

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

September - October 2008

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VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL
WHO SERVED

NOVEMBER 11, 2008



The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



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Attention Members

All interim and open positions will be filled and approval of the Board of Directors will be 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.



From the President

William Mac Swain

Your new administration, after 81 days in operation, can report that we have become a Foreign Corporation in Texas, Virginia and Illinois, and have updated our agents in each of these three states where we have operations. In addition, we have been cleared in Illinois to conduct our fund raiser. This fund raiser, which began on August 20th, will be used to help us fund our Charter and *The Graybeards* publication, and accumulate emergency repair funds for our National Korean War Monument in Washington, DC.

As President, I have met many dignitaries, both American and Korean. Since we received our Charter; we participated as a recognized Association in the Veterans Affairs Veterans Day Committee for this event in Washington, DC on November 11th. We will have completed our first Annual Membership Meeting in Norfolk, VA by the time you receive this report.

I have been notified that many members did not receive their magazine until the middle of September, even though this edition was placed in the mail on August 20, 2008. This means that it has taken some 25 days for it to reach some of our members. This is a problem which this administration will undertake to correct.

I receive many e-mails and letters asking me what the National Organization does for a Chapter/Department or member. I find that question to be easy to answer for a Chapter or Department.

A Chapter or Department would not exist had there not been a National Organization to bring Korean War veterans together to form Chapters and also later Departments. Those Chapters or Departments asking me that question should recognize that they would have a hard time finding Korean War veterans in their areas to form a group without the database of the National Organization.

It is now easy with the National Database to form a Chapter to meet together, to accomplish the great things they do

I receive many e-mails and letters asking me what the National Organization does for a Chapter/Department or member. I find that question to be easy to answer for a Chapter or Department.

together, such as building monuments and teaching about the Korean War in schools and at other community associations and clubs.

Chapters would not have been able to volunteer together at the VA as a group to help those veterans who need assistance. All of these things mentioned honor your buddies who did not return as you did. They also help you show your pride in what you accomplished in the name of freedom for a people who were in desperate need of a champion.

Those great monuments and highways named in honor of your service to your country would probably not exist without the Chapters and Departments which worked to have them named. Without Chapters, many Korean veterans would not receive information at meetings on what to do or who to contact when ill or in need of help.

For the At-Large Member, the answer is not quite as easy, except to say that there probably would not be a National

Monument to the Korean War veterans if there had not been a National Organization formed to raise money and contact those with the power to make it so. There would be no inclusive magazine dedicated to the Korean War and Korean Service veteran.

Korean Americans and the Korean War Veterans of Korea would not be able to find you to show you their appreciation, or offer trips to return to Korea, if National did not exist to find and give them our members' names.

I do not like to use words of others, but in this case I must. "Ask not what National can do for you; ask what you can do to make the National Organization a more recognizable entity, to keep my place in history in front of the American people and as a contact point for South Koreans to show their appreciation."

So, I believe that the National Organization is necessary and does a lot for Chapters, Departments and the At-Large Korean War veteran.

William Mac Swain,

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:

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Email Address: Membership@kwva.org

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Thank you—and Welcome Aboard, Jamie!

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

COVER: The official 2008 Veterans Day poster provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.



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There was something about the wording in an essay I was reading recently that I could not put my finger on. Then, it hit me: soldiers (and I use the term generically) apparently live in a separate universe from civilians.

Okay, maybe I am stretching a point here, but this is what struck me. The writer said: "I thank all those veterans who have given up so much for their country and pray that we can live up to their legacy." It's the use of the words "their country" that caught my attention. Hey, it's "our" country, too.

I am sure the writer did not consciously set up a distinction between "theirs" and "ours." He was making a valid point regardless. Soldiers do give up a lot for "their" country, but they look at it as a service to the whole country, not just "theirs." That distinction eludes a lot of people.

Listen and read carefully to non-service personnel when they talk about soldiers and their country. You will read and hear about soldiers who fought for "their" country, or died for "their" country. I have heard many speakers at patriotic events like Memorial Day or Veterans Day ceremonies say that soldiers fought and died for "their" country. No, they fought and died for "our" country, so that we can all live in peace—although we don't seem to do that often. I think of that subtle distinction every time I go to a football game at the University of Massachusetts' McGurk Stadium.

Betsy and I get up to UMass for football games as often as we can. The events are rife with tradition and history. UMass' team nickname is the "Minutemen." Some people tried a few years ago to get it changed because they considered "Minutemen" sexist. Fortunately, they failed.

These politically correct zealots wanted to change the nickname to "Minutepersons" or "Minutefolks" or "Minuteguppies"...anything but the sexist sounding "Minutemen." Fortunately, some people at UMass, in a rare moment of common sense, rejected the idea and retained the nickname. That was the historically correct thing to do. After all, it was "Minutemen" who marched off to fight the British in 1776, not "Minutepersons," "Minutefolks," or "Minuteguppies."

There can be no division between the men and women in the military today who are doing the fighting and those of us who are relying on them to protect our freedom. Everybody benefits from their efforts in hot spots across the globe.

Folks back in 1776 were not concerned about sexist language. John Adams, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, and other Massachusetts patriots did not sit around the statehouse in Boston and debate the proper terminology for Paul Revere to use when he set off on Silver to yell, "The British are coming." (Oops, maybe he worked with silver and Tonto rode the horse of that name, but not in 1776. I get my historical facts mixed up on occasion.) Adams and his compatriots were more concerned about freedom—theirs and ours. History books record that their goal was achieved. We have been a free country ever since—well, since 1783 or so.

Historians tell us that the national leaders of the time, e.g., the aforementioned Massachusetts dudes, George Washington, Richard Lee, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin, realized that they were fighting for an entire country's independence. They did not refer to the "Minutemen" as fighting for "their" freedom. They referred to it as "our" freedom. And so it should be today, as it is with contemporary "Minutemen."

UMass' "mascot troop" comprises a group of young people dressed in "Minutemen" costumes. Every time I see them march into McGurk Stadium carrying their flags and standing at attention as the 300+-member UMass band plays the National Anthem, I shiver with patriotism. No doubt some of the original "Minutemen" were younger than these kids, all of whom

are of age to fight for their country. But, if they are called into the military, for whose country will they fight? It has to be "ours."

There can be no division between the men and women in the military today who are doing the fighting and those of us who are relying on them to protect our freedom. Everybody benefits from their efforts in hot spots across the globe. When some of them pay the ultimate price for fighting for freedom, they are not doing so for any ulterior motive. They are fighting for "our" freedom, not "theirs."

Sure, the ultimate outcome of a war—for the victors at least—is freedom. Everybody on the winning side enjoys that freedom. In some cases, such as Germany and Japan after World War II, the losers do too. Korea? That is a different story. The good folks living in South Korea sure benefited. Those living above the 38th Parallel? Not so much.

Anyway, we have to stress to non-military people that soldiers do not fight, become heroes, and in some cases die for "their" country. We may not all be involved in the actual fighting, but we are all involved in the outcome. If the "good guys" win, freedom is assured. If they don't, well...I shudder to think about it. The bottom line, though, is this: it is "our" country that soldiers fight for. We all have a stake in the battle for freedom.

Freedom is not a "theirs" vs. "ours" thing. It is "ours"—and only ours.

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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



Well, this has not been a good last two months since we published the July-August edition. It is one of those “dammed if you don’t and dammed if you do” situations.

On page 14 of that edition there were copies of emails from and to Ginny Sanders. She was trying to find out what branch of service her sister-in-law’s father served with in Korea. She told me that her sister-in-law was guessing that he was possibly in the Navy, since he worked at the shipyard in San Francisco. But, she knew that her father fought in land battles while he was in Korea.

I responded and said that “there were times that everyone was fighting land battles in Korea, no matter what branch of service. However, if he was fighting land battles he was probably not in the Navy.” One of our members took exception to that comment. Following are some excerpts from his email and my response.

His email:

I just received the July/August copy of *The Graybeards* and was I not only surprised that you answered Ginny Sanders question about “land battles,” but was very offended in your answer.

She asked, “Do you know if the Navy ever fought in land battles in Korea?” You stated that if her sister-in-law’s father was fighting land battles, he was probably not in the Navy. Wow! How misinformed you are.

I am a former Combat Navy Corpsman who served with the First Marine Division in Korea from December 1952 thru March 1954 (fifteen months). I was assigned to the 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division and served in battle for more than five months before being transferred to Easy Company, 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Division.

While assigned to the 5th Marines I was on TAD (temporary additional duty) to the First Korean Marine Division and had duty with a TACP (tactical air control party) on a forward outpost on Vegas. We saw and were engaged in many battles, and I attended many wounded American and Korean Marines during time.

It is true that when a Navy Corpsman is assigned to the Marines he gives up his Navy Blues and is given Marine Greens. Every Corpsman that was assigned to the

Marines was called “Doc.” General “Chesty” Puller USMC gave an address to the First Marine Division stating, “Once a Marine, always a Marine, and once a Navy Corpsman always a Navy/Marine Corpsman.”

Did Navy men fight “Land Battles?” Look at the records. There were more than a thousand Navy Corpsmen wounded and received Purple Hearts, and more than five who received the nation’s highest honor, *The Medal Of Honor*. No, we didn’t fight “Land Battles.” It was only my imagination.

Let’s get the record straight.

My response:

Please accept my humble apologies. I was referring to the “Navy” as a whole and not the Navy Corpsmen that ended up supporting the Marines. In fact, my Chapter 158 is named for Doc Charette, a Navy Corpsman, who is a recipient of the Medal of Honor.

I would never intentionally offend any member of any service. I was only trying to make a point to Ms. Sanders that Mr. Dart was probably in the Army. If you reread the article, I commented that “there were times that everyone was fighting land battles, no matter what branch of service.”

I get several emails like this everyday, along with several telephone calls. I do my best to respond to them appropriately, but sometimes I just do not have the time to reconsider what I have said and, unfortunately, the words do not come out like they should. Best regards.

Here is another complaint on the same article: As you read in the article, Ms. Sanders was able to get the military records for Mr. Dart. He indeed was in the Army, and he was assigned to 52nd Field Artillery, 24th Infantry Division.

I told Ms. Sanders that we would try and identify the members that were assigned to that unit and sent the information to her so she could contact those individuals by phone or mail and maybe she would be lucky. So, the “Rest of the Story,” as Paul Harvey would say:

I received a call from a member criticizing me for giving out confidential information on our members. We have occasionally given out the names and units that members were assigned to, but we are very selective on who we give it to and how much. In this case it is only the name, address and phone number.

Any one can go to our web site and from the home page get the same information for the complete list of officers, directors, Committee Chairman, etc. Why is the member information any more confidential?

I have initially agreed to suspend giving out any information on our members, which will certainly be a detriment to trying to help not only the members but the survivors who are looking for information on those that did not survive. This suspension is temporary.

I am asking our members if you object to releasing your name if it would help a fellow member or a survivor. Incidentally, the member who complained threatened to resign if I did not comply with his request.

GIFT POLICY FOR USA

The U.S. Army has put up a web site to facilitate donations from the public to help soldiers and their families at <http://giftstoarmy.army.mil>. While the Army states very clearly that they are not soliciting contributions, they are providing lots of information on how to make donations in 4 areas of concern: -

- Soldiers and Families (MWR);
- Wounded Warriors;
- Army Installations;
- How to Contribute.

Joyce Morrow, the administrative assistant to the Secretary of the Army, explained: “Many individuals have asked how they can help the Army. We appreciate how generous the public is and the concern they have for the welfare of our soldiers and families. We’ve developed this Web site to provide information on how to contribute money, goods or services to benefit Soldiers and their Families.” [Source: TREA Washington Update 29 Aug 08 + +]

KWVA takes its place at the table

President Bill Mac Swain and Director Tom McHugh attended a meeting on 4 September of The Veterans Day National Committee meeting in the conference room of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

This committee plans several hundred thousand Veterans Day Teacher Resource Guides and manages the Veterans Day ceremony at Arlington Cemetery, where the President lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The committee is composed of the Commanders of all the major Veterans Service Organizations. Attendance is one of the perks of possessing a Federal Charter—and it gives the KWVA its long-awaited place at the table with the other major Veterans Service Organizations.

Thanks to Marty Goge of CID 142 for submitting the information and the photo.

The committee is composed of the Commanders of all the major Veterans Service Organizations. Attendance is one of the perks of possessing a Federal Charter...

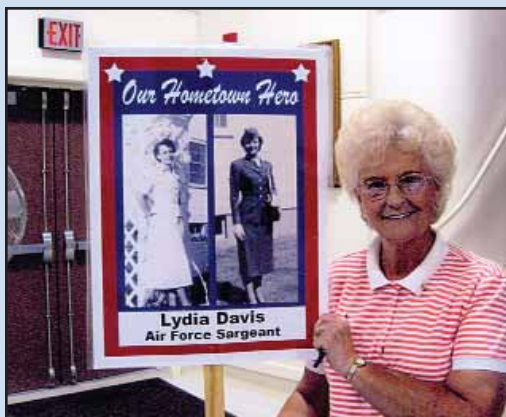
KWVA President Bill Mac Swain and National Director Tom McHugh at Veterans Day National Committee meeting



KWVA Team Celebrates Receipt of Federal Charter



From left, Bob Banker, Ed Buckman, Sam Johnson (Korean Vet, Vietnam Vet and 7-year captive of North Vietnamese), US Representative from Richardson, TX and "namesake" for Chapter # 270, Bill Mac Swain, and Bill Hutton, Past KWVA National Secretary, celebrate KWVA's Federal Charter. (Messrs. Banker and Buckman were key in getting the Charter.)



Lydia Davis of CID 251, "Hard Worker of the Month"

'Hard Worker of the Month'

Every Chapter has hard workers. One of CID 251's is Lydia Davis, who entered the U.S. Air Force at age 18 and served as a sergeant during the Korean War.

Bob Simon of CID 251 reports that, "She was elected as our Chapter's 2nd Vice Commander for 2008-09. Not only is she a co-chair for Rose of Sharon sales, but she is currently filling in for our Adjutant, who is recovering from major surgery."

As Simon emphasized, "She is a true leader."

Members in the NEWS



Louis Dechert

KWVA Past National President receives highest award of the Korean Veterans Association

On 3 July 2008 Chairman Dr. Park Sek-jik, Major General Retired, ROK Army, presented Past President Louis Dechert with the Grand Meritorious Service Medal, the highest award of the six million-member Korean Veterans Association (KVA). Mrs. Dechert and Mrs. Park were in attendance.

The KVA is based in Seoul, Republic of Korea (ROK).

Dr. Park is a former Mayor of Seoul, former Minister of Administration for the ROK Government, former Member of the National Assembly, former head of the National Korean Intelligence Agency, and the National Organizing Chairman for the World Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, 1988.

Dr. Park read the citation, which stated in part: "...in 'grateful recognition of your support and cooperation that contributed to the security of the Republic of Korea and to the development of this Association.'"

Ron Gornick

Ron Gornick, of Chisholm, MN, was featured in an 8 June 2008 article in the *Minnesota Legionnaire*, p. 7. Even though he earned 2 Purple Hearts and survived a mission in which 14 of the 15 people in his squad were killed, he did not get his Combat Infantryman's Badge—at least not until 57 years later.

As the article notes, Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty presented Gornick with the CIB in June, along with a brevet 2nd Lt's bar. That was quite a day for Gornick—but it was only part of his unique story.

To learn more about Gornick's story, go to <http://www.mnlegion.org/paper/html/gornick.html>

Judith Knight

Judith Knight, a life member of Chapter 255, SFT Harold F. Adkinson, Aiken, SC, is very involved in a Fisher

House project in Aiken County, SC. She wrote:

The Fisher House Project is vital. The Aiken County Veterans Council has voted to have a permanent Fisher House Committee so that we may continue to support the house when it is up and functioning. This is a way to honor our military, past, present and future.

In addition to the Active Duty Rehab Unit, the only ADRU in a VAMC in the entire country, the Charlie Norwood VAMC, serves our active duty personnel as well as the veterans with a Blind Rehabilitation Unit where patients come to learn life skills as they deal with total or legal blindness.

Also, there are a Spinal Cord Injury Unit and a Traumatic Brain Injury Unit. The Charlie Norwood VAMC is state of the art and has an excellent reputation for serving the veterans and active duty. It would be a real boost to the fund raising efforts if such a prestigious service magazine as *The Graybeards* would publish this article, which appeared in the 7 September edition of the *Augusta [GA] Chronicle*.

Fisher House will fill vital need in community

By Judith Knight—Special Columnist

A unique connection exists among active-duty soldiers, veterans, Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Medical College of Georgia Hospital and the Uptown and Downtown divisions of the Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Centers.

When the Fisher Foundation became aware of that connection and the number of veterans and their families who could benefit from a Fisher House, they agreed to build a 21-bedroom, 16,000-square-foot house.

The active-duty rehab unit at the VA hospital in Augusta has treated more than 1,000 active-duty patients since it opened in 2004 and has a 28 percent return-to-duty rate.

Part of that care involves getting family members as close as possible while serv-

ice members heal. That's where the Fisher House comes in.

The estimated cost of the proposed Fisher House is \$5.4 million. The community will provide \$1.8 million. Donations of nearly \$520,000 came from corporate donors in Georgia and friends, families and others.

The Aiken County Veterans Council is a coalition of organizations dedicated to supporting veterans and active-duty military. The council has greater influence on areas of legislation affecting veterans than member organizations would have individually. Its members consider the construction of a Fisher House to be "mission critical."

The council's official fundraising in Aiken County began with a Fourth of July concert at Rose Hill Estate benefiting the Fisher House. Marine Corps League Detachment 939 and Friends of Freedoms Defenders served as ticket sellers, gatekeepers and parking directors. The audience responded generously with almost \$5,000 in donations. Since then, that amount has almost tripled.

Elementary pupils in Aiken County schools will participate in a special program during Patriotism Week, Nov. 10-14. The pupils will write letters to the governors of all 50 states, requesting donations to the Fisher House.

There is no Fisher House in South Carolina, and the seven-bedroom house at Fort Gordon is the only one in Georgia. It is hoped that groundbreaking for the new Fisher House can take place as early as spring.

The Aiken County Council has declared Sept. 13 as Fisher House Day in Aiken County by resolution, and Aiken is doing so by proclamation.

The Aiken County Veterans Council urges those who wish to participate as fundraisers to register with the veterans council at Fisher House Project, 260 Hill and Dell Drive, Warrenton, SC 29851.

Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to the Fisher House Fund Administrators Community Foundation of the CSRA, P.O. Box 31358, Augusta, GA 30903. On the memo line, you must put "Augusta VA Fisher House."

Judith Knight is the Fisher House Day Chairwoman for the Aiken County Veterans Council.

CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2009 for the following National KWVA positions:

- The offices of four Directors for the years of 2009-2012.

No later than February 15, 2009 any regular members in good standing of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) seeking to run for any of the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Tom McHugh, in writing, using the following format:

Requirements:

A. Must present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official Membership

Application Form showing eligible service years and a statement releasing the application form for verification by the Nominating Committee (no fee required)

B. Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.

C. Must submit a letter with the following:

- 1) Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
- 2) A resume of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.
- 3) Your current mailing address, telephone number and KWVA membership number.
- 4) This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.
- 5) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.

You must sign a statement that your dues are current through the whole term of the office that you are seeking. Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

E. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Nominating Committee Chairman **not later than February 15, 2009.**

Nominees are requested to contact the Nominating Committee Chairman if they have any questions.

Application and questions are to be addressed to:

Thomas M. McHugh
Nominating Chairman
217 Seymour Road
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
TMMcHugh@msn.com Ph: 908-852-1964

The process is as follows:

- The Nominating Committee certifies the candidates that are qualified to stand for office.
- The declarations are sent to the Editor of *The Graybeards* for publication in the March-April 2009 edition.
- The ballots are also published in that edition.
- Members then cast their ballots by June 10th.
- A CPA then counts the ballots and reports the results to the Nominating Committee.

Frank Cohee, National Secretary



One row right, one row wrong

In reference to *The Graybeards* dated May-June 2007, vol. 22, No. 3, the picture on page 69, the last row was listed the complete opposite as it should have been. It should be listed: (L-R) Sgt. Carson Bunch, Sgt. Boyd Shroyer, Pfc. Richard Parks, Pfc. Ralph Johnson, Cpl. Bill Weaver, Pfc. Edward Yoseck, ?, Pfc. Charles Meadows.

The front row was listed in the correct order, i.e. (L-R) SFC Fred Shively, PFC Frank Fujimoto, Cpl Charles Quantana, PFC Dale Hawkins. Also, you demoted me from a SFC to a Pfc.

Fredrick R. Shively 415 Walnut St. Covington, Ohio 45318

Editor's Note: We have reprinted the photo here—and restored PFC Shively to his original rank.



Incidentally, this is not related to the above photo, but please make sure when you are submitting photos to let us know who is Left to Right, or Right to Left. Our photo processing staff is not familiar with everyone in the KWVA, so identification of subjects is a great help to us.

Wrong Unit Designation

In the article on p. 56, "Safe Conduct Pass: Better Off Forgotten?", in the July-Aug 2008 issue, the wrong unit designation was provided for Vince McCormick. It should be B/1/1, rather than B/2/1.

Please support our advertisers

Hopefully, our readers will buy their products so we can retain our current advertisers, attract new advertisers, and use the revenues to underwrite the costs of producing *The Graybeards*.

No can opener—and a radio that wouldn't work

By Phil Street (Korea 1952)

I arrived in Korea in February 1952, where I was assigned to the 7th Motor Transport Battalion. On my first day there I noticed we had no can opener.

We fed almost 850 Marines at each meal, since we had a company of Amphibious Ducks TAD from the Second Marine Division assigned to the First Marine Division.

Cooking wasn't all we had to do. We also rode shotgun on the trucks and loaded large dump trucks with sand, using entrenching shovels that were made to dig foxholes. Maybe we could have used those entrenching tools to open cans of food.

Much of our food came in 16-ounce cans, and we had to use a meat cleaver to open them. Bacon came in one-pound cans, from which both the top and bottom had to be removed. In addition, the sides of the cans had to be split so we could get the bacon out of them. Many of us had a lot of bad cuts from getting the bacon out of those little cans.

When I left at the end of my tour thirteen months later, we still had no can opener.

Our M-1939 Cook Ranges had to have 40 pounds of air pressure pumped into them if they were to burn properly. But, we did not have an air compressor, so we used a bicycle pump, which took forever. The cold affected our ranges, just like it did everything else.

Most of our trucks in Korea never even had any doors. In the sub-zero weather Marines had to start the trucks every 30 minutes to make sure they would start when needed. Our canteens froze and burst on our sides if we forgot to empty half the water out.

The Navy Corpsmen put their glass vials of morphine in their mouths to keep it from freezing so they could give it to the wounded. Blood Plasma would freeze before medical personnel could get all of it into those who needed blood. Then there were our ranges.

The ranges had a generator (piece of

When we received water in the "water buffaloes" (portable water trailers) it was frozen solid, so we had to climb on top and use a big steel bar to break the ice into chunks so we could melt it to make coffee and cook for the Marines.

pipe) running down the center that had to reach a certain temperature before they would burn properly with a blue flame. Otherwise, they just burned yellow and would flood, instead of heating right—and they had a tendency to catch on fire.

With temperatures as low as minus 40 degrees, the leather seals inside the bicycle pumps would freeze. When the temperature was around zero, the leather was so stiff it could take 20 minutes or more to get the ranges ready, so we had to take turns pumping to get the 40 pounds of air in one range.

We had many ranges to pump up, so it took forever to get ready to light the burners. To make matters worse, when it was below zero the generators were too cold to start. So, we used a blow torch to heat the generators. But, it was often so cold the blow torch would not work, either. In those cases, we had to burn gasoline in the little cup below the blow torch nozzle in order to thaw the torch.

Many times it was still too cold for the blow torch to generate, so we had to keep repeating the process until the torch thawed out enough to work properly. We had one cook badly burned trying this, as he took a funnel with gas in it, placed his finger over the end, and just dripped the gas into the cup a little at a time. When he repeated this a second time, the cup on the blow torch was too hot. It ignited as soon as the gas hit it.

He threw the funnel in the air and the gasoline came down on his arm and set his clothes on fire.

When we received water in the "water buffaloes" (portable water trailers) it was frozen solid, so we had to climb on top and use a big steel bar to

break the ice into chunks so we could melt it to make coffee and cook for the Marines. The coffee was black: so was the camp, which was blacked out at night—except for the mess tent.

The cooks had to have some light, since they served the truck drivers who drove around the clock. We always had coffee and something to eat if they wanted it.

We had one cook who, for some reason known only to him, would get mad if a truck driver got coffee without asking him first. The cook had just bought a brand new leather-bound short-wave radio with AM on it from the PX truck that came around about once per month. The radio cost him at least a month's pay.

One night, when he was on duty, the Marine who ran the camp generators at night came in and got some coffee without asking first. The cook chewed him out and would not give him any coffee.

The Marine left. About three minutes later our lights got real bright. Then, all of them burned out. The cook's brand new radio was smoking and never did work again.

A few minutes later the Marine came over and said something happened to the generator. He brought new bulbs and some flashlights that we could use to help us change the bulbs.

He told me later, "That will teach him not to let me have coffee. I went back and ran the generator up to about 300 volts."

I never did tell the cook what caused his radio to burn up. I figured he deserved it.

Sgt. Phil Street served on active duty from 1951 to 1954.

Sometimes it's what you don't write...©

By Arthur G. Sharp
The Graybeards Staff Writer

People often intend to write their memoirs, but never get around to completing them. Instead, they jot down random unconnected thoughts, ideas, etc., with the intention of filling in the dots and connecting them later. Such was the case with Eldon Dale Allen, a Marine who served in Korea in 1952-53 with D-2-1, 1st Marine Division.

Allen's granddaughter Jenny found some of his musings after he died. She thought they might be of interest to our readers. But, she cautioned, "On some of the pages there are random notes and numbers. However, it is easy to see what is there to be read."

So, we present here some of Eldon Allen's innermost thoughts. It is too bad he never got to complete them. Unfortunately, that is the case with many veterans. They wait until it is too late to write their memoirs or even pass them down orally to their friends and families.

Their reasoning is valid: too many memories, too little time...That may have been the problem Eldon Allen, like so many of his counterparts, had.

But, we can only wonder where he was going with his mental meanderings. What would have been the result if he had had the time to expand and connect his thoughts? What would we have learned from his revelations?

Readers are left to wonder what Eldon Dale Allen was thinking, but never got to write. Sometimes it's what you don't write that might be of great interest to the people you leave behind.

Here are Eldon Allen's random thoughts (slightly edited for brevity and clarity):

One Marine Soul

One of my proudest memories was of Tent Camp #3 at Camp Pendleton on a raining, foggy morning. We were in formation for inspection by Gen. Chesty Puller. Our old gunnery sergeant was given the honor of calling the battalion to attention.

As his head moved slowly from company to company, there came the age-old warning call: "Battalion." It floated through the morning air in a clear, serious tone, searing each Marine soul.

After a five-second pause came the snappy order, "Ten-hut."

The whole battalion responded with one single sound as if the entire battalion was one Marine soul.

A Nation Won With Blood

To start with, South Korea is a country that chose freedom years ago. It is still free today. Their battle for freedom included perhaps your father, grandfa-

ther, neighbor, college professor or your grandchildren...

This war for freedom, which included many free nations, was not a "slap your face with a glove" situation, much less a police action. It was full-blown war!

Freedom won is the blossom. The red is still the color of fresh blood. The white is the purity of freedom's intentions. The blue reflects the bruises and scars of today that bear the truthful results of freedom won.

Our Flag Is Still There

1953—Little Could I See of the Future This Year. Then, one evening, as helicopters set us down on the Jamestown Line, I could see all this would be my new home of freedom. Only now we must fight for it. As the sun had already set.

The first day in Korea, we moved out to Outpost Carson. Early Dec. 1952.

7-27-53 My last day was spent in leaving a place of won freedom. The night before looked like this. (See photo below). Now, as I grow old, I still—most times—take a good hard look out my window. Our freedom, our flag, is still there.

For my name is freedom

As I walk the banner of stars

I search for a warm, quiet land

Where there won't be any wars.

I am an inventor of tools

Ain't no nonsense: there is a combat art connected to the 60mm mortar.

The night before looked like this



I shall never be satisfied till the young Marines have the combat knowledge. Why? Or how do I know? Because me and Pete outran a Chinese pattern, because I detected there was a standard pattern after the second round.

We outran it in an opposite direction. From that day forward I always shot a “scrambled” pattern, one that no enemy can outrun.

I can reproduce this live-range fire today. But it will never be the same. In fact, there is no pattern. I can fire a “box in” pattern. Yet, the patterns won’t be the same.

Who would give me the chance to teach these young mortar gunners?

Yup, pass it off as history. Today I am an inventor of tools...materials...and I draw royalties from such inventions.

All Are the Sons of Hell

The Chinese had to have four times the equipment, hospitals, artillery, ammo and men than we had. It would take hundreds of Chinese just to drag off their dead and wounded.

North Korea knew before the conflict started that “Big Brother” China would come to their rescue. In fact, China was there all the time. It planned for North Korea to get their feet first.

Chosin was an Oriental trap. Only the frigid weather there was the worst enemy of all.

Russia, also the main root of communism, planned and supported everything, right down to the cease fire. Seems like down through the ages, Satan always gives birth to a Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini, or Saddam. All are the “Sons of Hell.”

The Bottom Line is “We Won”

Forty years ago this 7-27 many Marines were defending Boulder City. The communists could not take this outpost.

At 2200 hours, the cease fire began. What a sight!

A bomber flew along the 38th Parallel dropping flares as a signal. On the ground the Chinese fired flares as a signal from their side. The Marines did likewise.

The Marines have never forgotten Korea. We fought on their ground so South Korea could be free. South Korea has been a free and prospering country ever since. The bottom line is, “We Won!”

Ask any South Korean.

Our Master Creator Will Tend the Harvest

The bones of Americans still in the North Korean mountains are the planted seeds for a new freedom. Our Master Creator will tend the harvest, and it shall be great, for the dead in battle represent freedom for new life in peace and harmony.

Those wounded in battle are the living testimony, proof of this fact, as well as the next generation of children born in the arms of freedom.

Red...white...blue uniform. The field flag...the stars...are the generals and battles won. Freedom’s eagle is worn by every Marine for peace throughout this globe.

A stink we had to live with

It was like opening a fresh foam casket on a rugged mountain top place of the brave dead.

A very sad situation. In the process of robbing the Chinese of this hallowed position, I stuck a pick through the back of a dead Marine—all the way—ad stirred up a stink we all had to live with.

Pfc Eldon Dale Allen



Enter My World of Darkness, Thou Earthly Fool

First, pay the price
With your pride and Life
Ignorant—alone on a slab
Eternal and cool.
Yet inquire—in my peaceful rest
There you may find
Contented, mystery solved
In the eagles, mysterious nest.
For a wing aloft
At dawn’s first light
To feed my young
In my earthly flight.
I am proud—pure
And perfect.
I am America’s
Eagle.

Marines “at rest” in Korea



The Monsoon Baptizes Each Tear, Each Stain

For it's the Master's tear
Cleansed from Heaven
Each Freedom pain.
My eye trained at the target
Heaven nor hell mattered.
As the fire pattern was unleashed
Leaving the foe dead and scattered.
What is this about forgiveness?
I don't forgive—till my Master does.
Then I forgive, and ask the Master's
grace
To tread the battlefield—a rubble of
loving waste.
Why war? Why hate?
Why not freedom? Why not peace?
Why not love in our small time?
Why not liberty—unless we can't for-
give?
If we can, then we have true freedom.
So then we must kill—and forgive.
May Jesus forgive us
As we walk in his freedom creation.
**It takes experience to write about
war**

If I had no experience in the subject, I
could not write about it. (Korea, 1952)
The final poem

*Let's conclude this mélange of missing
memoirs with the poem that was read at
Eldon Dale Allen's funeral in Little Rock,
Arkansas in 1994. (See the sidebar.)*

*For Eldon Dale Allen, there was a finite
life. It is lamentable that it did not allow
him the time or the luxury of completing
his thoughts as he completed his life: with
honor, dignity, and a well-developed sense
of freedom.*

*Semper Fi, Marine—and thanks to his
granddaughter, Jenny Allen, for preserv-
ing this small piece of history.*

FREEDOM

**I was born in the heart of all free men
as they grow, I fight their battles that
mend
I mature in every dream, yet to the
enemy
A shadow unseen.**

**I am the muse of nature
the smile of a child tender
yet to the enemy, Death's coldness
I'll render.**

**I am the silent dense fog
Its awesome soundless scream
yet they must wait, as I battle on
for the eagle is on the wing.**

**I stalk the enemy's camp
as shadows of the night
I am the unseen force
in tomorrow's victory fight.**

**I am the "Bush", In a small sound
at the dead hour of night
that causes the enemy to tremble
in nerve tingling fright.**

**I am the dawn of doomsday
A bomb burst, lights my path
I am freedom's great power
unleashed at last.**

**"For My Name is Freedom"
I walk the banner of stars
I search for a warm quiet land
where there won't be any wars.**

**My companion is Miss Liberty
as she holds the light
to guide your foot steps home
each Cold, Dark, Lonely Night.**

"AMEN"

1173969

U.S.M.C. Korea

Semper Fi, Eldon Dale Allen

Service Members MIA From Korean War Identified

Cirildo Valencio

July 24, 2008 – The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman missing in action from the Korean War have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Master Sgt. Cirildo Valencio, U.S. Army, of Carrizo Springs, Texas. He was buried on Aug. 4 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

Representatives from the Army met with Valencio's next-of-kin to explain the recovery and identification process on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

Valencio was assigned to Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, then occupying a defensive position near Unsan, North Korea in an area known as the "Camel's Head." On Nov. 1, 1950, parts of two Chinese Communist Forces divisions struck the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing the perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. In the process, the 3rd Battalion was surrounded and effectively ceased to exist as a fighting unit. Valencio was one of the more than 350 servicemen unaccounted-for from the battle at Unsan.

In 2002, a joint U.S.-Democratic People's Republic of Korea team, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), excavated a burial site south of Unsan near the nose of the "Camel's Head" formed by the joining of the Nammyon and Kuryong rivers. The team recovered human remains.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of the 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) 699-1420.

National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

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

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

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



MILITARY STOLEN VALOR

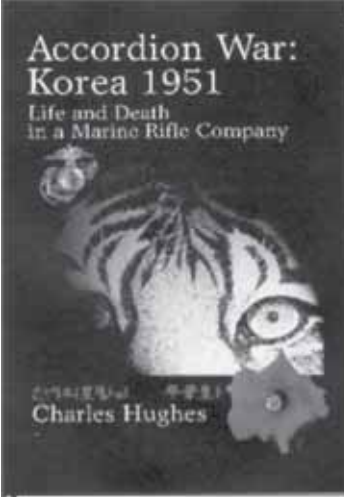
About two dozen members and guests of the Armed Forces E9 Association, Inc. gathered at the association's national headquarters 16 AUG to hear Mary Schantag of the P.O.W. Network of Skidmore, Mo talk about the 3,400 names they've confirmed as fraudulent claimants of high military medals or disabled or prisoner-of-war status, or all three. "We've determined that 30% of the people listed as Medal of Honor winners never received the medal," she said. "In all, 20 to 40% of all military records showing honors or qualifications for special government assistance are fraudulent. It breaks the law to make fraudulent claims and breaks others to use them to gain benefits, but the FBI and federal courts are overloaded with drug and violent crimes, so most people get away with this." Schantag had a roster of about 3,400 names she said the network had established were bogus medal winners, disabled veterans or former prisoners of war taped to the wall.

The occasion was the E9 Association's second annual Stolen Valor Seminar at its Charlie R. Green Memorial Hall. The group, open to active duty military personnel and retirees who reached the top enlisted pay grade of E9, was incorporated in 1984. Schantag and her husband, Chuck Schantag, a disabled veteran, founded the P.O.W. Network in 1988 and received 22 complaints the first year. Now she said they receive reports of suspected fraud every week and check them all out with the Defense Department. The nonprofit corporation receives no government funds. She told of a man who was posing as a military chaplain and conducting wedding ceremonies for military couples who would then try to record their marriages on post, only to be warned of possible courts-martial. "Children will call in to say their father is representing himself as a Medal of Honor winner or disabled veteran. We'll hear that a wife has tried to get military honors for her deceased husband, only to be told he was not even a veteran. The problem is that you can download all the documents the services used to issue and fill them out yourself and then give them to the Veterans Administration or other authority, who don't have time to check everything."

One tip-off in a fraudulent prisoner-of-war claim is that the term seldom appears on genuine DD-214's (records of military service) issued before the mid-1980s. She reeled off a list of 12 selected cases of fraud she said cost the government \$924,000 in benefits, bilking the public and shortchanging qualified veterans. "A man can say he was bitten by rats in a POW cell and escaped, running six miles in his skivvies until he reached friendly troops, and it sounds more convincing than most stories that are actually the truth, which is usually nowhere near that dramatic," she said. She lauded U.S. House Resolution 3769, introduced by Rep. John Salazar of Colorado and co-sponsors to mandate a searchable database of military decorations and promoted the use of the SF-180, which service personnel or veterans can sign to authorize investigations of claims about their service. "Anyone can obtain a blank DD-214 and falsify it," she said. "If the VA and veterans organizations would insist on this form, they could cut way down on fraud. If a fraudulent claimant

is presented with it, he'll just refuse to sign it." In addition, most information on veterans is available through the Freedom of Information Act.

In 2005, President Bush signed the Stolen Valor Act, which makes a misdemeanor of any false claim to have been awarded any military decoration or medal. Schantag said, "We're not talking about guys just telling stories in a bar. We're talking about people cheating the government and the public out of millions of dollars and cheating legitimate veterans by using up money and time. They speak in our schools and churches, and if their names aren't removed from records, then historical documents are false. Claims to have served in high-profile elite units such as the Army Rangers and Navy Seals are far more common than others. Some fraudulent claimants have never been in the military, but others are veterans trying to enhance their status. Federal authorities don't have time or resources enough to investigate all cases and called for state governments to enact laws prohibiting fraudulent claims of service and benefiting from such claims. Some states already have laws covering various aspects of the issue." More information is available from Chuck or Mary Schantag at the P.O.W. Network, Skidmore MO, 64487, (660) 928-3303 email info@pownetwork.org or website www.pownetwork.org. [Source: Killeen Daily Herald Don Bolding article 17 Aug 08 ++]



**Accordion War:
Korea 1951**
Life and Death
in a Marine Rifle Company
Charles Hughes

**Accordion War:
KOREA 1951**

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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.

CONSERVE THE FIGHTING

I practiced my trade everywhere from a company CP in a bunker to the comfort of a Jamesway Hut...wherever GIs needed a dentist. I fixed them up and sent them back to duty in compliance with the mission of the Medical Service, which is to "Conserve the Fighting Strength."

Luxury Suite, Downtown Office Building

By Dr. John Laura

The infantrymen, the demolition men, the tankers and artillerymen are the heroes of a war. They lay their life on the line every day, dig the foxholes, eat cold C-rations and do the dirty work of war. They get wounded, get sick—and get toothaches.

Medics are the ones who sew their wounds, medicate them, and fix the broken teeth and jaws. In the 13 months I spent in Korea from April 1952 to May 1953, my job was their dental health.

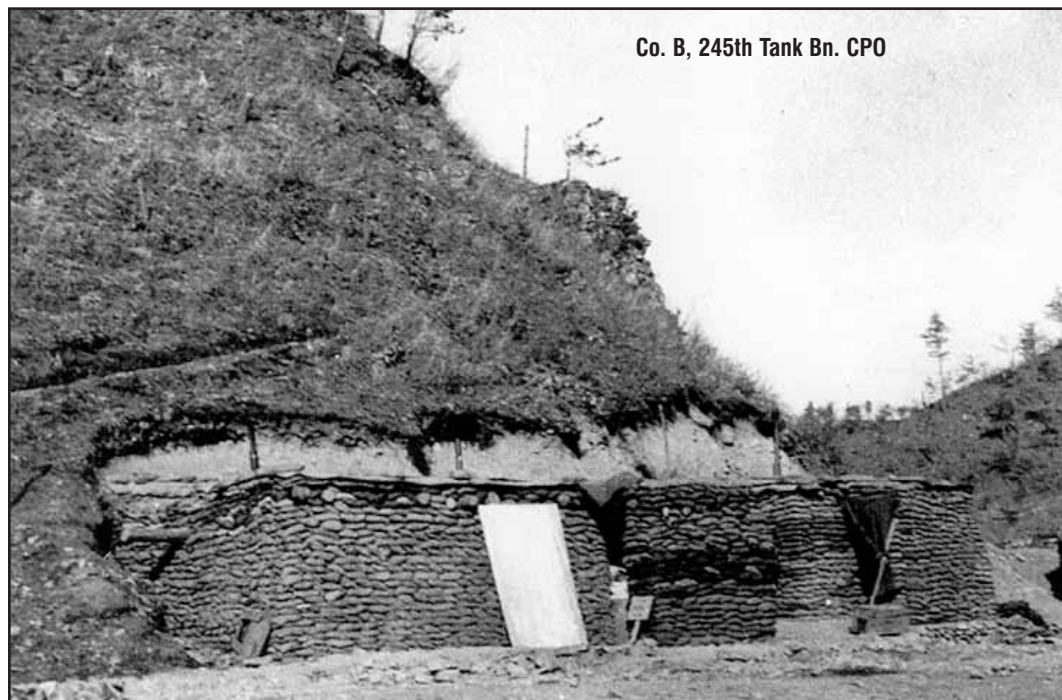
After a few weeks at Brooke Army Medical Center at "Fort Sam," I was assigned to the Far East Command and given a boat ride to Tokyo. Then I went on the "pipeline" to Seoul and was assigned to the 120th Medical Battalion of the 45th Division and given a "Chest-60." (If there are any Army dentists reading this, that's the thing you have probably only heard of. It is footlocker size and has a collapsible chair, dental drill with a foot treadle, instruments, supplies and everything needed to practice dentistry in the field. Packed up

and loaded in a deuce and a half, it goes where I go.)

My first assignment was Camp Casey. Then I was assigned to the "Two For a Nickel" (245th) Tank Battalion. I told my sergeant dental assistant what we needed. He scrounged a motor and a "Little Joe" generator from a tank and some plywood to keep the chair out of the mud. We soon discovered we needed to ground the motor or a spark would jump from the drill to the patient.



Two Lieutenants and a Sergeant receive the Silver Star

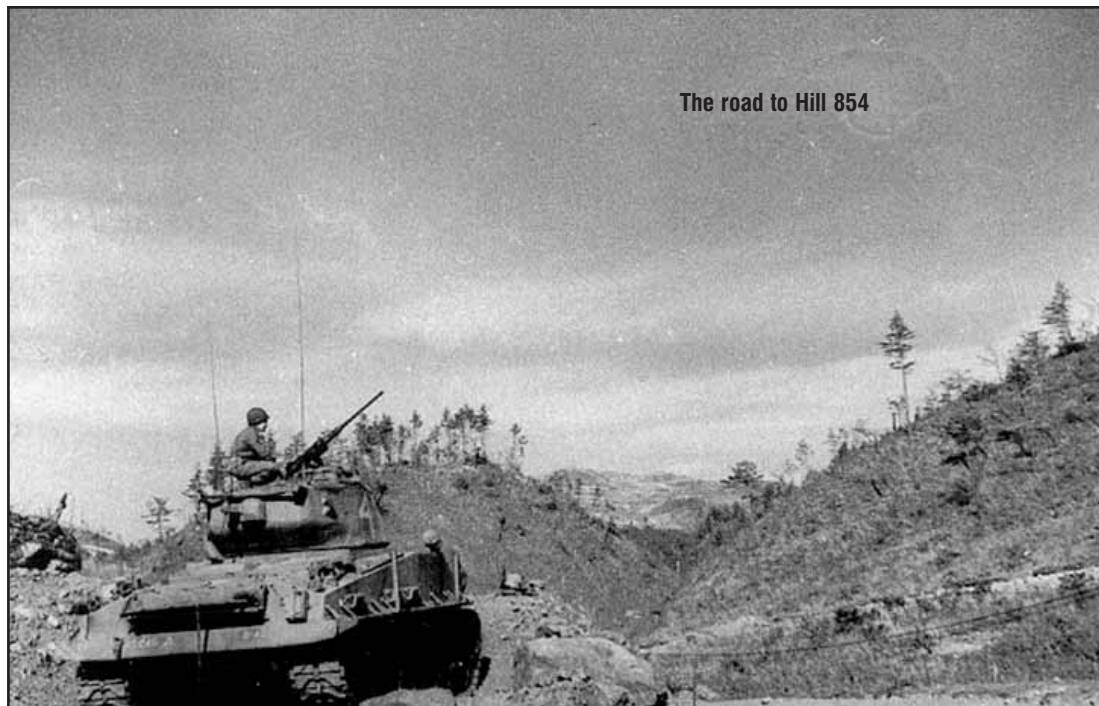


Co. B, 245th Tank Bn. CPO



STRENGTH

For a while, as Division Prosthodontist I was in charge of making bridges and dentures for the division. I instituted a program where each unit in turn could send a man to the clinic for a denture. He would be assigned TDY to the medical battalion for four appointments, which took 2-1/2 days. After



The road to Hill 854

that, he was sent back to his unit with his false teeth. In between appointments he would push a broom or do whatever needed to be done.

So, as a dentist I didn't shoot guns, mortars or such, but I saw the damage they caused. In a forward aid station, when the wounded, burned or whatever came in, I did my share of helping the surgeon

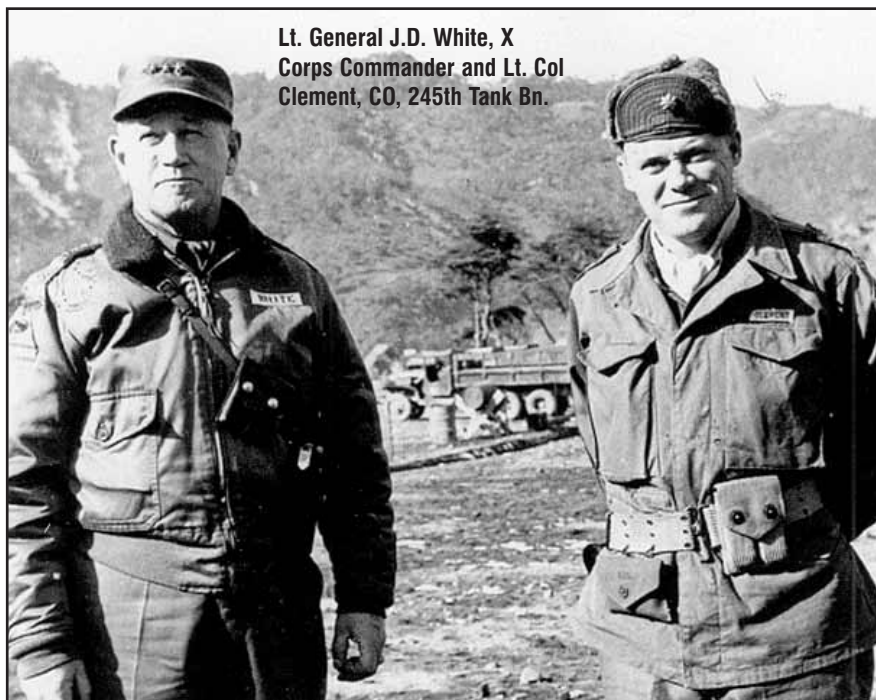
suture gunshot wounds that would have caused the victims to bleed to death if they did not receive immediate treatment.

My dental assistant and I helped treat burn victims and saw to it they got shipped off to an evac hospital or put on a helicopter to an airfield from where the ones who lived could be flown to the burn unit at Brooke.

It was an experience that I never will forget. I wouldn't take a million dollars for it—but I wouldn't give you two cents to do it over again.

Dr. John Laura, 8 Parkington Circle, E. Syracuse, NY 13057 (315) 637-8264 jlaura@twcny.rr.com

"Easy Eights" lined up



**Lt. General J.D. White, X
Corps Commander and Lt. Col
Clement, CO, 245th Tank Bn.**



92nd ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

PART III:

Continued from the July-August Issue of *The Graybeards*, Vol 22, No. 4

Unit History For January, 1951

The first day of 1951 broke clear and cold. The Battalion Commander was called to Headquarters X Corps Artillery at 0900 hours, where instructions were received to move the battalion north to the vicinity of Seoul. Upon closing there, the battalion was to be detached from X U.S. Corps and attached to I U.S. Corps.

On 3 January the Advance Party left the vicinity of Taejon at 0800 hours and continued north through Kumchon - Osan - Suwon to Yongdong- Po, the location of I U.S. Corps.

The early morning hours of 4 January were highlighted by heavy explosions from the vicinity of Seoul and Inchon. Upon checking with Colonel Hallock at I U.S. Corps, instructions were received directing the battalion to assemble in the vicinity of Chonan, some 55 miles south of Yongdong-Po.

7 January proved warmer and heavily overcast. Reconnaissance parties including the Battalion Commanders departed on patrol at 0800 hour. As they proceeded north to Songwan, they made contact with the 39th Field Artillery Battalion, where a general position area was

assigned. From there, the party proceeded to the general position area where Battery Commanders received their positions.

The battalion was ordered moved at 1005 hours. Battery Commanders were dispatched to the release point to receive their batteries. The battalion closed into firing positions at 1100 hours. Communication nets were established and liaison officers were dispatched. Security outposts and perimeter defenses were coordinated by the Battalion Executive. At 1600 hours, Battery "B" was registered on a check point marking the battalion's first firing in South Korea.

On 12 January the temperature was six degrees below zero. It was the battalion's coldest morning in South Korea. Although clear and sunny, the day proved to be a bitter one for outside work. Due to the extreme cold, motors were started every 3 hours during the night and run for 20 minutes. The 20-minute periods loosened sludge in the circulatory systems and restored life to the battery. Shorter periods of operation proved more harmful by depleting the battery.

22 January broke cold, but a bright sun soon warmed everything. Fifty 1,000 foot rolls of barb-wire were installed along the perimeter. Fragmentary grenades and trip-flares were intermingled into the double-apron barb-wire.

The full length of wire was covered by flares.

Experiments were conducted in the demolition of HE and White Phosphorous projectiles as obstacles along likely avenues of approach. These were wired with electric caps for detonation at will, electrically,

from a control point. Fresh turkey was issued for one meal and enthusiastically received by everyone as a welcome relief from canned rations. Each man was issued two cans of beer. A message, received from Eighth Army Headquarters, directed the battalion to draw six towed 155 howitzers and 5 tractors to bring the battalion fire power to that of 18 guns.

The night hours of 27-29 January were filled with action, when the CCF counter-attacked our infantry on objective No. 36 at 0115 hours. At an estimated strength of 300, the enemy first hit Company "A", 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry Regiment, separating it and overrunning its Command Post. Later, the enemy hit Companies "B" and "C."

A tremendous barrage of artillery was brought to bear by FOs. The artillery fire continued well over an hour, shifting from one concentration and then the other. At approximately 0420 hours, the enemy attacked the 2nd Battalion, 65th Regiment to the direct front.

Infiltrating at first, the enemy succeeded in flanking their position. Again, a heavy barrage of artillery was brought down as close as 75 yards to friendly troops. By 0630, all positions had been restored, with only light casualties inflicted on our men in both attacks. The Division Commander, Major General Soule, and the Division Artillery Commander, Brigadier General Shugg, credited the artillery with the successful halt of the counter-attack.

During the day, the Battalion Commander and S-2 visited front line infantry positions and confirmed the efficiency of the artillery fires by interviews with infantry men. On the promise that last night's attack might have been a probing attack to be followed by a large scale attack tonight, all outposts were reinforced and final perimeters dug and



C Battery Howitzer - Chonan, January 1951 (Harrison)



wired in. Trip flares were set up around the area and all guards were particularly alerted. Plans to renew the offensive were made for the next day. Battery "A" captured one CCF prisoner while patrolling the hills in their sector.

During this first month of the new year, the U.N. Forces were transformed from a retreating force to an offensive force. In the somber days following the Hungnam beachhead and the simultaneous reversals along the Eighth Army front, a feeling of depression and defeatism was apparent in most quarters. Enforced by great numerical odds, the CCF hit in several sections unmercifully, causing a reluctance among our forces to engage them with any degree of determination and confidence. Rather, most eyes were fixed to the rear, to the next delaying position, which regrettably were abundant on most situation maps.

Among this prevailing pessimistic undercurrent, some Commanders, initially in the minority, expressed a strong feeling that we could defeat the CCF if we approached them on a solid front, combed our hills, and massed our fire power in contrast to the wide envelopments and piecemeal frittering away of our forces. By mid-January this objective thinking gathered more strength and finally materialized into a cautious offensive movement that gradually gathered the confidence of all commanders and troops alike.

Toward the end of January, the U.N. Offensive gained momentum as confidence replaced fear. Repeatedly, the CCF were met by our infantry, who were meticulously combing the high ground, massing all their available fire power, and repeatedly knocking the enemy off their "pins. For the first time in Korea, our artillery was massed and made to meet counter-attack after counter-attack, unmercifully riddling the enemy's "hordes." The mass of human flesh was no match for the steel of our combined fire- power. The Infantry Artillery-Tank-Air team regained its former prestige.

Unit History For February, 1951

3 February turned out to be a very interesting day for the Red Devils. Placed in direct support of "Task Force

Meyers," the battalion had three other battalions to reinforce its fire. Forward observers joined the Task Force by 0800 hours, at which time the Battalion Commander and S-2 reviewed the plan of supporting fires with the Task Force Commander.

A three battalion "TOT" (Time on Target) was planned for the enemy-held high ground to the immediate front. From there on, all missions would be called on by concentration number by the forward observers. A three-sided box was planned to completely surround the objective area, thereby denying the enemy an escape route and preventing enemy reinforcements from coming into the area.

Once formed, the Task Force moved out at 0950 hours, at which time the TOT was fired. All battalions massed beautifully in the ensuing ten volleys. Under this murderous fire, which pinned down the enemy, the tanks moved off with machine guns blazing. As the TOT was completed, forward observers promptly called for prearranged concentrations on towns and high ground. Literally, the tank column was preceded by marching artillery fire "plastering" all high ground and towns.

14 February continued mild and overcast, with visibility improving around 1000 hours. At 1500 hours, the battalion was directed to displace to the vicinity of Yoju, where it would reinforce the fires of the 61st FA Battalion supporting the 5th Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division. This move was prompted by the enemy's drive between Yoju and Wonju. The enemy had already isolated the 38th Regimental Combat Team of the 2nd Division and threatened the 23rd Regiment of the 2nd Division in Chipyeong. The enemy, having cut their supply route from the south, necessitated the 23rd Regiment to be resupplied by air drop.

The mission of our supported force, the 5th Cavalry Regiment, was to break the enemy's hold and reopen the supply routes between Yoju and Chipyeong. Battalion reconnaissance parties departed at 1615 hours and selected positions in the stream bed at Yoju.

19 February came in clear and crisp, but was soon mellowed by a warm sun.



92nd AFA early 1951 (Mattingly)

The Battalion Commander, S-3 and S-2 proceeded on reconnaissance of artillery positions well forward. Proceeding north through the 27th British Brigade Sector, the reconnaissance parties turned east at Chuam-ni, where the 6th ROK Sector begun.

Chuam-ni, some 6000 meters north of our present position, was the scene of a major ambush which approached the proportions of a massacre. Some 60 to 70 American dead, lying about the ditches and rice paddies with several burned vehicles, testified to a surprise attack by the enemy some four days ago.

Apparently, a reconnaissance platoon from the 2d Division with "L" Company of the 9th Regiment was stationed there as a holding force when the enemy attacked from the neighboring hills during the early morning hours, catching everyone unprepared. The dead, a great number of whom were Negro Americans, had been stripped of their shoes, trousers and other warm clothing by the enemy. No evidence of digging-in or preparing of positions was seen. The presence of the dead was reported to IX Corps Headquarters for action by the GRO, as hundreds of troops were passing on the road viewing the gruesome spectacle.

February found the United Nations



Our Battalion position NE of Yoju in Feb. 1951 working with 6th ROK Div. (Mattingly)

Personal Reflections by Hal Remspear, HQ Btry, 50-51 February 1951

"We could determine how close we were to the front by the close air support. Flights of four planes made their ground attacks. They fired their rockets on one pass, napalm on the next pass, and then more passes were made until their machine guns ran out of ammunition. The planes were either F-80 Shooting Stars, F-51 Mustangs, or F4U Corsairs. The F-80s were Lockheed jets, and their turning circle was much greater than the prop-driven F-51s and F4Us. The F-80s generally completed their circle behind us; the F-51s and F4Us completed theirs in front of us.

"When the prop-driven planes circled behind us, we knew we were very close to the action, and in these cases we could see the rockets streaming down and the napalm igniting in balls of flame. The enemy was also visible trying to run and hide from the air attacks.

"Shortly after one of these attacks, I was riding in the back of the Colonel's jeep, manning the radio and responsible for the swivel mounted 30 caliber machine gun. We were scouting for a new position further to the north, and we passed through an area that had been hit from the air earlier that day. We came across a group of enemy that had been burned black with napalm. Their clothes were burned off. One was bent over on his hands and knees with his two black testicles hanging down. The Colonel's driver tried to make a crude joke out of the scene. I forget what he said. The Colonel replied with a very cold remark, "That's disgusting; drive on, sergeant."

"He was right, it was disgusting to see and smell. I don't know what was worse, the affects of napalm or white phosphorous. Fortunately, neither was ever used against us while I was there. "

Forces regenerating confidence as the result of their advances in January. Shoulder to shoulder, they moved ahead, at first cautiously then more boldly as they convinced themselves that they were part of a superior, better trained and better equipped force. February saw the enemy renew their offensive effort aimed at dividing our front in the vicinity of Wonju. The enemy's initial successes were swiftly and efficiently converted into setbacks, during which the CCF was made to pay a price unworthy of the effort.

A great lesson is to be gained from comparing the reactions of two RCTs to the enemy's offensive. One RCT, under heavy enemy attack, fought gallantly as it coiled itself into an iron-ring perimeter at Chipyeong. This RCT, resupplied by air, was not only able to defend itself against repeated enemy attacks, but inflicted extremely heavy casualties upon the enemy. Another RCT, also under heavy enemy attack, displaced to supposedly better positions, giving up deployed positions in an established perimeter for the road—and, unwisely, it moved at night.

Meanwhile the enemy closed in on key points controlling the road and

knocked out lead vehicles blocking the road to the entire column. The enemy then methodically reduced the column with machine guns and mortars. Infiltrators, heavily laden with grenades, then created panic through an inferno of burning vehicles and exploding ammunition, inflicting heavy losses of life and equipment. In the presence of the enemy, a unit can best defend itself in a developed perimeter and should not be committed to the road at night.

With the enemy offensive frustrated, February found the U.N. Forces using their fire power to greater advantage through a more efficient utilization of close support aviation and a greater massing of artillery. By the end of February, U.N. Forces were more confident than ever. They had retrieved the initiative from the enemy and completely subjugated him to their will.

Unit History for March 1951

March came in cold and crisp, with a morning that temporarily hampered observation. Promptly at 0750 hours, this battalion fired a preparation with the other four artillery battalions of the Marine Division.

Following this 1500-round preparation, the 7th Marine Regiment on the left sector jumped off for their objective, a 900-foot hill. Only scattered resistance was encountered from neighboring high ground. Chinese dead and several prisoners testified to the effectiveness of the artillery preparation.

During the morning hours the Battalion Commander, S-2 and the Sergeant Major occupied a forward observation post from which the effectiveness of our artillery fire could be observed. Major General Lowe, personal advisor to President Truman, was present on the observation post.

At 1400 hours, Brigadier General Gillmore, IX Corps Artillery, visited Battery "C" and observed the battery in



March 1951 – Chinese artillery position by B Battery. (Mattingly)

action firing on an enemy target. During the day the battalion fired some 600 rounds. During the evening hours, some 800 rounds were fired in harassing and interdiction missions.

On 14 March the Marine Division resumed the attack. Carefully screening all hills, the Marines moved to within four miles of Hongchon without encountering any resistance. Maintenance of automotive and communications equipment was stressed during the day. During the afternoon hours the Battalion Commander, Battalion Executive and S-2 proceeded forward on reconnaissance for positions on the other side of the mountain pass. The only positions were found forward of our present front line elements. These positions were reported to the S-3 of the 11th Marine Regiment with a request for clearance to move the Battalion in the morning.

The abandonment of the extremely treacherous mountain pass at Ounsan was difficult to understand. This 3000-foot mountain was well dug-in by the enemy, and could have cost much life and effort to secure. The logged-over dug-outs contained ammunition and rice rations indicating that the enemy had pulled out in haste. Estimates indicated that the enemy had pulled back some eight to ten miles north of Hongchon.

The battalion enjoyed a fine dinner of steak, fresh potatoes, and cabbage salad, the first "A" ration in weeks. All cooks exerted great effort to make this meal particularly attractive. With no targets to shoot at, the battalion had some 3800 rounds on hand and credits for 1800 more at the Ammunition Supply Point.

23 March broke mild. There was a heavy smog covering the entire Chunchon Valley, greatly limiting terrestrial and air observation. At 0650 hours the Battalion Commander, S-3 and Battery Commanders of Batteries "A" and "C" proceeded to the northern outskirts of Chunchon. Behind the river dyke, ideal positions were found.

The two batteries rolled into position at 0715 hours. Initial radio communication difficulties with the tanks were encountered, since Company "C" of the 70th Tank Battalion did not have the

Artillery Channel on their tank radios. That was rectified by setting off the "tankers" channel on our FDC radio. Once that was done, the Red Devils blazed away on several will adjust missions.

During the day, the battalion fired some 700 rounds in support of the tanks as they probed northeast and northwest, encountering moderate automatic weapons and mortar fire. The battalion was credited with several hundred killed and wounded. At 1915 hours, IX Corps Artillery called and stated that the battalion's mission was changed to reinforce the fires of the 6th ROK Division as well as those of the 1st Cavalry Division. Further, the battalion was to detach one battery to the 24th Division and Battery "B" of the 17th Field Artillery Battalion (8 inch Howitzer) was attached to this battalion.

Looking at the battalion then, after six months of active combat, it reflected a proud, well trained and confident unit, well seasoned by combat experience with all United States Divisions. Reflecting confidence in their leaders, their equipment and training, the men were welded together through mutual experience and confidence in one another. The battalion rallied well to competitive spirit by taking great pride in seeing a job well done. To a Commander, it was a privilege to have such a fine command.

A Battery Commanders meeting was held at 1930 hours, at which time defensive measures were stressed, since the present line appeared to be one to be held until such time as the United Nations clarified the status of the 38th Parallel.

March 1951 Review

The month of March, viewed in retrospect, reflected continuous success



C Battery Howitzer – Between Hongchon and Chunchon, March 1951 (Harrison)

for the United Nations Forces moving north, shoulder to shoulder. During this month the enemy found themselves unable to muster enough strength to counterattack at any one point in strength. Their every effort was repulsed.

With milder weather and a more efficient utilization of fire power, the enemy was forced to give up and withdraw from exceptionally mountainous terrain that otherwise favored their defensive tactics—had they enjoyed adequate logistical support and manpower with which to execute it. Between Hoensong, Hongchon, and Chunchon, the enemy not only relinquished difficult terrain without a fight but for the first time gave evidence of abandoning field pieces, weapons, ammunition and some food, attesting to their rapid withdrawal from their mountain perches.

With additional artillery due to arrive in the line, the United Nations' fire power was certain to increase greatly. This factor, coupled with the rejuvenated morale of all commands during the past two months, was certain to bring additional success. This new spirit radiating throughout all ranks was largely due to the development of the individual soldier's faith in himself, his equipment, and his training. Shoulder to shoulder the UN Forces had worked their way to within a few miles of the controversial 38th Parallel.

...to be continued

**Andreas C. Thiel - Serv. Battery
KIA 31 March 1951**

LST 1090—it didn't get its name until 1955—served briefly in WWII. It operated in support of the occupation of Japan and Okinawa, and the extensive redeployment of troops and equipment through the Far East which followed the close of World War II. LST 1090 remained in Asiatic waters until 3 January 1946, when she cleared Sasebo, Japan, for San Diego.

The ship was decommissioned and placed in reserve at Vancouver, WA on 22 July 1946. But, it was recommissioned at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Wash., on 3 November 1950. After conducting trials and undergoing crew training off the California coast, LST 1090 sailed from Long Beach, CA 10 February 1951, bound for Pearl Harbor and Yokosuka, where it arrived 23 March 1951.

The ship's duty in the Far East involved transporting American personnel and Korean and Chinese prisoners of war, as well as rendering services in Japanese waters. It cleared Yokosuka 23 November 1951 for Pearl Harbor and San Diego, where it moored in December 1951.

During Operation "Little Switch," when sick and wounded personnel were exchanged, LST 1090 carried more than 85 percent of the prisoners exchanged.

LST 1090

Russell County

Dr. John Laura submitted these photos taken at a heavily guarded prison camp for Chinese POW at Cheju-do. The LST pictured, Russell County, had a storied history. In fact, it earned five battle stars for its service in the Korean War.

Operating off the U.S. west coast until 3 January 1953, LST 1090 sailed from San Diego for Pearl Harbor and Yokosuka, arriving in Japan 7 February 1953. The highlight of this tour was its participation in Operations "Big Switch" and "Little Switch," during which refugees and Korean prisoners of war were evacuated from Inchon, Korea.

During Operation "Little Switch," when sick and wounded personnel were exchanged, LST 1090 carried

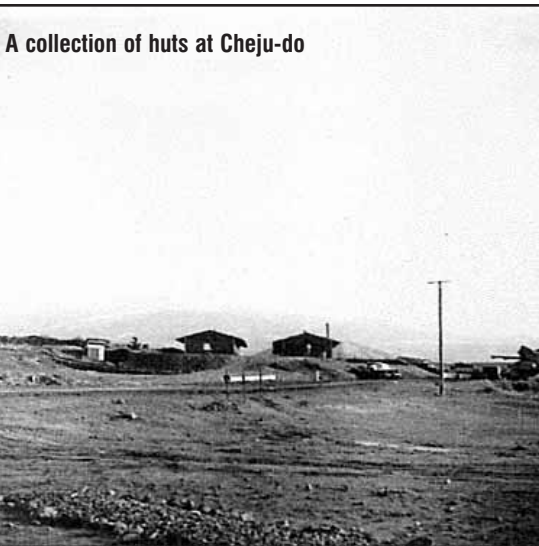
more than 85 percent of the prisoners exchanged.

The ship returned to San Diego 22 November 1953 for a period of leave, upkeep, overhaul, and further operations off the California coast. But, it continued to provide Korea-related services. LST 1090 deployed to the Far East 11 October 1954, where its ports of call included Yokosuka, Fukuoka, Sasebo, and Inchon, off which it participated in two amphibious operations.

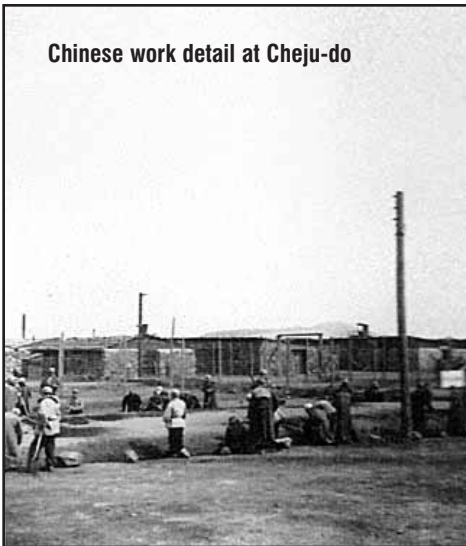
LST 1090 transported the 4th Marine Regiment from Korea to Kaneohe, then visited Hawaii from 12-22 February 1955. After that, it returned to Korea to embark Marine personnel and aircraft for transportation to the United States. The



A collection of huts at Cheju-do



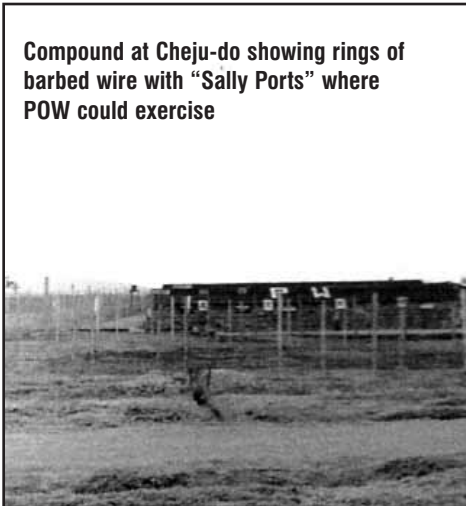
Chinese work detail at Cheju-do



One of the guard towers at Cheju-do



Compound at Cheju-do showing rings of barbed wire with "Sally Ports" where POW could exercise



ship cleared Inchon 29 March 1955, and returned to San Diego 25 April 1955.

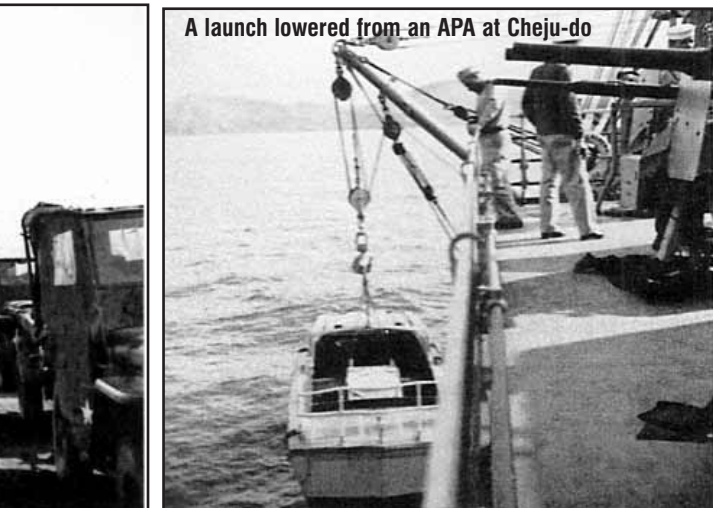
Finally, on 1 July 1955, LST 1090 became more than a number. On that day it was named Russell County. It continued to operate in

the Far East until 5 April 1960, when it was decommissioned in San Diego for the last time and struck from the U.S. Navy's list on 1 November 1960. That same day it was transferred to the Indonesian government.

Sadly, Russell County met an untimely end. The LST served as Tanjung Radja (LST 2) until 1963, when it was wrecked in a grounding accident. That was an ignominious end for a ship that had earned five battle stars in the Korean War.

Reach Dr. John Laura at 8 Parkington Circle, East Syracuse, NY 13057, (315) 637-8264, jlaura1@twcny.rr.com

A launch lowered from an APA at Cheju-do



JPAC News

JPAC Signs Memorandum of Understanding With South Korean Counterpart

HICKAM AFB, HAWAII – The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and the Republic of Korea's Ministry of National Defense Agency for KIA Recovery and Identification (MAKRI) concluded a two-day meeting on Tuesday with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that enhances the cooperation and exchange of information between the two agencies.

The MOU will strengthen joint collaboration on all investigation and recovery operations in South Korea.

"MAKRI members will be invited to accompany us on our missions in South Korea at any time, and we will be invited to accompany them on their missions to recover missing Koreans," said Rear Adm. Donna Crisp, JPAC Commander.

This open exchange will aid both organizations in gathering case information and locating witnesses that may have knowledge of burial sites containing the remains of those individuals still unaccounted for, she added.

The document also establishes a joint forensic review process following recovery missions by either organization or when remains are unilaterally turned over. Such a process was established to validate the country of military service for recovered remains.

In addition, the MOU establishes a formal program between the two agencies to periodically exchange scientific information in an effort to maintain best practices in investigation and recovery techniques and methods.

"JPAC is grateful for the support and commitment of our friends in MAKRI," Crisp said.

"Just as U.S. and Korean soldiers stood shoulder to shoulder during the war, we stand together in this mission to bring honor to those that paid the greatest sacrifice," she added.

Scam Alert

We are all aware of scams perpetrated every day by a variety of creative con artists. Two recent scams affected—or almost affected—the KWVA. One involves the use of former National Secretary Bill Hutton's name in emails from people hawking fake Rolex watches. Mr. Hutton is in no way involved in such a scheme. The other deals with Nigerian scam artists.

Here is the Nigerian scam story as told by KWVA National Secretary Frank Cohee. The KWVA people involved will remain unnamed to protect their identities should other scammers try to get to them.

Fraud: we all go through this everyday, especially on the internet. Recently, some KWVA national officers received an urgent plea for money—and some of them almost responded positively, i.e., they wanted to send money. Why not? We are all trained to help a comrade in trouble, so they responded, even though it should have been obvious that it was a scam.

Fortunately, I had talked recently to the person who was supposedly asking for help, and he was at his home at that time. So, I called him immediately. As I expected, he was still at his home and was not aware of the email in which he was allegedly requesting funds. I then alerted other people to the scam. That probably saved a few people some money—and possibly some embarrassment.

However, I must admit, primarily because I am very close to the person that supposedly was asking for help, that I was on the verge of sending a personal check. In this specific illustration, the sender sent a message to all of the National Officials allegedly from one of our Directors. Here is the message:

Hi,

I am sorry I didn't inform you about my traveling to Africa for a program called "Empowering Youth to Fight Racism, HIV/AIDS, Poverty and Lack of education, the program is taking place in three major countries in Africa which is Ghana, South Africa and Nigeria. It has been a very sad and bad moment for me, the present condition that I found myself is very intoxicated for me to explain.

I am stranded in Nigeria because I forgot my little bag in the Taxi where my money, passport, documents and other valuable things were kept on my way to the Hotel I am staying. I am in a very bad situation here because I have no money with me. I am now owing the Hotel where I am staying the sum of \$900 and they want me to pay the bill soon or else they will hand me over to the Police, I need your help very urgent to enable me return back home successfully without any harm, I am in a terrible and tight situation here I don't even have money to feed myself for a day I have been starving all this while so please understand how urgent I needed your help, I want you to help me with the sum of \$2,500 USD to sort out my problems here and leave with the next available flight back home but if you are not too buoyant enough to send me all the \$2,500 USD I will also appreciate what so ever amount you can afford to send me for now and I promise to reimburse the money back to you once I get back home without hitch delay.

A scam attempted on KWVA National Officers allegedly by one of the Directors...

Kindly look for a Western Union Money Transfer Local stores around you and send me the money to my receiving information below. Through Western Union I can receive the money faster and safe without any problem here.

After you have sent the money email me the Western Union transfer details such as:

MTCN

Test Question: To whom?

Thanks for your kind help, waiting to hear back from you with the transfer information.

Warm regards,

<END PLEA>

Okay, at first glance that letter may sound plausible. But, my advice to you is to be very careful and check out any message that appears to be questionable. How?

One major clue is to look at the spelling and the grammar. The scam message is rife with mistakes that most people fluent in English would not make, e.g., lower case "I," inconsistent capitalization of Western Union and other words, misuse of words such as "intoxicated" and "buoyant," etc. There are many other blatant errors.

Another way to check out a scam like this is to call the alleged sender. No doubt he or she or someone in the family can refute or support the sender's whereabouts. In short, be dubious of any plea for money like this one. Save yourselves some money and embarrassment. Anyone who gets into situations such as the alleged sender did in this scam would have enough sense to contact the U.S. Embassy or other authorities for help. They would not be sending legitimate requests to randomly selected friends or acquaintances.

Remember: caveat emptor...buyer beware. Do not fall for scams. Check out every request from strangers for money. That is the best way to avoid scams—and save your money.

★★

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MAY, JUNE, SEPTEMBER
ACTUAL DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED
EARLY 2009**



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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.

195 – QUEEN CITY [CO]

Parades are beneficial. Participation in them not only brings attention to the Korean War veterans, but to all veterans. They also create interest and awareness in the communities.

During the month of July 2008, members of Chapter 195 participated in the following parades:

- July 4 - Cheyenne Frontier Days, Cheyenne, Wyoming
- July 24 - Greeley Stampede Days, Greeley, Colorado
- July 26 - Golden Buffalo Bill Days, Golden, Colorado

Our float and marching unit were enthusiastically greeted with wild applause, salutes, and 'Thank You' in all three communities. Many stood and saluted as we passed.

*Kenneth E. Camell, 3120 Baylor Dr.
Boulder, CO 80305*

Elouise Montijo, Ingrid Carnell, Bill Korin, Bob Otis (WWII USMC veteran), Nancy Millensifer with Antonie (Ken Giese's grandson) Robert Graharn, Dave Monday, Connie Mauldin (In back row) Ken Carnell, John?, Gene Mauldin, John Drew, Frank Montijo, Bob Nelson and, standing, Jerry Johnson



Below, Buffalo Bill Days Parade in Golden CO featured CID 195 marchers



Members of CID 195 prepare to step off (L-R) Bob Nelson, Eugene Mauldin, Don Geist, Ken Carnell





Pipers on parade with members of CID 195 learn (above) and of course "floating" is better than marching (above right).



RIGHT: Bag Pipers: Dave Monday, Ken Geist (standing) and John ? "march" in review with CID 195

300 – KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF MASSACHUSETTS

The Chapter's Color Guard took part in the Marlboro, MA annual Labor Day Parade on 1 September 2008. We heard loud applause and many "Thank you for your service" shouts all along the two-mile parade route.

*Leo Agnew, 84 Prescott Street,
Clinton, MA 01510-2609*

RIGHT: Members of CID 300's Color Guard at Marlboro parade (Front, L-R) Nick Paganella, Leo Agnew, Jack Dowd (Back, L-R) Tom Kettell, Jr. (rifle), Rev. Herbert Cleary, S.J. (Colors), Fred Carnes (Korean flag), Louis Pelosi (POW/MIA flag), John Woelfe (rifle)



Tell America

Major Breakthrough For The Tell America Program

By Larry Kinard

Thanks to the generous efforts of several people, our national KWVA website will link the Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Access TV Tell America programs, developed and produced by James E. Yaney, with the internet on YOUTUBE.

Jim Yaney's programs have appeared monthly on Channel 57 for the past three years in the Ft. Wayne area to a growing audience of viewers. The public access station has been very supportive and helpful in making this one of their best rated shows on their station. It has required countless hours of work by Jim and his staff, but they are gaining in expertise and experience with the productions.



The Indianapolis staff "mic-ing" up in preparation for the Tell America show

It takes a village to produce a show—and these are the inhabitants

Recently, the staff at the TV station started work in conjunction with KWVA webmaster Jim Dopplehammer to install web links with YOUTUBE to enable the viewing of ten minute segments of each of the programs they have developed.

At my request, Jim Yaney has supplied the following background information on how his program has evolved into a very well accepted part of local television in Ft. Wayne, Indiana:

"The staff members of the Tell America television program were asked to make a pilot film which would be seen over Comcast Cable TV in October, 2005, for possible acceptance by the TV viewers. After the first presentation, I was encouraged by Mr. Robert Irie, station manager, to come in and sign a contract with Access TV as the producer of the show. In doing so, I wrote scripts, presented the programs, and was responsible for its contents. I felt I was taking on tremendous responsibility.

"On October 25, 2005, Tell America made its debut on Comcast Cable TV on Channel 55. Later on in January, 2006, our program was being seen by more viewers than expected, so they put us on a channel that



everyone watches, which was Channel 57, at prime time 7 pm every other Wednesday. Our programs have grown since then from 14,000 viewers to over 100,000, and we are now going into our third year of production with no end in sight.



LEFT: The Indianapolis camera-men at work

BELOW: Director Elizabeth Lord directs the Tell America camera-men



"At the start of 2007, Verizon FIOS, the national telephone company fiber optic division, formed another TV network and asked Access TV for permission to present our Tell America program on their network. Permission was granted by Access TV, and now we are being seen by two networks. And, with the current link with YOUTUBE, we are being viewed nationally on the internet.

"It was my job to find a special staff that would enhance the program status, so I decided to give the program some diversity in order that people would know that we represent all veterans of the 20th century. I interviewed several veterans and found five who would participate in our TV program and our school visitation program.

"Those five volunteers are: Dale Parish and William Hullinger, Korean veterans of the X Corps and Chosin Reservoir, and John Pequignot and Gilbert Hoepfner, recipients of the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and Silver Star from WWII.

"Our programs open by presenting news from our organization, information about our comrades who have been returned to this country for burial from Korea, and a commentary that is befitting of our great organization.

"We feature thirty minutes of subject matter concerning the

Korean War, such as the Inchon Landing, the Pusan Perimeter, and the Chosin Reservoir. We also show a number of features recognizing Medal of Honor recipients, including Sgt. Woodrow Keeble, Col. James Stone, Cpl. Ronald Rosser, Cpl. Hiroshi Miyamura, and Cpl. Duane Dewey. We look forward to many more years of similar documentation and programs.

"We are well accepted by our peers and our viewing audience here at Access TV. For that, we are honored. God permitting, one of our future goals is to get the program on a national television network.

"On October 30, 2007, we celebrated our second anniversary on TV with a two-hour show that was televised and shown on local TV. KWVA director, Cris Yanacos, Indiana State Senator Dillon, and several other noted veterans attended the show.

"We are proud of where we started and where we are going. I must credit Larry Kinard for getting me to focus on what was to be my future work in sharing that FREEDOM IS NOT FREE—and that I am no longer one of the veterans of a forgotten war."

As you can see from Jim

Yaney's report, Tell America is moving forward in this country and appears to have a very

promising future. To that, I would like to add the following acknowledgment:

We thank Ft. Wayne Access TV station manager, Robert Irie, assistant station manager, Erik Mollberg, and the station staff for all their support for the Korean War Veterans Tell America Program. We'd also like to thank Jim Dopplehammer, who is making all this happen through his technical expertise. They are giving Korean War veterans a major boost and an excellent opportunity by allowing us to tell the story in the cyberspace world that indeed there was a Korean War and that we were successful in stopping communist aggression there fifty plus years ago.

*Larry Kinard, Director of Operations
Tell America*

Whitley County, IN resident pays tribute to her father and one of her favorite TV shows

Mrs. Sheri Jackson, a Whitley County resident, is a real fan of the TV show, "Tell America," seen on Comcast Cable and Verizon Fios. The military program tells the story of the Korean War and its heroes.

"Tell America" is co-hosted by Korean War veterans James Yaney of Columbia City, Silver Star recipient John Pequignot of Fort Wayne, and Dale Parish of Churubusco.

One of Sheri's favorite parts of the program is the closing of every show, during which Mr. Yaney reminds the viewers to always remember that "Freedom is not free."

A Father's Day gift, never to be forgotten, was that given to Dale Parish on June 15, 2008 by his daughter, Sheri Jackson. Sheri presented her father with a special banner she had made for the "Tell America" program. The banner displays the American flag, on which are the words "Freedom is not Free."

The banner has become a permanent fixture on every program as it gracefully drapes the host table.

From all the "Tell America" staff, we thank you, Sheri!

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



A great Father's Day gift presented to Dale Parish

Leo Ruffing "Tells America" at VFW Post

Leo Ruffing gave a "Tell America" presentation to the members of the VFW Post in Suffolk, VA which is named after 1st. Lt. Richard Thomas Shea Jr. (MOH), 17th. Infantry Regiment,

7th. Infantry Division. Lt. Shea died at the second battle of Pork Chop Hill July 8th 1953.

*Leo Ruffing, National Chaplain,
lruffing1@cox.net*



All eyes are on the screen as Leo Ruffing "Tells America"



Leo Ruffing talks to attendees at "Tell America" presentation

24 - CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

Chapter members have started a Tell America program in their area recently. They are excited about carrying their

message to young students in their local and surrounding area schools.



"Tell America" members of CID 24

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

66 - CPL. ALLAN F. KIVLEHAN [NY]

We gave Patriotic Savings Bonds to six deserving students at PS6, Richmond Valley, Staten Island, New York. The awards were given for citizenship and academic excellence.

The school conducted a ceremony with patriotic songs, including a biography of Allan F. Kivlehan, folding the flag, and other group activities.

This school, also called the Allan F. Kivlehan School, is the only school in New York City named for a veteran. Our Chapter lobbied for the naming. The Chapter is invited each year at graduation to attend, and gladly awards these Patriotic Savings Bonds.

Bernie Hoganson, via email, Hogy6@msn.com



CID 66 Commander Joseph Calabria (L) and First Vice Commander Jordan Czerniawski (R) with Michael Russell, Michael Thives, Eric Mostoff, Jake Marino, April Mullan and Frank Lewery, students at PS 6



Officers and members of CID 66 outside PS6 after the presentation of bonds

121 - CINCINNATI [OH]

Chapter members Bob McGeorge and Pat DiLonardo presented a program to five classes at Moeller High School in Cincinnati.281

Bob George and Pat DiLonardo of CID 121 at Moeller High



ROLLA #9 [MO]

In April of this year, we visited the junior high school in Rolla, MO and the high school in Cuba, MO. In May, we were invited to the Middle School in Steelville, MO.

We receive invitations from various schools in our area each year. It gives us an opportunity to share Korean War history and our personal experiences with teachers and students. Usually, there are 4 or 5 Chapter members involved, including Forrest O'Neal (1st Marine Division, Chosin Reservoir), our current Commander, and Les Burris (2nd Inf. Div., WIA - Pusan Perimeter), our past Commander.

It is a special and a very satisfying experience for all of us. The students are very receptive to our being there, and teachers show the same level of enthusiasm as the students.

Aside from the interest shown in our Korean War history presentations, a number of the letters received from students after our visit to the Steelville, Mo. school (see "sample" letters)

indicated special interest in the following members' presentations:

- Les Burris, who relates how he was shot in the arm and escaped death when the bullet exited his arm and was deflected from penetrating his chest by a backpack harness web strap he was wearing to support the weight of his cartridge belt

- Fred Krueger, who displays his Ike jacket, explains the meaning of the stripes, badges and emblems, and always has a student model the jacket

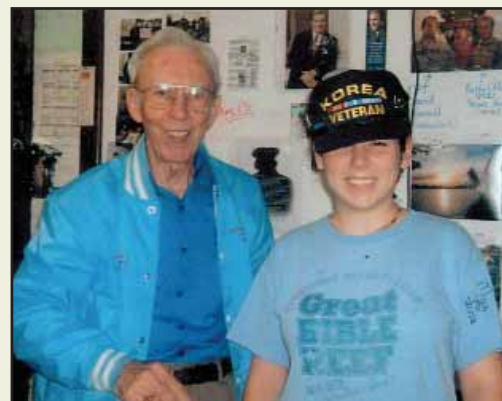
- Roger Lueckenhoff, who explains how he spent 9 months in Japan prior to duty in Korea,. He also sings "Arirang," the Korean folk song, "China Night" (She ain't got no yoyo) in Japanese, and "Ginza Kan Kan Museme" in Japanese at the finish of his presentation.

*Roger Lueckenhoff
208 Steeplechase Road
Rolla, MO 65401
(281) 573-364-4145
lueck@fidnet.com*



Forrest O'Neal of CID 281 and teacher Amy Selberg at the Rolla, MO Jr. High School

Roger Lueckenhoff and Sarah Miller at the Steelville, MO school





CID 281 members (L-R) Roger Lueckenhoff, Walt Timson, Henry Stroud, Les Burris, Fred Krueger and Steelville, MO middle school students.



Emi Santhuff modeling Fred Krueger's Ike jacket and Jake Cunningham (seated) at the Steelville, MO school

May 9, 2008
Dear Veterans

Thankyou for teaching me about the Korean War. I learned so much from it. My Grandfather I believe was in the Korean War aswell. His name was Robert Mulitch but he was in the Marines I really liked learning about where the war was and stuff like that. I also liked learning about the badges on the uniform. Anyway I want to thankyou for everything you have done.

Your friend
Morgan H.

P.S. I hope I can see you Sometime next year.

May 13, 2008

Dear Korean Veterans,

Thank You for coming and talking to our class! I learned alot from each and everyone of you. The songs were very interesting. I also enjoyed learning about what took place back in that time of the war. It was also cool learning about what all the badges and pins meant on the jacket. It was very interesting learning about how Les Burris got shot in the arm. I just Thank You Again for coming to our class and talking to us about the Korean War! ☺

From,
Macie

May 13, 2008

Dear Friend ☺,

Hello! I'm Nichelle. And I just want to tell you thank you for coming in and telling us things about the war. I thought it was really neat that you came here. Thankyou! ☺ I also liked the song that I learned. You guys are amazing!

That one guy who got shot in the arm I'm sorry. But that was a amazing story how that one thing saved your life. Well I got to go Bye Bye ☺

Your Steelville Friend,
Nichelle E.

Flag Tip

When troops are at Parade Rest, their rifles are at a slant. The U.S. Flag never is. The U.S. Flag is always at 180°, straight up and down, even when troops are marching.



Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

82 - ALBUQUERQUE #1 [NM]

KWVA member Joe Rose's vision to have a monument commemorating "our war" came to fruition July 27 with its unveiling in Albuquerque's elegant Veterans Memorial park. WWII veteran and Korean War Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi Miyamura of Grants, with the help of two ladies of the Korean-American community, removed the veil before a cheering audience of about 250 people.



Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi Miyamura (in white cap second from right) views for the first time the monument he just helped unveil. The two ladies dressed in traditional Korean attire helped him unveil the six-foot-high monument. The inscription succinctly describes what the Korean War accomplished in stemming the spread of communist tyranny in the North-Asian Pacific Rim. Background: Gerald Hietpas, local chapter president, and John M. Garcia, head of the state Veterans Services Department, who served as emcee for the ceremony

The ceremonies that day brought together veterans' families with members of Albuquerque's demonstrably patriotic Korean-American community.

Immediately following the unveiling, deceased Korean War veterans were remembered by names and units as family members and friends came forward individually to place a long-stemmed rose at the base of the new monument.

The role of Joe Rose in the beginning was conceptual, followed by his going to the state capitol, Santa Fe, to seek support from the Department of Veterans Services headed by cabinet secretary John M. Garcia. He pointed Rose in the direction of the state legislature and to Representatives Janice Arnold-Jones and Larry Larranaga. They inserted funding for the monument into the 2007 veterans services allocation and the money was transferred to the City of Albuquerque.



Three generational tribute is paid with the laying of a rose at the monument base by (L-R) Mrs., Joyce M. Maloney, her granddaughter from Texas, Raeann Wagoner and great-granddaughter Miranda, honoring Cpl. Ronald Ray Maloney, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, KIA 1/28/53



Kim Young (L), Hiroshi Miyamura and Rebecca Kim (R) watch as a ceremony attendee places a rose at the monument base in the memory of a deceased loved one

251 - SAGINAW COUNTY [MI]

Chapter member Bob Simon designed the Saginaw County Veterans Plaza Korean War Memorial in Saginaw. The Plaza is the site of WWI, WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War Memorials.

There are 26,000 bricks that form a walkway. Eighty percent of them bear the names of donors, living veterans, or deceased veterans.



The Saginaw County [MI] Korean War Monument

283 – COLUMBIA COUNTY [NY]

Columbia County, NY recently dedicated a portion of Rt. 9-H as Veterans Memorial Highway. The highway is a memorial to all veterans of all wars who gave the supreme sacrifice to keep our country—and other countries—free.

NY 9-H, which runs between the townships of Livingston and Valatie, lies totally within the borders of the county. The county is on the eastern side of New York State, east of the Hudson River. It borders Massachusetts and Connecticut.



Everett Wachtel (L) and Jack Hallenback of CID 283 at Columbia County dedication

Everett Wachtel of CID 283 was instrumental in starting the dedication process. Once he got the proverbial ball rolling, the rest of the county's veterans groups and auxiliaries participated in the effort.

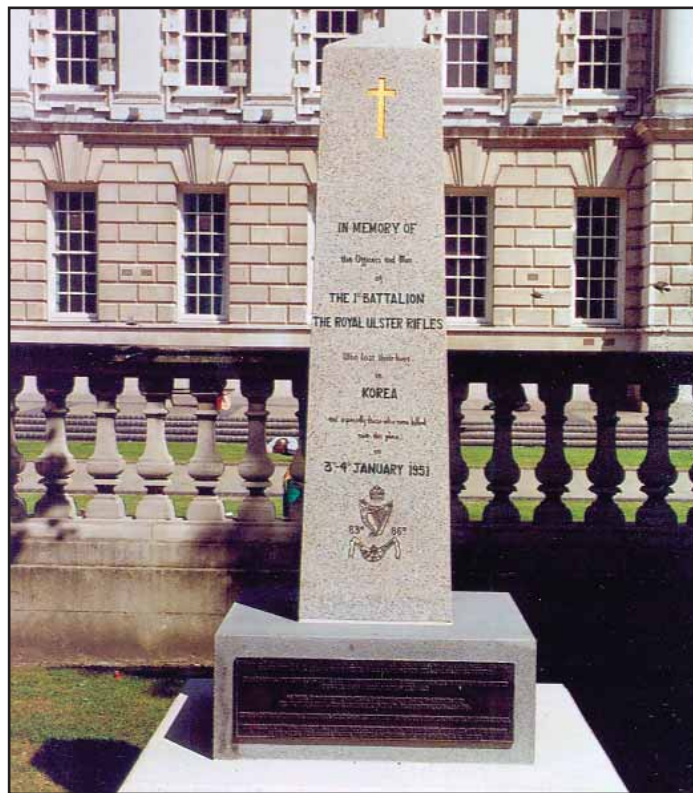
*Arnold Van Deusen, 11 Pine Street
Claverack, NY 12513*

Belfast, Ireland

My wife and I recently visited the Republic of Ireland and Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland. We saw a memorial there in recognition of the soldiers from Northern Ireland who lost their lives in the Korean War.

As you know, Northern Ireland is under the auspices of Great Britain, which explains why The Royal Ulster Rifles were dispatched to Korea.

*Paul G. Petredis, 403 Third Lane
Fox Island, WA 98333, (253) 549-2232*



The Korean War Monument in Belfast, Ireland

Unique Monument in Chester, WV

On a wet and rainy 4th of July in 2006, the town of Chester, WV celebrated with a parade and fun and games for all. A stage



Carl Sebrell, Ed Peters, VFW Commander Randy Friley, Don Wolf, and CID 126 President Lloyd Nalley (L-R) gather at the Chester, WV Memorial event

was erected by the park and they had music and entertainment all day long. But, the main attraction was the VFW's new Memorial to all veterans.



The front side of the Chester, WV Memorial before all the bricks were in place



A cross-section of the brick walkway at the Chester, WV Memorial

The Memorial is a real work of art, with its replica of a B-52 and a lighted waterfall. The plane honors a home town hero, Col. McGeehan, who died in a plane crash.

Jack McDevitt, a former local teacher and football coach, did the art work. KWVA Chapter 126 gave a donation, and some of our members bought bricks to help in the construction.

The Memorial is a fine tribute to veterans of all wars—as was the collective effort of members of different military organizations to make sure it became a reality.

George Piggott, 3720 Root Avenue, NE, Canton, OH 4705

Vandenberg Air Force Base

There is a monument at Vandenberg Air Force Base near Lompoc, CA that honors members of the 40th Inf. Div. who fought in the Korean War. The monument was dedicated on 1 September 2000.

The Memorial, which is constructed of South Dakota granite, weighs 25,000 pounds. The block in the front represents the 40th Inf. Div. at Camp Cooke, as it was known in 1950. The bridge symbolizes combat training in Japan, and the third piece represents the Division in Korea.

Another feature comprises brick plaques on the deck in honor of the men of the 40th.

*Robert Verdugo, Sr., 1125 Crest Haven Way
Monterey Park, CA 91754, (626) 293-7570*



ABOVE: The Memorial at Vandenberg Air Force Base

RIGHT: The wording on the Memorial at Vandenberg Air Force Base



Wisconsin Korean War Memorial Program Takes Place in Plover

The weather was perfect for this year's annual ceremonies and program at the Wisconsin Korean War Veterans Memorial complex in Plover on Sunday, 1 June 2008.

After Presentation of the Colors and the playing of the national anthems of the Republic of Korea and the United States of America, a special tribute in honor of Wisconsin men and women killed in Iraq and Afghanistan was held, which included remarks by LTC Gary Skon, WIARNG and the reading by Maj Gwendolyn Sheppard, USAFR of the names of those Killed In Action since last year's ceremony.



Wisconsin Memorial Program emcee Cliff Borden briefs Honor Guard Commander Bert Platta



LtCol Gary Skon talks at Wisconsin Memorial about sacrifices made by the state's warriors in Iraq and Afghanistan



Maj Gwendolyn Sheppard reads the names of Wisconsin KIA in Iraq and Afghanistan during the past year



Deputy Consul Lee praises Wisconsin Korea veterans



Keynote speaker Col Ray Boland addresses crowd at Wisconsin memorial event



Wisconsin state senator replies to recognition of major legislative grant to be applied to Wisconsin Memorial reconstruction project



Soprano Seong Shin Ra sang "Danny Boy" and "Arirang" at Wisconsin event



Scouts render Boy Scout salute at the Wisconsin memorial event after placing wreaths at the foot of the bronze statuary



Retirement of the Colors from island memorial at Wisconsin event

Both officers had been deployed to Theater.

Main speaker for the event was Col Raymond Boland, USA (Ret), Civilian Aide to Secretary of the Army and former Wisconsin Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Master-of-Ceremonies Cliff Borden spoke of the upcoming major Reconstruction Project to take place in the September to November time frame. Borden, on behalf of the Memorial Board, personally thanked State Senator Julie Lassa for her amendment to the State Biennial Budget, which provided \$165,00 in matching funds. The funds will make possible repairs

to the causeway and island. Dan Mahoney, Plover Village Administrator, further elaborated on details of the reconstruction.

Other speakers on the program included Dan Naylor, representing the Board of Veterans Affairs and the WDV. The Honorable Young Yong Lee, Deputy Consul General for the ROK Consulate General in Chicago, praised the Wisconsinites who fought and died to save South Koreans from Communist domination more than 55 years ago.

Continued on page 47

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.

1 – GULF COAST [AL]

Members attended a celebration sponsored by the Korean Presbyterian Church. The occasion was the 55th anniversary of the cease fire. We attended their church service. Of course, we were well fed.

*Joseph M. Bolton, 4304 Aldebaran Way,
Mobile, AL 36693*



CID 1 members and their wives at the Mobile "Thanks" event (L-R) Sonny Willisson, Vernon Weldy, Joe Bolton, Walter Isham, Neally McElhaney, James Glover



Well fed CID 1 members and guests go back for seconds at Mobile event



Quite a turnout at the Mobile "Thanks" event for CID 1

64 – CENTRAL LONG ISLAND [NY]

The Bible-Korean Methodist Church presented medals to members of the Chapter.

Unfortunately, Chapter President Bob Morga missed the event. He was recovering from surgery.

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



CID 64 members accept medals from Bible-Korean Methodist Church

251 – SAGINAW COUNTY [MI]

Chapter members attended the Korean Presbyterian Church Picnic on 20 August 2008. It was the eighth straight year we have done so.

We ate great kim-chee, squid, pickled octopus and, of course, peppers, rice, much hot stuff, and egg rolls.



There were hot dogs, brats, hamburgers, melons, and cookies for those who like American food. We donated a reasonable check to the Korean Church.

*Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail
Saginaw, MI 48603*



Members of CID 251 enjoy the 2008 annual Korean Presbyterian picnic



Bob Simon and Don Twietmeyer of CID 251 present check to Rev. Dr. Daniel Ahn at Korean Presbyterian picnic



CID 251 members (L-R) Fred and Barb Bauer, Chuck and Shirley Wenzel, and Richard and Carol Rosa relax at the Korean Presbyterian picnic

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards* and the KWVA

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.

CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION
32nd Inf. Regt.	FL
Henry Ahlo	HI
Col Jerry P. Armeli (Ret)	VA
Richard Dombrowski	PA
IMO Carl Nowoczynski, USMC (KIA),	
IMO Norman Ploszat, USMC	
Richard Lee Harris	TX
Frederick A. Hoffmeyer	CA
Louis V. Jerin	NJ
Joseph Jamieson, USAF (KIA)	
Charles E. Keone	MA
Odd Knusted	DL
IMO of all who didn't make it home	
Samuel Krizan	CT
Emmitt Lanier	MD
SFC George L. Cottman	
Lloyd Loop	NY
Melissa Martin	NV
IMO Billy Pond	
Kurt Meyer	FL
Melvin Morris	NY
Sharmain Mykleby	NV
IMO Billy Pond	
Mary Durham Nuchols	MD
IMO John R. Durham, USAF, MIA, shot	
down Oct. 7, 1952, Sea of Japan	
Porfirio Prieto	AR
Patrick Sbarra	NJ
IMO 45th Inf. Div. — 180th Regt., G Co.	
Edmund Gleason (KIA), Leonard	
Benett (KIA), David Hallahan (KIA),	
Laurant Lasante (KIA) and Fred	
Henry (KIA)	
Frank E. Sheldon	MI
Henry J. Vannelli	PA
IMO John Stritch, USMC (KIA)	

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

84th/62nd Engineer Battalions

Members gathered in Rochester, NY in May for their 19th reunion. Lou Hall, his wife Barbara, and their family graciously hosted the event.

The group toured several nearby attractions. Among them were:

- George Eastman House (he was the founder of Eastman Kodak)

• Letchworth State Park (known as the Grand Canyon of the East)

• The Strong Museum of Play, which houses the Butterfly House

• Casa Larga Winery, where they tasted various wines

Next year's reunion is scheduled for Washington DC.

*Andrew C. Barilla, 1220 Vermont Road
Bel Air, MD 21014*

Members of 84th/62nd
Engineer Battalions in
Rochester, NY



865th AAA Bn. [SP]



Members met in Branson, MO in April 2008.

*George Kaprelian
gkaprelian@copper.net*

865th AAA Bn. [SP] at Branson: Photo by P. Raven

Back Row: Royce Raven, Don McBrien, Chuck Oates, Hugh Means, Ray Osbon, Ed McCrea, Bill Drieling,
Bill Coley, Albert Barnes, Jim Simpson, Dick Burch
Front Row: Howard Autrobus, Ray Miller, Fred Dietzel, Grady Smith, Kenneth Stow, Gene Gilmore, Tine Martin,
David Gandy, Ray Wire, Bob Allen

April 2008

772nd MP Bn

The Korean veterans of the 772nd Military Police Battalion held their 13th reunion in Columbus, Ohio, May 1-3, 2008. Thirty members were present.

Next year's reunion is being planned for Branson, MO. All 772 Deuce members are welcome.

Contact: Joel C. Davis, P.O. Box 342, Luckey, OH 43443, jcdavis@wcnet.org



772nd MP reunion attendees: (1st row, L-R) Dennis Davis, Wayne Shireman, Joel Davis, Bob Morga, John Cantrall, Paul Rich, Ralph Fillippelli, Bill McDonald, Deane Behrends; (2nd row, L-R) Kennie Coleman, Dan Altieri, Tom Geldert, Vincent Moorman, Willis Sanford, Bob Foss, Lowell Morgan, Mel Ebberts, Edward Trenner, Jack Warneka; (3rd row, L-R) Gene Michaels, Ed Lawrence, Bill Smith, Glenn Kestler, Edward Cumiskey, William Hannah, Dean Tribby, Arthur Baer, Phillip Willemann, Bill Toney

Medal of Honor recipient Jack Lucas on his final trip back to the "Black Sands."



FEATURED TOUR: "64TH REUNION OF HONOR" - IWO JIMA & EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM - GUAM 13 - 20 MAR 2009

MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS (MHT) is proud to offer another in our series of historic tours to the world's battlefields. MHT is proud to partner with the Iwo Jima Association of America (IJAA) to offer an educational symposium on this epic battle that will always resonate with all Americans as a symbol of bravery, dedication, and sacrifice. Following the symposium, a chartered flight to Iwo Jima will take the veterans, family members, and other participants to tour the island and participate in a Memorial Ceremony above the landing beaches. To walk the "Black Sands" with these veterans should not be missed.



2009 BATTLEFIELD TOURS

- 10 - 21 Jan WWII in the Philippines
- 14 - 27 Feb VN Hue City & Tet Offensive
- 8 - 17 Mar VN Op Frequent Wind - Saigon
- 29 Mar - 11 Apr VN I Corps "Chu Lai to the DMZ"
- 19 - 27 Apr Israel "Military & Cultural History"
- 28 Apr - 9 May Greece & Turkey "Crucible of War"
- 26 Apr - 10 May VN 40th Anniv Dewey Canyon
Host: Col "Wes" Fox, USMC MOH
- 16 - 25 May WWI USMC Battlefields - France
- 31 May - 5 Jun WWII Battle of Midway Pearl Harbor
- 2 - 10 Jun WWII 65th Anniv D-Day: Normandy Paris
- 5 - 19 Jun VN Ops Swift & Union I & II - I Corps
- 12 - 19 Jun WWII 65th Liberation of Saipan & Tinian
- 18 - 25 Jun WWII 64th Anniv Battle of Okinawa
- 16 - 25 Jul WWII 65th Liberation of Guam

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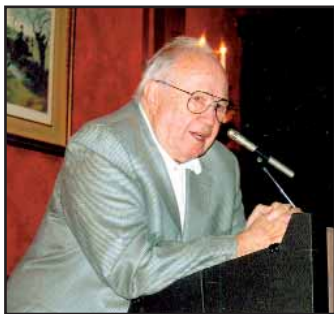
Chapter & Department News

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.

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Our featured speaker at our August meeting was Theodore "Dutch" Van Kirk, a member of "America's Greatest Generation."



LEFT: Theodore "Dutch" Van Kirk addresses CID 19 members



RIGHT: Theodore Van Kirk (L) and CID 19 Secretary/Treasurer Jim Conway (R)



Left: CID 19 member John Kahle (L), his wife Faye (R) and Theodore Van Kirk (C) at Chapter dinner

Mr. Van Kirk, who was born in Carson City, Nevada, saw the

world as a U.S. Army Air Corps navigator on 58 B-17 Flying Fortress combat missions over France and Germany. His most famous flight was aboard the flying fortress Enola Gay, on which he flew to Hiroshima, Japan for the dropping of the first atomic bomb on 6 August 1945. That event occurred almost 63 years to the day from our meeting.

Hearing the story from the navigator of that historic event was awe-inspiring. His hour-long speech and Q & A session kept us on the edges of our chairs.

Fifteen Chapter members had a wonderful time at the 58th Anniversary dinner Koreans hosted in Duluth, where they were treated to food and music.

Chapter member Perry Sweepy received the Korean Peace Medal and Certificate for his service during the Korean War.

*James Conway, 1184 Fourteenth Place, N.E
Atlanta, GA 30309*

29 SSGT WILLIAM E. WINDRICH [IN]

We installed new officers. They include:

- Commander – Alonso Solis
- 1st VP – Warren Eubanks
- Treasurer – Tom Koval
- Secretary – David Padilla
- Sergeant-at-Arms - Eliseo Casteneda
- Chaplain – Tony Della Costa
- Historian – Mel Rangel
- Public Relations - Herb Verrill
- Membership Chairman – Richard Garza

Members marched in the Fourth of July Parade in Whiting, IN.

*Herbert A. Verrill, 1833 169th Street
Hammond, IN 46324*



Officers and members of CID 29 gather to honor new officers



Parade participants from CID 29 at Fourth of July Parade

43 KANSAS CITY MISSOURI #2 [MO]

Tribute paid to former Chapter Commander

Chapter 43's Commander, Jack Calegari, passed away in July 2008. His funeral was well attended by Chapter members and dignitaries alike.

Among the guests were BGen Steve Berkheiser, USMC (Ret) and LtCol Yong Jae Lee, Liaison Officer from the Korean Army, Republic of South Korea.

*Paul A. Wolfgeher, 1924 South Leslie Drive
Independence, MO 64055*



Members of CID 43 say "Goodbye" to Jack Calegari at funeral home



Comrades gather at service for Jack Calegari (L-R) Vern Scott, Nate Riley, Steve Berkeiser, Gene Winslow, Paul Wolfgeher

Delbert White (L) and LtCol Yong Jae Lee (R) at Calegari funeral



102 IMPERIAL VALLEY [CA]

Members attended the Grand Opening Ceremonies and Ribbon Cutting of the first VA Outpatient Clinic in Imperial Valley.



At Imperial Valley ribbon cutting ceremony (L-R) Bob Filner, N. O. ("Benny") Benavidez, Gary Rossio, Pat Burnworth, Taikeun Park

Among the guests were Gary Rossio, Director, VA, San Diego, CA Healthcare System, Pat Burnworth, RN/Clinical Coordinator, and Taikeun, MD, Clinic Director.

Veterans thank California District 51 Congressman Bob Filner for bringing the clinic to the valley.

*N. O. Benavidez, Commander, P. O. Box 5
El Centro, CA 92243*

126 TRI-STATE [OH]

After a nice Christmas party last December, we rested for two months. But, with the first signs of spring, we were up and running.



Tri-State Chapter 126 members (L-R) Lloyd Malley, Mike Kilcoyne, George Piggott march in the Midland, PA Memorial Day Parade



A large contingent from CID 126 braved the rain and marched in the Midland, PA Memorial Day Parade (L-R) D. Gallagher, L. Malley, G. Piggott, J. Kilcoyne, G. Germuss, E. Peters, L. Malignani, Don Wolf, R. Estel



LEFT: Col Humphreys and John Kilcoyne of CID 126 swap war stories at Memorial Day Parade in Midland, PA



RIGHT: Ed Peters of CID 126 places flags on veterans' graves at Riverview Cemetery for Memorial Day



LEFT: Bud Mellington of CID 126 takes his turn with the "Forget Me Nots"

First came our "Forget-me-nots" selling days. Memorial Day brought out the cemetery flags and a parade in Midland, PA. Our picnic meetings started in May. The 4th of July brought us to Midland for another parade. Before July was over, we went to Salem, Ohio and another parade for "Old Salem Days."

In August we took an overnight trip to Washington D.C., where we did a lot of walking trying to cram three days into two, but we had a good time.

September's picnic was our 'White Elephant Sale,' where everyone gets rid of their junk. A Veterans Day parade will be our last one till next year. Our Christmas party will close our year out, but it is also a sad reminder of those members that we lost this year.

*George Piggott, 3720 Root Ave., NE
Canton, OH 44705*

138 AKRON REGIONAL [OH]

Chapter members participated in the ground breaking of the new building for the Veterans Service Commission of Summit County, Ohio

We installed new officers on June 4, 2008. They are:

- Carol Camp, President
- William Niebuhr, First Vice President
- Richard Hudak, Second Vice President
- John Galloway, Chaplain
- Donald Booth, Trustee

*Carl Canon, Secretary, 4512 Conestoga Trail
Copley, OH 44321*



ABOVE: Ground breaking at the new Summit County, OH building; CID 138 members (L-R) Frank Thomas, Russ Pry, John Stiles, Dick Hudak, Don George, John Shaffer



RIGHT: Some of the 2,000 flags on the site of the new Summit County OH building



Officers of CID 138 (Standing, L-R) Chaplain John Galloway, 1st VP William Niebuhr, 2nd VP Richard Hudak, Trustee Donald Booth, President Carol Camp, Secretary Carl Canon (Seated, L-R) Trustee Kenneth White, Treasurer Robert Britt, Trustee Arnon Cool

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

187 WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS 2000 [MA]

We hosted a picnic for hospitalized veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers Home in Holyoke, MA on 13 August 2008.

This picnic is an annual event, which our volunteers participate in happily.

*James K. Stathis, 42 Pine Grove Drive
South Hadley, MA 01075*



"Picnicers" at CID 187's gathering in Holyoke



Parceling out the potato salad at CID 187's picnic

Food goes fast at Holyoke Soldiers Home picnic hosted by CID 187



251 SAGINAW/FRANKENMUTH [MI]

The Westcourt Retirement Living Kitchen Band entertained Chapter members and guests at our June 2008 meeting. Eighteen seasoned retirees from Westcourt, ranging in age from 68 to 92, played 8 old-time favorite songs. Band members played the scrub board, tambourines, symbols, and kazoos. A 91-year-old lady playing all the songs from memory accompanied them on the piano.

We gave the band members a standing ovation at the end of

their program. We spent another twenty minutes listening to their stories about their sons being wounded or killed in action in the Korean War.



Members of the Westcourt Kitchen Band stand in front of CID 251 members (L-R) Tony Blasy, Harvey Johnson, Bob Simon, Stan French



LEFT: Bob Harper (L), member of Westcourt Kitchen Band, and Stan French (R)



ABOVE: Ralph Parlberg (L) and Sue Smith (R), Director of the Westcourt Kitchen Band

LEFT: Dick Haney of CID 251 and members of Westcourt Kitchen Band



ABOVE LEFT: Eugene Feinauer of CID 251 and member of Westcourt Kitchen Band

Our Chapter donated a generous check for the upkeep of their Westcourt bus. We Korean War veterans really are not forgotten, but we recommend that KWVA Chapters get involved with our elderly folks in retirement facilities for ice cream socials, bingo, hot dog roasts, etc.

Our hearts were definitely touched that evening as we watched the Westcourt folks express themselves with music. Chapter 251 members comprise veterans who have goals based

on mutual trust that involve serving veterans, their families, and other needy families. We have added elderly folks in retirement communities to that list.

If anyone wants to discuss this issue with me—or any other topic regarding a Chapter staying afloat—please get in touch with me. I have been supervising people and working in labor relations for 37- ½ years. Maybe we can exchange ideas.

*Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail
Saginaw, MI 48603-1684, robsimoncondo@charter.net*

256 MACOMB/OAKLAND NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

We have new officers, who were sworn in by Mike Adragna. They are:

- Commander – Vince Napoletano
- 1st Vice Commander – Bob Schornak
- 2nd Vice Commander – Richard Charbonneau
- Secretary – Gene Majetic
- Treasurer – Ed Trombley
- Director – Robert Cable
- Sgt. at Arms – Joe Osborne

Chapter members conducted a Rose of Sharon sale at the Korean Methodist Church.

*Robert F. Schornak, 42851 Matthew Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48313, (586) 726-3146
RSchornak@comcast.net*



New officers of CID 256 (L-R) Vince Napoletano, Bob Schornak, Richard Charbonneau, Gene Majetic, Ed Trombley, Robert Cable, Joe Osborne, Mike Adragna (reading oath)



Members of CID 256 sell Rose of Sharon at Korean Methodist Church (L-R) Ryan Hong, Richard Charbonneau, Gene Majetic, Bob Schornak as unidentified church members watch

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

The guest speaker at our August meeting was retired Marine Lt. General Carol Mutter, whose husband Jim Mutter, LtCol (USMC, Ret) accompanied her.

They told us about their interesting careers and how General Mutter rose to the highest grade ever granted a woman in the Marines at that time.

Her husband was in the air traffic control field; she excelled in technical systems management to the degree that her commanders did not want her to retire.

Chapter members got to hear her speaking again, this time on television. She spoke during the recent Republican Convention.



CID 259's Commander Tine Martin and Vice Commander Jack Beaty with the Mutters at the Chapter's August meeting

Ladies of the CID 259 Auxiliary gather with General Mutter: Joan Jones, Dorothy Sanders, Lelia Rupe, Sam Condra, Marian Adam, Marilyn Roberts, Katie Carr and Virginia Martin



264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

Our Chapter supported the commissioning of the nation's first National Security Coast Guard cutter, the USCGC Bertholf (WMSL 750), at Coast Guard Island, 4 August 2008. Three Chapter members were invited.



The USCGC Bertholf at its home port in Alameda



Members of the Bertholf crew line the deck at the commissioning ceremony



Part of the 3,000 attendees at the Bertholf commissioning ceremony take a lunch break



Massing of the Colors during the Bertholf commissioning ceremony

Chapter Representative and Former National Director Stanley Grogan presented two books for shipboard reading to Admiral Thad W. Allen, USCG, the Commandant of the 50,000-member U.S. Coast Guard, and Captain Patrick Stadt, Captain of the Bertholf.

The books were a compilation of articles on the 68th FIS, which was the first to engage the enemy in the air over Korea, when Lieutenants Hudson and his R/O Fraser shot down the first enemy aircraft of the war.

The Bertholf made two port calls, at Miami, FL and Baltimore, MD, before arriving at its home port in Alameda, CA for the half-day commissioning ceremony. Its crew comprises 113 members, including 14 officers.

Approximately 3,000 people, including The Honorable Michael Chertoff, Secretary of Homeland Security, attended the ceremony at Alameda. Post-ceremony tours of the ship were provided.

267 GENERAL JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

MEDAL OF HONOR RECEPTION

The Chapter held its 2nd Annual Reception for our member, Duane Dewey, for National Medal of Honor Recognition Day in March of 2008. The event was held at our home, American Legion Post 16.

Duane Dewey was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Eisenhower for his heroism in Korea on April 6, 1952 when, already wounded, he smothered an exploding enemy grenade with his own body to save the lives of his fellow Marines on a hill near Panmunjom, Korea. President Eisenhower said Duane "Must have a body made of steel."

Duane is one of only 105 people still living who hold our nation's highest honor.

One hundred thirty four veterans and friends attended this event. Some of Duane's family and friends came from as far away as Michigan to honor him.

Commander Dick Davis planned and organized the event. 1st Vice Commander Scott Campbell welcomed everyone to the Legion. Dr. Michael Gannon, Professor Emeritus of the Univ. of Florida and author of 11 books on history, was the outstanding guest speaker. Jim Lynch, local VSO, was the MC.

The University of Florida Billy Mitchell USAF ROTC Drill Team and Honor Guard performed, thanks to Colonel Hugh Griffin. Commander Sam Means was the Chaplain, and Terry Fitzpatrick led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Duane's grandson, Lenny Schmit, gave a very moving speech about his personal hero—his grandfather, Duane.

A luncheon was served after the event. Many Marines attended. Representatives of the VFW and the Marine Corp League, the Veterans Advisory Board, and the American Legion Post 149 all were in attendance.

Congressman Cliff Steams sent a letter of commendation with his aide, Mary Johnson. Thanks to his help, President Bush and his wife Laura sent a letter of commendation to Duane.

Duane Dewey may be the only Medal of Honor recipient to receive a letter of commendation from 2 different Presidents in 2 different centuries.

Special thanks go to members Don and Lou Smith, Anne Collister, Pat Davis, Dick Garfield, Bettyanne Means, Cmdr. Dick Davis, Ron Carbaugh, and Pat Sherry for their hard work on this event. Of course, special thanks also go to our member, Duane Dewey, for his outstanding service to our country.

Semper Fi, Duane.

*Don Sherry, 9511 SW 56th Place
Gainesville, FL 32608, (352) 375-8355
sherrykwva@juno.com*

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Chapter members continue their practice of meeting/greeting returning R&R troops at DFW Airport. Returning R&R flights come in once a day (usually in the morning), seven days a week



CID 270 members “meet and greet” service members at the DFW Airport

and there’s one outgoing flight to Iraq each afternoon as well. There are usually 150-250 troops on each in-coming flight.

Dallas-Fort Worth R&R “meeters and greeters” have the reputation of providing the largest and loudest welcoming home crowd of any airport in the nation. Recorded martial music provides background music to the personal greetings given by the welcoming crowd.

The “greeters” are usually made up of service personnel family members, veterans, USO volunteers, business, political, social, and church groups, and some airport personnel who use their “break” time to join the crowd.

Jerry Kasten, jdkasten@sbcglobal.net

289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

On 28 August 2008, our Chapter presented two checks to the VSO Director at the Johnson City Veterans Affairs Hospital following our hosting of a “Bingo” party at the Nursing Home Wing of the Hospital.

Over thirty (30) patients participated in the Bingo party. Besides giving the patients a break in their routine, it gives the winners some extra spending money.

One check was to provide pantry items to families while their veteran member receives care. The other check was to buy equipment to provide music while patients are undergoing MRI scanning.



Arles Pease, CID 289 Commander Jim Simerly, Director Anne Down and Past CID 289 Commander Bob Shelton (L-R) at the presentation of checks to the Johnson City, TN VA Hospital

The very next Saturday (Labor Day weekend) we marched for the first time in the Duffield, VA parade, along with Charles B. Thacker Chapter #250 from Norton, VA. Ten of our chapter members participated.

Carol Shelton, cshelton37663@yahoo.com

296 CAYUGA COUNTY [NY]

We have new officers. National 1st VP Jim Ferris administered the Oath of Office to them.

John Barwinczok, jbarwinczok@verizon.net



New officers of CID 296 take the Oath of Office at a recent dinner

297 PLATEAU [TN]

After a grueling Memorial Day weekend selling the Rose of Sharon in the Cumberland County community—and setting a record for funds raised during the only fund raiser we do—Chapter members visited Civil War battlefields and memorials in Chickamauga National Military Park near Chattanooga.

The trip also included lunch at the famous Chattanooga Choo Choo restaurant.



ABOVE: CID 297 members and their wives at Chickamauga Battlefield with a sentinel and his heavy musket loader



LEFT: Members of CID 297 visit the Tennessee Memorial dedicated to Civil War veterans (L-R) Dan Brook, Ted Hirabayashi, Art Krogman, Commander Dick Werderitch, Past Commander Don Eliason

Individual members always cover their own expenses in order to make sure that all funds raised in the community stay in the community.

*Dick Malsack, 146 Anglewood Drive, Crossville, TN 38558
(931) 707-7292, kaslam2001@yahoo.com*

312 ANTIETAM [MD]

U.S. Rep. Roscoe Bartlett presented a certificate of appreciation to three officers of Chapter 312 for their service to our country. The presentation was made Aug. 28 in the Sixth District office in Hagerstown to Les Bishop, Secretary; Ned Renner, Commander and Wayne Winebrenner, 1st Vice Commander.

We conducted our first fundraiser recently at a local mall over a two-day period. It was successful. We realized a considerable amount.

*Les Bishop, Secretary, P. O. Box 868
Funkstown, MD 21734*



CID 312's "Fundraising Team" (L-R) Wayne Winebrenner, Bob Sandburg, Bob Eader, Lou Surratt, Pete Callas, Leon Geibel

MONUMENTS from page 35

Seong Shin Ra of Seoul and Madison—an accomplished coloratura soprano—entertained the audience by singing a capella, "Danny Boy" and the traditional Korean ballad "Arirang."

The program concluded with laying of ceremonial wreaths by Senior Boy Scouts of Plover Troop 201, prayers by Chaplain Sharon Pieper, the firing of volleys and the sounding of "TAPS" by trumpeter Bob Kitto.

Greater Plover Memorial Post No. 10262 furnishes the official Memorial Honor Guard and Firing Detail for the annual ceremonies held each June.

The program concluded, the audience visited the island memorial, and many enjoyed lunch served in the park shelter by the Portage County Detachment of the Marine Corps League.

On Sunday, 7 June 2009 there will be a special Rededication of the Memorial, celebrating the completion of the major reconstruction project, estimated to cost \$330,000.

*Cliff Borden, Jr., 4304 Drexel Ave.
Madison, WI 53716*



Members of CID 312 at fundraising event (L-R) Les Bishop, Pete Callas, Bob Eader



Bob Eader, CID 312's Fundraiser Chairman (L), and Secretary Les Bishop (C), talk to a veteran and donor at fundraising event (R)

The Greatest Korea Veterans Memorial

By Louis Dechert

The Republic of Korea today is itself a memorial to American and Korean sacrifices. The inscription is written not in stone, but on living hearts in our flesh and blood. As such, that is the Supreme Korean War Veterans Memorial.

For this reason, if no other, we must take every measure, devise and carry out every plan, and work until we can work no longer to build up, then build up again, and then again, our Mutual Alliance.

Should our Alliance fail, grow gray, then feeble, go on life support, and finally disappear, then I suggest to you that something of our mutual National bodies will have died. Something which has energized us to accomplish the best there is through the past few years will have been excised.

And, just as surely as our physical bodies will perish when the heart is ripped from them, the very essence of mutual accomplishment shall leave us, orphans as it were, to try to make our individual ways—rather than the Allied way—in a hostile world.

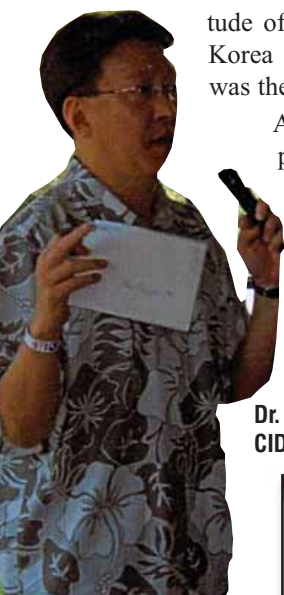
Korea is great not because the USA is great; the USA is better, or great, because Korea is great. That is the kind of relationships we have between ourselves and the ROK, my fellow veterans of Korea. We must preserve, defend, and ever build higher our relationship.

Korean War Anniversary Celebrations

105 – CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]



Cake donated by Tony Falico for CID 105's July 27th meeting



July 27th – A great day for a meeting

The Central New York Chapter (105) held a meeting on Sunday, July 27th, the 55th anniversary of the cease-fire in the Korean War. The speaker was Jongwoo Han, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science at The Maxwell School of Syracuse University.

Dr. Han spoke on Korean-American relations, the gratitude of the South Korean people, and the changes in Korea since the war. He mentioned that South Korea was the eleventh largest economy in the world.

All members of Chapter 105 who were present posed for a group picture.

Anthony Falico, who was featured in a recent article in *The Graybeards*, donated the cake. Tony is well known for his work for service members and veterans.

John Laura, 8 Parkington Circle
East Syracuse, NY 13057,
jlaura1@twcny.rr.com

Dr. Han addresses the crowd at CID 105's July 27th gathering



Attendees at CID 105's July 27th meeting (L-R) Mrs. Jongwoo Han and daughter, Dale Sweetland (candidate for U.S. House of Representatives), Commander Dave Allen, Adjutant Bill O'Kane, Professor Han

The members of CID 105 at their July 27th event



144 – ALOHA [HI]

CID 144, KWVA Aloha Chapter, continues to honor all the fallen soldiers and living Korean War veterans and their families. We are also pleased to help educate the community about the history of the Korean War in the "50th State."

Since 2004, our Chapter has taken over the responsibilities of continuing the Korean War Memorial Ceremony every June 25th at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

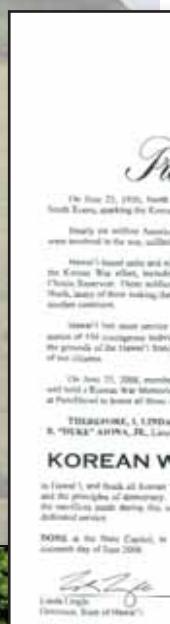
This year, we were very fortunate to have three distinguished people participate in the ceremony: Hawaii's Lt Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr., who offered remarks, Consul General Bong Joo Kim, who provided the Memorial Address, and Admiral Timothy J. Keating, USN Commander, U.S. Pacific Command, who delivered the Keynote Address to over 550 attendees from the local and Korean communities.

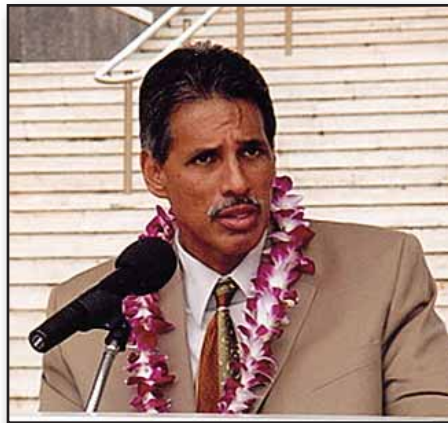
We were also blessed to have 54 wreaths presented at the ceremony to honor our fallen comrades.

Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle sent a Proclamation in honor of Korean War Veterans Day, as did Mufi Hanneman, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.

Jimmy Shin, 825 Keeaumoku St., # 301
Honolulu, HI 96814, (808) 951-1411, kwva.kimchee.net

Governor Lingle's proclamation





Above, from left: Admiral Keating; Hawaii's Lt Governor Duke Aiona, Jr.; and the Honorable Bong Joo Kim, Consul General of the Republic of Korea, speak at the crowd at the Punchbowl

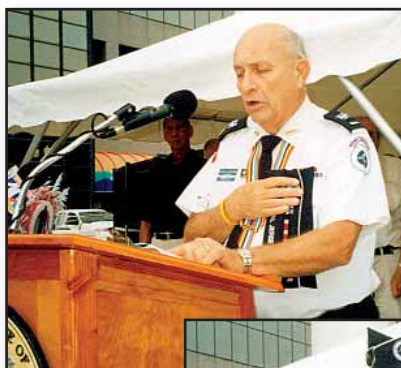
Department of New Jersey

55th anniversary signing of the Korean War Armistice and Medal Ceremony held in New Jersey

Taejon Chapter Commander Thomas Falato led a bus full of Korean War veterans and family members to Atlantic City, NJ on 28 July, 2008 for the celebration of the 55th anniversary of the signing of the Korean War armistice.

Activities Director William Burns did a wonderful job as he handled transportation, entertainment, and refreshments on the bus. The event was arranged and planned by KWVA of NJ State Commander and past Taejon Chapter Commander George Bruzgis.

The ceremony commenced at 11 a.m., as Bruzgis welcomed the large crowd.



KWVA NJ State Chaplain Charles Koppelman says invocation (above) and NJ State Commander George Bruzgis welcomes crowd to Atlantic City ceremony (right)



Col Stephen G. Abel (U.S. Army, Ret) prepares to present medals to New Jersey Korean War veterans



Above, NJ State Commander George Bruzgis and Taejon Chapter Commander in front of 1 of the 6 Korean War monuments in Atlantic City

Presentation of colors was by Officer of the day, KWVA Taejon Chapter Color Guard Captain James Lomauro, and various veteran color guards.

Two NJ medals were awarded to Korean War veterans. Presenting the medals was Colonel Stephen G. Abel (Ret), NJ Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs.

The wreath ceremony consisted of three wreaths placed before the Memorial Wall, which contains the names of over 900 New Jersey military personnel who did not return home from the Korean War.



A proclamation from the Mayor of Honolulu

A Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed. Guest speakers included NJ state and congressional dignitaries. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by invocation by KWVA NJ State Chaplain Charles Koppelman.

More > >



Left, Taejon Chapter Color Guard at Atlantic City (L-R) James Lomauro, John DiLonardo, Henry Ferrarini, Alexander Atheras, Kenneth Green, William Burns, George Rothfritz



Right: Taejon Chapter Thomas Falato after placing wreath at Atlantic City monument

The ceremony ended with the crowd singing “God Bless America,” which was led by Kelsey Pengitore. (She also sang the “National Anthem” earlier in the ceremony.) Taps was played by James Hamilton of KWVA Chapter 54.

Korean War veterans and family disbursed to the many casinos on the boardwalk

after the event. Many were winners at the casinos—and all the veterans were winners for participating in the Korean War!

*Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave.
Paterson, NJ 07503, (973) 279-6402*

Giving a helping hand to A.R.M.S.

KWVA members and Chapters are always there with a hand whenever possible. Members of the Ocean County, NJ Chapter (#49) just proved that.

Chapter Commander Tony Grace turned over a \$300 check to National Guardsman S/Sgt Hammer on 4 September 2008 in support of A.R.M.S. The group’s members volunteer at the Toms River National Guard Armory in support of our troops.

They collect items, package them, and ship them overseas to service members.

They collect items, package them, and ship them overseas to service members. The price is high. It costs \$10.00 to ship one package, and the group has been sending them since 2003. No doubt that \$300.00 will be a great help to the group.

Grace noted that CID 49 has only thirteen active members now, “But we make the best of it.” They do as far as A.R.M.S. is concerned.

If anyone wants to know more about A.R.M.S., contact Ronnie at (732) 890-4914 or Maria Morro, Toms River National Guard Armory, 1200 Whitesville Rd., Toms River, NJ 08755.



Tony Grace, CID 49 Commander (L) presents check to SSgt Hammer (R)

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

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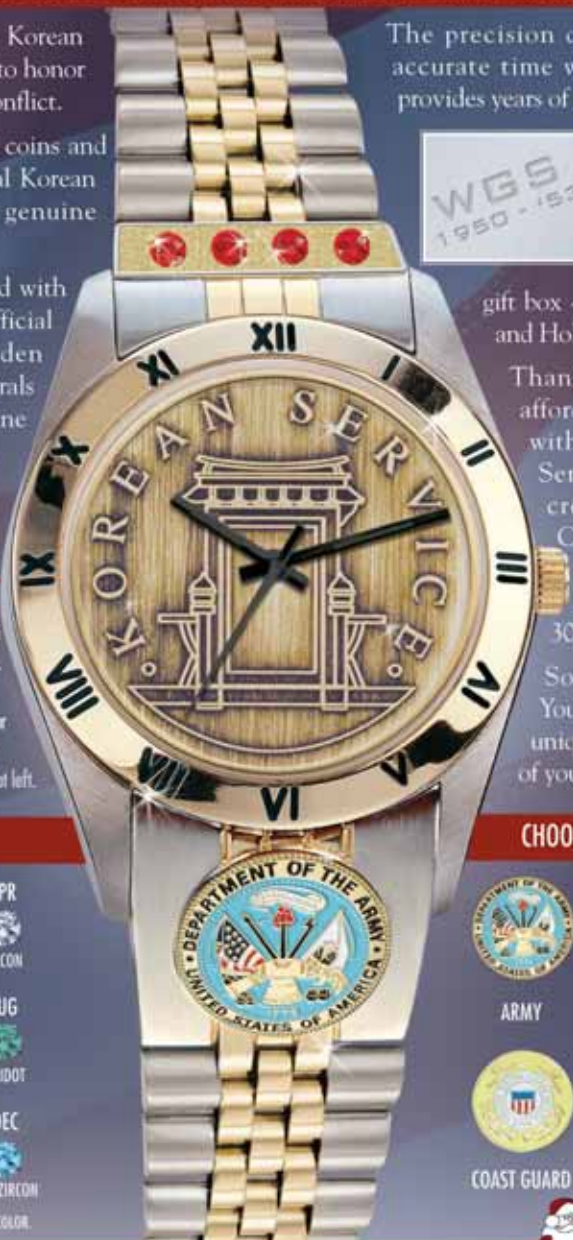


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THE FORGOTTEN VICTORY

Article and Photos by Douglas Graves

This narrative of former USMC Commandant Al Gray's 2007 Revisit to Korea appeared in the January/ February issue of *Semper Fi*, the Marine Corps League's magazine. It is reprinted with the author's and magazine's permission.

"One day on Tarawa it all made sense," said General Alfred M. Gray, recounting the words of a former battalion commander, speaking of his former doubts about the value of the annual observance that Marines at every post and station around the world hold in such high regard.

The guest of honor at the 23rd Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Seoul was recalling the words spoken by then LtCol. Mike Ryan at a Marine Corps Birthday remembrance in 1953. General Gray was a young lieutenant and a company commander in Korea with 1st Battalion, 7th Marines at the end of the Korean War. As a Major at Tarawa, LtCol Ryan had been awarded the Navy Cross in one of the bloodiest battles in the history of the Marines.

"We do three things at our Marine Corps birthday," said General Gray, retired 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, dressed in his trademark formal camouflage dinner jacket. "We remember our dead and our

traditions, and we remember our comrades who have made great sacrifice; that's very, very important for all of our Marines to do that. We get together and have some camaraderie ... and tighten up the bonds that, we think, make Marines special.

And the third thing and most important part of the Marine Corps Birthday Ball is that—all you Marines who are here tonight—that you dedicate yourselves again to the future and to do the very best you can for the greatest nation on earth."

General Gray went on to acknowledge the Korean guests and recalled their great sacrifices during the Korean War. He expressed his faith in the U.S.-ROK friendship as a "bond that will never be broken. That bond tells you something. It says that we can get together when there is conflict."

Referring to the current war on terrorism, his voice resolute and his bearing every inch a battle leader, he said, "We can get together and we can prevail. We will prevail!"

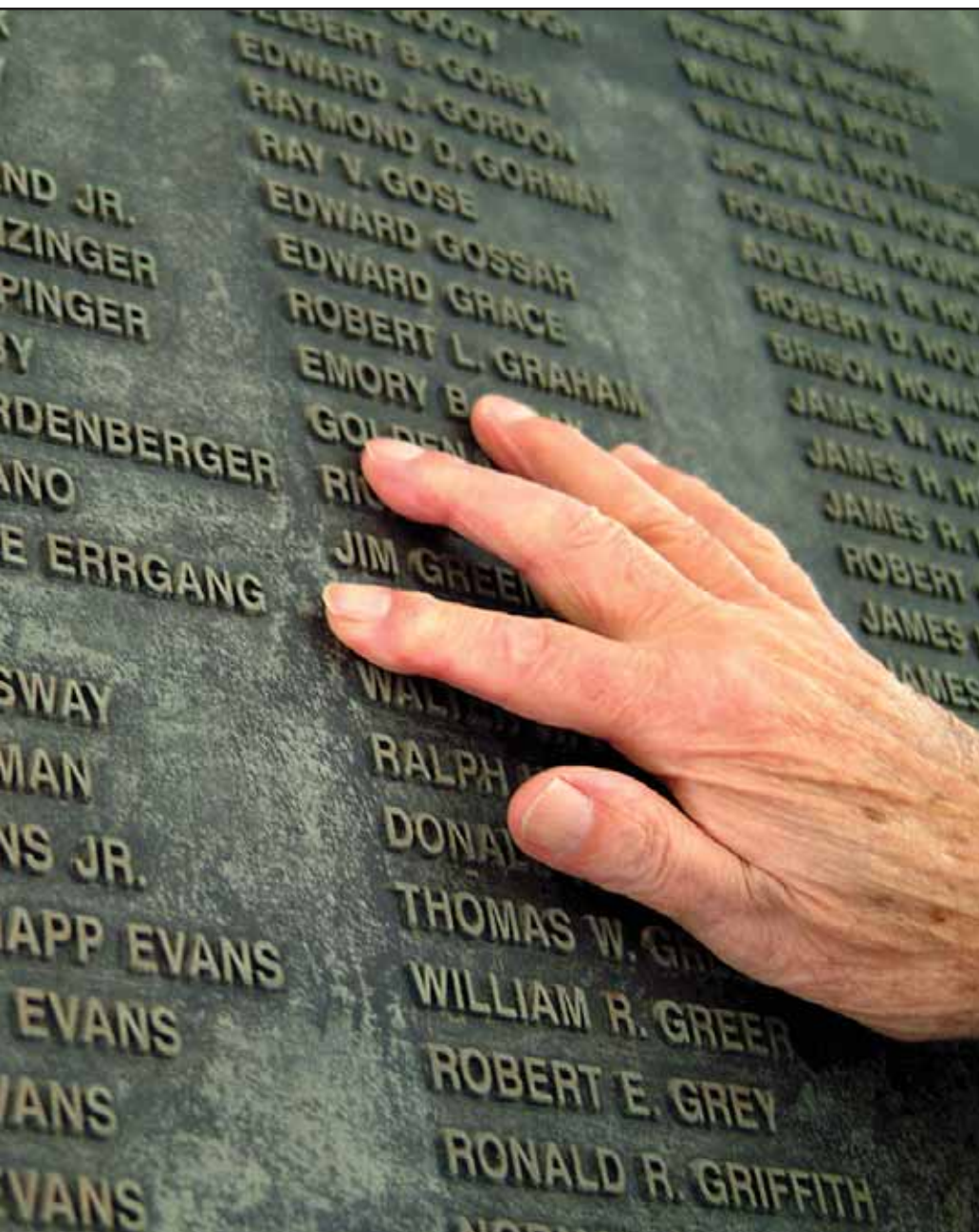
The General concluded his remarks urging his Marines to "take care of yourselves, take care of each other and, as we say in the nation's Corps of Marines, 'Semper Fidelis!'"



At every table men came to their feet in a thunderous and raucous applause, giving good evidence that this old Commandant still commands the respect, admiration and, perhaps even the love of his fellow Marines.

General and Mrs. Gray had arrived in Korea just a couple days before. They had a full week of obligations ahead of them.

As they flew into Korea, the rugged Deokjeok Islands off the west coast of Korea were their first glimpse of the Land of the Morning Calm as the KAL flight



Herbert Oxnam finds the name of one of his fallen comrades, Gunnery Sergeant Joseph Errgang

began its descent into Incheon International Airport. Late morning sunlight slanted in, back-lighting the fog-shrouded islands and giving the scene a golden yellow glow appropriate for the Yellow Sea below.

Light fog obscured shorelines, but still revealed the flat, calm bay where, in 1950, a great naval armada was poised to strike one of history's great strategic victories.

General Gray was a private in 1950, having been just sworn in at New York City by Medal of Honor holder Major Louis H. Wilson. He had begun an illustrious career that would elevate him to the commandancy of the Marine Corps. Then-Private Gray, like Major Wilson, would one day also be known as a "Warrior Commandant."

General Gray and his wife Jan were guests of the Korean Veterans' Association and of the Commanding General of Marine Corps Forces in Korea. They had been

invited as part of the KVA's Revisit Korea program. Since 1975, the program has been bringing veterans of the 21 nations that won what the KVA proudly calls the "Forgotten Victory."

General Gray holds many post-retirement positions on corporate and academic boards, but he is proudest to be the Honorary National Commandant of the Marine Corps League. "I am the first Commandant to hold that post since General Lejeune," he said, referring to the Marine Corps' legendary 13th Commandant, Major General



The "Bridge of No Return" where prisoners were exchanged after the truce was signed marking the end of the Korean War



John and Dianne Camara. John is from Bayonet Point, Florida



Jan Gray, wife of General Alfred M. Gray, meets the ROK Marine Corps Commandant Lieutenant General Sang-Ro Lee



John A. Lejeune.

"I'm proud to be a part of the Marine Corps League," he said in a conversation in the KAL lounge at Dulles International Airport prior to his flight to Korea. "They do fantastic work supporting [Marine] wounded all around the country. They personify the idea of 'once a Marine, always a Marine.' They provide tremendous support to wounded Marines with their Semper Fi Fund."

On his first day in Korea, General Gray had lunch with the Marines at the Navy Club at Yongson Army Garrison. There, the former commandant seemed

to be in his most comfortable element—with fellow Marines.

Major General Frank Panter, head of Marine Forces, Korea, invited General Gray to join him at an intelligence briefing and a Korea update at his headquarters. After the briefing, the Marines around the conference table enjoyed talking with General Gray.

They listened with rapt attention as the former commandant delivered what could have been a post-graduate course in the art of being a Marine. Amphibious operations: "We come from the sea—other people come over the sea."

Expeditionary warfare: Expeditionary warfare means light enough to get there, heavy enough to win. "On building alliances: 'You've got to be with them and share their hardships.'" Reflecting on being one of the service chiefs: "Only one is a 'Commandant'—the Commandant commands the Marine Corps—the others have titles like 'Chief of Staff.'"

"What are some of the things you are most proud of?" asked Col Douglas Fegenbush, Deputy Commander for Marine Forces, Korea.

"One of the things we tried to do was turn the Marine Corps loose; to show that we could do more," General Gray said. "There has been a greatly increased understanding of the capabilities of Marine generals in the last 20 years."

"And," he added, "I wanted a Marine Corps University." In keeping with his interest in the professional military education of officers, staff non-commissioned officers and non-commissioned officers, he had established the "Commandant's Reading List," an extensive list of books that every Marine leader is expected to read.

By the next morning, the Alexandria, VA-based Military Historical Tour group had arrived in Seoul with a strong contingent of Marine Corps League members.



The border between a divided country



Captain and Mrs. Garr, Ms. Pak, Ms. Kim



Colonel Douglas Fegenbush, General Alfred Gray and Major General Frank Panter share a laugh at Marine Forces, Korea's headquarters

They joined General Gray and staffers from the United Nations Command for breakfast and for a current assessment of the political and military situation in Korea. Then, as the weather rapidly deteriorated, they boarded buses and drove to Panmunjom in the DMZ.

Once they arrived at Camp Bonifas, the rain reinforced the fog, restricting vision in every direction to a few hundred yards.

The tour group moved to Observation Post Dora, which in good weather offers a panoramic view of the DMZ near Panmunjom. Today, though, there was little to see, as the rain and fog combined to limit observation to the huge 3-dimensional map table in the lecture hall. After a briefing, the veterans went to pay homage to their fallen comrades at the grey stone U.S. War Memorial at Imjingak.

As the crowd of veterans formed a semi-circle in front of the memorial, General Gray said, in a clear voice, "Can we have a moment of silence." Then, as the National Anthem started to play, he and his fellow veterans, many of them Marines, stood at attention, their hands over their hearts, remembering their comrades, some of whom had fallen within sight of the memorial.

Luther Leguire stands in front of an amtrac similar to the one that brought him to Incheon in 1950

General Gray, who had fought in the "Outpost Wars," disregarded the steady rain and refused an offered umbrella, then laid a ceremonial wreath at the memorial.

"It was quite touching," said Gerald Ravino, a veteran flame tank commander who had also fought in the "Outpost Wars," the struggle for tactical advantage that raged while peace talks were being held in Panmunjom.

"I lost it a little bit when I found the names of some of the guys that I went to boot camp with on the memorial," Ravino said.

Ravino, a member of the Marine Corps League and co-author of a book about flame tank actions at the DMZ, was himself injured here.

That evening the Korean War veterans in the group were themselves honored by the KVA at a reception and banquet. They received something that, for the most part, never happened when they came home from the Korean War—genuine recognition and thanks for their service in liberating South Korea

"My dear comrades-in-arms," said retired Major General Park Seh Jik. "When war threatened, you came and sacrificed. On behalf of the Korean people, thank you for your dedication. You deserve the noble title of 'Ambassador for Peace.'

"You won the war. You will be in the hearts of the Korean people forever. We will do our best to repay our debt to you."

General Gray addressed the American and the Korean War veterans. "You taught the Communists a valuable lesson," he said. Then he and 33 other veterans of the Korean War were





General Gray pays his respects at the funerary urn at the National Cemetery



Left, Major General Panter, General Gray and Lieutenant General Lee salute their national colors.

Below left, A Republic of Korea honor guard in front of the gate at the National Cemetery.

Below, Korean War Memorial



invited to the dais and awarded a medal commemorating their service over 50 years ago.

"It was humbling," said Raymond Miller, a Marine from Hutchinson, KS. "It gave me goose bumps." Miller was speaking of the medal ceremony and his experiences since returning to Korea. "The whole trip has been heart warming. It is amazing what they have done."

Later, Miller and his wife, Dena, were shopping in Itaewon when a Korean seamstress asked him when he had last been in Korea. Miller, who had made the landing at Incheon as a BAR man with Able Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, told the woman that he had come in 1950.

"She hugged me and bowed She said, 'Thank you'."

The following day, 10 November, the veterans went to Dongjak-gu in Seoul to visit the National Cemetery. There they honored the Korean patriots who died in the service of their country.

As senior officer present, General Gray took the lead. From the great, blue tile-roofed gate building, he led the veterans up the broad avenue flanked by Republic of Korea military honor guards. For almost 200 yards, in measured step, they marched up to the shrine where a memorial wreath waited. There, amid the strains of the Korean National Anthem, and under a blue sky, prayers were offered for those interred in the hallowed grounds.

The General advanced the wreath to its place of honor. Before starting on this journey, he had said, "I want to show my respect to the South Koreans." Mission accomplished.

The Marine Corps League members and other veterans boarded their buses and headed toward Incheon Harbor and the Incheon Landing Operations Hall.

At the museum a collection of photographs, dioramas, weapons and uniforms told the story of that dramatic day and night of September 1950. Luther Leguire, of Lake City, FL, paused beside a fully restored and painted AMTRAC where he recalled coming ashore in the first wave with 1st Marines as an infantryman.

Ten days later, Leguire gained national recognition when he was photographed in the act of replacing a North Korean flag flying over the U. S. Consulate with an American flag. By 7 November, he was wounded by a bullet through his knee.

The following day, at the Korean War Memorial in Seoul, the largest memorial of its kind in the world, brought Marine Corps League members Dick Oxnam and John Camara face to face with their past.

Oxnam had been a first lieutenant platoon commander of 2nd Recon Platoon, Reconnaissance Company near the MLR (Main Line of Resistance—now known as the DMZ) and Camara had been

one of his squad leaders. "First Platoon was assigned to get live prisoners," said Camara.

"It was 2000 {hours} on 27 February 1953 when the platoon crossed the MLR. But First Platoon walked into the kill zone of some Chinese machine guns and was cut up badly in the initial burst, then pinned down.

"The bright moonlight reflecting off the snow made it almost as bright as daylight," said Oxnam, his voice full of emotion

"Second Lieutenant (later Major General and Medal of Honor recipient) Jim Day and I took our platoons out to help get First Platoon back in. GySgt Joe Errgang and two others were missing. Enemy fire was intense and we were exposing ourselves to more casualties. We searched for them until 1400 [the next day] but never found them."

"Cpl Jerry Day was my radio man. He was killed [during that operation] when a mortar round dropped into our foxhole," said Oxnam.

Oxnam found the names he was looking for. They were two of the thousands honored in the long Korean War Memorial hallway ... Errgang, Joseph R. Day, Gerald.

Oxnam looked at the names for a while, his fingers moving slowly over the raised letters. Then the two comrades-in-arms slowly walked out of the hall of heroes.

The veterans wrapped up their visit to the Land of Morning Calm, peaceful now. But before they left Korea, a group of young school children on a field trip saw Oxnam and his wife on the street. A teacher asked if he was a Marine. Then she explained to the kids that Oxnam was, indeed, a Marine.

"The school children broke ranks and ran up to us, hugging us," Oxnam said. "They said 'Thank you, sir, for saving our country.'"

First to land at Inchon

I was a QM3 aboard the first boat to land on the Red Beach for the invasion at Inchon. We had orders to land at 1830, as that would be the highest tide of the year, at 31 feet.

We were the flagship of our flotilla. We had seven more LSTs in our command. As we made our way past Wolmi-do into Inchon Harbor there were 3 LSR rocket ships. They had 10 rocket launcher mounts and could launch 1,000 rounds a minute.

We heard there were some enemy troops on Wolmi-do on the leeward side of the island. These ships launched their barrages as we passed them. When the smoke cleared, there wasn't a blade of grass left on the mountain.

We had to make a full turn to our port side. Once we were in the harbor, we turned full starboard to line up for the beach landing. We passed the second wave of assault troops. As we were going in, we found out the first wave was pinned down at the sea wall.

We took mortar fire as we made our approach to the beach. There were elements of the 3rd Marines with tanks onboard. Our bow doors were open, and when we hit the beach at full speed to get high enough to drop the bow ramp to off load the tanks, we took out 3 pillboxes and 9 machine gun emplacements with our 40mm and 20mm gun turrets. The other 7 ships came in after us and helped establish a beach head. We offloaded the tanks and the Marines, and the invasion was under way.

The wounded Marines we took off the beach received first aid and were transferred to a hospital ship. We had 1 crew member killed and 9 wounded crew members. And, we sat high and dry for 24 hours until the tide came in the next day. We left Inchon and went back to Japan.

We received the Navy Unit Citation and the South Korea Presidential Citation for our flotilla.

*Adolph C. Polte, 3417 W 84th St
Chicago, IL 60652, (773) 737-2134*

SOUNDS OF WAR

By Bernard Sarisohn

Now that I am 75 years old and hard of hearing, I realize and appreciate how many of my memories are associated with sound. I don't mean the sounds of the people who are near and dear to me, or the sounds of the music that I love to listen to on the radio. I don't mean the noises that all of us are surrounded by, accept, and take for granted. The sounds that I think about, the sounds that have stayed in the back of my mind for many, many, years, are from a time when I was young and in the Army.

My short term in the service was, of course, a defining period in my life. I took my basic training with the 101st Airborne at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky. I wasn't smart enough or athletic enough to duck the first time we were told to throw a hand grenade. The sound of the resulting explosion just a few feet in front of me is a noise that I will always remember.

After completing basic training in sixteen weeks, my outfit was sent to California, where we departed for Yokohama, Japan on the troop ship *U.S.N.S. Mann*. I was one of a few that were singled out at Camp Drake in Yokohama for further training I was sent to Etta Jima, which was, at one time, the Japanese Naval Academy. It was there that I was trained to be a supply specialist. After completing the required six weeks of school I left for Sasebo, where I then sailed to Pusan, Korea.

It was my first night in a combat zone. I was sitting in the rear of a truck with several other newly assigned frightened recruits. It was very dark and we were on our way to an area held by the 7th Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division. This was it.

We were headed toward the front line. It was precisely at that time that the United States Army launched an artillery attack against the enemy. It was unexpected and seemed to come from the side of the road, only a few feet from where we were. The vibrations threw me down and my steel helmet hit the steel floor of the truck. The sounds of the shells going off all around us and the sound of my head hitting the floor are still with me.

It's hard to forget the noises of combat. The memory of the sharp, high-pitched sounds of incoming big guns still makes me cringe. The haunting sound of bugles being blown when the Chinese troops were attacking is forever in my mind. The Fourth of July is never a good day for me. When the sky rockets howl overhead and firecrackers explode, I want to join the dog in the closet until the "celebration" is over.

July 27th, 1953, the day that the fighting stopped, was a day of joy. We had been given orders not to fire any guns after midnight, but about thirty minutes before the truce took effect it was almost as if the war had begun again. Fueled by beer, rice wine, and other drinks, almost every American soldier started to fire his rifle into the air and throw hand grenades into the ponds and lakes. It was a pretty stupid thing to do, but we were living for the moment. Nobody was shooting back at us.

For me, the very worst sounds happened after the shooting war stopped. In April of 1954 I was moved south to Pusan, where I was issued new clothes, and all weapons and military script (money) were taken from me. I was then loaded on to the navy transport ship *U.S.N.S. General Weigel*. This ship was headed across the Sea of Japan to the Pacific Ocean, and then home to San Francisco.

The bunks on the ship were stacked four or five high. It was our first night out. I was half asleep on the top bunk when suddenly I was thrown to the deck with the life jacket that I had been using as a pillow. It felt as if our ship had hit a brick wall.

Alarms sounded and whistles blew. I regained my footing and began to run to the nearest pathway that would take me up towards the deck. When I reached the hatch (door) and opened it, I quickly discovered that there was no deck at that particular spot. I looked out and couldn't see anything.

A very dense fog had settled in and obscured all vision. I slammed the hatch, locked the handle and, running down as fast as I could, joined other men as we all ran to the other side of the ship. The fog horn blasted its message at twenty second intervals. It was an eerie sound. It was more than that: it was terrible and frightening. To this day I cringe at the sound of a foghorn.

When the fog cleared we learned that our ship had been rammed by a Chinese Nationalist boat. There was a slice in our hull about twenty feet above the water line, cutting away a portion of the port deck at the point of impact.

The morning sea was calm. Fortunately, we did not take on any water. Of course, it was impossible to continue out into the Pacific Ocean without rebuilding the smashed deck, so our ship headed for repairs at a shipyard in Japan.

For five days we watched as Japanese workers swarmed all over our little transport ship, using bamboo scaffolds, small hand held welding tools, and riveting guns to replace the steel plates of our damaged hull.

Five days in Japan sounds wonderful. It could have been, except that we were all in a hurry to get home and get on with our lives. There was also another problem. Our Korean money and military script was in Korea. We had no American or Japanese money. We were stranded in Japan for five days without the means to do anything.

We did a lot of walking and a lot of talking. We returned to our ship at night for a meal and to rest.

The trip back to the U.S. was uneventful — except for the 100 or so soldiers who were upchucking over the railing. I suppose that I can add that to my memory of sounds.

The trip took about twelve days as our little transport waddled across the sea. We were all on deck the morning that we approached San Francisco. We saw the lights in the sea lanes before we saw the city lights. Most of us had tears in our eyes when the loudspeakers blared, "Welcome home guys," and played the then popular song "Harbor Lights." That was one of the greatest sounds ever.

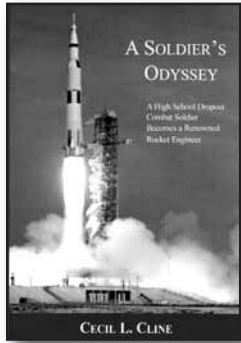
Continued on page 69

Book Review

A Soldier's Odyssey: A High School Dropout Combat Soldier Becomes a Renowned Rocket Engineer.

Cecil L. Cline.

ISBN: 978-1-59594-224-1. 246 Pages



Some people's lives are so interesting that they are routinely encouraged by others to "write a book." Such advice must have been given repeatedly to Cecil L. Cline, who took the suggestion to heart to share major elements of his life story in *A Soldier's Odyssey*.

In an engaging narrative, Cline relates his unusual upbringing in rural West Virginia, his experience in combat in Korea, and the trajectory of his career in rocket engineering. The three segments of the book—Pre-Army Life, Army Life, and Post-Army Life—are woven together to create a fascinating biography.

Cline's odyssey actually begins before he becomes a soldier. His father worked the coal mines and, along with Cline's mother, sustained the large family on a small farm. While the family was by no means wealthy, Cline enjoyed a happy upbringing and learned the value of hard work. But what set him apart from his contemporaries, and from his family, was his desire for education.

Cline yearned to become an engineer, but opportunity did not often knock on the door of small houses in Bull Creek. In fact, Cline's dream of a college education with a major in engineering appeared to be completely out of reach because, for many reasons, completing high school was an unattainable goal.

Through the guidance and kindness of several mentors, Cline sought to balance education, family responsibilities, and the need for income. One of the stops on his odyssey was the Army, which Cline hoped would help him later pursue his education. In 1948, Cline joined the Army and eventually found himself as a supply clerk in Japan.

Soon, the Korean War escalated and Cline was thrust into combat, where he was badly wounded by Chinese forces. Recuperation lasted close to twenty months, during which Cline had six surgeries and extensive physical therapy. Once again, he was left wondering about his future and pondering how to pursue his dream of becoming an engineer.

Despite the ordeal of his Army stint, Cline credits the experience with enriching his life:

"When asked about my decision to join the Army, or my deci-

sion to go to the front line in Korea, I have a very good answer. Many good things have happened in my life, and they have all been due directly, or indirectly, to my military service. Without the GI Bill, or the Purple Heart, the dream of a university education would never have been realized" (p. 167).

Indeed, despite various twists and turns, Cline eventually found his dream fulfilled beyond his expectations as he evolved into one of the country's renowned experts in his field of engineering in the U. S space program.

The path to his success was not smooth, as the high-school dropout had to return to his boyhood high school at age 20 to finish what he started. But the work ethic instilled in him from his upbringing, the grit and fortitude that carried him through combat with the Chinese in Korea and his recuperation from devastating injuries, and his passion to achieve his dream spurred Cline to reach for the stars—literally—through his profession in rocket engineering.

His story, told with humility, reflects his admiration and gratitude for the mentors who helped him towards success. No doubt, readers will be glad Cline took the advice to relate his unique life story.

Police Action?

By Herb Verrill

In 1950 to 1953

There was a Police Action
Which involved millions
And you and me.

Thousands were wounded
And they buried thousands more
And it became known as
The Forgotten War.

They dedicated a Memorial
In 1995
For heroes forgotten
And those who died.

Always remember
Believe it no more.
It was not a Police Action—
It was a War!

*Herb Verrill is the Public
Relations Director of CID 29.*



Recon Missions

Melvin George Schulz

I am looking for a Korean veteran named Melvin George Schulz. He was born on 10/18/1925 in Ohio. He and his sister Lawina Schulz grew up together in an orphanage in Cincinnati, Ohio.

His daughter, Lawina Margarete, who was born on 10/27/1947, is searching for him. He must still be alive, because I can not find his death record in any state.

If you can help me find him, that would be great.

Ralf Werner, 5007 Crowne Chase Pkwy.

Hoover, AL 35244, (205) 874-6680

What's the story with this tank?

There are two photos nearby of a "mystery" Sherman tank. Maybe someone can identify the specific tank and explain what happened to it.

I was a "Tanker" with Tank Co., 14th Inf. Regt., 25th Inf. Div. when the war ended. Our tank company was moved to a place called Camp Indian Head. If I recall correctly, this tank was nearby.

It was a 3rd Div. tank, according to the faded painting on the front slope. On the back of my original pictures I wrote (55 years ago) that it was damaged heavily on the inside, and the 76mm gun was also damaged. The tracks were also broken. It looked like someone cut away both sides of the tank with a "burning torch."



ABOVE: The "Mystery" tank
RIGHT: A front view of the "Mystery" tank with its turret pointing backwards



The turret was facing toward the rear of the tank. On the turret side was a star with the number 12—as best as I could make out. This indicates that this tank was in the 1st Platoon, #2 tank.

Whether it went over a mine or was knocked out with an anti-tank weapon, I can't recall.

The tank had to be there for some time, since all the paint was badly faded.

Hopefully, someone can shed some light on the mystery.

Bob Porvaznik, 3414 Thomas Street

Whitehall, PA 18052

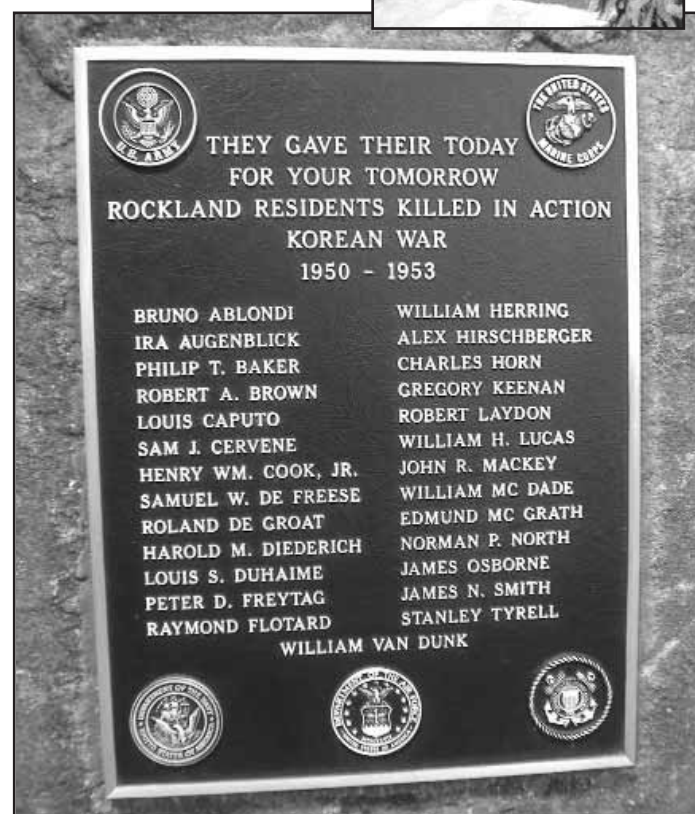
Jose Bonilla, 7 INFD, 31 INF, 1 BN, CO "A"

Joe Higuera is looking for a former comrade, Jose Bonilla, who served with him in Co "A," 1st Bn, 31st Inf, 7th Div in Korea. Higuera recalls that Bonilla was from Santurce, Puerto Rico. If anyone remembers him or knows of his whereabouts, please contact Higuera.

In fact, Higuera would like to hear from anyone who served with him or in his unit. Reach him at 140 W. 21st Place, Yuma, AZ 85364, (928) 329-7534



Rockland County, NY (CID 90) monument



Lost Bios

I have enclosed photos of a monument we built in the early 1990s. We have lost the bios on several of those mentioned on the inscribed tablet.

Unfortunately, those of us who were responsible for finding the names have left the community or have passed away. We were wondering if anyone can help us in finding anything on the following people: Philip T Baker, Sam Cervane, Peter D. Freytag, William Herring, Gregory Keenan, William H. Licas and James Osborne.

Robert Frankl, Past President, CID 90, Eagle [NY]
Robert T. Frankl, 6 Carter Ln.
Wesley Hills, NY 10952-1107
(914) 354-0400, rhfrankl@gmail.com

52nd Trans Trk Bn/121 Evac Hospital

George Starks is looking for anyone who served in either of the units mentioned above. He was a dental surgeon in Korea.

George W. Starks, 4814 E. Lake Dr.
Winter Springs, FL 32708, (407) 695-2295

A Birdseye View of Korea

While serving coffee to the veterans at the Dallas VAMC, I came across Carl Johnson. We were discussing his service in the military. He mentioned that he was in Korea in 1951 and that he wrote a poem while there. He handed me a copy.

This is that poem:

BIRDSEYE VIEW OF KOREA

Just below the Manchurian border Korea is the spot
Where we are doomed to spend out time in a land where God forgot.

We sweat we freeze we shiver it's more than a man can stand
We are not a bunch of convicts; we are defenders of our land.

We are soldiers of the Second Log Command earning our measly pay
Guarding the people with millions for just two bucks a day.

Living with our memories waiting to see our gals
Hoping while we are away they haven't married our pals.

The time we spend in the Army is time we'll always miss
Boys don't let the draft get you and for gosh sakes don't enlist.

Now don't think that we're griping we love this Army life
But darned if it don't get lonesome without your little wife.

They say rotation is starting and boy will I be glad
When I get home and see my dear old Mom and Dad.

Now when we get to Heaven St. Peter will up and yell
There's the Boys from Korea, Lord: they've served their hitch in hell.

Carl Johnson
Korea, March 20, 1951

Submitted by Walter Lynch, Chapter 215

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.

2008

NOVEMBER

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

2009

APRIL

8084th Pool Table Repair Co., Yokohama, 1948-50, 18-19 Apr., Lexington, MA, Minuteman Inn. POC: Eugene Mercier, P. O. Box 3602, Nashua, NH 03061

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

73rd Tank Bn. & 73rd Armor, 23-26 April., Columbus, GA. POC: Curtis Banker, 44 Westcott Road, Schuyler Falls, NY 12985, (518) 643-2302, dmbanker-curtis@northnet.org

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

MAY

Several Ships, 2-7 May, Jacksonville, FL - Bahamas Cruise. POC: Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040, (516) 747-7426, cfu115@aol.com. Ships involved: Gen William Mitchell (AP-114); Gen Nelson Walker (TAP-125); Gen George M Randall (TAP-115); Gen M B Stewart (TAP-140); Gen. M C Meigs (TAP-116); Gen A W Greely (TAP-141); Gen W H Gordon (TAP-117); Gen H F Hodges (TAP-144); Gen William Weigel (TAP-119); Gen Harry Taylor (TAP-145); Gen Daniel I Sultan (TAP-120); Gen W F Hase (TAP-146); Gen J Gaffey (TAP-121); Gen A W Brewster (TAP-155); Gen Simon B Buckner (TAP-123); Gen J C Breckinridge (TAP-176); Gen Edwin D Patrick (TAP-124)

707th AAA Gun Bn., (June 1950-Aug. 1952), 5-8 May, Pigeon Forge, TN. POC: M. T. Sanford, 3087 Mensi Street, Memphis, TN 38127, (901) 357-5268, poppy21stcentury@aol.com

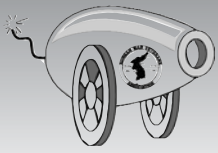
H/3/5 (Korea), 21-26 May 2009, Washington, DC Metro Area (Includes Natl Museum of the Marine Corps). POC: Roger H. Barnard, 10183 Red Spruce Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032-3620, 703.978.4467, rbarnard@cox.net

JUNE

728th MP Bn., 17-20 June, Columbus, OH. POC: Charles Wiseman, 6790 Hildreth Ave., Columbus, OH 43229, (614) 882-3211, C-Wiseman728th@yahoo.com

7th Infantry Division Association (Hourglass / Bayonet Division), 25-28 June, Baton Rouge, LA, Holiday Inn – South. POC: John Stengel, 712 Griggs St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-8051, (616) 243-7174, exec-sec@7id.us

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



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.

Mystery Photos

Re H. E. Ziegler's response (May/June 2008, p. 66) regarding the "Mystery Photos" on pp. 58-59 in the Jan/Feb 2008 issue: he is right. The plane pictured is an L-17 Navion.

I flew 300-400 hours in an L-17 in Korea in 1953. And what a sweet "bird" it was.

Look at the two photos nearby of the L-17. The close-up with me in the cockpit shows the salient features of the L-17 in the mystery photos.

The canopy windshield there is in several panels, leading me to believe that it was an "A" model. Also, look at the pilot step protruding from the left fuselage before the wing. To my knowledge, no other Army plane had one. Finally, note the identical landing gear, which folded up in flight.



ABOVE: Russ Cunningham in an L-17, Korea, July 1953

RIGHT: Russ Cunningham climbs into an L-17 Navion in July 1953 at A-14, near the Punchbowl in Korea



As far as I know, no L-17 was used in combat up until 1953, although I did take our 45th Inf. Div. air officer on a short "recon" flight in July of that year.

Were L-17s used for forward air control? I doubt it, because I am not aware of hand points in the wings.

We used the Navions to haul VIPs around Korea, especially those going to Inchon for a boat ride home. I loved to fly this wonderful airplane—and wish I had one now.

Russell W. Cunningham, 33161 Woodland, Ct.,
S. Lewes, DE 19958, (302) 945-3525
russue!@verizon.net

Could the village be Pyongtaek?

On p. 59 of the July/Aug issue there is a "Mystery Photo" of an unidentified Korean child next to a village well. The question asks for the identity of the child or the location in which the photo was taken.

I'm sure this is the small village of Pyongtaek, which was designated K-6, a Marine Corps Air Base southwest of Seoul. Several Corsair squadrons and an AD-4 squadron operated out of there, including VMF - 225, Checkerboard.

Lew Bradley, Commander
Arden A Rowley Chap. 122, KiwanisLew@cox.net

Pyongtaek site of new USFK and 8th Army HQ

I have no idea who the Korean child is, but Pyongtaek is just south of Osan Air Base, south of Seoul. US Forces are moving out of Seoul and the new USFK and 8th Army HQ will be at Camp Humphreys in Pyongtaek.

This is a major redeployment of US forces north of Osan Air Base to the south, and will significantly reduce the US forces' foot print in Seoul. Relocation probably will not be completed until around 2016, even though the ROK and USFK were shooting for 2013.

Also involved is when the ROK will take over responsibility of all ROK and allied ground forces in Korea. For more information, access these URLs:

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_Humphreys
- http://www.usfk.mil/org/FKPA/sptr/contents/3_8_06_Statement%20before%20the%20House%20Appropriations%20Committee.pdf
- http://wiki.galbijim.com/Yongsan_Garrisonhttp://wiki.galbijim.com/Yongsan_

Don Tomajan, dtomajan@verizon.net

The location of Pyongtaek

Here is a follow-up on the mystery photo on page #59 in the July-August issue of *The Graybeards*.

Pyongtaek, Korea was a small village 35 miles south of Seoul, Korea. It was on route 1, which was nothing but a dirt road running north and south. It was also a railhead main line north and south.

This was the town in which the 1903RD Engineer Aviation Battalion, known as SCARWAF, (Special Categories Army with Air Force) built K6. I was a part of this unit in October of 1952

through September of 1953.

Attached is a news release that the public information office of 1903rd Engineer Aviation Battalion produced back in 1951. (See the sidebar below) Anyone who wants current information on what is going on currently in Pyongtaek, Korea can access <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyeongtaek>. What a difference 56 years makes.

I hope this information is of some interest to my fellow Korean veterans.

Leon F. Miller, 350 Dickerson Dr. N.,
Camillus, NY 13031-1704 (315)
487-3544, leonmiller73@aol.com

The Marines treated us well

Pyongtaek is (or was) located 13-15 miles south of Suwan on the MSR, west coast of Korea. It was a Marine Air Base from which the Marines flew mostly Corsairs.

The Marines were very good to me there (I was Army). We were located just south of the Suwan Air Base for a while in '52. We had no facilities of our own - except for a portable "three holer" that we carried with us.

For a while, the USAF let us use their showers once a week, but after about three weeks they put them off limits to us. They said that we were too dirty to use their showers. This turn of events was made softer by the Marines, who gave us 250 gallons of water every two days, as well as access to their PX for cigs and 3.2 beer.

One thing that impressed me was when those Corsairs would land. The first thing that they did was put duct tape over the new bullet holes. Some of the planes had tape all over them.

Stan Jones, Cape Cod and the Islands
Chapter 1, stanley.jones1@comcast.net

BACKGROUND OF THE 1903D

Prepared by Pfc Elliott Abrams

AT A FORWARD AIRSTRIP IN KOREA—Behind the scenes of the Fifth Air Force's relentless bombing raids on Communist positions and supplies quietly works the 1903d Engineer Aviation Battalion, commanded by Major Mitchel Goldenthal, the first Air National Guard unit of its kind in Korea.

Since arriving in Korea in November, 1951, the 1903d has performed major rehabilitating jobs on four vital fighter and bomber strips and is currently engaged in the largest earthmoving job ever attempted in Korea—to hack out a fifth strip at an advanced site.

The 1903d's Headquarters Company was made up of men from Chicago. The three line companies, "A," "B," and "C," were composed almost entirely of men from St. Louis, Dearborn, Mich., and Denver, Colo., Air National Guard units respectively.

Company "A" played a large hand in building the first concrete runway in Korea. Often working in ankle-deep [snow/mud] and/or against bitter winter winds, these men from St. Louis helped turn an old macadam and steel-plated runway into an 8,000-foot concrete strip in the record time of 55 days!

Company "B" had the difficult assignment of repairing a vital B-2 pierced steel planking runway without interfering with tactical flights. Heavy landing aircraft had shoved the PSP aside, disengaging the bayonet hooks and curling the ends of the planks. Welders took their torches and went to work. Others filled in the larger surface depressions caused by the weight of landing aircraft.

By squeezing working hours between flying missions, the Dearborn, Mich., men were able to put another Korean airfield back into operational condition without halting a single bombing mission.

All Company "C" did was move a mountain. The "mountain" was actually a large hill situated in the middle of a sprawling Marine airfield. It presented a definite hazard for Marine pilots and planes taking off on combat missions.

In less than six weeks these Denver engineers, with the aid of Korean laborers and Marine and Navy equipment, cleared almost 200,000

cubic yards of fill and also extended the runway 500 feet.

Their work has already paid off. Soon after a section of the runway was extended, a Marine Panther jet in difficulty after a combat mission overshot and stopped in the new section. If these men had not completed their assignment in near record time, the plane would have dropped in a 40-foot gully.

"All our weeks of sweat were worth it," commented one engineer.

Headquarters Company remained at a stationary construction site and fed a constant stream of supplies, equipment, and technical assistance to the lettered companies operating at distant projects.

Although activated into Federal service in October, 1950, the battalion's youthful history dates back to 1944, when it was ordered organized. The following year found the unit winning battle honor in the Ryukyus campaign, South Pacific theatre.

The unit was reorganized as SCARWAF and federally recognized in December, 1948, as the 1903d Engineer Aviation Battalion, 66th Fighter Wing, Illinois Air National Guard. Battalion Headquarters were located at O'Hara International Airport, Park Ridge, Ill.

Company "A," known as the 1807th Engineer Aviation Company, was attached to the 71st Fighter Wing, Missouri Air National Guard at Lambert Municipal Airport, St. Louis, Mo.

Company "B," formally the 1806th Engineer Aviation Company, was attached to the 127th Fighter Group, Michigan Air National Guard, Dearborn, Mich.

The 1809th Engineer Aviation, which is the present Company "C" of the 1903d, was attached to the 86th Fighter Wing, Colorado Air National Guard, Denver, Colo.

After reactivation in 1950, the 1903d received filler personnel from draftee ranks and underwent basic and unit training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., and Beale Air Force Base, Calif.

Today the 1903d's *Manu Forti*—battalion motto meaning "Strong Hands"—are back at work leveling Korean soil into vitally needed airstrips for the Fifth Air Force.

Upside Down Truck

In the Jan/Feb 2008 issue, p. 60, there was a photo of a deuce-and-a-half being pulled out of the mud by a six-ton wrecker. Note that when the truck was upside down some of its contents spilled out. Among them was a clamshell bucket that appears to be a ¾-yard capacity..

The bucket suggests that the truck might have belonged to an engineer company. I was in the 630th Engineers in 1952.

Sadly, the fact that the photos were located at a flea market might mean that they were “hiding” in somebody’s house. The owner might have moved or worse, died, and had no one to leave the photos to. That is sad to think about.

Floyd King, 8 Mason Street, Johnstown, NY 12095
(518) 762-7633, Fking001@nycap.rr.com

Maggie’s Drawers

This is in answer to Frank Cohee’s question about the origin of the expression “Maggie’s Drawers.”

The origin of “Maggie’s Drawers” is pretty common knowledge here in Wisconsin. The story goes something like this:

In the winter of 1862-63, Wisconsin’s 7th Cavalry was encamped on land belonging to James R. and Margaret Delafield, awaiting orders to attack Vicksburg. Delafield and his whole family had fled to Jackson, leaving the plantation, its mansion, and all the out-buildings open to the men in blue.

Col. Chester Greeley (no relation to Horace, as far as I know), commanding officer of the regiment, occupied the mansion with his senior officers. They stabled their horses in the large barns left empty. The enlisted men and the junior officers lived in tents and picketed or hobbled their horses in the fields around the mansion.

When a large new contingent of recruits arrived, the colonel ordered target practice to see what they could do. The land being almost flat, butts had to be built, which they were, and soon the firing lines formed and the practice started.

A Union soldier whose name has passed into oblivion was assigned to the trench behind one of the butts. When a soldier missed the target completely, he jumped up and waved his hands back and forth over his head and shouted, “No hits. Missed the entire target.” Twice he had to jump back behind the butt because the rifleman continued to fire at the target.

Private Anonymous complained to his sergeant, the sergeant complained to his lieutenant, the lieutenant went straight to the top and complained to Col. Greeley. “Hmm,” he is said to have mused, “we need something to completely shame that soldier who completely misses the target. Go upstairs and get me a pair of Margaret Delafield’s pantaloons. Fasten them to a long pole and tell Private Anonymous to shout out for all to hear, when a soldier misses the target, ‘Margaret’s Pantaloons!’ and wave the pantaloons above the butt without showing himself.”

Well, you can imagine how long that lasted. Before the day was out, “Margaret” became “Maggie,” and “pantaloons” became “drawers.”

And it has been “Maggie’s Drawers” ever since!

Birney Dibble, dibble@discover-net.net

Great work, 92nd AFA Bn.

Thanks very much for your story on the 92nd AFA Battalion.

As a member of the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines in 1950-51, I witnessed firsthand the bravery and outstanding performance of this unit. This is the first time I have seen a story on the 92nd AFA Bn., with the exception of an article in a training manual.

LtCol Lavoie, Commander of the 92nd in 1950-51, is truly one of the outstanding artillerymen in U.S. history. I respectfully request that in future stories in *The Graybeards* on the 92nd you mention more about LtCol Lavoie and his outstanding leadership.

Thanks for your time and work in publishing an article on this outstanding U.S. Army unit.

Ron Broward, Former USMC Sgt
44194 Lakeview Drive, Davis, CA 95618

All we lost was a truck

I read with great interest and a heavy dose of nostalgia the history of the 92nd AFA Bn. in the May/June 2008 issue of *The Graybeards*.

On 15 July, 1953, I was in the Kumsong Salient as the executive officer of B Battery, 937th FA Bn, a self-propelled 155 mm gun unit, known as “The Arkansas Long Toms.”

We were firing in support of ROK units when they gave way under tremendous pressure and began streaming through our position pursued by the enemy. There was a battery of the 92nd AFA Bn. on our right which was out of communication. We sent a messenger to warn it of the rapidly deteriorating situation and I believe and trust they were able to make an orderly withdrawal.

When we were permitted to withdraw, we leapfrogged to the rear and established a firing position alongside the escape road, where we were delighted to see the 15th Infantry of the 3rd Infantry Division come up and stabilize the front.

Twelve days later, on 27 July, the armistice was signed.

We were fortunate in that our only loss was a ¾-ton truck. I hope our sister unit fared as well.

Peter J. Costigan, 30 Hallock Avenue
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776

Thanks to your compassionate readers

I have received many wonderful e-mails and telephone calls from so many Korean veterans who show compassion and understanding for my brother’s lost memory. (See “A Veteran’s Lost Memory,” p. 58, May/June 08.) It has been a great experience for me to have such a tremendous response to something I have written. I have turned over all the copies of my e-mails to my brother so he can respond to them personally.

One gentleman told me my experience at the craft show, when the forlorn veteran stopped to talk, was not coincidental. Rather, it was providential. I am so happy to hear there are many of your readers who understood the plot of my little story.

I will use the copy of the magazine in my display at the craft shows at which I sell my books.

Thank you, again, for publishing my story in your magazine. It has been a great experience for me to talk to all the wonderful veterans of the Korean War who have been kind enough to respond favorably to my article.

Jeannine Dahlberg, 325 Park Ave
Glendale, MO 63122, (314) 821-8228, neenjd@att.net

POW at Kojedo

I read with great interest your "Seoul Survivors" article in *The Graybeards* (May/June 2008, p. 65). I, too, was in the 453rd Engineer Construction Battalion Headquarters Company in Yongdong-po, Korea.

I joined the 453rd in July 1951. The 453rd had a position on their organizational chart, "Chemical Lab Technician." Since I had four years of chemistry in college, I was assigned to the 453rd. I quickly learned that there was no such position.

I could not operate any heavy construction equipment, had no carpentry talent, etc. But I could type and was assigned as a corporal company clerk in Headquarters Company. Subsequently, I was assigned to Battalion Headquarters as a Staff Sgt. in Personnel. My only duty outside Yongdong-po was an occasional trip to Kimpo Air Force base a few miles south of Seoul.

Yes, on November 11 we were sent to Kojedo Island off Pusan. North Korean and Chinese POW were interned there, as you know. The 453rd was sent there mainly to build new POW compounds. The former compounds were overcrowded and the North Koreans and Chinese had many bloody fights for domination.

Once new, smaller compounds were completed, the POW were ordered to leave their compounds in double file. They were naked and very unruly; many died who refused orders and tried to escape.

Were you there when the North Korean Compound 76 rioted? Regardless of our jobs in the Army, all of us became involved in trying to quell the rioters. Ultimately, the POW were restrained and moved.

As I recall, the Chinese POW were never a problem. We let them out on work details with very little supervision and never had any problems with them. Being a draftee, I finally came home on ETS in early October '52.

S. W. Vanderbeck, 1205 Hemingway Lane
Weldon Spring, MO 63304

NOTE: This is a copy of letter Ward Vanderbeck sent to Elroy P. Fitzgerald in response to his letter in "Feedback." Mr. Vanderbeck sent The Graybeards a copy as well.

Recognize this officer?

There was a photo of a Sgt. Boyle at the Seoul City Air Base on p. 66 of the May/June issue. I was at that base with the 6167 unit from Nov. 1951 to June 1952.



Who was this officer?

I took the nearby photo of one of our base officers in 1951 or 1952. Unfortunately, I do not remember him.

Can anyone ID him? Maybe we can send him the photo.

Robert ("Mac") McKeever,
1083 E. Rio Mesa Trail,
Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Did Marines make the first helicopter assault landing?

I was a Battalion Surgeon with the 1st Marine Division, January to October 1952. Recently, my home town newspaper reported on a talk I gave before one of the local Lions Clubs. This takes me to a second bit of coincidental information.

I had a Keystone wind-up 8 mm movie camera that I took to Korea. I was an amateur camera fan, so a local camera owner who was a friend of my parents sent "care packages" with 8 mm movie film regularly. As a result, I have my year with the Marines, beginning at Camp Pendleton, now transferred onto DVD.

I donated the DVD to the U.S. Marine Corps University archives at Quantico, VA. Last October, during a reunion of my unit, I had read the Vietnam-oriented book, *We Were Soldiers Once...and Young*, and seen the movie based on it, starring Mel Gibson. Both state that the helicopter was a "bumble-bee" in Korea. They said that LtGen. James M. Gavin had an idea, dream—centered on the helicopter—that it would carry infantry into battle.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The book to which Dr. Latham refers was written by LtGen Harold G. Moore, USA (Ret) and war journalist Joseph L. Galloway. The book was published in 1992. [END NOTE]

This was 1957, and not until February 1963, at Ft. Benning, Georgia, was an air mobility concept board created. In August 1952, I was with the Shore Party Bn., training reserve units in amphibious landings to maintain their proficiency. It was then, between August 26th and September 3rd, that a new scheme of landing was to be attempted, i.e., all combat troops by helicopter, which we did. The all combat assault landings were a training exercise for a reserve unit supervised by the Shore Party Battalion with which I was associated. These landings were on islands of Tok-Chok-To [sp] in the Yellow Sea.

I have movies of the training operation in the Yellow Sea, northwest of Inchon. There were many official military photographers taking still pictures, but I never saw a movie camera. I have tried to establish this by writing to the U.S. Navy, with referrals to their archives, etc. and I have received printouts of the USS Sicily's activities for the dates before and after mine.

So, after reading your May-June 2008 issue, pg. 54, "Mini-reunions" section, I began an exchange of correspondence with J. Robert Wagner, a member of the USS Sicily (CVE 118) antisubmarine squadron. He has been able to find Deck Logs with my name, date, time, hour and minute that I stepped aboard.

He tells me about their covert activities. Although they are listed as restricted or confidential, that is no longer the case. They are now public knowledge. Therefore, in my heart, and with pride, I feel that the U.S. Marines made the first helicopter landing of all combat troops in training, before the concept was planned by the Army.

William E. Latham, MD (Ret)
crltrvlr@mymailstation.com

Busan vs. Pusan

The Korean people (Han Gook or First People) use Hangool (the First Language). Osan in Hangool is an "O" over an upside

down “T.” When they pronounce these two symbols together, it sounds like “O-san.”

Unfortunately, to a Korean ear, P-B, T-D, L-R and K-G, as we pronounce them, either sound the same or not quite like their Hangool equivalent. So, you have Pusan-Busan, Taegu-Daegu, Lee-Rhee, and Kunsan-Gunsan. You will see Hangool spelled Hangul also.

Do you say “Arkansas” as “R-Can-Saw” or “R-Can-Sass”? There are a ton of words we use in the U.S. that people say differently.

Non-English speakers find our language very difficult: for example, loon, tune, bruin, and prune are spelled different, but sound alike. We have words that are spelled the same but spoken differently.

As CENTCOM briefers, we caught hell over the proper pronunciation of Arabic names. I asked a Saudi general if “Jeddah” was said “Jed-ah” or “Jid-ah,” and he said it was like “Arkansas.” some say it one way, and some say it the other.

Personally, I have a hard time with French names - Chevrolet should be Chevrolay to me. The Hawaiians have words with just vowels like “Aiea.” You could tell a Brit wrote a NATO document if it said “whilst” or “colour.” “Mockba” is how the Russians spell Moscow.

At an outdoor stand in Ohio, the guy in front of me told the girl behind the counter that he wanted “free jollys”(frijoles). She told him that it was pronounced “free-hole-as,” and that he was going to have to pay if he expected to get any jollys.

Shakespeare said: “a rose by any other name it would smell as sweet.” I found that “Kim Che” was that way also....

John Gavel, via email,
THEGAVEL@aol.com

Wrong caption, but just a few yards off

I just received my July-Aug. 2008 *Graybeards* and noticed an incorrect caption of a picture on page 29, bottom center. The picture is of Leo and Michael Ruffing at “the bridge of no return.”

Actually, the photo shows the conference buildings where the peace talks were held. The building in the rear is in North Korea and is called Pan Mun Gak. Their picture was most likely taken from the freedom house, or just in front of it.

The “bridge of no return” is in this same area, within 300-600 meters easterly.

This was quite interesting to me since I [went] on a revisit tour in September and tour[ed] this area. I was also in this area in 1952-53 with the 1st Marines.

Ron Remily
rmremily@yahoo.com

Thanks for the memories

I read with interest your Editor’s Desk Article about “Big Al.” As I read through the story I became more interested as I saw where you were from Waterbury and went to Crosby High School.

I was born and raised on the street on the east side of the school, Maple St. During the depression we were like so many people of the time and couldn’t afford to buy a Christmas tree. We would wait until the school had its party and would throw out the

tree. When that happened we would grab it and take it home. I’m a 1929 crash baby. Basically, we were poor folk.

It was good to read about Waterbury in those bygone days. It was, at the time, known as the Brass Center of the world! While you didn’t mention it, it was also known as the Clock City. Possibly, you remember that.

I have often times told people of the different high schools and their purpose of training students for their future. I first went to Margaret Croft Elementary, which was before or at the time Leavenworth High was there. Then I went to Welton St. School (it only had 5 grades) and later went to Walsh St. School. We used to call it “the school on the rock.”

During the war, friends and I rebuilt a 1924 car at Leavenworth. We bought it for \$75.00 and sold it for \$350.00 or so. In later years I attended New Britain trade school for carpentry.

I enlisted in the Army just before July 4th, 1946 for a 3-year hitch, and I served with the Army of Occupation in Germany. When I first was discharged in 1949, my immediate family migrated to New Haven. However, a brother, aunts, uncles and cousins continued to live in Waterbury.

In 1950, when the war broke out in Korea, I was recalled in September as a reservist. I had 5 days of refresher training at Camp Campbell, KY. We were then sent by train to Camp Stoneman in California and waited for a ship to Tokyo, Japan.

Shortly after we arrived in Japan we boarded a train for Sasebo. While there we were issued a rifle coated in cosmoline and given another day’s training. The next day or so we boarded a Japanese ship for Pusan, Korea. While on board I was assigned to the 3rd Division. When we landed in Pusan I was reassigned to the 48th FA, 32 RCT, 7th Division, with which I served from December 1950 through December 1951.

The Army and Marines learned to respect one another in Korea. As my memory serves me, my outfit relieved the Marines at the Hwachon Reservoir. And while we were 7th Division Field Artillery, many times our guns supported the Marines, as we did many other Army units.

I agree with you: we who served in the military benefited from our experiences. While I have a grandson who I would like to protect, I also agree with you that military service would serve many of them well.

I have had a long and experienced life. I worked in factories in Connecticut and went to Connecticut Fire College and became a fireman with rescue training. I worked for 5 years at Avco in Stratford. And, for 15 years I was a fireman at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft here in Florida.

Your story took me down memory lane! I enjoyed reading it.

Joe Cappella
JAC618@aol.com

From Korea to Vietnam

A few of us Navy blokes went to Vietnam in 1954 with Task Force 90. We cruised up the Hai Phong River to Hai Phong to evacuate the French from Dien Bien Phu. We also evacuated hundreds of North Vietnamese to Saigon. The trip was uneventful as Ho Chi Minh allowed free passage.

The project was called "Operation Passage to Freedom," and the ships were only in the area about one week. We cruised to Saigon and unloaded troops, equipment, and refugees.

Cruising along the Saigon was eye opening. Our stay in Saigon was 2 days and 1 night. As you might imagine, the Navy did its thing on liberty.

Russ Harrod, FT3 (USS Telfair, APA 210)
bnrharrord@sbcglobal.net

Bye-bye "Bed Check Charlie"

I read the sad story of "The Morale Builder" in the July/August issue, p. 79, which reminded me of what my friend Joe told me about a dream he had while we were in Kangnung on top of a frozen mountain.

He said he dreamed that after 2-1/2 years in Korea he had just returned to the U.S. and was standing in front of the bus station in his little home town where he had just arrived. He was on the sidewalk with his duffel bag at his feet. He looked as if he might be coming or going. He was in uniform with his Purple Heart and other medals dangling from his chest. Suddenly, a car stopped at the curb and it was his father who had recognized him.

His father rolled down the window and yelled out to him, "Hi, Joe. Where are you going?"

I also received a "Dear John" letter from my girlfriend in Mississippi while I was still in basic training. I was just an inconvenience. Just like Joe: out of sight - out of mind.

The following is a little story about a "Bed Check Charlie" whose track I found on radar one night while on the mountain top near Kangnung. I had just come on duty in the GCI station at midnight; it was about 0100. I was seated in front of a PPI scope being somewhat bored because of the unusually slow air traffic.

We had been told about Bed Check Charlie flying his old WWI biplane in the canyons and ravines of the mountains in the shadow of our radar. The only time you could see him was when he went over the top of a mountain if your radar beam happened to be swinging past him while he was over the peak.

Captain Bradford was our controller. He was a WWII pilot who had been recalled to serve and wasn't too happy about it. He had to close his real estate business in Dallas and go to Korea. He had never been a controller before, but he was learning fast. He was also a good guy who told our radar crew to keep doing what we were doing while he read books. But this particular night would be one which would test his skill at flying airplanes from the ground.

I watched the scope intently for anything that might happen. To the northwest at about 120 miles I noticed a single weak blip, but nothing further. This could be an electronic anomaly. But if I got two blips it was an aircraft.

I consulted the big map on the wall and saw that the blip I got was over the ridge of a range of mountains. I said to myself, "If this is a Bed Check Charlie, he will be going over the next ridge of mountains in twelve more minutes."

I consulted my watch frequently. Eleven minutes later I got another blip. I said quietly to myself, "Charlie, that's your butt." I called it to the plotter board immediately.

Captain Bradford saw the plot and looked at his scope. He saw

it, too, just before the blip faded. I saw him reach for the "scramble" phone. He also turned on the intercom so we could all listen in.

The twin mustang night fighter was airborne in just a couple of minutes, and the pilot was asking Captain Bradford for an intercept vector. Bradford gave it to him, then sat back to listen. Apparently one vector was all the pilot needed, because in two more minutes we heard on the radio, "I see him, I see him! It's a Bed Check Charlie. I'm going after him."

Captain Bradford said, "Go get him, tiger."

After 3 or 4 more minutes the pilot came back on the radio. "I got him, I got him?" he exclaimed.

Captain Bradford asked, "How did you do it?"

The pilot responded, "Well, I put down full flaps to slow me down, then I reduced throttle to almost stall speed, and when he went over the ridge I went down behind him and blew his tail off."

This may not have been radio etiquette, but it was accurate.

The pilot added, "I don't think he knew I was there."

It was a good feeling to know I had directly participated in something which helped our troops. After all, I had been taught how to pick fly specks out of black pepper on the radar scope.

Radar is a wonderful tool when you know what you're looking at.

Robert L. Drew, (S/Sgt) USAF
23375 Lowe Davis Rd., Covington, LA. 70435
(985) 246-9100

Wrong X Corps Patch

I just returned from our annual reunion of the X Corps and attached service units, Korea circa 1950 - 1953. I have been reading *The Graybeards*. I took note of the participating corps and army patches which appears under the article of the 92d Armored Field Artillery Battalion on page 18.

The patch displayed to identify the X Corps is in fact the corps of WWII. The patch for the corps in Korea should be upside down from the patch shown. That is, the blue portion should be on the bottom.

Thank you for your attention.

Gordon R. Kennedy, CW4, US Army (Ret)
2905 Woodknoll Drive, Bryan, TX 77803

The chef in the soup

I was stationed at Grosse Isle Naval Air Station in March 1952.

After we had completed ninety days of mess duty, we thought it might be fun to add the chef to the soup (not literally).

We filled a huge kettle with cold water, picked up the chef, and pretended to throw him in. It was a fun way to pass the time.



Soup..er, Chef

The base is gone now. It was converted into a city, and the only way into or out of it is via a bridge. It was near Trenton, MI. The facility, which was a fighter training base, even had a blimp hangar.

Richard Drzewiecki, 2101 Arlington, Apt. 311
Toledo, OH

In Support of the 92nd AFA Bn.

We were near Hill 1062 (Papasan Hill) when the nearby photo was taken. We were supporting the 92nd AFA Bn., whose history you are featuring in *The Graybeards*.

We were with the 60th Ord. Group, 66th Ord. Bn., 17th Ord., M Co. The photo was taken around July 1952, about 50 miles north-northeast of Seoul.

Bernard O. Weber
126 Riverside Drive NE,
Saint Cloud, MN 56304



60th Ord. Group, 66th Ord. Bn., 17th Ord., M Co: (Top, L-R) Harold McKune (Braceville, IL), Edward Bell (Petersburg, VA), Patrick Clare (Philadelphia, PA), Russell Williams (Ishpeming, MI), Zbigniew Wasiuk (Chicago, IL), Paul Tosi (Teaneck, NJ), Don Larson (Chicago, IL), Frank Laber (FL) (Bottom, L-R) Marvin Henderson (Dallas, OR), Bernie Weber (Saint Cloud, MN) Thomas Conley (Clarksburg, WV), Richard Wheeler (Cincinnati, OH), Aaron Montgomery (St. Louis, MO), Danny Lee (Montgomery, AL) Jim Stinnett (Joplin, MO), Charles Charpie (Toledo, OH), Charles Ozment (Concord, CA), Not in picture - George Leetham (Eureka, UT)

M-1 vs. BAR

I am an ex-Army man who arrived in Korea Jan 1955-1956. I was assigned to the 508th Quartermaster Salvage Company. I was given different jobs, e.g., driver for the Commanding Officer, mail clerk, troop information and education, day room orderly, etc.

I am really writing this letter in response to the article in the Jul-Aug *Graybeards* on page 57 about the history of the M-1 rifle. As the Troop, Information and Education person, I would get the troops to the rifle range to make sure they had their rifles. All said and done, I had to shoot also, so I used one of the guys' M-1.

I loaded it with a clip, sighted, and fired one round, and then a second round. When I squeezed off the third round, the gas chamber blew off!

My brother, Mickey Tutolo, also served in Korea. He was with the 2nd Infantry Division, Company B. The company, which was located on Indian Head Outpost Harry, was called the "Mountain Goats."

When my brother came home he told me that it was now safe for me to go there because he had done a good job. He was a B.A.R. (Browning Automatic Rifle) man.

Cpl. Rocco W. Tutolo Jr., Tamarac, FL.

Stories wanted about troops outside Korea

Quite a while ago a member wrote in that he would like to see articles written about other units that held the line with the Russians during the Korean War. I'm still waiting to see those articles!

I believe those articles would be more of interest than seeing nothing but pages of reunions. What could be more boring than seeing that in every issue?

Examples of articles I would like to see

- 1) troops in Germany
- 2) troops in Treiste (sic)
- 3) troops in Iceland and Thule, Greenland
- 4) troops in Alaska
- 5) troops in Panama

We had troops all over the world, and their job was as important as Korea. If it wasn't for those troops in Europe and other locations, half of the world would be speaking Russian.

If the reunion format doesn't change, take me off the mailing list. You can save the postage. Incidentally, we had our 50th reunion in 2000.

Larry Kaufman, 13439 N. Cave Creek Rd.,
Suite 1, Phoenix, AZ 85022, waco@outdrs.net

EDITOR'S RESPONSE:

Larry:

Thanks for contacting me. As I have pointed out numerous times in our magazine, we do not "write" articles. We are dependent on what members send us. The Graybeards staff consists of one person: me—with an occasional assist from my wife. If readers would send us stories about their experiences in Germany, Iceland, Alaska, etc., I would be happy to print them. Perhaps you can get the proverbial ball rolling with a story of your own.

I will include your missive in the "Feedback" section of The Graybeards. If we get any responses, I will be happy to print them.

And, as a final note, I am not responsible for the mailing list. My job is to edit the magazine. Our membership staff takes care of membership issues.

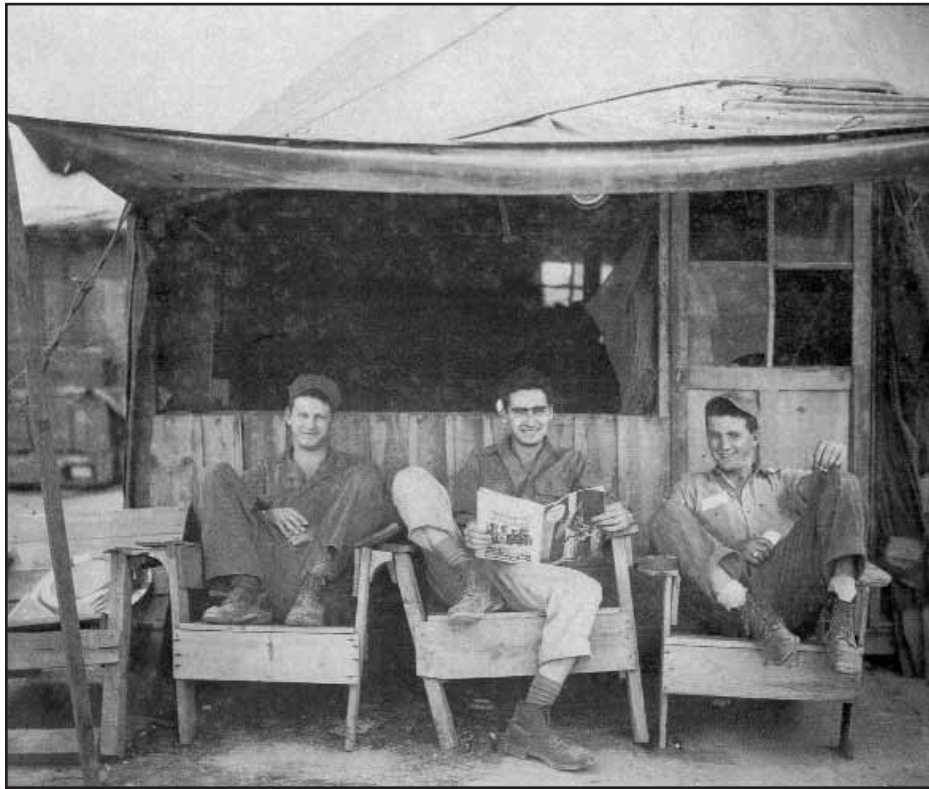
All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Vault's Hope

Every once in a while we go into our "Vault" of material that has been in storage far too long without seeing the light of day—or inclusion in The Graybeards. Here are a couple items that fall into the category.

Korea is a long way from the Adirondacks

The nearby photo was taken at K-2 Tague in summer of 1951 at our tent between the taxiway and runway at K-2. It is the Camera Repair tent of the 45th Tac.



Camera repair specialists at Tague (L-R) S/Sgt Kenneth Hayden, Sgt Don Shanahan, Sgt Don Eliason

Recon. Sqd. of the 67th Tac. Recon Wing.

We were a RF-51 Sqd., and our job was to install cameras and film in K22 Aerial Cameras for recon work over the enemy lines. You must admit there was some ingenuity to build Adirondack chairs out of wooden crates that the 50 cal. guns for our birds came in. We didn't have to go far; the armament tent was next to ours.

We lived in this end of the tent and the repair shop was at the other. We moved to Tague in Dec. 1950. In July 1951 we moved up to Kimpo K-14. This cozy two-

room bungalow was our residence for seven months, until we were afforded a larger 9-man tent at Kimpo.

The best part of the picture is the title of the magazine Shanahan is reading: "The Life of the Soldier and Airman." Quite apropos, wouldn't you say?

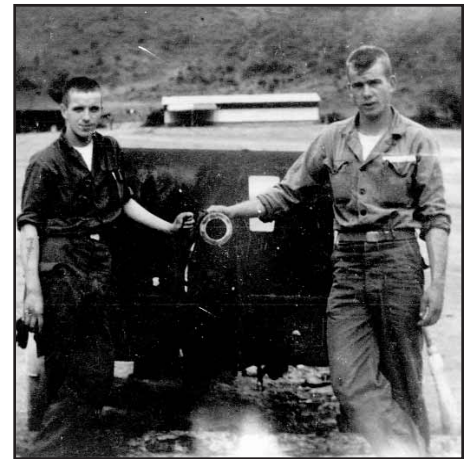
*Don Eliason, 110 Howard Terrace,
Crossville, TN 38558, (931) 456-2947,
DonEliason@frontiernet.net*

We took our turn on top of "Old Baldy"

George Lampron and George Bray were members of Co B, 1st Bn., 180th Inf, 45th Div when the photo below was taken.

"We took our turn on Old Baldy in early June 1952," Bray said. "The picture was taken after we went into reserve."

*George Bray, 212 Fremont Street
West Branch, MI 48661, (517) 345-0965*



Two Georges, George Lampron (L) and George Bray (R)

SOUNDS from page 58

After a day or two processing, most soldiers from the east coast were put on a troop train that was leased by the Army and staffed by a civilian railroad company. It was probably one of the last of its breed.

Pullman porters made up our berths daily and we were served meals on white table cloths. We really traveled first class. The clickety-click sound that the train made as it traveled along the tracks, along with the whistle as it approached each crossing, were pleasing sounds, made

even sweeter with the knowledge that we were headed home. It took over five days to get from San Francisco to Fort Dix, New Jersey.

While I was unpacking my gear in the barracks, I was amazed to hear my mother. She was running down a camp street yelling out my name, crying, and trying to find me.

Twenty or thirty soldiers were yelling, "Go Mom, Go," as she ran and asked

where the boys from Korea were. Wow! What a sound! What a sight! What a surprise! It was even more so when I spotted my Dad and the love of my life, Lenore, running behind her.

One week later I was a civilian. *Sergeant Bernard Sarisohn served with Company F, 7th Regiment, Third Infantry Division, Korea, 1953-1954. Reach him at 36 Colony Drive, Holbrook, New York 11741, (631) 475-8767.*

'What Did You Do In The War, Dad?'

By George Pakkala

Over the years *The Graybeards* has carried a number of articles and photographs by former members of the 8221st Army Unit, F.A. Topo & Met Detachment. The articles have dealt primarily with the topographic and general activities of the unit. One of those articles aroused the curiosity of a veteran of a USAF Weather Squadron who wanted to learn more about our weather mission. The following is a compact story of the Ballistic Meteorological section of the 8221st A.U.

In the 1948 reorganization of the U.S. Army, each Corps Artillery was allowed a topographical and meteorological detachment of 54 men. Previously, those functions had been performed by F.A. Observation Battalions. The provisional unit attached to the X Corps was designated the 8221 Army Unit, on September 5, 1950.

The Met Section was composed of men drawn from the cadre at Fort Sill, home of the Artillery School, and from recent graduates of Ballistic Meteorology Course NO.2. Of the graduating class of 15, 10 headed for Europe as the Cold War was heating up and Korea was deemed a "Police Action."

The training we had received at Ft. Sill was a five-month long study of observation methods, both visual as well as

Rawinsonde, and also instruction in electronics and a short course in basic meteorology. (At UCLA in 1954, I received college credit for my effort.) The course was not meant to make weather forecasters of us; it did prepare us to operate the equipment and to provide data for artillery fire direction units.

In September 1950 the unit started assembling at Camp McNeely in Yokohama from different posts; some had already been mistakenly assigned to combat units in Korea. We did not make it to the Inchon Landing. However, on November 5, 1950 the unit entered North Korea at Wonsan with the 65th Infantry Regiment of the Third Division.

Our stay in North Korea was short. Before Christmas 1950 we boarded a Japanese freighter for a trip from Hungnam to Pusan. Before the pullout we had launched radiosondes from a field near Oro-ri, northwest of Hamhung in sub-zero weather as the First Marines withdrew from the Chosin Reservoir. (Radiosonde is an instrument package carried aloft by a balloon. The measurements are transmitted by radio signals to a receiver that also records the effect of wind and the ascent of the balloon.)

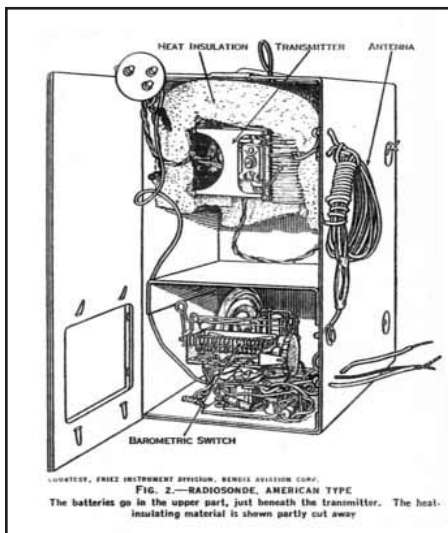
Upon arrival in South Korea, the Met section participated with their Topo comrades in an artillery survey of the Pusan perimeter. In time the unit joined the Tenth Corps that was now operating in the mountainous eastern section of the Korean peninsula, and it remained there for the duration of the war in the proximity of the 38th Parallel.

The unit routinely sent 2-4 radiosondes

to the upper atmosphere during a 24-hour period. As one can guess, conditions were not always ideal for balloon flights.

I recall one in early 1951 that resulted in a frantic phone call from a frontline observation post that had spotted one of our midnight radiosondes trailing the usual light needed in early stages of a flight. Heavy snowfall had prevented the balloon from rising and it probably looked like a Chinese secret weapon as it crept up a mountain side in the dark. There were also the extremely cold days when our Radio Direction Finder used in tracking the flights froze in its tracks.

You may wonder why artillery should be interested in weather phenomena. From the early days of catapults, cannoners have been aware of the effects of weather on a projectile after it has been launched. That, of course, is true of smaller weapons also. (Remember how you made an adjustment for "windage" on the firing range?) It was only during WWII and later that technology allowed accurate and fast data of the atmosphere.



Radiosonde of the type used by the 8221st A. U. in 1951



ABOVE: Radio Direction Finder (RDF) with visitors from the 11th Marines in May 1951



LEFT: Balloon launch in July 1951. Observer is Dick Paupard; recorder is Tony Kissel; Bob Williams chews a cigar, and George Pakkala stays busy with a wire

Artillery uses “firing tables” to estimate the various adjustments needed to make a projectile reach its target. The firing tables are calculated from thousands of test firings that give standard trajectories for a particular gun and projectile. Of course, conditions are never standard, especially when it comes to weather.

Without getting too deep into ballistics, let’s take an example. A 166mm “Long Tom” battery wants to surprise the enemy 9 miles away with a shower of 90lbs projectiles. As the projectiles travel to a height of perhaps 40,000 feet, they encounter varying crosswinds, densities and temperatures. The radiosondes had traveled through similar layers some time earlier and the data obtained will be used to adjust the “firing table” standards by the battery gunnery section. The azimuth and elevation will be changed accordingly. In the case of the big guns, it may mean a few more pounds of powder.

Our equipment and training made us unique in Korea. From time to time we had visitors from various division artillery units who we were able to help, especially with visual techniques. Although we were just technicians, the North Koreans and the Chinese remembered us with occasional artillery barrages, and some of us were also in the sights of guerrillas. Our only loss was on the freighter in the Sea of Japan in December 1950, as the 2-1/2 ton truck housing our equipment rolled around in the hold during rough seas.

In year 2000 our unit held a reunion at Fort Sill, and we had an opportunity to see how things have changed. The demand for weather information has not changed; in fact, with advances in artillery arts, it may have become more important.

Today, a Humvee houses all the stuff that was carried in two 2-1/2 ton trucks half a century ago. It utilizes satellite communication and the computers have built-in redundancy. In Iraq today, because of hostile weather, not only do you find artillery weathermen, but often weather units imbedded with infantry.

Those weathermen sure get around!

*George Pakkala,
10401 Wystone Avenue,
Northridge, CA 91326*

As Art Linkletter said...

Some people might remember Art Linkletter’s famous tag line, “Kids say the darndest things.” Well, they write the darndest things, too. This essay is proof.

Roy Lee Carver told us that his grandson, Joshua Carver Lynn, wrote the essay for a 2006 Veterans Day program to honor him and his fellow veterans. Lynn, who was sixteen at the time, was a student at Smith County [TN] High School.

Former MSgt Carver was a member of L Co., 38th Inf. Regt., 2nd Inf. Div. He was in Korea from 1 September 1950 to 4 September 1953—and a POW from 30 Nov. 1950 to 4 Sept. 1950.

Veterans: The Heroes of Today

By Joshua Lynn

The sloshing mud pulled down on him as if he were dragging weights behind him. His rifle seemed to weigh more than normal. He walked and fought and walked and fought again. Two days, three days, maybe more he walked until all his muscles ached. The physical pains and the mental pains of war are unimaginable to most of us. We don’t know what it would be like to go months or years without seeing our families or being able to hear their voices, much less being able to relax.

Top physical condition would be needed to work efficiently day in and day out. Along with the pressures of extreme climate, lack of water, and sheer exhaustion the conditions would be enough to drive average people over the edge. The idea of surviving one day’s toil just to go through another is incomprehensible. The men and women who do these things for the preservation of freedom are truly heroes.

They are sent to protect America’s interests, keep peace in lands where there is none, and expand the gracious gift of freedom to all willing to accept it. All the while continuing to build bonds that unify those who fight in freedom’s name. Defending the defenseless, protecting the unprotected, and guiding the lost are the most important jobs anyone can have. And our soldiers do them all.

Psalm 23 is a representation of God’s presence in all our lives, but I think it has a special place in veterans’ hearts. It reads: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul, He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.”

Our veterans have truly walked through the valley of the shadow of death. They are the heroes of our generation. They have replaced the cowboys and the astronauts in a long series of role models. Who could replace them? They are the heroes of today and the influences of tomorrow. They are strong and they can and will endure. I thank all those veterans who have given up so much for their country and pray that we can live up to their legacy.

Roy Lee Carver, 103 Cumberland Drive, Carthage, TN 37030

Check Your Mailing Label

Membership Number
First two characters reflect membership type

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

*****5 Digit	
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DELIVERY POINT BARCODE	

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

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

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 (# _____)

- ☐ Medal of Honor ☐ Regular Member ☐ Regular Life Member ☐ Associate Member
☐ Ex-POW ☐ Honorary ☐ 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 _____

Adopted 07/25/2007

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1 above, persons who make application for membership and qualify under one of the categories listed below, are required to fill in the appropriate blanks, sign in the space provided below and attach this page to the completed membership application form on previous page.

Check One

- ☐ Medal of Honor: I am a recipient of the Medal of Honor for service during the Korean War and the date on which it was awarded was: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Ex-POW: I was held as a Prisoner of War at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present, From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ UN Command/Korean Armed Forces: I served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era (June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955): From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Gold Star Parent: I am the parent of : Name [print] _____, who was () killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Gold Star Spouse: I am the spouse of: Name [print] _____, who was () killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Associate: I have a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association and agree to accept the terms and conditions set forth in its charter and bylaws.
- ☐ Honorary: I was elected as an honorary member of KWVA by a vote of the Board of Directors on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes indicated is true and correct."

Signature: _____ Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualifications of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

A. Regular Members.

- 1. Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, said service being within Korea including territorial waters and airspace OR who served outside of Korea from June 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 is eligible for Membership.
- 2. Medal of Honor.** Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service during the Korean War is eligible for life membership.
- 3. Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for life membership.
- 4. United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces.** Any person who served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era and thereafter is eligible for membership. However, UN/Korean membership of the Association may not exceed 10% of the total membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
- 5. Gold Star Parents.** Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
- 6. Gold Star Spouses.** Any person whose spouse was killed in action, missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

B. Associate Members. Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular membership and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the charter and bylaws shall be eligible for associate membership in the Association.

C. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors.

D. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the United Nations Command, or the Republic of Korea under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEBSITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/25/2007



Last Call

All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

ALABAMA

- ★ ROY B. LOWERY
- ★ HAROLD J. RAWLS

ARIZONA

- ★ DAVID M. BROWN
- ★ ROSS W. BRUNER
- ★ JOHN S. MARIN
- ★ SAMUEL H. MERRITT
- ★ J. F. 'JOE' PRESSELLER
- ★ ARTHUR SHADBOLT
- ★ JOHANNES C. TENHENGEL
- ★ RALPH C. WOODWARD JR.

CALIFORNIA

- ★ CARL H. ANDERSON
- ★ BOBBY L. CARUTH
- ★ JAMES A. DAVY
- ★ ROBERT S. HALL
- ★ ROBERT A. HILL
- ★ JOHN H. LENTZ
- ★ JAMES M. MARTINO
- ★ GEORGE K. TABATA

DELAWARE

- ★ PAUL L. NORTON

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- ★ ROBERT G. ZAHNOW

FLORIDA

- ★ STEVEN J. ROBIN
- ★ MICO M. SCHMIDT
- ★ IVAN A. ZIMMERMAN

GEORGIA

- ★ LUTHER F. WEAVER

HAWAII

- ★ LAWRENCE S. 'LARRY' URUU

ILLINOIS

- ★ FRED RAMON ACOSTA
- ★ WILLARD E. CHRONIC
- ★ KENNETH EUGENE CLOUSER
- ★ GLEN R. HILTON
- ★ WILLIAM S. IRWIN
- ★ STANLEY D. KLEKOT
- ★ ORVEL J. LADING
- ★ FRANK S. LAROSA
- ★ GUY H. MAHAN
- ★ GEORGE JOSEPH MCGINNNESS
- ★ JESSE MILLER, SR.
- ★ ROBERT C. MULVERHILL, SR.

- ★ WILLIAM J. MUNIE
- ★ CHESTER W. PODA
- ★ ROY V. RALSTON
- ★ FRANCIS M. RICH
- ★ RICHARD D. SIMMERING
- ★ CHARLES EVERETT STEWART
- ★ HUBERT H. VEILE
- ★ DALLAS WELLS

INDIANA

- ★ TOMMY V. FOLTZ
- ★ DON R. HOWE

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VERMONT

- ★ ROBERT E. MARSHALL

VIRGINIA

- ★ EDWARD SCHNUG

WISCONSIN

- ★ VALDOR W. JOHN

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

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.

ALABAMA

LR40591 BREWSTER M. ROBERTSON
R040537 JAMES G. TAYLOR
R040496 JOHN MARSHALL

ARIZONA

LR40534 WILLIAM C. MOORE
R040573 DONALD E. TAYLOR

ARKANSAS

R040607 WENDELL R. BOARDMAN

CALIFORNIA

R040497 JOE CORDOVA
R040515 JOHN CRESSY FULLER
R040546 LEROY GROB
R040594 ROGER B. HUDSON
R040582 WILLIAM H. JANZEN
R040555 THEODORE B. PALMER
LR40520 ARMAND PETRI
R040609 MICHAEL WAGNER
R040548 GILBERT ZAMORA

COLORADO

R040563 CLARENCE E. ‘PETE’ CARNES

CONNECTICUT

R040551 BRENDAN T. SNIFFIN

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R040556 HOWARD W. BAKKER
R040550 DAVID L. KEMPKER

MINNESOTA

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LR40493 WILLIAM C. HOEHN

MISSISSIPPI

R040593 LUTHER W. BRACKEEN
R040570 FRED B. COMER
R040598 LEONARD D. O’MIRE

MISSOURI

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NEVADA

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R040514 JEROME BERENS
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R040596 RHYS J. PHILLIPS

A040585 MICHAEL L. RUFFING

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WEST VIRGINIA

R040612 CARL S. BOBLITZ

R040574 HERMAN E. JACOBS

WISCONSIN

R040500 PAUL F. ELENUS

WYOMING

R040559 DENNIS E. MCGARY

Mystery Photo

Bob Veazey sent us this photo. We don’t know where it was taken, who the kids are, etc. We do know it was taken in Korea circa 1952. Anyone have any information about the photo? Please let us know.



Where? When? Who?

Was the lieutenant looking for Chinese

By William C. Roden

In November 1952, I crossed the 38th parallel into North Korea and reported in to Army air field AE43, west of the Chorwan Valley. I was assigned to the air section of the 999th Armored Field Artillery Battalion (SP), which was providing artillery support for divisions on line in "I" Corps.

Harsh vertical terrain, flexibility

Now, I had a fair amount of short field landing time, but the promise of anything I might wish for in the world could not induce me to land on that road.

of operation, and overall control made it necessary for all the artillery battalions of Corps Artillery to operate off one consolidated air strip. There were at that time five battalion air sections at

AE 43. Each air section had two L-19 aircraft, two pilots, two observers, and three ground crew members.

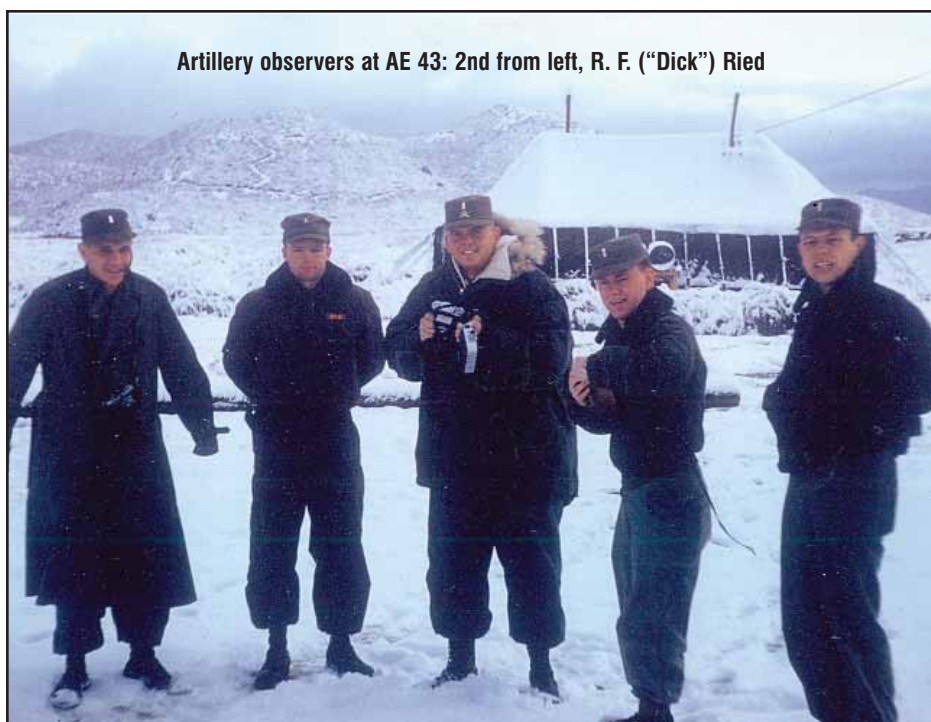
We generally flew two combat missions each day, one in the a.m., one in the p.m. To maintain passenger and courier service for I Corps Artillery, each battalion air section, on a rotating basis, would provide daily one aircraft and pilot for this duty.

On a warm, sunny day in the spring of 1953, my observer and I had completed the early mission. Our other aircraft was being readied for the afternoon mission. Another battalion was assigned administrative stand by. The afternoon was mine.

I was lying around on my sack after lunch when my reverie was shattered with the ringing of the field phone in our tent. It was LtCol Ingals, my battalion CO. He sounded a bit agitated. He asked me if we had an aircraft available.



"Never Die" Air Strip, 999th AFA, LtCol Engals



Artillery observers at AE 43: 2nd from left, R. F. ("Dick") Ried



take-out?

"Yes, sir," I said. "We do."

"Well, wind it up and get it over here to battalion headquarters," he ordered.

That was a challenge. It was a mean little airstrip, very difficult to get into and out of. Col Blank, Corps S3, had been waiting over an hour for a flight out that was supposed to have been sent out for him.

I notified my ground crew to have the aircraft ready for a flight right away. I was puzzled, as I knew we weren't on the stand-by schedule.

I checked with the operations tent to sign out and inquire as to what outfit was supposed to be on stand by. Lt. Ortiz, a Puerto Rican officer, had checked out over an hour ago to pick up the S3.

I told the dispatcher the Colonel was still waiting for his flight, and that I would pick him up. I would also keep an eye out to see if Lt. Ortiz was down along the way.

Our strip was about ten minutes flying time out. I buzzed the guns so they wouldn't fire while I was making a landing. I landed and taxied over to the run-up pad, where

Continued on page 79



Sgt Riez (L) and Cpl Sorenson (R) at AE 43 in winter 1952-53, North Korea



Army Air Strip AE 43, winter 1952-53, North Korea (Note the Imjin River, top center)



Two L-19s of Air Section, 999th AFA, at AE 43



Lt W. C. Roden, 999th AFA, at AE 43 in winter of 1952-53

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.

TAKE OUT from page 77

three anxious and disgruntled officers, Col Blank, LtCol Ingals, and our Bn S3, Maj Belifeld, were waiting for me.

Col Ingals demanded, "What in blazes is wrong with that knucklehead that was sent down here to pick up the Colonel?"

"What do you mean, sir?" I asked.

The Colonel told me that about twenty minutes after he called the first time, the other pilot's airplane came buzzing up the valley, right over the firing batteries, turned around a hill, and landed "on that road over there."

The Colonel pointed to a narrow dirt road that was used by tanks and self-propelled artillery vehicles. The road was nothing but ruts, chuck holes and thick dust bordered on both sides by low barbed wire entanglements. To make matters worse, there wasn't a straight stretch of road over one hundred feet on the entire road.

Registering doubt on my face, but not wanting to question the Colonel's word, I walked over to the road. Sure enough, there were aircraft tire marks in the tank ruts.

Now, I had a fair amount of short field landing time, but the promise of anything I might wish for in the world could not induce me to land on that road.

Major Belifeld said, "That's not the half of it! He landed on this road. Naturally it was impossible to turn around. So he taxied down the road, the wing struts just missing the barbed wire, down to the first firing battery. He turned in there and attempted to turn around, but his tail wheel was hung up in a rut."

"By that time," the Major continued, "I had arrived on the scene. He motioned me to push the tail around so he could taxi out. I motioned to him that the air strip was at the head of the road he had just landed on. He nodded yes, so I

started pushing to get the tail wheel out of the rut while he gunned the engine. He blew my hat off, raised great clouds of dust, and just about blew me into the Chinese lines."

I took a close look at Major "B." It did appear as though he had been rolling in a dust bin. The Major went on.

"After he got the airplane back on the road," the Major explained, "he taxied back to the area near the strip. But he couldn't taxi onto the strip, because there was a guard shack in the way. Cannoneers were called to tip over the guard shack and drag it aside.

"He taxied on to the strip where we were standing, looked out the window at us with a big smile on his face, saluted, gunned his engine and proceeded to take off, circling the field at about one hundred fifty feet. One Colonel said to the other, 'Now that he has found the field, he is going to prove he can land on it.'"

"But no," Major "B" said to me. "He headed off in that direction," pointing north—which was directly into the Chinese lines.

That was the last they saw of him. So they called me.

I flew Col. Blank back to "I" Corps. Artillery headquarters, and reported into operations. Naturally, we were very concerned about Lt Ortiz.

Within fifteen minutes, Lt. Ortiz landed, a sheepish smile on his face.

"I looked all over the place for that battalion air strip," he said, "but I just could not find it."

We ribbed him quite a bit about this, but he wouldn't go into his low-level flight into Chinese territory.

I guess that would be a story in itself.

Reach William C. Roden at 51582 Hwy. 112, Pt. Angelis, WA 98363, (360) 928-3642



A folk dancer entertained at the KVA banquet honoring the Korean War veterans. See 'The Forgotten Victory' on page 52.

Korean War Veterans Association
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