ross
R040470 George I. Schlotterbeck
R040372 Ralph L. Thompson

California

LR40447 James D. Delk
R040388 Lynn J. Eidsness
LR40453 Richard R. Johansen
LR40480 Albert Jones
R040432 James L. Kearney
R040349 Betty L. McAfee
R040346 Tom L. Miller
R040452 Enrique 'Hank' Ruelas
R040398 Eugene F. Williams
A040365 Eleanor M. Wilson

Connecticut

R040441 Robert Carlton
R040403 Robert F. Gaipa

Florida

R040396 Ronald L. Bayles
R040386 Raymond H. Buckley
LR40416 Patrick T. Carson
R040390 Marcel D. Cartagena
R040407 Robert Divirgilio
R040411 Thomas J. Donaghy
R040344 Joe W. Green
R040431 Jesse A. Hand
R040408 Manuel Kastrenakes
R040343 Jerry Kramer
LR40460 Ivan C. Miller
R040466 Earl B. O'connor
R040444 Charles R. Roberts
R040414 Alexandre E. Roldan
R040370 Ronald J. Rothweiler
R040439 Paul J. Ryan
R040387 Charles A. Saul
LR40420 Troy Slater
LR40350 O. Ivar Svenson
R040385 Edward P. Torres

Georgia

R040379 Robert D. Newton
R040393 Keith Mcelfresh
R040448 Robert M. Medeiros
R040485 Lani P. Mitchell
R040373 William M. Yoeman

Illinois

LR40486 David N. Baker

LR40380 Denis J. Healy
A040427 Jamie M. Reynolds

Iowa

R040397 James Kolker

Kansas

LR40433 Charles E. Goslin
R040366 Melvin E. Hampton
R040342 Penny Hogg

Louisiana

LR40402 Albert J. Dunn

Maine

R040438 Robert B. Werkowski

Maryland

R040461 Don A. Bland
LR40428 Thomas J. Bowers
R040429 Robert F. Comer Sr.
R040462 Ray E. Logue
R040488 Carl G. Paylor
R040376 Jonathan J. Rudd
R040345 Bran T. Thompson

Massachusetts

R040338 Souza J. Francis
R040340 Richard G. 'Dick' Gunn
A040437 Alberta C. Joy
R040471 Andrew K. Okeefe
R040434 Michael W. Pelletier
R040477 Edward L. Shockley

Michigan

R040417 Henry L. Sundell
R040410 Kenneth J. Witmer

Minnesota

R040467 Blair C. Rumble
LR40478 Gerald R. Schwieger

Mississippi

R040355 Charles R. Flurry

Missouri

R040418 Michael E. Klein
R040395 Alvin M. Schamberger
R040400 William L. Shy

New Jersey

R040442 Gerard A. Claps
R040375 Bud R. 'Buddy' Erb
R040489 Anthony Grace
R040423 George N. Peters
R040339 Thomas J. Webb

New York

R040404 Nathan I. Abramson
R040465 Gary D. Anderson

R040487 Joseph R. Cain
R040492 Roger E. Calkins
A040384 John J. Fezza
R040341 Theodore R. Goga
R040409 Edward H. Jaronczyk
R040482 Norman R. Lipkus
A040451 Nellie T. Lowry
R040426 Felix Marty
R040481 Randolph J. Mcghee
R040491 Arthur T. Poutre

North Carolina

R040374 Carl E. Bigham
R040368 Frank M. Enos
R040394 Jack W. Hallberg
R040377 Frank Mari
R040381 Bernie Nagel
R040371 Leander B. Parker
R040378 Wayne L. Secrist

Ohio

R040369 Gaile A. Baker Jr.
R040435 Donald L. Earnest
LR40353 Emma J. Hann
LR40354 William D. Hann
R040473 Russell D. Harrod
LR40472 Russell S. Meadows
LR40463 Charles L. Pfister
LR40352 Robert C. Powell
R040468 James F. Stokes
R040383 Charles E. Wiseman

Oregon

R040405 Dwight M. Ginther
OLR40367 William H. Hoag
R040475 Alan Lertzman
R040406 Richard L. Merrell

Pennsylvania

LR40415 Lewis J. Meyers

Rhode Island

R040425 Richard J. Cedor

R040382 John C. Giarrusso
A040424 Patricia A. Hanson

Tennessee

R040449 Lyle J. Flahaven
R040464 Eino K. Latvala

Texas

R040440 Melvin S. Amspacher
R040392 Kenneth E. Dillard
LR40443 George A. Edwards
R040412 Jackie D. Feagin
LR40351 James R. Garufi
R040459 Leonard G. Gigliotta
R040391 Delbert E. Goss
R040469 William F. Krutz Jr.
R040413 Ernest H. Randall

Vermont

R040450 Scott B. Jennings

Virginia

R040484 Paul E. Berry
R040389 Kenneth P. Hanson
R040483 Lee C. Holler
R040347 Edward A. Leake Jr.
R040436 William F. 'Bill' Mills
R040401 Harold G. Ramsuer
R040399 Frank J. Trost

Washington

R040490 Herbert R. Balch
R040422 Eric Bernstein
R040479 Dennis L. Schleve

Wisconsin

R040430 William M. Holicky

Wyoming

R040445 Dennis I. Lance

Non-US

R040446 Ian Blissett

AP0-AP

R040348 Robert C. Kleisley

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or material 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@sbcglobe.net

Members in the NEWS

Bob Young

Members from several organizations gathered at National Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl, Hawaii on 25 May 2008 for a Memorial Service marking the 9th annual Roll of Honor to Remembrance ceremony to honor and respect Pacific-American veterans for their past and continuing service to the U.S.

Attendees included Henry Pascus, Combat Infantrymen's Association Commander, A.C. Wagner, Regional Field Supervisor of the

Military Order of the Purple Heart, Linda J. Canon, National Service Officer, Harry Ahlo, Combat Infantrymen's Association Vice Commander, and KWVA member and Service Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Dept. of Hawaii, and Laura Lee Young.

BGen Irwin K. Cockett was the keynote speaker.

Bob Young, 1329 Akalani Loop, Kailua, HI 96734, (808) 263-9315



Punchbowl keynote speaker Irvin C. Cockett (C) is flanked by A.C. Wagner (L) and Bob Young (R)



Attendees at Punchbowl Memorial Service (L-R) Henry Pascus, Laura Lee Young, A.C. Wagner, Linda J. Canon, Bob Young, Harry Ahlo

Leo Ruffing

Leo Ruffing, National Chaplain, was pictured on the front page of the local newspaper while on the return to Korea trip.

Dick Hartung, via email



Leo Ruffing in Korea

Mitch Dorum & Charles Koppelman

Mitch Dorum and Charles Koppelman, members of CID 148, Central Jersey, were part of a contingent of veterans from several wars who traveled to Washington DC last year. They were featured in a 9 November 2007 article in the *Windsor-Hights [NJ] Herald*, p. 6A.

Dorum and Koppelman visited hospitalized soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center to deliver phone cards to them.

Koppelman is the Senior Vice Commander of CID 148. Five other members of the Chapter accompanied him.





ABOVE: Veterans of all wars meet to support modern day "Warriors" at Walter Reed

BELOW: CID 148 members gather for strategy session



An (unwelcome) sign of the times?

The item below appeared in the July/Aug 2008 edition of the "Globe & Anchor," Minnesota Chapter, First Marine Division Association. It is certainly a lamentable "passing," and hopefully not a sign of the times.

KOREAN WAR MARINES - 2008 REUNION

The Korean War Marines 2008 Reunion was held in Sioux City, Iowa, Thursday – Sunday, 5 June - 8 June 2008. This year's reunion was perhaps the smallest it has ever been, with only about 60 folks in attendance. Sgt-at-Arms Robert Watson and his wife Gail attended this occasion and have reported that this was the last time the Korean War Marines Reunion would take place. Christina "Betty" Callahan, who was in charge of the festivities, has decided to terminate it.

These Reunions have taken place every two years for a very long time. This is sad news for those who liked this reunion. For those who have never attended one, you really did miss a nice time in this small Iowa town. Nevertheless, for this last get-together, the camaraderie was still great and the food was excellent as always. There was free beer for all hands and live music and dancing after the banquet on Saturday night.

I have attended four of these and enjoyed every one. In the process I met a buddy I went thru boot camp with who lived in Sioux City and also attended this function. Be that as it may, that's not what is important. What is important is to remember that everything must end at some point. One's lifetime, great empires, a politician's term in office (thanks be to God), and the Korean War Marines Reunion.

Semper Fi!!

Please support our advertisers

You will notice that we have several new advertisers in this issue. Hopefully, our readers will buy their products so we can retain them, attract new advertisers, and use the revenues to underwrite the costs of producing *The Graybeards*.

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.

What a morale builder!

Here is a letter to which every Korean War veteran can relate. At the time, we were all very young. Some were just married, and others were leaving girl friends behind. So, at mail call "Dear John" letters were all too common.

In my squadron, someone decided to write a letter typifying all those that were being received and post it on the bulletin board. After everyone had a chance to read it, and before it was trashed, I took it as a souvenir.

THE MORALE BUILDER

Dear Buddy:

Nothing doing back here. I sure do envy you over there in Korea right in the thick of things. Bet you never have a dull moment.

I was over to see your wife last night and read all of your letters. They were a bit mushy, but I don't blame you. Frances is a swell girl.

Wonderful figure, good looks and personality. The guys still whistle at her when she walks down the street.

Your brother-in-law Smedley dropped in. He was wearing the brown suit you bought just before you left. Fran gave it to him as she thought it would be out of style when and if you get back. Several other couples came in and we killed two cases of beer. We wanted to chip in for it but Fran wouldn't let us. She said you sent her \$10.00 extra for her to spend as she liked. One of the guys is buying your golf clubs too. He paid \$15.00 for them and will pick them up tomorrow. That's more than she got for your movie camera and projector.

Frances was the life of the party. I thought she would be a little shaken up after the accident last week with your new Pontiac, but you'd never know she had been in a head-on collision and smashed your car to bits. The other driver is still in the hospital and threatens to sue; too bad Fran forgot to pay the insurance, but the funny thing is that she isn't a bit worried. We all admire her courage and nonchalance and especially her willingness to mortgage the house to pay the bill. She can pay it quicker that way than if she went out and got a job. Good thing you gave her power of attorney before you left.

Well, to get back to the party, you should have seen Fran do an imitation of Gypsy Rose. She has the figure, and was still going strong when we said good night to her and Claude. Guess you know Claude is rooming at the house. It is close to work and he saves a lot on gas and lunches. Nothing much new with me except my wife got another raise, \$100.00 a week now, so we do okay with the \$95.00 I get at the office. It is getting late so I will stop. I can see Claude and Fran are having a night cap. He is wearing your smoking jacket that you wore so often.

Well, Buddy, I sure wish I could be over there with you. Lucky guy. Give those Koreans Hell!!

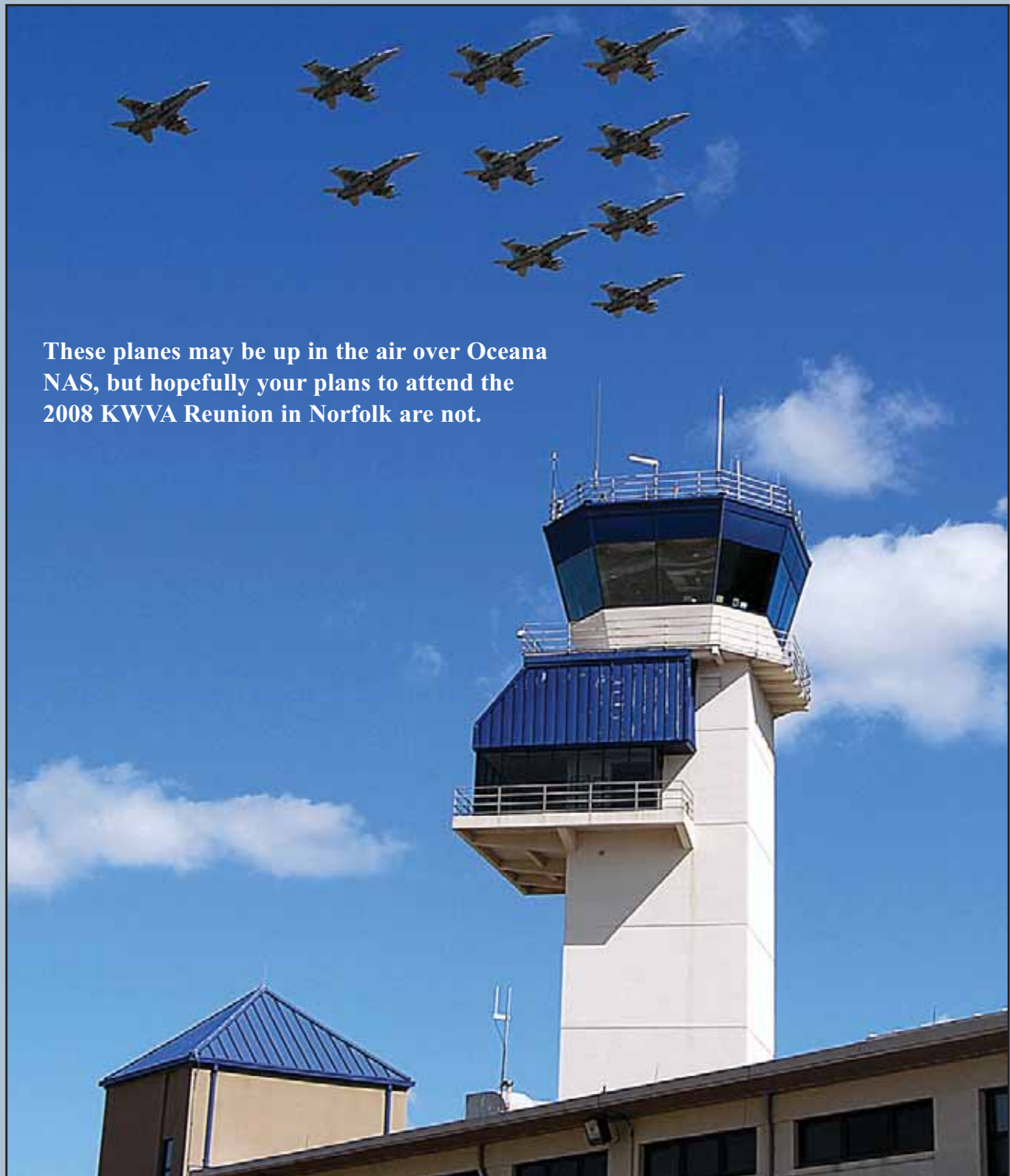
Your Pal,

Eddie

P.S. Pay no attention to the rumor that Fran is pregnant.

I still have the letter and other mementos in my Korean War footlocker.

Herbert (Art) Rideout, Sgt.
45th Tac Recon Sqdn
Kimpo AFB



These planes may be up in the air over Oceana NAS, but hopefully your plans to attend the 2008 KWVA Reunion in Norfolk are not.

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (Sept. 30, 2007) - Aircraft from the "Sunliners" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 87 perform a squadron flyby over the control tower at Naval Air Station Oceana before reuniting with their families. VFA-87 returned from a six-month Western Pacific deployment aboard aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68). U.S. Navy photo by 1st Class Edward I. Fagg

Korean War Veterans Association
Membership Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407
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