

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



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From the President

James E. Ferris

As of today, 8 July, 2012, I have been President for 14 days. By the time this gets to our editor, I will have

been President for 20 days. When I sat down this morning to begin writing this for *The Graybeards*, I wondered what I can tell the membership after a mere 14 days in office.

I began to think of the many things that my transition meetings with our Past President, Bill Mac Swain, and our new Vice Presidents, Larry Kinard and Roy Aldridge, brought forth. The meetings and the men were a great deal of help to me, and I know that with the continued support of Bill, Larry, and Roy, we can do what the membership has asked us to do.

First, I thank all of you who voted for me. I hope that over the duration of my term in office I will not let you down. For those of you who did not vote for me, I hope that I can change your minds. As you know, you gave me approximately two thirds (2/3rd) of the votes cast for the office of President. This tells me that you read my resume, agreed with what I said, and want me to do what I said. I can't promise you anything other than that I will do my best to do what I have mentioned in that resume.

The top priority I mentioned was "Recruiting, Recruiting, Recruiting." I have served under several Presidents as a Charter Member of the National KWVA. To my knowledge, none of them put any significant priority on this subject. I am not criticizing them; they all had their own priorities and handled them as they saw necessary.

I have made some preliminary, but very necessary, appointments and outreaches to begin the recruiting process. I have appointed from the rank and file Sonny Edwards, of Virginia, to head a sub-committee under the membership committee chaired by Tom Stevens. Sonny is a "go to" guy. I am satisfied with this appointment, and I know Sonny will do a great job.

The committee he is working on is new. Someday I hope to make it a standing committee. What the Board of Directors and I need to do is give Sonny all the latitude and

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resources he needs to make this effort successful.

When Bill 5903, now in Congress, goes through all the gymnastics that it must go through to become law, we want to be in a position to begin a larger and broader recruiting program. There are 2.1 million Korean War veterans in the United States who do not belong to the KWVA. I venture to say that a great percentage of these men and women belong to other veterans associations, such as the VFW and the American Legion. I am working on that level to obtain new members. As things develop, I will let you know.

There are thousands of men and women who have served in Korea since 1954. When Bill 5903 is passed, they will become eligible to join the KWVA. I know there are people who do not consider these men and women Korean War veterans. However, if we wish to survive and to continue to honor the men and women who died, were maimed, captured, or missing in action, and not allow their memories to fade, we must make sure that the KWVA remains a viable organization for generations to come. Therefore, we need to recruit the Korean Service veterans—and there are no ifs, ands, or buts about it.

Incidentally, I have asked our Past President Bill Mac Swain, who has worked very hard with Congressman Johnson on this bill, to stay on this project and see it through.

I mentioned in my resume that *The Graybeards* is our most expensive item in the budget. We are allocating approximately \$170,000.00 dollars for the editing, printing, distribution and postage this year. We receive a very small amount of advertisement money; we also receive a few donations to *The Graybeards*, which means that the majority of the \$170,000.00 dollars comes from our membership dues. I wish to change this.

I am working on a few theories. But, at this time I do not have enough information on which to comment, except to say that I

have asked our Second Vice President, Roy Aldridge, to look into some avenues to increase our income from *The Graybeards*. This is a very high priority on my plate today.

I mentioned in my resume that I would reach out to the members to be more involved in the workings of the organization. So far, Billy Scott, of Virginia, has agreed to take on the job of Legislative Director. Mike Trapani, of Auburn, NY, will be our POW/MIA coordinator. Bill Burns, of Syracuse, NY, has agreed to be our Judge Advocate. Garry Rockburn, of Kirkville, NY, is our Treasurer. John Barwinczok, of Auburn, NY, has agreed to be Asst. Treasurer.

Frank Cohee, who has served as our Secretary with Past President Bill Mac Swain, has agreed to stay on, a position I hoped he would accept when I decided to run for President. Jake Feaster has agreed to stay with me, too. But we need more volunteers. I ask any one of you who is interested in serving on any of the committees to contact me, and we will discuss it.

Finally, I congratulate Sal Scarlato of Long Island on his election to the Board of Directors. Sal is a very hard working Korean vet, and I look forward to working with him. J. Tilford Jones also won his bid for election to the Board. We know how valuable Tilford will be to the organization. Ezra "Frank" Williams and Luther Dappen won re-election and will continue to be very valuable members of our Board.

By the time this is published we will have completed our Board meeting in Washington. I am sure I will have much more to report in the next issue of *The Graybeards* concerning that meeting, the Gathering, and the events that took place in DC.

I promise I will try to keep you all informed. Meanwhile, the website is an excellent place to go for information.

For the good of the KWVA,

Jim Ferris

COVER: ARLINGTON, Va. (July 27, 2012) Lt. Cmdr. Walt Cline, the executive officer of the U.S. Navy Band, leads the Ceremonial band during the commemoration of the 59th anniversary of the Korean War armistice at the Arlington National Cemetery Amphitheater. The commemoration ceremony followed a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns recognizing veterans of the Korean War. (U.S. Navy Photo by Chief Musician Stephen Hassay/Released)



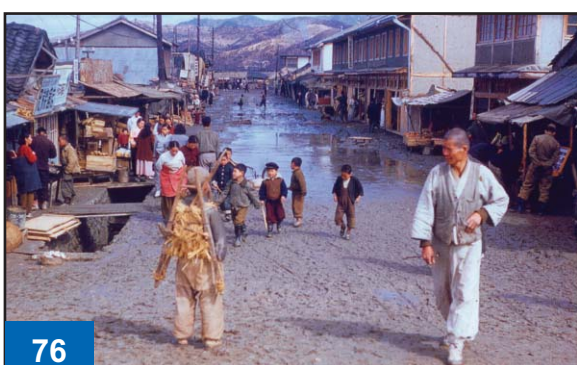
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From the Secretary



Frank Cohee

Five Shots I Would Like Again

I start with a humorous letter that I received from one of our members—no names mentioned. Incidentally, some of you obviously do read my articles. Here is an edited copy of the letter:

As A Korean vet, I got a laugh at you writing about the fire that burned up records. (I do not know why he got a laugh because I was serious. Anyhow, he goes on.) In the winter of 1951 we were run through a line and received five shots. The medics were yelling, "Keep moving. These do not get marked on your records." The Chinese were complaining at the UN that we were using germ warfare.

I am not complaining, but lately I do not get (the sexual feelings) like I did in 1951. If anyone is still alive who knows what were in those five shots, I sure would like to take them again." Jake

(My message to Jake: Has no one ever told you about aging? You are 61 years older. But, if you find out what the shots were, let us all know. Frank)

Korea War Veterans Memorial Foundation Challenge Coin

As you may know, we are leading the effort to get HR 2563 passed by Congress. It will enable construction of a Glass Wall of Remembrance on which we will list the names of our KIA fallen comrades and the numbers of U.S. WIA MIA, POW and KATUSA, ROK and UN KIA, WIA, MIA, POW. As well, panels of the Wall will have appropriate 'homilies' better defining the historical importance of the Korean War, and how it changed the world.

Enactment of HR 2563 will finally comply with PL.99-572, which originally authorized a Korean War Veterans Memorial. We tried back in 1989 through 1994, but 'they' objected to another 'Wall on the Mall'! Well, now we've got another shot at it, and only 'WE' can make it happen!

Call your Congressional representatives and get them to sign on as co-sponsors—and do it ASAP! We need to get it passed before they recess for the Labor Day Holiday!!!!

And, if you want to help us raise money to fight this fight, maybe you want a KWVMFnd Challenge Coin. They are \$9.95 each—and we pay shipping costs! Hey, can't hurt—and it will help! Order by contacting Bill Weber at Col William E. Weber (USA, Ret.), Chairman, Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc., 10301 McKinstry Mill Rd., New Windsor, MD 21776, 410-775- 7733, eagle187@hughes.net or www.korean-warvetismemorial.org

Korean People Do Not Forget

Hello. I am a student in Busan in South Korea, the country that you and your country saved arduously. The time of 62 years have passed since Korean War. It means the time that you did your best to save Republic of Korea has passed 62 years too.

I found your e-mail by chance at The Ministry of Patriots-Veterans website, and now I am writing a letter to inform that you rendered distinguished services for my country and I want to say 'Thank You' to you. As a result of your sacrifice given for an unknown country like South Korea, we have been a proud country at every aspect. Also, we are doing our best to reward your effort.

We will help other poor and weak countries like you did. Thank You.

homilbbang1@gmail.com

Social Security to Add Adult Huntington's Disease to Compassionate Allowances Program

The Social Security Administration will add symptomatic Huntington's Disease to its Compassionate Allowances (CA) program for adults by the end of the year. The CA program speeds up disability decisions to make sure that Americans with the most serious disabilities receive their benefit decisions within days instead of months or years. Juvenile Huntington's Disease will also become part of the CA program next month.

Learn more about how to apply for disability benefits. Visit Disability.gov for more information about the eligibility requirements to receive Social Security disability benefits.

Frank

Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards

Members are invited to help underwrite the publications costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer J Tilford Jones, 6958 Heatherknoll Dr., Dallas, TX 75248-5534. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

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Korean War Anniversary Information Wanted

60th Anniversary Questions:

1. If both sides knew that the truce took effect at 10 p.m. on 27 July 1953, and they knew it hours in advance, why did they continue fighting right up to the last minute?
2. What happened to any left-over ammunition that the two sides had in Korea once the truce took effect?
3. Did anyone make any attempt to locate and remove land and water mines that were still in place once the truce took effect?

.....

The 60th anniversary of the Korean War armistice is fast approaching. It is a good time for our editorial to start compiling stories for our 2013 60th anniversary special edition. Please let us know where you were when the armistice was signed, what you were doing, what was going on where you were, how you and your buddies/units/enemies/families et al reacted.

Even if you were not in Korea at the time, e.g., you had already completed your stint there, you were a friend of or related to someone who had been there, we welcome your remembrances.

If you have photos, newspaper clips, diary entries, or other documents that supplement your remembrances, they are welcome. We will put everything together for the special edition of *The Graybeards* that we are working on.

We will also keep track of what celebrations local, state, and national organizations are planning. Let us know what your chapter, community, etc., is planning and we will make every effort to get it into *The Graybeards*.

Send your material to 60th Anniversary Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

New NPRC Address

All of the 60 million military personnel and health records from the early 1900s are being moved to the new National Personnel Record Center facility. The new address is National Personnel Record Center (Military Personnel Records), 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138.

CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2013 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, INC. (KWVA) offices: four (4) Directors for the years 2013-2016.

No later than December 15, 2012, any regular members in good standing of the KWVA seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Elections Committee, Thomas M. McHugh., in writing, using the following format:

Requirements:

Applicants must:

A. Present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official KWVA Membership Application Form showing eligible service years and include a statement releasing the application form for verification by the Elections Committee (no fee required).

B. Present a current photograph, suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.

C. Submit a letter, signed and dated, limited to approximately one (1) page, including 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) Your email address, if available.
- 5) Alternate email address and alternate phone number, if available.
- 6) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.
- 7) A statement that your dues are current through the whole term of the office that you are seeking. Note: Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

D. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Elections Committee Chairman, to arrive not later than December 15, 2012.

Applicants are requested to contact the Elections Committee Chairman if they have any questions.

Address application packages and questions to: Thomas M. McHugh, Election Committee Chairman, 217 Seymour Road, Hackettstown, NJ 07840: Ph: 908-852-1964 Email: TMMcHugh@msn.com

The KWVA election process is as follows:

The Elections Committee certifies the candidates who are qualified to stand for office.

- The candidate declarations are sent to the editor of *The Graybeards* for publication in the January-February 2013 edition.

- The ballots are also published in that edition.

Members cast their ballots by May 10th and mail them to the KWVA-approved CPA.

- The CPA counts the ballots and reports the results via certified tally sheets to the Elections Committee.

- The results reported by the CPA are verified by the Elections Committee.

- Copies of the completed and verified tally sheets are sent by certified mail to each of the 15 Board Members, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and to each of the candidates for office, regardless of whether they are a winner or loser:

Frank Cohee
KWVA National Secretary



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Who Was Haym Salomon?©

Like most of you, I receive a barrage of emails that “must be passed on” as if the world as we know it will end if we don’t. The world as we know it is going to end someday regardless of those types of “urgent” emails. But, it may not happen quickly if The Graybeards readers fact check those emails for accuracy before hitting the forward button.

One recent email I received—for approximately the 112th time—asks “Who Was Haym Solomon?” The first paragraph advises me to “Read this fascinating history of the \$1 bill all the way to the bottom to know about Haym Solomon. You may be in for quite a surprise!” I was—mainly because the “facts” in the essay are for the most part (let’s be diplomatic here) less than true. How do I know? Two reasons.

First, I visited www.snopes.com to check the veracity of the essay. The verdict: it’s a mix of true and false information. Second, the author misspelled Solomon’s surname. Misspelling a subject’s name is generally a good reason to mistrust a writer’s skills. (Whoops, I’d better check my spelling carefully here.)

As luck would have it (shameless plug here), one of the 55 profiles in my recent book, *Not Your Father’s Founders*, released on July 18th, focused on Haym Salomon.ⁱ Any similarity between what I wrote and what the email essayist wrote is purely coincidental. (My publisher employs fact checkers to check my facts. If I try to slip falsehoods, distortions, or aggrandizements into my book, the fact checkers say, “No.” Apparently, the Haym Salomon essayist did not rely on fact checkers.)

The emailed essay notes that “Few people know it was Solomon (sic) who saved the Army through his financial contributions...then died a pauper. Haym Solomon gave \$25 million to save the Continental Army, money that was sorely needed to help realize America’s freedom and independence from England.”

The reason few people know it is simple: it’s not true. Salomon did not “give”

Let’s face it. Our world cannot survive if people don’t think analytically—and check their facts on snopes.com or any of the other websites that serve a similar purpose.

\$25 million to save the Continental Army. He lent the government some of his own money (which was never paid back), and he helped raise \$20,000 that General Washington needed to drive the British out of Virginia. But, he did not act alone.

Salomon, who narrowly escaped being hanged, coordinated with the financial genius Robert Morris (also profiled in the book), who was considered as “America’s Financial Guru” during the Revolutionary era. Neither Salomon nor Morris worked alone—which is the thesis of my book. (Just for the record, Morris died practically penniless after serving several years in prison for unpaid debts.)

The best-known founders could not have built a nation without the help of a talented supporting cast, many of whom rose from and faded quickly into obscurity. But, the founders’ efforts are often misrepresented, distorted, or downright falsified in stories emailed around the world via the internet. Frequently, the disseminators do that purposely. They know that most readers won’t attempt to verify their “facts.” Readers would have to think to do that, which a lot of people prefer not to do, as Dr. Ferris, one of the characters in Ayn Rand’s introspective and futuristic novel, *Atlas Shrugged*, told his boss, Dr. Stadler.

“You see, Dr. Stadler, people don’t want to think. And the deeper they get into trouble, the less they want to think. But by some sort of instinct, they feel that they ought to and it makes them feel guilty. So they’ll bless and follow anyone who gives them a justification for not thinking.”ⁱⁱ

Let’s face it. Our world cannot survive if people don’t think analytically—and check their facts on snopes.com or any of the other websites that serve a

similar purpose. Fortunately, we don’t need snopes.com to do that regarding The Graybeards.

We fact-check *The Graybeards* to the extent that our limited staff allows. Occasionally, errors slip through. (That’s why we have “Misfires.”) When that happens, we hear about it (thankfully).

We have some of the best fact checkers in the world—our readers. Our publication staff appreciates the fact that KWVA members make an effort to ensure our accuracy. But why don’t more people make an attempt to fact check emails circulated on the internet before they disseminate them to the people on their mailing lists? Maybe they would if they knew *The Graybeards* readers were verifying their emails.

ⁱ Not Your Father’s Founders, released on 18 July 2012 by Adams Media, comprises 55 profiles of men and women who participated in the establishment of the United States. The profiles include the usual suspects, e.g., John, Abigail, and Samuel Adams, George and Martha Washington, Jefferson, Monroe....But it also includes spies (Benjamin Tallmadge, Lydia Darragh), scalawags (Silas Deane, Samuel Chase...), Soldiers (Deborah Sampson, William Campbell...), and assorted other patriots. It is available through bookstores or on-line retailers such as amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. I have a few copies available as well. Send me a check for \$12, including postage and handling, and I will send you an autographed copy.

ⁱⁱ *Atlas Shrugged* should be required reading in our nation’s schools. Even though the book was published in 1957, it is applicable to day. It depicts what life will be like in the next few years if current trends in society aren’t reversed—the lack of fact checking by individuals being one of them..

Reunion Calendar: 2012

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or email it to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

SEPTEMBER

Plt. 529, 2nd Bn., Parris Island, Dec. 1952. (SSgt. W. S. Johnson was Senior DI.) Planning a 60th reunion at Parris Island. Contact Chris Vail, 770-321-5018, greenmtchris@comcast.net

58th Fighter Assn., 4-9 Sept., Rapid City, SD, Grand Gateway Hotel. J. Kupferer, 2025 Bono Road, New Albany, IN 47150-4609, 812-945-7649, jkupferer@insightbb.com

630th Engineer L. E. Co., 9-12 Sept., Branson, MO, Fall Creek Inn. Gerald ("Clem") Clemons, 311 County Rd. 398, Killen, AL 35645, 256-757-2090

25th Infantry Division Assn., 9-15 Sept., Chicago, IL. P.O. Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031, TropicLtn@aol.com, Association website, www.25thida.org

USS Sphinx (ARL-24), 17-20 Sept., Branson, MO. Frank Ironi, 954 Lilac Dr., Sauk Centre, MN 56378, 612-352-3271

USS John R. Pierce (DD-753), 11-14 Sept., Orlando FL. Cecil Thompson, 337-537-7533, cthomp9785@hughes.net

USS Pueblo (AGER-2), 11-15 Sept., Annapolis, MD. Bob Chicca, 4708 Bram Ave., Bonita, CA 91902, 619-540-0309.

USS Hornet (CV-8, CV-12, CVA-12, CVS-12) U.S. Navy/Marines, 11-16 Sept., San Mateo, CA. San Mateo Marriott Hotel. Carl & Sandy Burket, PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, 814-224-5063, hornetcva@aol.com, Reunion Web Site: <http://www.usshornetassn.com/>

USS Colonial (LSD-18), 12-15 Sept., Seattle, WA. Loren Kerby, 3013 Emerald Ct., Platte City, MO 64079, 816-858-3158, kerbyplatte@aol.com

USS Mt. McKinley (AGC-7), 12-16 Sept., Baltimore/Annapolis, MD. 763-425-6315, lateman@comcast.net or

51st Fighter Interceptor Wing Assoc., 13-15 Sept., Dayton, OH, Dayton Marriott. Allie Craycraft, Jr., 9501 E. Jackson St., Selma, IN 47383-9599, 765-282-0010, alandjuanita@yahoo.com

24th Div. Assn., U.S. Army, 16-19 Sept., New Orleans, LA, Holiday Inn Downtown. Mike Frederick, 612-804-9457

USS Southerland (DD/DDR-743) 18-21 Sept., Mobile AL. Rick Anderson, 509 North Sta. Dr., Fairhope, AL 36532, andy743@bellsouth.net

25th Div., 14th Regt., U.S. Army, 18-20 2012, Goshen, IN. Roman Gill, 1713 8th Ave. So., Escanaba, MI 49829

44th Engineers, U.S. Army ("Brokenheart" Bn.), 19-21 Sept., Gettysburg, PA. Dave Clasby, 314-837-0996, dncclasby@att.net, or Ken Cox, 10529 Canter Ave., St. Louis, MO 63114, 314-423-5483, kdc1@wans.net

U.S. Army Security Agency Korea Vets, Sept., 19-22, Pigeon Forge, TN. Bob Rudolph, 269-789-2860, webmaster@asakorea.org

USS Montague (AKA-98), 20-23 Sept., Baltimore, MD, Marriott Courtyard Baltimore Downtown. F. C. ("Fred") Machado, 5445 S. Blythe Ave., Fresno, CA 93706, 559-266-2978, fcm@unwiredbb.com, or Bob Raftis, 2025 Timbercreek Dr., Marion, IA, 319-377-5815

84th & 62nd Engineer Construction Bn., 24-27 Sept., Branson, MO. Vic Swanson, 5214 Harvest Loop, Eugene, OR, 97402, 541-668-7584, vic-swanson@comcast.net

4th FTR Interceptor Wing, 334th, 335th, & 336th FTR Interceptor Sqdns & support personnel, Kimpo AFB, 26-30 Sept., Phoenix, AZ, Embassy Suites. Andrew L. Whipple, 1607 San Diego St., The Villages, FL 32519, 352-259-7792

999th AFA Bn., "Never Die," (Korea 1950-54), 27-29 Sept., Little Rock, AR, Holiday Inn Express. Aubrey Davidson, 14807 Cedar Heights Rd., North Little Rock, AR 72118, 501-851-4999, Abe4999@aol.com

USS Wexford County (LST-1168), 27-30 Sept., San Diego, CA. Larry Condra, 314-994-1187, wexford.county.reunion@aol.com, or www.mlrsinc.com/wexford

USS Ingersoll (DD-652), 27-30 Sept., Charleston, SC. Larry Graham, 20 Sevilla Dr., Clifton Park, NY 12065, 518-371-4510, Lgraham5@nycap.rr.com

40th Inf. Div. (Korean War veterans), 27-30 Sept., Phoenix, AZ.

194th Combat Engineer Bn. (Korea, 1951/1954, all companies) 30 Sept.-3 Oct., Laughlin, NV. Bob (Sandy) Sanford, 401-766-8262, boblorsan2@aol.com or Chuck Havey, 928-472-6956, cshavey@msn.com

5th Comm. Gp./934th Sig. Bn., USAF (Korea, 1950-54), 30 Sept.-6 Oct., Little Rock, AR. Chuck Siegmund, 1400 Foxwood Dr., Jacksonville, AR 72076, 501-985-1310, sparkyarky@comcast.net

OCTOBER

Korean War Veterans, 1-4 Oct., Laughlin, NV. Dick Gallmeyer, 1125 Evert Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23464, 1-800-523-4615, <http://Koreanwarveteransonline.com>

Veterans of the Korean War Reunion (all branches welcomed), 2-5 Oct., Virginia Beach, VA. Floyd D. Newkirk, 757-340-9801, fnewkirk1@cox.net. Website www.VKWR.org

USS Cascade (AD-16), 2-7 Oct., Orlando, FL, Buena Vista Hotel Suites. Bob Croghan, 7827 Cassia Ct., St. Louis, MO 63123, bobsr@croghancpa.com, 314-954-7801 or Leonard Goeke, 2790 Quince Ave., Washington, IA 52353, 319-653-3904

Korean War Recon Marines, 3-6 Oct., Houston, TX. James Sauser, 281-332-5725, jimsauser1@gmail.com

17th Infantry Reg. ("Buffaloes"), 4-6 Oct., Chicago, IL, Steven Goodwin, 773-263-2619, scout417@hotmail.com

USS Cowell (DD-547), 6-8 Oct., Branson, MO. Larry Salley, 19 Auburn St., Greenville, SC 29609, 864-268-3365, lsalley3@charter.net

90th FA Bn., 7-10 Oct., Branson, MO, Grand Plaza Hotel. Ray Haski, 927 Robin Dr., Apollo, PA 15613, 724-727-3132, jckaloha@kleinlein.lis

A/1/7 Marine Corps Assn., 7-11 Oct., Charleston, SC. "Shifty" Shifflette, 540-434-2066, captshifty@comcast.net

15th/6922nd RSM (Radio Sq Mobile), 7-11 Oct., Branson, MO, Stone Castle Conference Center. Jim Bramwell, 108 President Ave., Rutledge, PA 19070, 610-544-5143

G-3-1 Korea Assn., 8-11 Oct., Oklahoma City, OK, Best Western Saddleback Inn, 800-228-3903. Bob Harbula, 412-462-8537, bobbyjuly@yahoo.com

USS Rendova (CVE-114) 17-21 Oct., Dearborn, MI, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Detroit - Dearborn. Chuck Fecay, 22000 Madison, Apt. 326, Dearborn, MI 48124, 313-565-1515, cfecay@att.net (Open to all crew members and squadrons)

151st Combat Engineer Bn., 18-21 Oct., Lebanon, TN, Comfort Suites. Jack & Ruth Cato, 212 S. Maple St., Lebanon, TN 37087, 615-444-9273, rmcato@charter.net

18th Fighter Wing (All Squadrons), 18-20 Oct., San Antonio, TX. Tom Chapman, 303-794-3747, tomchapman@lmco.com

92nd Armored Field Artillery Bn., 28-31 Oct., Kissimmee, FL. Guy McMenemy, 281-469-2819, bravecannons@sbcglobal.net

NOVEMBER

KWVA Department of Texas, 16-18 Nov., San Antonio, TX, Menger Hotel. Tom Cacy, pastortomcacy@sbcglobal.net

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

Call For Annual General Membership Meeting, October 10-14, 2012

The annual meeting is called for October 12, 2012 from 1300-1700. The meeting will take place at The Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, St. Louis-Westport, 1973 Craigshire Rd., St. Louis, MO 63146, Tel 314-434-0100, and continuing with recesses through the completion of all business properly brought before it. Members with items proposed for the meeting must insure that they reach Frank Cohee, Association Secretary, not later than September 1, 2012.

A Registration Form is available on page 11 of the May-June *Graybeards* and on page 12 of this issue.

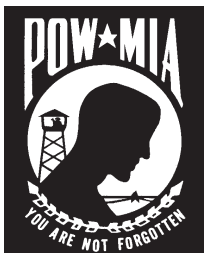
AGENDA

- Call to Order
- To The Colors/Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation

- Administrative Announcements
- Roll Call and Introductions/Recognition of New Officers/Directors
- Introduction of Distinguished Visitors, Major Staff and Others
- Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting, Quincy, MA, Oct. 30, 2011
- Annual Treasurer's Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- Reports from Committees
- For the Good of the Order
- Motion to Adjourn
- Benediction
- Salute to the Colors

*Submitted by Frank Cohee,
Association Secretary*

Soldier Missing in Action from Korean War Identified



The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced on June 19, 2012 that the remains of a serviceman missing in action from the

Korean War were identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army Cpl. Robert I. Wax of Detroit was buried June 20 at Arlington National Cemetery. In August 1950, Wax and Battery A, 555th Field Artillery Battalion, were fighting against North Korean forces in a battle known as the "Bloody Gulch," near Pongam-ni, South Korea. After the battle, on Aug. 11, 1950, Wax was listed as missing in action.

In late 1950, U.S. Army Graves Registration Service personnel recovered remains of service members from that battlefield, including nine men who were unidentified. These men were

buried at the 25th Infantry Division Cemetery in South Korea. In 1951, the U.S. consolidated cemeteries on the peninsula. The unknown remains were re-interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

In 2011, due to advances in identification technology, the remains were exhumed for identification. Based on available evidence such as metal identification tags, military clothing, and wartime records, analysts from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) were able to conclude that the remains were those of a soldier who died at Pongam-ni.

Scientists from JPAC used the circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, including radiograph and dental comparisons, in the identification of Wax.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO website at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call 703-699-1420.

KWVA Annual Membership Meeting Rules Of Decorum & Debate

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

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

*Frank Cohee
National Secretary, KWVA*

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*.

Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA)
2012 Annual Membership Meeting October 10 – 14
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel St. Louis - Westport
1973 Craigshire Rd, St. Louis, MO 63146 - Tel. 314-434-0100

Registration Form

Either copy or download a PDF version from www.kwva.org site, fill in and mail it with your check or Money Order made payable to KWVA, Inc. to:

The Korean War Veterans Assoc., Inc.
P.O. Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407

Note: Mail-in Registration deadline: Sept. 28, 2012. Any Registrations mailed after Sept. 28 might not be received in time... however, walk-in Registrations will be accepted at the convention.

Date	Activity	Cost/person	# people	Total
Wed 10 Oct	Arrival - Registration opens at NOON (Registration/Hospitality Room open 12:00 pm until 9:00 pm)	Member: \$25 Guest: \$25	x x	= \$ = \$
Thr 11 Oct	Board of Directors Meeting 9:00 am (Registration/Hospitality Room open 9:00 am until 9:00 pm)			
Thr 11 Oct	Tour St. Louis Forest Park Zoo (FREE) Bus Leaves 9:00 am and Returns 2:00 pm	Bus Fare: \$20	x	= \$
Fri 12 Oct	Tour Soldiers Memorial Museum (FREE) Bus Leaves 9:00 am and Returns 12:00 pm	Bus Fare: \$20	x	= \$
Fri 12 Oct	Registration/Hospitality Room open 9:00 am until 12:00 pm			
Fri 12 Oct	Membership Meeting 1:00 pm			
Fri 12 Oct	Entertainment by Korean-American Council 6 pm			
Sat 13 Oct	Wreath Laying at Korean War Memorial and at Chosen Few Memorial in Forest Park 10 am (FREE) Bus Leaves 9:00 am and Returns 12:00 pm	Bus Fare: \$20	x	= \$
Sat 13 Oct	Registration/Hospitality Room open 12:00 pm until 5:00 pm			
Sat 13 Oct	Social Hour: 7:00 pm			
Sat 13 Oct	Banquet 8:00 pm (Indicate Meal selection below)	\$37	x	= \$
	Guests Attending Banquet Only:	\$47	x	= \$

Beef (number) _____ Chicken (number) _____ Tilapia (number) _____ Total \$ _____

Please print your name as you want it on your badge.

FIRST _____ LAST _____ NICKNAME _____

KWVA MEMBER # _____ CHAPTER # _____

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME(S) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____

PH. # _____ EMAIL _____

Disability/Dietary Restrictions: _____

There will be a \$25 charge for returned checks.

Special Hotel Rate for KWVA members: \$89.00/night plus tax. Must mention Code "KWVA" when making your room reservation to get this rate. Hotel reservation Deadline is Sept. 17.

(Note: Hotel reservations or cancellations are to be made direct with the hotel.)

KUSCO Scholarship Available for Students in Science and Engineering

The Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center (KUSCO) offers a new scholarship program in recognition of U.S. veterans who served in the Korean War. KUSCO's scholarship program will recognize outstanding students who have demonstrated excellent talents in the fields of science and engineering and identify and nurture future leaders in the scientific community for closer cooperation between Korea and the U.S. Awardees will receive a check of \$1,500 each from KUSCO and be given an opportunity to attend an Award Ceremony and present his/her research poster at the U.S.-Korea Conference on Science, Technology and Entrepreneurship (UKC 2013), August 8-11. Travel expense for attending the award ceremony will be reimbursed by KUSCO.

Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

Applicants should be:

- Direct descendants of a Korean-War veteran
- Studying Science and Engineering (excludes medical school students)
- Enrolled in a BA, MA, PhD course in the US

Eligibility Documents

- KUSCO Scholarship Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae (including work experience and extracurricular activities)
- Official transcripts from colleges attended
- One recommendation letter from a current advisor

Evaluation Criteria

- Academic performance
- Recommendation letter
- Work experience and extracurricular activities

Timeline

- Application Deadline: October 31, 2012
- Announcement of Awardees: February 1, 2013
- Award Ceremony: August 11, 2013 (tentative)

How to apply

Visit the Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center's web site at <http://www.kusco.org/program/kusco-scholarship> and follow the application instructions.

Brief History of the 937th FA Bn ('Arkansas Long Toms')

1. Served with every American division and every corps during three years of the Korean War.
2. Was formerly an Arkansas National Guard unit with headquarters in Ft. Smith, AR.
3. Was called to active duty in August 1950.
4. The battalion sailed for Korea five months after it was activated.
5. First assignment was with I Corps in defense against the Chinese in the spring drive of 1951.
6. After 1951 spring drive, the battalion was assigned to IX Corps; Battery A continued to X Corps sector to support the 1st Marine Div.
7. In May 1951 the battalion supported the U.S. Army 2nd Division and played a major part in the relief of the 23rd Regimental Combat Team, which the Chinese had encircled for two days.
8. Hq Btry. And Btry. C received the Distinguished Unit Citation for action in the May 1951 battle.
9. During the last month of the war the battalion helped turn back the enemy assault by 60,000 troops in the IX Corps sector.
10. Btry. C fired the battalion's last round of the war, only thirty minutes before the truce took effect.

This abbreviated history is the second installment in our series, "The Top Ten Things..." about individual units that readers might want to know. If you have such a list about a unit, send it to Top Ten Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT. (The list doesn't have to contain exactly ten items; one or two off either way is okay. After all, who's counting?) Include any photos or art work that might complement the list.

Source: An article March 4 of an unknown year (probably 1954) in an unnamed newspaper (probably Stars & Stripes).

Check Your Mailing Label

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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

The Night the Truce Was Signed

A while back we printed an article featuring Frank Fontano. Several veterans responded to him regarding their experiences the night the truce went into effect. Fontano was kind enough to share them with us.

Jim Waters

"We were told by a lieutenant not to move outside the bunker. We were convinced that the enemy did not want to take their ammo back, so they kept firing all night."

Jim Waters, 3rd Inf Div, 65th Reg, 3rd Bn, M Co., 49 Simpson Dr., Old Bethpage, NY 11804, 516-249-4715

Joe Picanzi

"I was at Camp Casey when the truce was signed, as we had been relieved by the Marines on July 9th. We were on the Berlin Outpost at that time. My outfit was the 25th Div, 35th Regt, M Co."

Joe Picanzi, 8 Calypso Dr., Brockton, MA 02301, 508-587-1988, JMP0527@comcast.net



Joe Picanzi on Kansas Line, fall 1953

Richard Saldi

Yes, I remember it too. Last July, when I read in the paper that it was the anniversary, and I counted up the years, I couldn't believe it. It brought back memories that I hadn't thought of in years.

I was stationed at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa. I had been there since March.

I was with the 307th Bomb Wing, carrying out B-29 bombing missions over North Korea. We had heard rumors for a couple of weeks that it was almost over, but didn't really believe them.

We had spent the past few missions bombing the airfields on the Korean side of the Yalu. They said it was to make them unusable for Migs after the war. Of course, the mamasans could repair them faster than we could wreck them. There wasn't too much to bomb. After three years, all the strategic targets had been pretty much taken care of.

On the morning of the 26th, we went to the flight line to pre-flight the airplanes for that night's raid. After lunch, we had crew briefings. They said that the war was probably over the next day.

In the late afternoon, we returned to the flight line, got on board, and prepared to line up for take-off. The B-29s had given up on daylight missions over a year before, because the Migs just chewed them up. After we were in the air for about an hour, we developed an engine problem, and had to shut down one engine. (The B-29 had 4 engines.)

After some discussion, it was decided (not by me) to not abort, but continue the mission, because it would probably be our last one. But, instead of going all the way to the crick, we would divert to a front line support operation. We turned off from the main bomber stream, and headed for the front. There, ground controllers took over, and we bombed where they directed.

Since we had originally meant to bomb airfields, we carried a mixture of regular and 12-hour delayed action 500 lb.-bombs. We dropped our 38 bombs, and headed for the barn. But, instead of heading back to the rock, we diverted to Itazuke Air Base in southern Japan. Any airplane in trouble, whether because of combat damage or malfunction, went there because it was several hours closer. We liked to go to Itazuke, because they had fresh eggs at the transient mess. We never got fresh eggs on Okinawa.

We got in, ate well, and got to the transient barracks about two or so in the

morning. The next morning, we all woke up to the voice of "Ike," on every loudspeaker in the base, saying the war was over.

Back to the flight line, into the airplane, and back to Kadena. When we got there, it was deserted except for our ground crew and a truck to take us to debriefing. We, of course, were the only crew to debrief, since the rest had long gone. The debriefers were eager for us to get it over, but at least they were generous with the combat whiskey. Instead of the usual stingy one shot, we all got several belts. There was a big sign on the wall: "WELCOME TO THE 307TH BOMBARDMENT TRAINING WING."

Everyone was off on a three-day pass. Seeing as it was the end of the month, all the enlisted men were broke, but the five officers on the crew all chipped in \$10, so we headed to the village to have a party. After the three-day pass, we returned to the routine and bureaucracy of the peacetime Air Force.

Seeing as we dropped a bunch of 12-hour delay bombs on the front lines, I have often wondered what the bad guys thought when they started going off about the time of the cease fire. I flew several front line support missions, and every time I would think how lucky I was to be five miles above that mess. Get back early in the morning, sleep all day, and head for the club for a few snorts that night. What a life!

Richard Salmi, 239 Montclair Loop Daphne, AL 36526, (251) 626-6314, rickidin@bellsouth.net

Jerry Levinson

I will never forget the night before the truce. I was with the 532nd Engineer Amphibious Support Regt at Jonmepo or Yangmaepo on the river north of Pusan (or it may have been the Sea of Japan). I had guard duty on top of a remote hill. It was dark as heck, and I was alone.

There were many rumors flying around that Syngman Rhee was not in favor of the truce, as Korea would be divided at the 38th Parallel. He was in exile for most of his life, and he wanted

a unified Korea. The rumor was that the ROK Army wanted our ammo, etc., to continue the war, and it would get the needed equipment from the U.S.—by force, if necessary.

As I said, it was only a rumor, but it did make sense.

I went back to Korea ten years ago with the Revisit Program. It was an interesting trip, because I had never been to Seoul during the war.

Jerry Levinson, 7010 Lancaster Ct., University Park, FL 34201, 941-360-3790

Tony Ybarra

I was a hospital corpsman aboard the Navy hospital ship *USS Consolation* in Inchon Harbor. I was assigned to the surgery department as a surgeon's assistant.

We received word that a truce had been declared and a signing would take place the following day.

Tony Ybarra, 1653 Glenville Dr., San Jose, CA 95124-3808, 407-264-2020



Surgery Corpsmen Miller, Wilkin, Baker, Wilkes and Ybarra (L-R) aboard *USS Consolation*

Hal Ware

Your division relieved my unit (3rd Inf Div, 15th Reg, 2nd Bn, G Co) at night sometime in June 1953. We were in a forward position looking up at Monk's Head and Blue Star (Chinese)

in Chorwon Valley. We boarded trucks the next day and headed towards the prison at Koje Island, where the North Korean and Chinese prisoners had taken over the facility.

We got part way there, got off the trucks, got basic loads, and started walking toward Khumwon, where the Chinese had overrun the 555 Artillery unit. (The ROKs had bugged out.)

On the night of 27 July 1953 we were loaded on trucks again, headed



Tony Ybarra in Hawaii

toward a blocking position behind the MLR. I remember it vividly, as the moon was so bright we could actually read letters (which I did). We dug in just before all hell broke loose and both sides fired everything they had, trying to inflict as much damage as they could.

Then, 10 p.m. arrived. It was eerily quiet—and really weird. Some things can never be forgotten. That was one of them.

Harold L. Ware, 110 Fort Hill Rd., Standish, ME 04084-5404, 207-642-2757, SkgHawk1@fairpoint.net

Two More Brothers

We have learned about another set of brothers who served in the Korean War. They were Pfc. Donald Francis Dowling and Pfc. Paul Eugene Dowling, who both served in Co. F, 2nd. Bn. 5th Marines, 1st. Marine Div. They were both taken as POWs while fighting the enemy on Dec. 2, 1950 and died on Dec. 17, 1950. They were from Cleveland, Ohio.

Thank You, Frances Perkins

By Donald K. Score

I was drafted into the Army in December, 1951, at Fargo, ND. We were sent to Fort Sheridan, IL., where we were issued military clothes and received haircuts. Then, we boarded a crowded troop train for Fort Riley, KS. It was very cold there upon our arrival.

After completing eight weeks of basic training and eight weeks of field wireman training, I went home on leave and then reported to Fort Lawton in Seattle, WA, where we learned that we were definitely going to Korea. We received additional shots and were standing in line to get new clothing when they called about five of us out and said they couldn't find our records. (They had them the day before.) We were told to go back to the barracks, as they would probably have our records by that afternoon. As a result, I stayed at Ft. Lawton for three months.

The Army would not pay us without the records or give us clothing to replace that which they took from us earlier. There we were, with no money and very few clothes, but we could get a pass every night. We were kept busy with such pleasant duties as K.P., sweeping streets, standing stockade guard duty, etc.

We finally left Ft. Lawton on August 25, 1952, on the troop ship *Marine Adder*. Many of the troops became seasick, which was bad enough, but then dysentery broke out, so it was not a pleasant trip.

We stopped at Camp Drake, Japan, for about thirty hours, where we received M-1 rifles and some other gear. After that, we re-boarded the ship bound to Inchon, Korea. There was a hospital ship anchored there and helicopters landing on it with wounded. I could also hear artillery fire in the distance.

From Inchon, I went by troop train across Korea to Headquarters Battery of X Corps Artillery, where I was assigned to S-2. I had no training for this assignment, but they were short of personnel.

Continued on page 69

No Sign Of Jim Escalle

By Jim Escalle

After 2nd Lt. Jim Escalle finished combat crew training at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada, he was assigned to the 36th Fighter-Bomber Squadron ("Flying Fiends"), which was one of three squadrons assigned to the 8th Fighter-Bomber Group at Suwon Air Base (K-13) in Korea. The unit had been involved in the war from the beginning, flying F-80 Shooting Stars from Itazuke Air Base in Japan.

When the 8th Group moved operations to Korea, they continued to fly F-80s, but switched to the F-51 for a brief time. Trading in their Mustangs for F-80s again, the pilots continued their fighter-bomber role, even though at the start of the war the squadron was successful in air-to-air combat, shooting down several North Korean aircraft.

On February 26, 1953, the 36th FBS stopped combat operations with their F-80s and began the transition to the F-86F Sabre. Jim arrived at K-13 a couple of days after this turnover began and was excited to learn that he would begin his combat tour flying the new aircraft.

The following is compiled from the chapter "Fighter-Bomber Missions" in my book, *Unforgotten Hero: Remembering a Fighter Pilot's Life, War, and Ultimate Sacrifice*.

In early April 1953, the 35th and 36th Fighter-Bomber Squadrons were ready to fly combat missions with their F-86Fs. Before doing this, however, two pilots from the 51st FIG came over from the west side of the base to give the 8th FBG pilots some tips on air-to-air tactics. Capt. Joseph McConnell, Jr., from the 39th FIS, and 1st Lt. Howard Leaf, from the 25th FIS, gave a "pep talk" to the guys before they went on their first missions, which were going to be MiG Alley sweeps.

Leaf was in the 80th FBS before extending his tour with the 25th; therefore, he was experienced in both air-to-air and ground support missions. McConnell was one of the leading aces at the time, credited with shooting down seven MiGs. He shot down his eighth MiG about a week after he and Leaf gave their talk. Over the next month and a half, McConnell would go on to shoot down eight



After 2nd Lt. Jim Escalle finished combat crew training at Nellis Air Force Base, he was assigned to the 36th Fighter-Bomber Squadron (Flying Fiends), which was one of three squadrons assigned to the 8th Fighter-Bomber Group at Suwon Air Base (K-13) in Korea. The unit had been involved in the war from the beginning, flying F-80 Shooting Stars from Itazuke Air Base in Japan. When the 8th Group moved operations to Korea, they continued to fly F-80s, but switched to the F-51 for a brief time. Trading in their Mustangs for F-80s again, the pilots continued their fighter-bomber role, even though at the start of the war the squadron was successful in air-to-air combat, shooting down several North Korean aircraft.

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more, becoming the highest scoring ace in the war, and one of only two triple aces in the war.

Because he was a "new head," Lt. Escalle didn't get to fly on as many of these early interceptor missions as he wanted, and was even a bit frustrated at the lack of missions being assigned to him. On April 16, Jim took a short break from his assigned duty to write a letter to his future sister-in-law, Jean Woekel, telling her about some of this frustration, along with letting her know how things were going. Being the big brother, he was still concerned about Bob, hoping that he wouldn't have to come to Korea after he graduated from pilot training. Jim wrote:

.....



Suwon Air Base (K-13) had a single 9,000-ft runway. The 8th Fighter-Bomber Wing operated the east side of the base while the 51st Fighter-Interceptor Wing operated on the west side. Photo credit: Paul Gushwa.

Dear Jean and family,

Well, I am pulling O.G. tonight, so I have time to catch up on my letter writing. Some nice stateside music is on, ha! We have it pretty good here, fair quarters and chow. We have houseboys, and waiters (boys) every night.

I am flying F-86s and have one mission up to MiG country. I wish we flew more, but the “old heads” have the seniority. I am supposed to get a mission tomorrow. One of our boys got shot down today at about 10:00, and he just walked in here now (18:00). He bailed out and they brought him back by airplane. He seemed happy to be back.

The MiGs are much more aggressive lately. That’s what we like! We are going into bombing pretty soon. I hope we start flying missions more regular. I wish they would end the war or get down to business. Well, that’s enough war.

I bet the weather is nice there now. Tell your folks and everyone hello. My dad is looking forward to Bob’s graduation. You’re going back too, aren’t you? I am going to get a real good wedding present for you when I can get to Japan. It will be worth waiting for, good excuse. I bet Bob is really looking forward to graduation. I hope he gets F-86s.

I hear that most of the guys are getting to stay in the States, or going to Europe now. They don’t need pilots over here; they have too many. The weather here is getting warmer. It was cold at first. I am sorry about the writing. I want to say something, but I can’t write it down fast enough. I am going to take lots of pictures, so ask Bob for them.

Bob has worked hard in the “program” and I know he’s a good pilot. He deserves to get a rest and good assignment now. I hope he doesn’t have to come over here.

Well, there’s not much to write about from here. When we start air-to-ground work, I will have some good stories. We’re the first outfit to use the F-86 Sabre for bombing, strafing, against troops, etc. So it should be interesting. If we’re not going to get any missions here, then I want to leave and go to Germany. Good deal, huh?

Well, I’ll try to write something worthwhile next time. They exchange prisoners tomorrow. It’s about fifty miles north of here. Tell everyone “hello.”

So Long,

Jim

After writing this letter, it was only about a week before Escalle went on his first fighter-bomber missions, which he liked just as much as the small number of MiG Alley sweeps that he flew. To him, blowing up a bunker or bombing a bridge was just as satisfying as getting the opportunity to shoot down a MiG-15, though he would have preferred doing both. But, with two well-established

fighter-interceptor wings already in Korea—the 51st FIW at K-13 and the 4th FIW at K-14 (Kimpoo)—most of his missions would be air-to-ground.

The prisoner exchange that he mentions at the end of his letter was called Operation Little Switch, which started on April 17 and continued for the next five days. It put a hold on any combat missions. Although Escalle was supposed to get a combat mission on the 17th, according to what he wrote in the letter, only reconnaissance missions were flown while the sick and wounded prisoners were being swapped. When combat operations began again after this troop exchange was completed, the 36th FBS was back in the air, with the majority of the targets being troop concentrations, or bridges that needed to be knocked out.

During the month of May, the pilots in the 36th FBS went on their first close air support missions with the F-86s, and were assigned their first “truck alert” missions with the new aircraft. The Chinese and North Koreans naturally brought trucks full of weapons, ammo, and other items into the front line area. Because they usually drove at night, the pilots had to attack them after dark.

By the middle of May, all three squadrons of the 8th FBG were flying the F-86F Sabre on air-to-ground missions. Fighter-bomber missions were assigned to the 8th on a regular basis, spreading them out among each squadron. Sometimes weather played a crucial role in whether a mission could be carried out, or if it would be postponed or cancelled.

One particular target, known as J-14, was assigned to the 8th Group on nine different days of the month. Bad weather was the reason for the repetition of these missions. This target comprised four heavy artillery guns located north of the front lines in the eastern sector area. It was a famous target for almost all the fighter-bomber pilots in the Group. The guns were well hidden and very hard to get at, but they were actually hit three different times, and 150,000 pounds of bombs were placed directly in the target area.

When the month was over, the 8th FBG had flown over 60,000 sorties, setting another record. Jim had over 20 missions by this time and was looking forward to more. Some of these missions included dropping 1,000-pound bombs on a multitude of tactical targets, with one of them being the heavily defended bridges at Sinanju; skip-bombing dams while flying only a few feet off the ground; going on armed reconnaissance patrols and shooting at targets of opportunity; dive-bombing enemy troops and supplies; and close air support missions on the front lines.

As every fighter pilot in Korea was required to do, Escalle hoped to fly 100 combat missions, even though he knew that he probably wouldn’t get that many by the time the war was over. However, he still would give up a scheduled R&R (rest and relax-



Sign outside 8th FBW Headquarters, Suwon AB (K-13), 1953. Photo by Jack Mayo.

Flying Fiends sign above the 36th FBS Ops building at K-13, 1945. Photo by Paul Gushwa



Second Lieutenant Jim Escalle of the 36th FBS (Mike Flight) at K-13, June 1953. Photo credit: Jim Escalle



ation) in Japan to fly as many missions as possible.

In a letter that he wrote to his brother Bob on May 24, he mentions this, along with a few other minor things. Bob and Jean had been married two weeks earlier, after Bob graduated from pilot training, and he was now at Nellis AFB going through gunnery training.

Dear Bob and Jean,

Well, how do you two like that married life? I am glad you found a nice apartment in Vegas. I know Bob will like the training there. Jean, you should like the town and nightlife. Bob will only see that on Saturday night if I know that flying. It gives you a workout.

I'd like to have seen your wedding. I hear it was really nice. I know you two will have a fine time. I hope you had enough time for a honeymoon. By the way, I sent your wedding present. I think you'll like it.

I hope something is settled soon so Bob doesn't have to come over here. You two sure would be lucky if Bob was sent to Germany. I hope to go there after leaving here. That would really be a deal.

I hope Bob gets a good leave after Vegas. I bet that valley looks nice and green now. Vegas should be nice this time of the year, too.

So you're hearing about our new role as fighter-bombers in F-86s. We really have lots of fun in this dive-bombing. Did you wear the tires off that Oldsmobile already, ha!

I'll be going over to Japan in another month for an R&R. I passed mine up this time to get more missions. It's all right when you're flying, but it's really dull here when you're not.

I got the package with the pencils, fatigues and knife. The package was partly open so I thought that maybe someone took the red baseball caps out. Did you send the caps?

I just got back from a week out at our gunnery range. I was range officer in charge. I got a good suntan and rest. I got to watch lots of bombing, strafing and even some napalm. A .50-cal. hit a little girl, so we sent for a "chopper." It came and picked her up. We really had a crowd around there to watch. I am trying to catch up on the missions I lost now.

Well Bob, I guess you're looking forward to flying the F-86. It's really a wonderful airplane. Flying it at Nellis and combat are lots of fun.

I can hardly think of anything to write. Not much is going on here. I bought a new camera. It's a C-3 Argus and I've been taking col-

ored slides. They really come out nice. I am sending them home. They won't let us take pictures on the line yet. I'll try to get some of me in "battle dress" and of the planes.

Bob, give me a line as soon as you check out in the F-86. In another month, I'll be going over to Japan and have a weeklong party. This buddy of mine just came back, and he told me about everything he did. I almost applied for an R&R right then, ha!

We have been getting some good bombing missions lately. Those 1,000-pounders really tear things up. This afternoon, we went on a patrol mission right up by the Yalu. You could see the MiG field at Antung. There weren't any MiGs flying, so we didn't get to mix it up. My ship started losing rpm (%) and I thought I was going to have to walk home, ha!

Well, that's about it, newlyweds!

So Long,

Jim

As the month of June began, more combat missions were finally assigned to Jim. Almost all of them were close air support missions, because the small but deadly battles along the MLR (Main Line of Resistance) near the 38th parallel had grown more intense by this time.

On June 8, as he and his flight leader, 1st Lt. Jack Mayo, were taxiing back to their revetments after completing a mission, Escalle spotted two airmen trying to put out a fire near an F-86. Apparently, an APU (auxiliary power unit) had caught fire when a .50-caliber round from a parked Sabre was accidentally discharged, piercing the gas tank of the APU.

Unconcerned about his personal welfare, Jim stopped his plane, unbuckled and got out. He rushed over to the burning APU, went through the flames to disconnect it from its F-86, then pushed the unit out of the way before the fire caused serious damage to the plane.

As soon as the unit was safely away from the area, two other airmen brought over a fire extinguisher and quickly put the fire out. Jim suffered some minor burns to his face, but nothing to warrant medical attention. He was later awarded the Soldiers Medal for this selfless deed.

Escalle didn't mention this incident when he wrote a letter to



Pilots of the 36th FBS, April 1953 (Jim Escalle is in the front row, fifth from left). Photo credit: Vic Hodges



F86 Sabres of the 36th FBS lined up on their ramp at K-13, 1953. Photo credit: Paul Gushwa

Bob and Jean on June 11, only five days later. Nor did he mention the Air Medal that he had received earlier. His concern in the letter focused again on Bob not coming over to Korea. Bob was flying F-86s at Nellis by this time and had sent Jim a letter asking what squadrons he was in while he was there. In this letter, Jim responded:

Dear Bob and Jean,

I just got back from a mission. It's really raining heavy, so I guess we're through for the day. I have about 30 missions now. I hope to get 50 or 60 before this war ends, if it does. I hope you get to stay in the States, Bob. Stay there if you can work it.

In this bad weather, we go up in the "soup" and drop our bombs by radar. They can get the accuracy down to about 30 yards. Pretty good, huh! We're having lots of bad weather this month. If this war ends, we'll probably be stuck over here on occupation duty.

I haven't taken an R&R yet because I'm trying to get missions. I am sure looking forward to going back to the States. Then I hope to go to Germany. We have been having air raids the last two nights.

Say Bob, could you send me about 6-8 pair of those white gym socks. I've worn all mine out. You know, the kind we always wore. I am glad you and Jean have a nice place to live. You should be getting that wedding present I sent you pretty soon.

I will be sending more pictures soon. Color slides and some big one of a formation. This big one of the formation is to be enlarged to about 5 feet by 6 feet and put around the base. I am flying number four in FU-399 in the picture. The plane belongs to Lt. Lloyd Irish, a pilot in my flight.

When I was at Nellis, I went through F-80s in the 94th Squadron, then through the 25th Squadron in F-86s. Well, tell everyone "hello" for me. Nice pictures!

So Long,

Jim

Over the next two days, mainly due to bad weather, Escalle wasn't assigned any missions. A pilot rarely went on more than two or three missions a day, even with clear weather, and that was followed by many more days of sitting around waiting for a mission to come up. This tedious waiting frustrated the pilots perhaps more than anything else.



Flight of F86 Sabres returning to base after a combat mission. Photo credit: Jack Magee

They wanted to fly combat missions, not sit outside the Ops building doing nothing. It wasn't long, however, until they got what they wanted. The third week of June began with news that the Chinese had already amassed thousands of troops near the MLR and something big was getting ready to happen.

On June 15, 1953, while it was still dark, the Chinese armies broke through the ROK (Republic of Korea) sector of the MLR in the Pukhan River Valley. This was the big Chinese push that began days earlier, and now they had broken through the weak area of the front lines where it was defended by South Korean troops.

The Chinese and North Koreans knew that a truce could be signed and be put into effect at any time. They also understood, according to the potential outline of this truce, that whatever territory they occupied at the time it went into effect would be theirs to keep. So they attacked in full force, with heavy artillery and armor backing them up.

Almost immediately after the breakthrough, the call came through to 8th FBW headquarters for the need of close air support in the eastern sector of the MLR, where the majority of deadly fighting was taking place. The pilots of the 8th FBG were then hurriedly called into action.

Before the first rays of the sun penetrated the eastern horizon, the pilots in the 36th FBS, fully dressed for battle, climbed into the cockpits of their red-tailed F-86F Sabres. Under the command of Maj. Robert C. Ruby, they launched a 15-hour unrelenting assault on the front lines, strafing and dive-bombing the vast onslaught of Chinese troops, trucks, armor, and supplies.

With antiaircraft weapons being fired at them from all direc-



F-86F-30 Sabre, s/n 52-4367, The Georgia Peach, June 18, 1953. Armament personnel are shown wheeling a 1,000-pound bomb under the inboard pylon. Jim flew this aircraft on a mission next mornibg and never returned. He was listed as MIA. Photo credit: USAF

tions, along with a myriad of small arms fire, the pilots flying these close air support missions would first work into attack position over their selected target. Then, under the watchful direction of a Forward Air Controller flying in his slow-moving T-6 spotter aircraft, each pilot in a four-ship flight would, at approximately one minute spacing intervals, slowly push forward on his plane's hydraulically-controlled flight stick, tilting the nose of his Sabre down at the proper angle of attack (usually 45 degrees) and dive into the target.

He then released his 1,000-pound bombs at just the right moment before pulling back on the stick, feeling the G-forces as his aircraft methodically came back up from this steep dive. The FAC, himself being in harm's way, always gave an assessment of the damage done. In most cases, he fired a "Willie Pete" (white phosphorus) rocket into the selected target area to pinpoint the spot where the fighter-bomber pilots needed to drop their ordinance.

But there was no room for error after beginning his run, and a fighter-bomber pilot had to put all of his attention on keeping the plane at the right angle of attack, as well as remembering when he had to pull up. If he didn't begin his pull-up at the proper altitude (around 3,000 feet), his aircraft would be more vulnerable to the accurate range of the anti-aircraft guns. Also, if a pilot's plane was hit at a lower than safe altitude while on his dive-bombing run, he might have a hard time controlling his aircraft and could very easily slam into the ground. This happened to a lot of good fighter-bomber pilots who were hit during their bomb runs.

During this massive air assault against the Chinese, most of the pilots from the 36th FBS flew at least three or four of these type missions apiece, and a few of the "old heads" were able to wrangle five missions each. Nevertheless, the pilots couldn't do their work alone. They heavily relied on the motivated, tireless, and courageous effort of the ground crews.

The turn-around times were fast and efficient, owing to the dedicated work of the crew chiefs, refuelers, and armament personnel. At the end of this arduous day, when all the assigned missions were finally completed and the last sweat-soaked pilot, with the help of his crew chief, wearily climbed out of his cockpit, the 8th Group was notified that it set another record by flying 290 sorties. The 36th FBS was told it racked up 121 sorties, breaking the record set by the 80th FBS with their F-80s back in April.

On June 16, the squadron repeated their missions, though they were fewer than the day before. The next two days the weather made it impossible to fly. On June 18, the second of these two flightless days was a Thursday. Because Escalle didn't have to fly, he was given the assignment of airdrome officer.

Around 8:30 a.m. he took a short break to write a couple letters, with one to his brother explaining some of the missions he had gone on during the squadron's two-day assault against the Chinese. In this letter Jim writes:

.....
Hello there,

Well, I am A.O. today so I finally found time to get off a couple of letters. I hope you're flying by now. I bet you and Jean know Vegas pretty well by now. I hope you don't have to come over here Bob. It would be better if you could stay in the States. It would be nice if you went to Europe.

I imagine you have been reading in the papers about the big push that the Chinese have made on our lines. I don't know how big they said it was, but it was big. The day it started they had us in the air before the sun was up and we didn't land until 9:00 that night. I got four missions that day and was so tired I could barely walk, but it was fun. We kept this up for two days and then the weather came in. I got eleven missions in three days. The day before the push started I got three missions, and for the next two days I got four missions each day.

On the day I got three missions I had an interesting day. Our first mission that morning was a dive-bombing mission on troops and supplies. We really plastered that target. The second mission was a Yalu River sweep. On this sweep we climbed to 40,000 feet and dropped our tanks, then we climbed on up to 47-48,000 feet and started patrolling the Yalu River. We had just started west on our patrol when ten MiGs came right across our nose. They were going in just the opposite direction as we were. By the time we turned they were way out in front of us. We finally had to break it off because we were patrolling a certain area. If we could have seen them a little sooner, we might have gotten a head-on shot or got on their tails sooner. Anyway, I have seen MiGs, ha!

I hope we can go on some more of those missions. When I dropped my tanks, they rolled out the wing and tore the Pitot tube off. Then my radio went out. So I really had an interesting Yalu sweep. I had to make a formation landing due to the airspeed being out.

The third mission that day was a skip-bombing mission on a dam about 50 miles from Antung. We came in at about 15-20 feet off the deck and bombed the dam. So that was an interesting mission.

The next day, the big push started and we were hitting the front lines just as the sun came up. The T-6 directs us on these type missions. The sky was full of F-86s, F-84s, Navy and Marine planes. We bombed those "Chinese" all day and after dark. After dark, we went down roads behind the lines and shot up trucks. The flak was really heavy for these two days. We lost two F-86s from our Group due to ground fire.

The sky was almost full of flak. After dark you could see the tracers. It looked like a Fourth of July in the late evening. There were lots of trucks moving up to the front after dark. Boy, as soon as you would start down for the trucks, they would open up from both sides of the valley.

We really worked hard for those three days and I think we helped the soldiers a lot. Right after dark, you could see how hard they were fighting by all the flashes. Everyone still thinks the truce will be signed. The Chinese are just trying to get some good hills right now.

Well, enough on the war. I'll write you some more if I get some interesting missions. I have 40 missions now, hurrah! We finally got a good night's sleep and a shower after three days, due to the rain last night. I don't know how long it will take for that wedding present to get there. Well, I better get back to work. Tell everyone hello.

Hey, on the first day of that big push, my squadron set a group, wing and 5th Air Force record for sorties. We got 121 that day. Those crew chiefs and armament men really worked for us to set that record. Have fun!

So Long,
Jim
.....

The missions into North Korea were just as hazardous, if not more so, than the ones near the front lines. With the plethora of

A short time after Senneff returned to K-13, a ResCAP (rescue combat air patrol) was sent out to see if they could find Escalle or his aircraft. After several minutes of searching, the smoking wreckage of an aircraft was seen about eight miles from the target area. When the flight got closer, they saw it was an F-86 because the complete tail section was there, along with part of a wing, but no sign of Escalle. He was reported missing in action.



21



Recon Missions

Record for In-Korea Service on a Two-Year Enlistment?

I was inducted on January 10, 1951 and trained at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. The training included 6 weeks of infantry training and 8 weeks of engineering training. Then, I was shipped to Korea.



1st Sqd., Co. A., 1st Plt, 76 Eng. Const. Bn. members Davenport, Artis, Johnson, Helm, Beechcraft, Bevins, Paulson, Panich, Clark, Compston, McNew, Rupkey, Piskie, Knous, Azeveda, (Picture taken by James Peterson)



'Sad' Soldier Skidmore of 76 Eng. Const. Bn. with house boy Johnny at Ascom City, November 1952



I left San Francisco on May 17th on the troopship General MacArthur, and arrived in Korea June 4, 1951. I was assigned to the 1st Sq., Co. A, 1st Plt., 76 Engineer Construction Bn., working on bridges, roads, etc. I left Korea on December 20, 1952,

James Peterson and house boy

arriving in San Francisco on January 2, 1953. I was discharged on January 19, 1953—about ten days late. (As it says on my DD-214, "Retained in Svc 10 days, Convenience of Government.")

In total, I was in Korea for 19 months and 20 days during a two-year enlistment. Was anyone else in Korea for a longer time on a two-year enlistment?

James D. Peterson, 445 N. 35th St.
Decatur, IL 62521
217-482-9927, JD51P@aol.com

Paging Firefighters

In World War II I was an Army Engineer soldier/firefighter (MOS 383) assigned to the 1204th Army Engineer Fire Fighting Platoon (EFFP). The 1204th EFFP that served in North Africa, Italy, France, and Germany was one of the first ten EFFPs activated very early in the U.S. participation in the war and one of the first four sent overseas.

Unfortunately, the 300 EFFPs and their 9,000 soldier/fire fighters have been left out of the official history of that war. I wonder if the similar units in your war suffered the same fate.

I would like to contact members of the Korean War's 546th Engineer Fire Fighting Company, 525th Engineer Fire Fighting Platoon, 81st through 91st Engineer Fire Fighting detachment, and/or any Air Force airman/firefighter attached to any Air Force unit in Korea in the war.

Particularly I would like to talk about the CLAS 335 and 530 fire trucks and the CLASS 1020 Trailer Mounted Fire Fighting Pumper (TMFFP). I'll be glad to share info on WWII and answer questions about our doings.

Many thanks and Aloha,

James G. Davis, 808-242-1192, r11@hawaiiantel.net
<http://www.firefighters.mil-fire.net>
<http://firetrucks.mil-fire.net>

Info Re the Battle Below the Soyang River

The Battle Below the Soyang River is said to have been one of the most horrific and intense battles American troops ever fought. It is well-known that the CCF aimed their offensive to annihilate the Second Division, who were positioned in the hills of the No Name Line. The 23rd and 38th Infantries held Hills 800 and 1051 where, on May 16th, 1951, the CCF made their attack. After four days of heavy fighting, the hills and valley floor were covered with casualties in atrocious numbers.

My uncle was in the 38th Infantry. While writing his war history, I became appalled at the lack of information available on the May Massacre of the 38th Infantry's regiments. I determined to correct this blunder, so I am now working on a book about this history.

My co-worker has written about his father's 23rd Infantry

Regiment, while I am covering the story from my uncle's regiment. Together, we will present connected books about these sister regiments (and their attached units.)

I am seeking personal stories or less known data on this battle. I believe that the real history of such a battle comes from the individual soldiers' experiences. I am looking for details of events from late April 1951 (the preparations for the upcoming battle, patrols, skirmishes, buddies and commanding officers, etc.), followed by anything pertaining to the actual battle (both experienced personally or seen from afar.)

Finally, I would like information about the post battle: wounded, medical treatment, letters home, patrols, cleanup, etc.) My work also covers events pertaining to the captured and their first week or two as POWs.

This story of the 38th and the May Massacre is one that is long overdue. These histories are on the cusp of being lost forever; please do not let that happen. I know that many of you men have spent the rest of their lives trying to forget this horrible period of time. It is now time to tell the world the way that war and in particular that battle really happened.

As an American, I know our liberty and freedom have not been free, and it is important that we know the cost and never have reason to forget it. My desire is to see that history is properly recorded, to bring honor to our gallant men of valor, and to uphold truth and liberty.

If you can assist in sharing your story, please contact me for an interview.

Jerri Wickersham-Garofalo, 13807 Turtle Hill Rd.
Midlothian, VA 23112, 804-763-1198, 804-304-5450
jerri@garofalos.org

Can Anyone Picture This?

In November 1951, east of Kumsong, North Korea, a Field Artillery unit received a 4'x4'x4' care package. It contained among other things an 8mm camera with two rolls of color film, which I wanted. There was a drawing held to determine the lucky person who would claim ownership. The mess sergeant won it.

He wanted my Police .38 special. So, we made a trade, for which I was very happy. I took his picture and made a movie that included the 105 crew. In that crew were an African-American Soldier and a red-headed Soldier. I'm not sure of the outfit to which the crew was assigned. Maybe the 52nd?

Does anyone remember the drawing. I'm thinking it happened around Thanksgiving 1951, when the first snow fell.

Marvin Reed, 2900 Right Hand Canyon Rd.
Palomino Valley, NV 89510, 775-475-0290

Chuncheon in the 1950s

I am a doctoral student in the art education department at Florida State University. I am from Chuncheon, South Korea. (Chuncheon was one of the important areas during the war, as you may know already). I've been looking for any material records related to my hometown or Korea in 1950s, such as pictures, newspapers...anything that might be helpful.

This is for my personal and educational interests and for the

people in my country and hometown. I'd like to hear from anyone who has items of interest.

Sung-ryun Rim, 405 All Saints St. #1B, Tallahassee
FL 32301, 850-212-1264, chuncheon@gmail.com

Does Anybody Remember Oscar Brand and The Roger Wilco Four?

John D. ("Jack") Wieseman sent us a CD containing several songs by Oscar Brand with the Roger Wilco Four (David Sear, Bradley Spinney, Bill Smith, and Dinny Thomas). The list includes "Come and Join the Air Force," "Army Air Force Heaven," "Glory Flying Regulations," "Barnacle Bill, the Pilot," and "I Wanted Wings."

Wieseman noted that the songs were taken off a 33 rpm "that was done, probably, in the 1950s." He noted that he "can't remember when or where I got it, but anyone who plays it with any attention will recognize many references to the Korean era or late WWII."

He said, "So much of this I can feel close to as most of my time in the USAF was spent in the hangars and on the flight line with the pilots and other mechanics. I had about two years with the FEAF as a S/SGT at my home base at Johnson AFB, Japan with many TDYs to most bases in Korea."

Does anybody remember Oscar Brand and The Roger Wilco Four?

John D. Wieseman, 3910 Locust St.
Lincoln, NE 68516, 402-488-2340

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Who Goes First At Arlington Crossroad?

By Pete Wood

In 1951, prior to going to Korea, I served for a few months with the 3rd Infantry Regiment at Fort Myer, Virginia. The 3rd Regiment does ceremonial duties in and around Washington DC, including Arlington National Cemetery. At 5' 8" I felt like a dwarf among the giants who were selected for parades, walking post at the Tomb of the Unknowns, escorting Cherry Blossom Princesses, and conducting military funerals, among often demanding but sometimes very pleasant duties. Nothing fancy like that for me, but I did have one or two exposures to public view, such as being platoon leader of the baseball platoon.

We had a bunch of pretty famous just-drafted major league players who led Fort Myer to an undefeated military league season while we tried to give them and about 500 other infantry recruits basic training at a post with no training facilities. We spent more time in trucks bouncing up and down route U.S. 1 to other camps than we did training. But that's another story.

When General Walton Walker was killed during the early stages of the Korean War, his body was shipped back for services and burial with full honors at Arlington Cemetery. My primary duty that day was to be in charge of directing traffic around the approaches and crossroad at the Tomb of the Unknowns and the adjacent amphitheater where the funeral service was to be held. President Harry Truman was to attend, along with hosts of other military and government VIPs.

One of our major directives was to make sure that the funeral procession, with the caisson pulled by white horses with symbolic empty boots turned backwards hanging from an empty saddle, which had started out from across the river in downtown Washington, was not held up by traffic when it arrived at the amphitheater. Another directive was to make sure that President Truman's motorcade, which was to arrive a bit earlier, was ushered through without delay. Tight security was the order of the day.

Everything went along nicely until it became evident that Truman's sizable party, coming at flank speed with motorcycle

escort, was late and was going to show up from a different direction at the amphitheater crossroad at the same moment as the caisson. Oh-oh! Who goes first and who waits? And guess who gets the hatchet if the wrong one has to wait?

My #1 sergeant, who was posted at the key intersection about fifty feet away from my position, waved at me as if to ask, "Which one?" I froze for a few seconds, then shouted something brilliant like "The horses." I figured that, President or not, the funeral was the main show. So the caisson and all the attendant vehicles and slow-step marchers and drummers filed by as the President's police escort sat there on their bikes revving their motors and glaring at us with blood in their eyes.

Well, everything seemed to work itself out and the ceremonies started on time. Later, as we went through the process of getting all the vehicles sorted out and on their way home, the Major in charge of ceremony logistics whizzed by my post and gave me what I hoped was a "Well done!" signal. Or was it an "I wanna see you in my office right away!" signal??

I didn't hear any more about it, but couldn't help wondering if it had anything to do with my getting orders to Korea very shortly thereafter. I do believe, though, that President Truman, secretly from his limousine, and General Walker, silently from his casket, approved of my decision at that crossroad.

Reach Morton ("Pete") Wood at 9221 Hollyoak Dr., Bethesda, MD 20817

DOD 60th Anniversary Website Available

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, authorized in the 2011 Defense Authorization Bill, is dedicated to thanking and honoring all the veterans of the Korean War, their families, and especially those who lost loved ones in that war. Through 2013, the Committee will honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War veterans, commemorate the key events of the war, and educate Americans of all ages about the historical significance of the Korean War.

The committee has a website available that is a veritable treasure trove of information, replete with links to other helpful Korean War sites, including the KWVA, a photo gallery, a list of events, etc. To access it, go to <http://koreanwar.defense.gov/>.



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Mystery Photos

Willard Adams submitted several pictures taken in Korea in 1953. Can anyone add information about where they were taken, who the people in the photos were, etc?

If so, let us know. Send your comments to Mystery Photo Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. Contact Willard Adams at wadams@newwavecomm.net



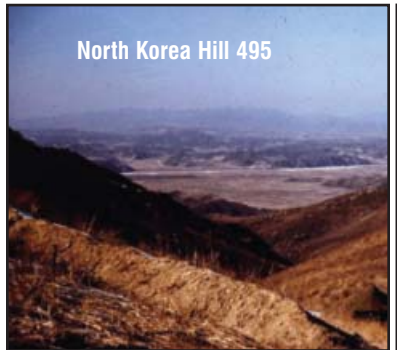
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American and UN flags at Marine headquarters



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16 - 28 Mar '13 45th Anniversary of Khe Sanh & the Hill Fights

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25 May - 1 Jun '13 Battle of Bulge Tour-Bastogne & Paris

★ 1 - 9 Jun '13 69th Anniversary of D-Day: Normandy to Paris

9 - 21 Jun '13 Vietnam I Corps "Chu Lai to the DMZ"

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A Tribute to U.S. Navy Aircraft Carrier Pilots

By Dr. Charles F. Hudson

My twin brother George and I were attending our first year of college when the Korean War broke out in 1950. Without much thought or discussion, we joined the U. S. Navy. We went through boot camp at Great Lakes, IL and remained there for six months to complete Hospital Corps School.



HM3 Charles Hudson We were hopeful of serving our naval career together, but it was not to be. George was sent as a Navy Hospital Corpsman to Fleet Marine Force training at Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, CA. He was then sent to Korea with the 1st Marine Division. I went by way of North Island Naval Air Station in San Diego to the aircraft carrier *USS Kearsarge* (CVA 33).

Upon arrival in Yokosuka, Japan, I was informed that George had been wounded in an explosion on the front lines and was recovering on the hospital ship *USS Consolation*.

Admiral Robert F. Hickey was Commander of Carrier Division 5, Task Force 77. Aboard ship was Air Group 101, which consisted of the following fighter squadrons:

- VA-702 AD Skyraiders: Attack Squadron. Nickname "Rusty Rustlers"
- VF-884 Corsairs F4U-4: Close Air support & Attack Missions. Nickname "Bitter Birds"
- VF-721 Panther Jet F9F-2: Bombing strikes daily. Nickname "Star Busters"
- VF -11 Banshee Jet F2H: Fighter Squadron - Long Range Attack. Nickname "Red Rippers"

Specialized Units

- VC-3 F4U5N Night Fighters. Protection task force in darkness
- VC-11 Anti- Submarine Unit
- VC-35 ADN - Night Attack
- VC-61 Banshee Jet - Aerial Photography

Landings and take-offs at 130 knots on a pitching deck in the daylight and dark during unfavorable weather conditions require outstanding ability. Carrier aviators had to be accomplished navigator and instrument pilots. They also excelled in aerial gunnery.

■ HU-1 Helicopter Unit - Search & Rescue

We left Yokosuka in September 1952 to engage in bombing and destroying North Korean railroads, bridges, supply lines, tanks and artillery positions. Navy pilots were especially adept at close air support of our troops and the ground. My brother said it was a beautiful sight to see our planes come in and demolish enemy troops and artillery with such accuracy.

It was during our 1952-1953 combat cruise that I was able to witness, as a hospital corpsman in sickbay and on the flight deck, the superb courage and bravery of these pilots.

Landings and take-offs at 130 knots on a pitching deck in the daylight and dark during unfavorable weather conditions require outstanding ability. Carrier aviators had to be accomplished navigator and instrument pilots. They also excelled in aerial gunnery.

We encountered many situations like planes crashing on deck and in the sea. Add to this the danger to pilots of flying through intense anti-aircraft flak while on bombing missions, sometimes resulting in injuries or death, and having to eject from their aircraft. If a pilot survived the ejection, he landed in the sea or rugged mountain terrain (sometimes behind enemy lines.)

Much of the Navy aviators' success goes to the brave air crewmen who manned the incredibly hazardous carrier flight deck during operations. They always had to be concerned with whirling propellers, jet blast, and being knocked overboard. Precision teamwork was necessary for safety in launching and recovering aircraft.

On October 11, 1952, we had a tragic

accident aboard ship. A helicopter was landing on the flight deck when a gust of wind turned it over on the air crew. Four men were killed; four more were injured seriously by the rotating blades.

On November 18, 1952, while doing close air support and bombing behind enemy lines near the coastal city of Chongjin, North Korea, pilots were confronted by seven Russian MiG 15s. This occurred fewer than 100 miles south of Vladivostok, Russia. Fortunately, there were four F9F-5 Panther Jets from our sister ship *USS Oriskany* (CVA 34) flying combat air patrol.

An air battle with the MiGs resulted in two of them being shot down. The others were heavily damaged. All 4 of our planes returned safely to their ship; only 1 of them sustained any damage. The greater skill and training of our Navy pilots prevailed over the faster MiG 15s.

After her first Korean War combat cruise, the *USS Kearsarge* had to her credit most of the one-tour carrier records of the Korean War. She launched more missions (30,000), dropped more bombs (4,550 tons), more rockets (2,800), and fired (1,380,000) 20mm cannon shells, more than any other flat top in its first battle outing. Besides accidents and injuries on board, we lost 12 pilots and 6 air crewmen during a 6-month tour.

According to one air group commander who served in WWII, "The war in Korea demanded more competence, courage and skill from the naval aviator than did WWII. Their flying hours were longer, the days on the firing line more, the anti-aircraft hazard greater, and the weather worse."

In his fine book, *The History of U.S. Naval Air Power*, published in 1985, author Robert L. Lawson made some interesting comparisons of Korea and WWII:



George Hudson (L), "Dad" Hudson, and Charles Hudson (R) in Florida in 1953 after brothers return from Korea

Korea is described by history as a small war. Though it never approached the proportion of WWII, the size of war is a matter of perspective. From the viewpoint of the soldier in the foxhole or the aviator in the cockpit watching incoming fire, one war is about as big as another. Only 15 carriers were engaged in combat in Korea, as compared with the more than 100 that served



Charles Hudson aboard USS Kearsarge



USS Kearsarge (CVA 33)

in WWII. Yet comparative statistics are surprising. In 38 months in Korea, as opposed to the 45 months of WWII, Navy and Marine aviators flew 270,000 combat sorties, dropped 177,000 tons of bombs and expended 272,000 rockets. While flying 7,000 fewer missions they had exceeded the WWII total of bombs dropped by 74,000 tons and rockets fired by 60,000.

So much for small wars. The big difference in Korea was the length of time the carriers remained on station, as they launched several strikes daily against the enemy. WWII tactics centered around running in, hitting the target, and moving on to the next one. In Korea, it was "out on the job" day after day for the carrier pilots. I was honored to help serve the medical needs of the pilots and aircrew men in

sickbay and on the flight deck.

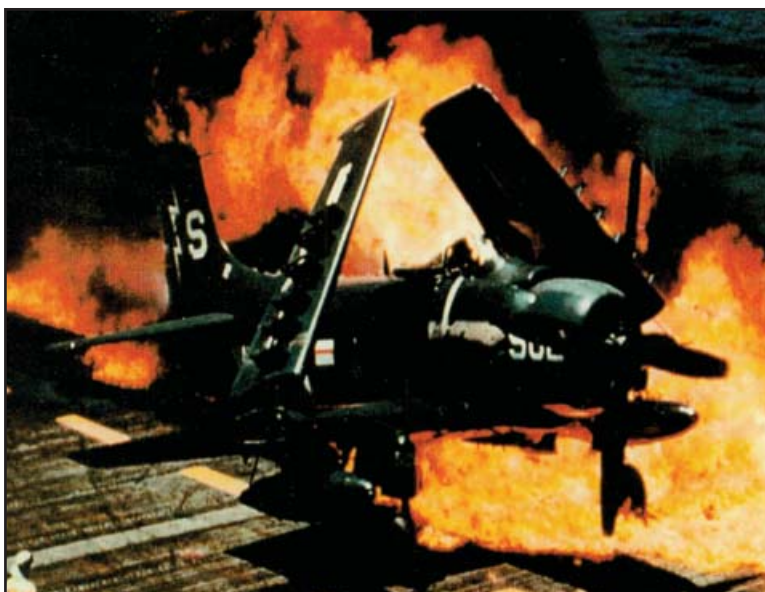
My tribute to aircraft carrier pilots becomes larger when I think of the very important part they played in helping South Korea become a first-class democracy. God bless our comrades who gave the ultimate sacrifice of life in a united effort. (That includes the Army, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines.) And, I offer prayers for our POW/MIA.

As President John F. Kennedy remarked many years ago, "Any man who may be asked in this country what he did to make his life worthwhile...can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction, I served in the United States Navy."

Dr. Charles F. Hudson, 3002 Manatee Ave., West Bradenton, FL 34205, (941) 792-2580, Hudsonchiropractic3002@yahoo.com



Flight deck of USS Kearsarge, Korea, 1952



The danger pilots and air crewmen encountered on flight deck

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

1 - GULF COAST [AL]

Members gave a presentation at Bay Minette Intermediate School. The students were more interested in individuals' parts in the war than in the actual history of it. Either way they asked a lot of questions.

In 2003 this school donated almost \$4,000.00 to our memorial.

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



Students at Bay Minette, AL Tell America presentation

Joseph Bolton of Ch 2 speaks to students at Bay Minette Intermediate School



Harry Sims (R) and Joseph Bolton of Ch 2 at Bay Minette Intermediate School with host Amelia Bates



17 - LT RICHARD E. CRONAN [FL]

We hosted school kids at our Veterans Park at 100 NE 4 Street in Boynton Beach, which contains monuments from WWI, WII, Korea, etc. The kids walk around and listen to talks about each war.

This year Congressman Allen West (R-FL) was there to speak.

Al Ratner, 7233 Lugano Dr., Boynton Beach, FL 33437

Editor's Note: The park has an interesting history, according to the city's website. The property was acquired through Palm Beach County, which acquired it from a private owner as a foreclosure on unpaid taxes some-

time in the 1960s.

The park was upgraded with pathways during the mid 1990s during the time that the Boynton Beach Great American Love Affair (G.A.L.A.) Festival was held in downtown.

The park originally was the site of a monument naming all the veterans from town (originally in the park where the City parking lot now is). An American flag is flown here every day in honor of our local veterans. Source: http://www.boynton-beach.org/government/departments/recreation_and_parks/parks/veterans_park.html



Bernie Ruthberg, Bob Green, Al Ratner (L-R) of Ch 17 at Boynton Beach Veterans Park



Congressman Allen West with Al Ratner (L) and Bob Green (R) in Boynton Beach



School kids listen to Al Ratner as he shows Christmas Hill on map. Bob Spahn, with blue shirt, stands behind Ratner

19 – GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

We gave a presentation at Sope Elementary School. *Jim Conway, conatlanta@com-cast.net*



Bob Hendershott of Ch 19 shows the children of Sope Elementary School the helmet he wore during the Korean War

49 – OCEAN COUNTY [NJ]

We presented a Tell America session inside the library at Tom River High School in May. We spoke to two classes. Each had fifty students. Presenters talked about what they did during their times in Korea.

We did an "encore" presentation on 17 May. This time we were

assigned to the main band room. Roy Hendra spoke about how cold it was and how brutal the Chinese and North Koreans were. Roy did a great job of answering their questions.

Tony Grace, Commander, 34 Cabrillo Blvd., Toms River, NJ 08757

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Roy Hendra of Ch 49 speaks at Toms River High School



Students at Toms River High School listen to Ch 49 presenters



Tony Grace, Vince Spezial, Howard Allen, and Nick Troisi of Ch 49 (L-R) present material

55 – NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

On May 24th our Tell America Team made a presentation at the Weber Middle School in Port Washington, NY. The five members present were William Boise, Buddy Epstein, Thomas Nuzzo, William Troise and Team Captain Donald Zoeller.

Following a format favored by the Weber Middle School, for each class the Team Members sat behind five separate tables with a fifth of the class facing them from the other side of the table.

Because the school's history classes had just covered the Korean War, each team member told the students at his table of his experiences during the Korean War, how he felt about it and how his life worked out after the war.

Over the course of the hour with each class, the students rotated from table to table, so every student heard and could ask questions about each Team Member's experiences. The presentation was very favorably received. Two

More ➤

weeks after the presentation we received a package from the school. The opening paragraph of a covering letter read:

"Please find enclosed almost 100 adoring letters written by my students. I really can't tell you how

much they enjoyed your visit. They are still talking about stories they heard last Thursday! For eighth graders that's a long time."

Robert P. O'Brien, 408 Fifth Ave., Cedarhurst, NY 11516



The Ch 55 Tell America Team (L-R) William Troise, Buddy Epstein, Donald Zoeller, William Boise, Thomas Nuzzo



Teacher at Weber Middle School looks at Ch 55 member William Troise's presentation materials



Weber Middle School students surround Ch 55 presenter Thomas Nuzzo's table

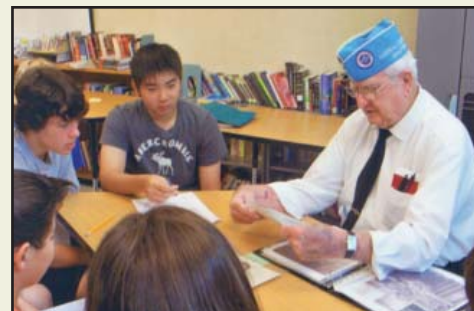


Buddy Epstein of Ch 55 speaks to Weber Middle School students



Team Captain Donald Zoeller of Ch 55 holds Weber Middle School students' attention

William Boise of Ch 55 explains Korean War activities to Weber Middle School group



168 – QUAD CITIES [IA]

Members met with players on the Wounded Warriors softball team during a presentation at Geneseo Middle School in Geneseo, IA. They were all there for a Tell America presentation.

bers included Geneseo resident Tyler Hoogerwerf, who was injured in Afghanistan, and outfielders Greg Reynolds and Kyle Earl.

Arthur Holevoet, 16801 County Highway 5, Atkinson, IL 61235

The Wounded Warrior team mem-



Tyler Hoogerwerf, Daniel Foulke, Greg Reynolds, Robert Fitts, Kyle Earl, Art Holevoet (L-R) at Geneseo Middle School

169 - LAKE COUNTY [FL]

In an article in the March-April 2011 issue of The Graybeards (pp. 44-46), I discussed in some detail the first two years of our chapter's Tell America program. This article will show you where we have grown with the program, mainly with photographs from our recent activities in various Lake County, FL, schools.

Tell America tells people, especially young people, "The Where, When and Why of the Korean War." We add "The So What." We have made contact with high schools through the ROTC programs. We have also gone to a middle school and to several private schools, with students from

mid-level on up.

One of the major improvements we have made has been the addition of exhibits and visual aids to our program. These, especially the helmets and bayonets, intrigue students.

Another significant addition to our program has been the contributions of our Gold Star Spouse member, Carol Becker. Carol tells of her experiences as a very young bride, expecting word from her husband Bob Becker telling her he was coming home; after all it was after the signing of the cease-fire in August 1953. Instead, she tells of receiving a telegram that said "We regret to

inform you" The schoolroom was deathly silent!

Another addition to our TA Program is being contributed by Gloria Corbet, who retired from the military as a Colonel. Gloria is an Honorary Chapter 169 member, and her contribution uniquely addresses questions female students raise about a military career for them.

Yet another addition to our program is a fold-out display panel, which I have prepared from photos of my time in Korea in 1951-52. This provides a very good means of illustrating a certain point in my presentation, such as Hill 633 near the center of the panel, or that I never slept in a building or off the ground in my total time in Korea.

We also use a chapter-prepared tri-fold brochure to strengthen our message to students and to the public at large. We have distributed several thousand of this

short two-page handout, both directly to students, and also extensively to Publix [Supermarket] shoppers at our Tell America fund drives. Note: TA Fund Drives—yes we treat our fund drives as Tell America events! (Access the brochure at http://cid169.kwva.org/tell_america/Images/Brochure%2012-04-22.pdf)

We always donate to the programs we visit. We have, for example, donated \$500.00 each to the Leesburg, Mount Dora, and Eustis AF Jr. ROTC programs to be used where it will be of the most benefit to the corps. We contribute a lesser amount to the middle schools we visit. All of our visits to high schools, indeed all schools we visit, are outstanding, and our chapter's Tell America team members truly enjoy participating.

But 2012 was our first time to Eustis High School, and AF Jr. ROTC program leader Col.

Continued on page 44



An unknown Eustis High School student interviews Dick Pfahler of Ch 169



Three St. Paul Catholic School students look sharp in assorted headgear from Dwight Brown's Tell America exhibits



Jack Reynolds of Ch 169 points to items he has in his exhibit box at Eustis High School

Ch 169 Gold Star Spouse member Carol Becker talks to students of the AF Jr. ROTC Program at Mount Dora High School; Claus Tiesman is at left



Ch 169 Honorary Member Gloria Corbet, with Sgt. Young of the Eustis High School AF Jr. ROTC Program, addresses questions raised by women regarding military careers

Chapter & Department News

3 KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOC. OF ARIZONA, INC. [AZ]

On March 26, 2012, chapter members attended a "Salute to Korean War Veterans" event at the Korean War Memorial in the Bollin Plaza in Phoenix, AZ. Each Korean War veteran in attendance received a certificate signed by the Secretary of Defense.



Members of Ch 3 (L-R) Robert Bohach, Commander Carl Orth, 1st Vice Commander James Bochman, Nicholas Gervase, Kelly Sheets, Rex Farley



Ch 3 members at Phoenix Veterans Home (L-R) Kelly Sheets, Buffalo Soldier Shiela Neal, Sterling Hamilton, Howard Wiess, James Bochman, Carl Orth

Members also served luncheon at the semi-annual luncheon at the Phoenix Veterans Home on April 7, 2012.

CID 3 Secretary, secretary@cid3.kwva.org

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Major General Stuart ME. Dyer was our guest speaker at a recent luncheon. He spoke to us about his 33 years of service, including his time as commander in Iraq and Kuwait.

We celebrated with fond memories and good fellowship the recently departed chapter member, Ronald Clark, USMC, at an Atlanta BBQ restaurant.

RIGHT: MajGen Dyer addresses Ch 19

BELOW: SgtMaj Ronald Whittington speaks to Ch 19 audience



At our June luncheon our guest speaker was Sgt. Major Ronald Whittington, USMC Inspector-Instructor at the Navy and Marine Corps Training Center in Marietta, GA. The SgtMaj spoke of his 28 years of service in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, The Marine Corps Recruit

Depot in San Diego, Okinawa and Japan, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Afghanistan. A very spirited Q & A session followed.



Edwin Johnson, Urban Rump, Bob Hendershott, Bob Moore and Jim Conway (L-R) surround portrait of General Ray Davis

We presented a portrait of our chapter founder and first president to the General Ray Davis Elementary School in Stockton, Georgia, which is named for the late General and Medal of Honor recipient. The entire student body, teachers, and parents were in attendance. The portrait will hang in a place of honor at the school.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



Large crowd at General Ray Davis Elementary School watches as Ch 19 presents portrait



Stan Fisher, Jack Robinson, Bob McCubbins, Bob Hendershott, Thaddeus Sobieski, Urban Rump, Merv Burns and Jim Conway (L-R) of Ch 19 remember Ron Clark

44 MISSOURI CHAPTER #1 [MO]

Chapter Welcomes Republic of Korea Ambassador to Saint Louis

On June 11, 2012 the Republic of Korea Ambassador to the United States, H.E. Choi, Young-Jin, along with Dr. Seung H. Kim, Director of the Boeing Institute of International Business, John Cook School of Business, Saint Louis University, visited the KWVA Memorial in Forest Park. With short notice, we notified all area chapters and invited them to attend the ceremonies. Thirty KWVA veterans attended this special event, along with ten wives, who included Chapter 1 Auxiliary members.

The Ambassador placed memorial flowers at both the KWVA Memorial and the recently completed adjoining Chosin Few Memorial.

Chapter Commander Don Gutmann welcomed and introduced the Ambassador, who then shared an incident he will never forget that occurred during the war years, June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. Along with family members, he was part of a col-

umn evacuating to North Korea. His mother purposely made him cry, and they were pulled out of the column so she could take care of him. The column proceeded into North Korea, but the Ambassador, his mother, and sisters fled back to South Korea.



H.E. Choi, Young-Jin (L) and Ch 44 members Don Gutmann, Milt Herrick, and Kenn Dawley at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in St. Louis, MO



National KWVA Director Jim Fountain, Dr. Seung H. Kim, Ambassador Choi (C) and members of St. Louis area KWVA chapters at St. Louis Memorial

Ambassador Choi, Commander Gutmann, and Dr. Seung H. Kim place flowers at the Korean War Memorial in St. Louis, MO



Afterwards, individual gifts from the Ambassador were handed out to all veterans in attendance.



Don Gutmann, Ambassador Choi, and Harry Hope, President of Gateway Chapter, The Chosin Few (L-R) at the Korean War Memorial in St. Louis

A special event was held during the evening of June 11, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at Saint Louis University, where Ambassador Choi was the honored speaker. Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Seung H. Kim, director of the school and St. Louis Mayor Frances G. Slay, who presented a Key to the City to the Ambassador. Tami Overby, President of the U.S. Korea Business Council, gave some opening remarks. Christopher "Kit" Bond, former U.S. Senator from Missouri, introduced the Ambassador as speaker.

The Ambassador's speech covered several areas of concern, including North Korea, China, and the future of South Korea. A question and answer response from the audience followed. The attending Korean veterans had reserved front row seating at the event. They received a standing welcome when they were introduced.

Attendees from the KWVA were Chapter #1 Cmdr. Don Gutmann, his wife Phyllis; Vice Cmdr. Dwight Henderson, his wife Dolores; Vice Cmdr. Harry Hope, his wife Terry; Tom Gilmore, his wife Carolyn, and National KWVA Director Jim Fountain.

A reception followed at which numerous old friends were met and several new friends were made. Everybody enjoyed the entire event.

It has been suggested that the Ambassador may be returning to the St. Louis area as a speaker at the KWVA membership meeting to be held in October 2012.

Kenn Dawley, 382 Autumn Creek Dr., Apt. A
Manchester, MO 63088, 636-529-1355

49 OCEAN COUNTY [NJ]

On 19 April we welcomed home three National Guard Soldiers who were deployed to Afghanistan. We gave them and other National Guard members a small party at their armory in Manchester, NJ. We provided sandwiches, soda, snacks, etc.—and camaraderie.

Tony Grace, Commander, 34 Cabrillo Blvd.
Toms River, NJ 08757



New Jersey National Guard members Terry Corte, Jeffery Johnson, and Tam Aguyen (L-R)

54 THOMAS W. DALEY JR. [NJ]

Maj. Gen. David L. Mann, commander of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command, was featured speaker at Our Community Salutes of South Jersey, an organization that recognizes and honors graduating high school students who plan to enlist in the armed services after graduation.

The ceremony and dinner were held May, 30, 2012, at the Main Street Mansion in Voorhees, New Jersey. Some 45 young men and women and their parents were honored at the fourth annual event. Some of our members attended a dinner to represent the KWVA.

Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net



Andrew Jackson, Fred Connolly, Stanley Levin, Ray McBride, Isaac Hand of Ch 54, and David L. Mann (L-R) at New Jersey dinner

105 CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

Two members, Sgt.-of-Arms Gordon Storrings and Treasurer William Trousdale, received the Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal recently. Both men are longtime, hard-working members of the chapter.

The medals are awarded jointly by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs and the KWVA.

Jim Low, 114 Wembridge Dr.
E. Syracuse, NY 13957, 315-437-0833

Gordon Storrings (L) of Ch 105 accepts congratulations from Commander Ed Grala



Ed Grala (R) congratulates fellow Ch 105 member William Trousdale on receipt of his Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal

106 TREASURE COAST [FL]

We celebrated the end of 2011 with a Christmas party at the Moose Lodge on December 6th. On February 6, 2012, members attended a Four Chaplains ceremony. Commander Peter Popolizio presented the Four Chaplains Award to Ray Carter for his extemporary service.



Korean War Veterans Christmas Party Dec.6th,2011



ABOVE: large crowd at Ch 106's 2011 Christmas party

LEFT: Peter Popolizio (L) of Ch 106 presents Four Chaplains Award to Ray Carter



Members of Ch 106 at Four Chaplains event (L-R) Eugene Duquette, Ray Carter, Peter Popolizio, Chuck Serra, Frank Antonucci, Harold Trieber



Honor Guard from Ch 106, including Harold Trieber (L) and Peter Popolizio, performs at opening of Port St. Lucie baseball season

Members also attended the opening of the Port St. Lucie baseball season and provided the Color Guard for the event.

We also raised funds for the Fisher House and helped with the recreation of our fellow servicemen at the local VA Hospital. We continue to educate our K-8 students with the values of duty and country with the history of our service during the Korean War.

We closed our season on June 12th with a Military Forum for veterans and their families, with Congressman Allen West as our guest speaker.

Harold Trieber, 10440 SW Stratton Dr.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34987, 772-345-3484 (H)
561-568-9437 (C), haroldski302@aol.com

117 OCEAN STATE #1 [RI]

On 21 June 2012 we installed new officers for the 2012-2013 term: Commander Antonio ("Ted") Martins; Sr. Vice Cmdr. Joseph Lafontaine; Jr. Vice Cmdr. Dave M. Chmielewski; Treasurer John Dufour; Quartermaster Walter Bienieki; Chaplain Kenneth Lafontaine; Secretary Robert Scanlon; Sgt.-at-Arms Edward F. Faulkner; Trustees Maurice Trotter, Rev. George Yany, Eugene J. Champagne, Joseph Q. Nozolino, Jr.

Antonio ("Ted") Martins, 401-724-4664 (H)
401-864-5507 (C), kwveausaft1955@gmail.com



Officers and members of Ch 117 (Sitting, L-R) Harvey Green, John Dufour, Antonio ("Ted") Martins (Standing, L-R) David Chmielewski, Joseph Lafountaine, George J. Lemieux, Joseph Q. Nozolino, Jr.



President Antero Martins of Ch 117 with his "cabinet," i.e., daughters (L-R) Lisa M. Doo, Teresa Riley, Linda Silva



Jerome A. Squatrito, Jr., Clerk, Committee on Veterans Affairs (R), and Antero Martins of Ch 117 at recent meeting

121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

We held a memorial ceremony for the "Four Chaplains" who gave their lives on the Army troopship USS (USAT) Dorchester when it was sunk by a German U-Boat on 3 February 1943. They were Father John Washington (Catholic), Reverend Clark Poling

(Dutch Reformed), Rabbi Alexander Goode (Jewish) and Rev. George Fox (Methodist).

Robert L. McGeorge, 3296 Blueacres Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45239



Ch 121 members at Four Chaplains memorial (L-R) Dr. Lee, Bob McGeorge, Don Kleingers, Bill Jessen



Ron Nichols, Bob McGeorge, Bill Riekert of Ch 121 (L-R) at coffee hour

129 SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA [IN]

Commander Luther Rice recently attended a recruit graduation ceremony at MCRD San Diego. Following the ceremony Rice had the opportunity to meet with the Depot Commanding General Daniel Yoo. General Yoo was born in Seoul, Korea. During their conversation General Yoo thanked all veterans of the Korean War for the sacrifices made in support of his country.

We recently completed a very successful fund raising effort at the local Walmart store. Funds raised allow us to provide scholarships to local high school graduates, contribute to needy veterans, support programs for senior citizens, donate to programs for local youth, and contribute to other worthwhile charities.

We provide an outstanding honor guard to conduct military graveside services for deceased veterans. The highly respected funeral detail, which normally consists of 25-30 participants, is often requested by funeral directors outside of our immediate service area.

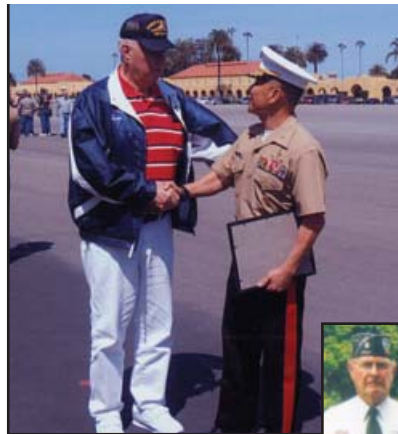
Luther Rice, 414 Water St.
Aurora, IN 47001, 812-926-2790



A.M. shift Walmart fundraisers from Ch 129 (Front, L-R) Bob Riede, J.D. Largent, George Niemeyer (Back, L-R) Tom Largent, Carl Zimmer, Howard Cleeter, Clarence Vogelgesang, Richard Goble, Ivan Chipman, Paul Lelli, Bob Karp, Hank Schmeltzer



P.M. shift at Walmart from Ch 129 (Front, L-R) Phillip See, Alvin Senger, Bob Oelker, Archie Abner (Back, L-R) Al Garcia, Ralph Cole, Bill Kyle, Seb Walston, Elvin Newman, Tom Lampert, Bob Weber, Mike Blevins, Al Bamberger, Marvin Curlin



Luther Rice of Ch 129 speaks to MCRD San Diego CG Daniel Yoo

Members of Ch 129 who fold flags presented to deceased veterans' next of kin during military graveside services (L-R) Clarence Vogelgesang, George Niemeyer, Bob Karp



143 GREATER RICHMOND [VA]

The photo below is a copy of a slide taken in Korea in 1952. These were the officers of "Charlie" Company, 65th Infantry Regiment, which was attached to the Third Infantry Division. When I was assigned to that unit, it was almost fully staffed with Puerto Ricans. It was, and is, known as the Puerto Rican Regiment. The photo was taken as this unit was in a one-month reserve, during which we pulled recon and ambush patrols and company raids.



"Charlie" Co. officers: Hurst from Kentucky, if I remember correctly (standing); (L-R) Jack Davis, from Indiana (now deceased), Jay Lowden, next to him a person whose name I don't remember (the one with the Third Division patch showing), Hansen (who was KIA in early 1953), and Capt. Bob Lott (who now resides in Tuscaloosa, Alabama)

I remember the names of most of the officers in that photo. Lott stayed in and retired a "Bird Colonel." He and I communicate by phone about twice a year.

The flag was sewn by the Korean tailor attached to our battalion and copied from a small one sent to me by my mother. I use this photo as a screen saver for the net-book which I use for taking minutes at our meetings.

Jay H. Lowden, Jr., 11625 Candle Ct.
Richmond, VA 23238, 804-741-4621 (H)
804-405-5200 (C), lowdenaero@comcast.net

168 QUAD CITIES [IA]

The Milan Hy Vee Store, part of a midwest U.S. grocery store chain, has worked with us to promote veterans in the area. We placed an Army jeep replete with trailer, flags, banners, and some of the equipment used in combat during the Korean War inside one of their stores for customers to observe as they toured the store. We kept the display in place for seven days.

We also presented a display of literature about Father Emil Kapaun, a priest whose actions in combat during the war warrant an effort on the part of the Catholic church to declare him a saint.

Two or more of our members stayed at a table in the store all day for seven days. They mingled with customers and received donations for Honor Flights of the Quad Cities. Donations, which amounted to \$3,581, were deposited in an old Army helmet.

Our Color Guard posted Colors when the check for the Honor Flight donations was presented to Bob Morrison, Director of the Honor Flights of the Quad Cities.

On April 11th, Russell Thomas received an Ambassador of Peace Medal. Robert Fitts and Daniel Foulke presented the certificate. The presentation included a special cake for Russell, which was served at dinner time.

Arthur Holevoet, 16801 County Highway 5
Atkinson, IL 61235



Ch 168 members gather around their motor pool at the Milan Hy Vee Store



The Ch 168 Color Guard posts Colors in the grocery store



The Fr. Kapaun display at Milan Hy Vee Store



A large group of Ch 168 members at Milan Hy Vee Store



Robert Fitts (L) reads certificate to Russell Jones (R), as Daniel Foulke observes



Arthur Holevoet of Ch 168 (R) shows cake presented to Russell Jones

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**



179 SAN DIEGO COUNTY [CA]

Brig. General Choi, Seung Woo, ROKA (ret.) presented Korean War medals and Certificates of Appreciation to chapter members. Among the chapter recipients were Vice President Sam Salazar, Treasurer Alex Belliaeff, President Jim Whelan, Secretary Don Donnelly, and Wayne Rockstead.

Jim Whelan, omceltic@cox.net



Medal presentation in San Diego (Front, L-R) Joon Key Lee, President, Korean Assoc. of Korean War Veterans, Sam Salazar, Alex Belliaeff (Back, L-R) Jim Whelan, Wayne Rockstead, Don Donnelly

195 METRO DENVER [CO]

We held our annual election and installation of the new officers for the coming year on June 5, 2012. The excellent luncheon with approximately 60 persons present was followed by a short presentation by the honored guest, a UK Korean War veteran, Haugh Kelman, who served with a British unit under the UN command during 1951/1952. Hugh related his personal experiences serving next to and with U.S. Forces.

The election and installation of the new officers was completed after a short business meeting.

Ken Camell, 3120 Baylor Dr.
Boulder, CO 80305



New Ch 195 President Charles Kammerer receives the gavel from outgoing president Ken Giese

Past Ch 195 news letter editor Bob Nelson (L) and Past Secretary Ben Geist were presented mugs in appreciation of their outstanding service



Senior members of Ch 195 with honored guest (L-R) Gene Maulden, Robert Graham, Haugh Kelman, John Toth, Bob Nelson, and Don Geist



Joe Annello (L), John Toth, both Korean War POWs, and other guests at Ch 195's event



Lyle Carter, longtime and continuing Ch 195 Treasurer, and spouse Jean dine at Ch 195 luncheon

209 LAREDO 1950 [TX]

We have new officers. They include Eduardo Sanchez (Secretary), Jorge de la Garza (2nd VP), John McKeown (1st VP), Ernesto Sanchez (President), Hector Castaneda (Treasurer), Nicolas Nanez (Chaplain), Salvador Sciaraffa (Recording Secretary), and Pedro Trevino (Historian). Webb County Sheriff Martin Cuellar installed them.

Webb County Sheriff's Dept. Lt. Alex Garcia presented a copy of the charter of the first Explorer Post organized by the Sheriff Department 25 years ago. Lt. Garcia is now the Post's Advisor and Ernesto Sanchez is one of the organizers.

Pete Trevino, Historian, 1307 Stewart St.
Laredo, TX 78043, 956-723-6978



Webb County Sheriff Martin Cuellar installs new Ch 209 officers (L-R) Eduardo Sanchez, Jorge de la Garza, John McKeown, Ernesto Sanchez, Hector Castaneda, Nicolas Nanez, and Pedro Trevino (Historian)



Lt. Alex Garcia (L) presents a copy of the Charter of the first Explorer Post organized by the Sheriff's Department to Ch 209 member Ernesto Sanchez, one of the organizers.

215 GENERAL WALTON WALKER [TX]

We co-hosted a Department of Defense Korean War 60th Anniversary commemorative event on May 10, 2012 with the Veterans Administration Fort Worth Clinic. The event provided veterans and the public the opportunity to view the exceptional Korean War documentaries, Hold at All Costs, a

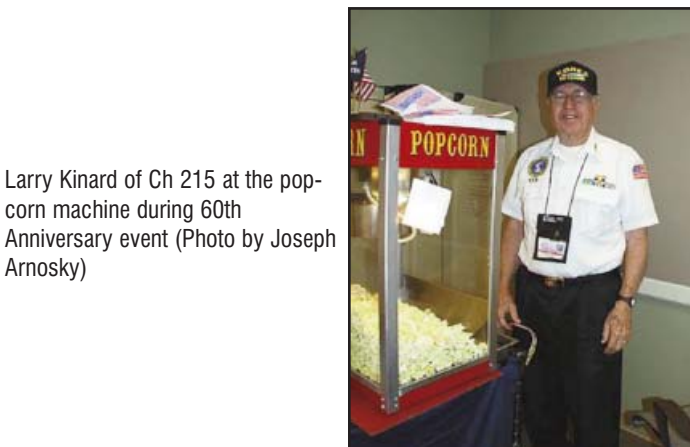
poignant documentary on the Battle of Outpost Harry, and the REAL M.A.S.H., a feature depicting the reality of hospital units and medical staff during the Korean War.

U.S. Army Captain Tony B. Fears spoke on behalf of the Department of Defense, along with (former) KWVA National President Bill Mac Swain. More than forty veterans and other interested citizens attended the event and shared experiences with each other and Captain Fears.

Alves J. Key, alveskey@sbcglobal.net



Chapter 215 members Jose Ruiz and Past President William Hoyle at 60th Anniversary event (Photo Chapter 215 photographer Joseph Arnosky)



Larry Kinard of Ch 215 at the popcorn machine during 60th Anniversary event (Photo by Joseph Arnosky)

249 COL JOSEPH C. RODRIGUEZ (MOH) [TX]

On May 23rd, our national Secretary of Veterans Affairs, General (Ret.) Eric Shinseki, visited El Paso to hear veterans' concerns and was accompanied by our congressman. Chapter veterans participated in the event and made a special effort to restate their previously expressed concern that for El Paso's 75,000+ veterans, a full-fledged veterans hospital must replace the outpatient clinic that has been all we have ever had here.

Marshall Davis, 915-479-4812
texmarsh1@gmail.com

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:

www.KWVA.org

251 SAGINAW COUNTY [MI]

We provided substantial donations to the Frankenmuth and Tittabawassee (Freeland) Fire Departments a few months ago. And, we enjoyed a presentation on veterans' benefits provided by Kevin Mannor from the Mannor Financial Group in Saginaw and Sally Allen from the Westcourt Retirement Center.

Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Trail, Saginaw, MI 48603,
989-792-3718, RobSimonCondo@charter.net



Kevin Mannor (L), Bob Simon (C), and Sally Allen at Ch 251 meeting



Fred Bauer (R) and Harry Boesnecker of Ch 251 display check presented to Frankenmuth Fire Department

Harry Boesnecker (L) and Lydia Davis (R) hold check for Freeland Fire Department



256 NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

We have new officers for the next two years: Commander Richard Charbonneau, 1st Vice Commander James McCarthy, 2nd Vice Commander Donald Bouffard, Secretary Eugene

Majetic, Treasurer Edward Trombley, Directors James Douglas, Ernest Hood, Edward Mader and Fred Quinn, Judge Advocate Paul Nobles, and Sgt.-at-Arms Phil Trupiano.



New officers of Ch 256 (L-R) Edward Mader, Eugene Majetic, Ernest Hood, James Douglas, Donald Bouffard, Fred Quinn, Richard Charbonneau, Edward Trombley, James McCarthy, Paul Nobles, Phil Trupiano.

We were very active at the city of Sterling Heights, Michigan's annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade. The ceremony featured the mother of SSgt. Ergin V. Osman, who was killed in Afghanistan on May 26, 2011. He was on his ninth tour.

Ms. Osman was the Honorary Grand Marshal of this year's ceremony and parade. It was a great honor to have the nearby picture taken with the family of the person who made the supreme sacrifice for all of us. His death is a further reminder that "Freedom is not Free."

James E. McCarthy, 2159 Parliament Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48310, 586-264-4223



Ms. Sara Osman, her two grandsons (Sons of the SSgt.), James McCarthy at Memorial Day ceremony

272 GREATER ROCKFORD [IL]

Two young men named Mark and John Finnegan of Finnegan's RV Center, Inc., in S. Beloit, IL, decided to honor their father by raising funds to take WWII veterans on a four-day, all-expense paid trip to see their WWII Memorial, the Iwo Jima

Memorial, Arlington Cemetery and a lot more. The dates were May 20-23, 2012.



Members of Ch 272 on a Washington DC visit (L-R) Larry Fay, Jack Philbrick, Don Snyder, George Fredin, Cornelius Edson, Floyd Herbig, Walter Landgraf. Photo By Terry Meyers

In this, their third year, the number grew from 15 to 200. In the second and third years they included Korean War veterans.

Jack F. Philbrick, felbriggs@comcast.net

296 CAYUGA COUNTY [NY]

Five chapter members attended the New York State Convention held May 9-11 in Saratoga Springs, New York. While there we heard the announcement that Jim Ferris was elected president of the National KWVA.

Joseph Casper, Secretary, 3250 Center Rd.
Moravia, NY 13118



Members of Ch 296 at the New York State Convention (L-R) Lyell Brown, Joe Casper, John Barwinczok, Jim Ferris, Don Tavener

297 PLATEAU [TN]

Due to the tremendous response from Cumberland County residents and visitors, our Rose of Sharon sales set new records. Our revenues from the sale enabled us to increase the amount of each scholarship we award—and even create an additional one.

Dick Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr.
Crossville, TN 38558



Winners of Ch 297 scholarships (L-R) Erin Curry, Abigayle Claflin, both from Cumberland County High School, Baylee Parsons, the Phoenix School, and chapter presenters former Commander Chan Smith PIO Dick Malsack, Commander Bob Johnston, Scholarship Chairman Roger Vanrekorn

298 ALAMO [TX]

Chapter Set to Host Dept. of Texas Convention

Chapter President Pastor Tom Cacy and Al Gonzales, head of the KWVA Department of Texas, invited members of all ten Texas chapters to attend the 2012 Texas KWVA Annual Convention. It will be held in San Antonio, TX at the beautiful Menger Hotel, located next to the Alamo on the famous Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio, November 16-18.

The agenda includes tours of the medical facilities for all military services at Fort Sam Houston and the museum and training facilities of Lackland Air Force Base. The banquet will be attended by military general officers, city and state officials, and the Korean Consulate from Houston, in addition to other dignitaries.

Contact Pastor Tom Cacy for registration information at pas-tortomcacy@sbcglobal.net.

The assumption of host chapter responsibility for the conduct of the convention is the first official activity of our newly activated chapter. Our goal is to set the bar for quality and performance of future Texas KWVA Annual Conventions.

The time of the year is excellent for Korean War veterans to visit San Antonio. We invite all Korean War veterans in the State of Texas to attend this gala event to learn of the values provided through KWVA membership and to participate in the fellowship with other warriors.

J. Fred Ragusa, Secretary-Treasurer
jfredragusa@gmail.com

301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

Members braved the 100+ temperature outside Sam's Club on

June 30th, the hottest day of the year. But, fundraising must go on for their Memorial fund. They are not crazy, just anxious.

After fifteen months of searching for a location, the “where will it be?” question was finally answered. On June 25th the Greenville Rec announced that the Korean War Veterans Memorial will be built in the newly developed Conestee Park, 840 Mauldin Road, Greenville, SC, the former home of the Double A Braves.



Fundraising members of Ch 301 (L-R) Jerry Lunsford, Dean Howell, Lewis Langley, Bud Wooten, Lew Perry

Donations have come in by mail from several other KWVA chapters. They have included the purchase of engraved bricks for the Honors Walkway, which is part of the memorial. Single bricks sell for \$50.00 and double bricks for \$75.00. All donations are welcome. They should be mailed to KWVA Foothills Chapter of SC #301, PO Box 6903, Greenville, SC 29606, and “ear-marked” Memorial Fund.

Donations can also be made by credit card to Pay-Pal via the chapter’s website, www.koreanvets301.com.

For further information contact Chapter President Lewis Langley, 864/244-5534, or Memorial Committee chairman Lew Perry 864/574-5569, 864/363-6558, lewperry@aol.com.

312 ANTIETAM [MD]

Korean War Vets Talk to Students

On Saturday, June 9th, six members met with eight students from northern Virginia high schools and eight of their parents to talk about the Korean War and the various experiences the veterans encountered during and after the war. The gathering took place at the home of Vice-Commander Les Bishop in Hagerstown, MD.

The meeting was prompted by a student inquiry after viewing the chapter’s website. All the students were Korean-American descendants and are united in a project to write a book about the Korean War. Their interest in talking to the veterans was to hear how and why the veterans entered military service, their recollections from the war, and how the war affected lives afterwards. In addition to general discussions, the students also engaged in numerous one-on-one discussions with the veterans. All in all, it

resulted in a wonderful afternoon.

The veterans also discussed with the students their plans to build a monument to honor Korean War veterans in Washington County. The students, in turn, surprised the veterans by making a very nice donation to the monument project.



Members of Ch 312 and students at the site of the future monument in Hagerstown, MD (L-R) Jesse Englehart (USMC), John Koontz, Sr. (USA), Warren Middlekoff (USA), Monument Committee Chairman Jim Mobley (USA), Past Commander Wayne Winebrenner (USMC), and Vice-Commander Les Bishop (USA). Student participants were Patrick Cha, James Choi, Charles Lee, Grace Lee, Remy Lee, Sobin Lee, Ryan Oh, and Kelly Park, as well as eight of their parents.

Following light snacks, the veterans and students drove to the future monument site in Hagerstown. Some of the students said they plan to attend the ground breaking ceremony on June 26th.

After more pictures were taken, the students returned to their homes. Many nice memories of the meeting were formed and, for the veterans, renewed pride in their service was restored.

Les Bishop, P.O. Box 868, Funkstown, MD 21734
240-420-3755, LBishop@myactv.net

SOME OF US WILL DIE TODAY

By Don Hart

Captain says we have to take the hill
and we all know what that means.
Some of us will die today.

But Joe Chink’s got it zeroed in
with guns, mortars and grenades.
Some of us will die today.

Bayonets fixed we start the climb
up into the withering iron rain
Some of us will die today.

Please don’t let it be me...

Reach Don Hart at donchart@yahoo.com

TELL AMERICA from page 31

Edward Cangelosi brought a new dimension to our presentation there. He invited us to present at four ROTC classes (the most we had done before was three). More significantly, he invited a history class to each of our presentations! History students—they have been one of our goals for some time now. That went very well; some of the nearby photos are from those sessions. But, it did not stop there!

The History, English, Video Production, and ROTC departments at Eustis High School invited us to provide veterans for their students to interview and video-record the interviews for special projects in each department. We provided veterans for seventeen of these interviews, the last of which took place on May 30, 2012.

We have not seen the full outcome of this effort; the final products of the project will not be

completed until after school begins this fall. But everyone—students, staff, and the veterans—all came away really excited at their participation. We anxiously look forward to resuming the project next fall.

So, what does Tell America mean for the chapter, and for KWVA? I cannot say there is a cause and effect, but bona fide chapter membership is at an all-time high—87 members! And all members are KWVA members!

Tell America offers our members a way to communicate with youngsters 65 years younger than they are in a way that is genuine and welcome at both levels. It is another way our members can be active in the Chapter. And, I believe there is a direct correlation between activity levels, and membership!

Tom Thiel, President,
kwva169@gmail.com



Tom Thiel of Ch 169 in front of his fold-out photo display panel with unidentified Eustis High School student



Eustis High School students John Cribbs, Melissa Arjona, Hayley Carroll, and Morgan Holley (L-R) interview Tom Thiel



Tom Thiel of Ch 169, with Shannon Bolton of the Mount Dora High School ROTC program



President Tom Thiel of Ch 169 presents a \$500.00 check to Leesburg High School AF Jr. ROTC Director Chief Daniel Dixon

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

Memorial Stone Dedication Honoring Korean War Special Operations Unit

By Monika Stoy**

On 15 June this year we dedicated a memorial stone honoring 8240 Army Unit at the Airborne and Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Eighteen former U.S. advisors from that unit were in attendance and they shared their stories with us.

We were honored to have as guest speaker Lieutenant General John Mulholland, Commanding General of United States Army Special Operations Command. Korean War Medal of Honor Recipient Rodolfo Hernandez from the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team was present. It was a great day after five years of planning and preparation to honor both the U.S. and Korean veterans of this unit.

My father served in 8240 Army Unit, the United Nations Partisan Forces Korea from 1950 until 1953. This little known unit conducted covert intelligence gathering and sabotage missions behind enemy lines. Its personnel were northern Koreans able to operate in North Korea because their dialects and their local knowledge enabled them to blend in with North Korean People's Army soldiers.

Many of these men had escaped to islands off the west coast of Korea in the initial months of the war. Subsequently, U.S. forces found and assisted them. The information they gathered on enemy units and their locations proved critical in the planning of effective military operations against those units, saving American and Republic of Korea soldiers' lives.

My father was born in Pyongyang Province while Korea was still occupied by the Japanese. That occupation ended in 1945, but his country was separated in an agreement to prevent the Soviet Union from occupying the entire Korean Peninsula. He was in college in Seoul when the Korean War broke out.

He survived the initial

Korean partisans of 8240, with K. J. Choi



Attendees at the 15 June Memorial Stone dedication

months of the war and joined the partisans who were being trained and equipped by the United States Army. He undertook dangerous missions into Pyongyang Province but was unable to see his family again. My father survived the war. He married, worked hard, raised five children, and watched the Republic of Korea slowly rebuild. He never accepted the separation of Korea into North and South.

In 1973 we immigrated to America. My father chose the USA because he wanted a better life for his children. He knew, based on his dealings with American soldiers in the Korean War, that it truly was a land of opportunity.

He never spoke to me about his Korean War experience until I was in the Army and assigned to the 7th Special Operations

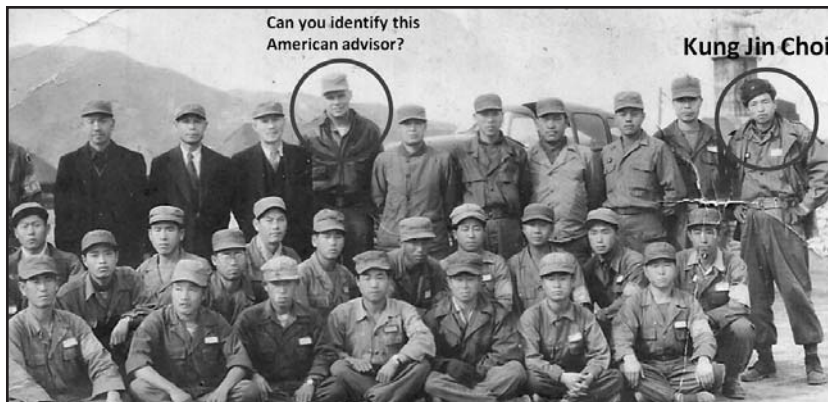
Support Command in Germany. Even then, I had to draw it out of him, and I regret now that I had not asked him sooner.

Within six months of arrival in my unit I received ski training, attended German Airborne School, deployed on Operation Provide Comfort in northern Iraq, and relocated the unit to a different kaserne (barracks). I told my Dad I was amazed at the professionalism and efficiency of the unit. He then showed me pictures of himself in the Korean War with American soldiers.

He was proud to say the Special Forces soldiers he served with were the best. Because of the excellent training they provided, he survived many dangerous missions and contributed in his small way to efforts to reunite Korea. From this experience he taught me to be diligent in every mission, because others' lives depended on me.

He told me of his dangerous missions behind enemy lines, but that he always wondered why the American soldiers were there. He was there to fight for his country. But, many American soldiers were draftees and knew nothing about

Continued on page 69





Monuments and Memorials

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

Monument dedicated to honor fallen heroes in Korea

By Walter T. Ham IV, Eighth Army Public Affairs YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea (June 8, 2012) — Senior military officials dedicated a monument June 8 to the American troops and Korean Augmentees to the U.S. Army who have died defending freedom in South Korea since the Korean War Armistice was signed.



Monument dedicated to honor fallen heroes in Korea

During a dedication ceremony, Republic of Korea-United States Alliance officials unveiled the monument next to the Eighth Army headquarters complex.

Hosted by Combined Forces Command Commander Gen. James D. Thurman, the ceremony was attended by many senior leaders. Among them were ROK National Defense Minister Kim Kwan-jin, ROK Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Jung Seung-jo, Deputy CFC Commander Gen. Kwon Oh-sung, retired ROK Army Gen. Paik Sun-yup, retired former U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon Sullivan and Eighth Army Commanding General Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson.

“We dedicate this monument, the first of its kind, on behalf of these great warriors that have sacrificed and given their lives in the defense of freedom,” said Thurman, who is also the commander of United Nations Command and U.S. Forces Korea.

“It has been almost 59 years since the armistice was signed, ending a devastating three-year war,” said Thurman. “Even though the peninsula has been at relative peace since the signing, there have been a number of North Korean provocations. From the Panmunjom axe murders to the various other attacks by the North, 43 Korean Augmentees to the U.S. Army and 92 U.S. service members have been killed in the line of duty in Korea.”

The KATUSA program was established by former UNC Commander Gen. Douglas MacArthur and first ROK President Syngman Lee during the early days of the Korean War.

Thurman said the KATUSA program personifies the teamwork that keeps the alliance strong and ready.

“Working together as a team has helped to build mutual trust, common understanding and cooperation between our countries,

which is an inseparable bond that we share today,” said Thurman.

Thurman also praised Gen. Paik Sun-yup, the Korean War hero who was the first four-star general in the ROK Army, for helping to establish the KATUSA program.

“I’d like to thank General Paik for his role in founding the KATUSA program,” said Thurman. “Today we have more than 3,300 KATUSAs that continue to stand side-by-side with their U.S. partners as we deter aggression and preserve peace and stability on the peninsula.”

The monument takes its place of honor on this U.S. military post near a statue of Korean War-era Eighth Army Commander Gen. Walton Walker and Korean naval hero Admiral Yi Sun-shin. The monument was donated by the Korea Defense Industry Association, Korean-American Association, Yu Yongweon’s Military World and the Korea Defense and Security Forum.

Written in English and Korea, the monument’s inscription reads: “The people of the Republic of Korea have built this monument to honor the souls of the fallen soldiers of United States Forces Korea and KATUSAS who died fighting the communists here on the peninsula for the peace and democracy of the Republic of Korea. They fought until death to preserve the sacred spirit of liberal democracy that we are committed to pass on to our sons and daughters now and forever.”

According to Thurman, the monument exemplifies the enduring commitment of the alliance to defend freedom and maintain peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula.

“Although a monument cannot replace a life, it is the least we can do to show our respect to those KATUSAs and the U.S. service members who made the ultimate sacrifice,” said Thurman.

“This monument not only pays tribute to those fallen heroes of the past but also reflects our continued commitment to the ROK-U.S. Alliance and to our motto ‘katchi kapsida’ - we go together,” said Thurman. “Together they fought, together they died and together they will be remembered.”

A Monument To All Veterans

Ten years ago a group of people got together to build a memorial to all veterans of all U.S. wars. We intended to erect it on the courthouse lawn downtown. People disagreed with this. Some wanted it in the cemetery; others suggested Legion Park, a hoodlum hangout at night. Ultimately, the courthouse became the site.

The county pays for the electricity. The Gardening Club handles the landscape. I was a co-chairman of the fund raising committee. We raised over a half million dollars. It’s in a location no one will forget.

The monument is too big to be moved. The back contains the



The Union County, OH monument to all wars



Ch 169's Color Guard posts colors at the commencement of the Leesburg, FL Dedication Ceremony (L-R) Charlie White, Bill Simunek, Claus Tiesman, D.J. Lynch, Bill Shumaker, Wally Jones

names of all county KIAs and POWs for all wars. The Sheriff's office is the new building abutting the courthouse. Hopefully, this will deter vandalism.

Union County, Ohio sent many to military service for Korea. I had not thought of it until we looked for KIAs and found only one for the Korean War.

Don Degood, ddegood@columbus.rr.com

Veterans Memorial Dedicated at Fountain Park, Leesburg, FL

By Tom J. Thiel

Don Van Beck, Executive Director Veterans Memorial at Fountain Park (VMFP) and a member of CID 169, Lake County, addressed the large crowd at the dedication of a recently completed Veterans Memorial in downtown Leesburg, FL on May 19, 2012.

At 60 feet in diameter and 7 feet high, with 2,800 square feet of space, VMFP is one of the largest veterans memorials in the southeast U.S. Chapter members examined the memorial wall closely and found their names etched on it.



Ch 169 members wait on Main Street Leesburg for the parade to start (L-R) Max Stomburg, Ted Jansen, Art Burke, Dwayne Hall, Tom Thiel, Jack Reynolds, H. Marlene O'Toole (lady in blue)



Don Van Beck addresses crowd at Leesburg, FL dedication ceremony



Bill Allen (L) and Tom Thiel at the afternoon ceremony in Leesburg, FL

The dedication took place at noon after an Armed Forces Parade through Leesburg at 10:00 a.m. Thanks to Vice President Dwight Brown's special efforts, Ch 169 had a trailer pulled by a National Guard Humvee in the parade. Florida State Representative H. Marlene O'Toole rode with the chapter in the parade through downtown Leesburg.

In the afternoon, Rolling Thunder held one of the most impressive POW/MIA ceremonies I have ever seen, next to Leesburg City Hall.



Bill Shumaker of Ch 169 points at his name on the memorial wall

Bill Allen, of Terra Verde, FL, a Korean War POW for 31 months and a member of CID 14, Sun Coast, was an invited speaker at the event. Bill, author of *My old box of memories, Thoughts of the Korean War*, had a difficult time telling the audience about his return from Korea in 1953. (For a brief review, go to <http://cid169.kwva.org> and click on stories.)

EDITOR'S NOTE: For more information on the dedication, including three short YouTube portrayals, go to www.cid169.kwva.org. Click the link "VMFP Ded YouTube" at the bottom of the Main Page. More information about VMFP is at the same site; click on the link "Veterans Memorial at Fountain Park Leesburg."

Tom Thiel, President, kwva169@gmail.com

New Monument Dedicated in Elkhorn, NE

Veterans and guests assembled at Prospect Hill Cemetery in Elkhorn, NE on 27 May 2012 to dedicate a new monument that recognizes people from Douglas County who were killed in the Korean War. The monument project was spearheaded by a fourteen-year-old Boy Scout, Ethan Copple.

The young man said simply, "The Korean War is known as the forgotten war. It's a war that was overshadowed by World War II and Vietnam, so I thought this monument was necessary."



Members of Ch 183, Dale Griffith, Sam Wall, Sung Jo, John Fifer, Glenn Krabbenhoft, Jesse Brown, and Bill Wirges (L-R) stand by Ethan Copple (C)

The ceremony featured the playing of Taps and a 21-gun salute. Attendees paid their respects in front of the monument to the 78 veterans whose names appear on it.

Members of CID 183, Nebraska Chapter #1, took part in the dedication. President Bill Wirges explained that Ethan Copple worked on the project as his scouting project to earn his Eagle Scout Award. His grandfathers were both veterans of the Korean War period.

As Copple concluded, "It was important for me to complete this project because Memorial Day is a day to remember the sacrifices our servicemen made."

William J. Wirges Jr., 15010 Holmes St.
Omaha, NE 68137, 402-894-0559

Florida Monument Re-dedicated

Chapter 188 - South Lake County [FL] held a Memorial Day celebration to re-dedicate their Korean War Monument. The ceremony

also included an up-to-date listing on the monument of all members of the chapter who have died since it was erected.

There was a laying of the wreath ceremony conducted by chapter Honor Guard Commander Carl Hogue and Mrs. Thomas Wainwright. Mrs. Wainwright is the widow of member Thomas Wainwright, who served in Korea with the Second Infantry Division.

The Honor Guard then fired a rifle salute as The "Silver Sounds" of South Lake High (an A Capella quartet) sang the national anthem.



The Ch 188 monument



Ch 188 Honor Guard (L-R) Roger Marquard, Richard McHaffie, David Litz, Don Krolak, Lloyd Bondurant, Tommie Weathers, Roy Pike (Photo furnished by the New Groveland Graphic)

Following the ceremony there was a presentation about a military unit in WWII called the "Secret Six." They were a group of photo-mappers who prepared the large maps and models of large parts of France used in the preparation for the D-Day invasion.

Don Krolak, 1148 Mesa Verde Ct., Clermont, FL
34711, 352-243-2792, Dkrolak@cfl.rr.com

Texas Chapter dedicates New Memorial

On May 28th, at the Memorial Day ceremony, a brand new memorial for the Korean War was dedicated by CID 249 - Col Joseph C. Rodriguez (MOH) [TX] after about a year of planning and construction. These ceremonies included participation by several national and state political representatives.

Marshall Davis, 915-479-4812, texmarsh1@gmail.com



Front view of the El Paso monument. Three large granite stones engraved on both sides



Front and back of each stone at the El Paso Monument



Ch 249 president Roy Aldridge presents Billie Tiller with the Ambassador For Peace Medal provided by Republic of Korea government and veterans associations out of gratitude for serving in restoring freedom to their country

Wyoming Dedicates New Highway to Vets



Wyoming Legislator Sam Krone, Ch 307 members President Dean Roberts, Secretary-Treasurer Gary Troxel, 1st VP Paul Rodriguez, and John Leonetti (L-R) under highway sign

Our chapter (CID 307 - Northern Wyoming) was organized and chartered in 2005 with a goal of getting Cody, WY designated as the site for the state Korean War Veterans Memorial. The State Vietnam War Veterans Memorial had already been built in 1984.

After we completed the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Park was dedicated by Governor Dave Freudenthal as the State of Wyoming Veterans Memorial Park. A new committee was formed with members of Chapter 307, along with members of the V.F.W. Subsequently, the State World War II Veterans Memorial was built. To complete the park, a memorial was built last year to honor veterans of all the wars since Vietnam.

In 2011, chapter members convinced the state legislature to name the new four-lane highway between Cody and Powell, WY as the Veterans Memorial Highway. The sign designer was chapter member John Leonetti.



LEFT: The Wyoming Korean War Veterans Memorial

BELOW: Sign leading to Wyoming Veterans Memorial Park

Unfortunately, when we were organized, we had sixty members. Since then, we have lost fifteen of them.

Paul Rodriguez
1076 Rd. 16, Powell, WY 82435



CID 312 – Antietam [MD] holds Ground-breaking Ceremony for New Monument

We held a ground-breaking ceremony on June 26, 2012 for our planned Korean War Veterans Monument. Approximately eighty people attended the ceremony, including city and county officials, representation from the general public, numerous veterans and, of course, many chapter members.

Commander Jim Ensminger welcomed everybody and opened the program with the presentation of Colors by the chapter's Color Guard and a prayer by the chapter's chaplain. In his welcoming remarks, Commander Ensminger noted the significance of the monument.

After the Commander's welcome, Vice-Commander Les Bishop



KWVA members at Ch 312 event



Dignitaries and KWVA members break ground for CH 312 monument

introduced the dignitaries present and noted the excellent support the chapter has received from city, county and state governments. He then introduced several speakers who expressed their personal interest in the monument project.

Jim Mobley, the chapter's Monument Committee Chairman, recalled the logistical, financial, and administrative efforts the committee encountered to get to this ground-breaking ceremony. He also thanked all who helped.

KWVA National Director Lew Ewing commented on the importance of the monument to Korean War veterans as a lasting symbol of their service. Hagerstown, MD Mayor Bob Bruchey and Washington County Commissioner Terry Baker both spoke to the honor it was to be so deeply involved in the monument project, as well as the personal closeness each felt toward Korean War veterans.



National KWVA Director Lew Ewing of Ch 313, Shenandoah [VA] speaks at Ch 312's monument site

Commander Jim Ensminger of Ch 312 addresses crowd at ground-breaking ceremony



The featured speaker, Maryland State Delegate John Donoghue, recalled his personal closeness to the site of the monument and quoted President John F. Kennedy on the importance of remembering our veterans. The ceremony concluded with the traditional "turn-the-turf" by the chapter's Monument Committee, dignitaries, and project engineer Rich Freeman.



Artist's rendition of CH 312's monument

We started our monument project over two years ago with a modest goal of raising \$70,000. The goal has now been increased to \$100,000 as a result of additional costs and some enhancements approved by the chapter. The monument will include a main tablet and two wing tablets (see artist's rendition).

Although the monument is being built to honor all Korean War veterans from Washington County, Maryland, there will be a smaller tablet at the base of the main stone which will include the names of the 31 veterans who died in the war. Completion and dedication of the monument is planned for the summer of 2013, to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the truce-signing between the combatants.

Please check the chapter's website, kwvaantietam312.org, for progress on the project's progress.

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



Hershall Lee...

was featured in the 20 May 2012 edition of the *Danville [IL] Commercial News* (Reprinted by permission).

Air Force honors Korean War vet

Hershall Lee, center, receives an award from Col. Mary Hittmeier and SSgt. Jon-Michael Rull, recruiter with the 347th recruiting squadron



DANVILLE — Hershall Lee of Danville has received many awards in the past 60-plus years.

However, he's especially proud of the Air Force Salutes Award, which was presented in early May at the Chanute Air Museum in Rantoul.

"Every award is special, but coming from the United States Air Force ...it's probably the nicest award I've ever received," said Lee, an Air Force veteran of the Korean War. "It's wonderful."

Col. Mary Hittmeier, Air Force Recruiting Service mobilization assistant to the commander, presented the award — an engraved wooden plaque — to Lee. He is one of the founders of the Illinois Korean War Veterans Association.

The Air Force Salutes Award was presented on behalf of the 347th Recruiting Squadron. Lee was honored in recognition of his dedication in communicating the Air Force's message of service to country to local youth.

Lee assisted many people in starting their careers in the Air Force by referring them to the Champaign Air Force recruiting office.

Lee said he knew he was getting an award, but he didn't know exactly what it was. He's been out of the service since 1954, so it's nice to be recognized for his work after 60 years, he said.

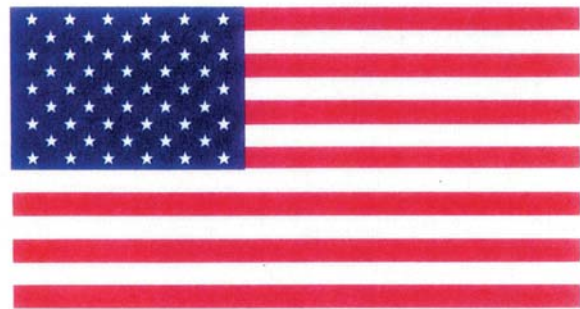
"It's so nice to get something like that," he said.

Also, he received a certificate of recognition from Illinois Rep. Chad Hays thanking Lee for his efforts to communicate with the local community on the Air Force needs for men and women to serve their country.

"Your dedication and commitment to the United States Air Force is to be commended," Hays said on behalf of the 97th Illinois General Assembly.

In addition to the Air Force Salutes Award, Lee also has been recognized with the 2011 Ambassador for Peace Medal and the Secretary of Defense's Certificate of Appreciation.

**"I pledge allegiance
to the flag of the
United States of
America, and to
the Republic
for which it stands,
One Nation Under God,
indivisible, with liberty
and justice for all."**



"One Nation Under God"

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(This pin isn't available in any stores...it is made for special fund raising activities)

Memorial Day

"G'day, Mate—and Thanks for Your Service"

As the Memorial Day services on May 28, 2012 began at the West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery, a crowd filled with veterans, families and the general public gathered. A tall young man wearing a black suit arrived in a taxi, and stood solemnly in the crowd.

I noticed a row of ribbons on his suit. As I looked closer, I realized the ribbons were different than ours. Out of curiosity, I asked him who he was.

He replied, "My name is Kevin. I am from Perth, West Australia, and I am in Hawaii on business. I read about your ceremony in the newspaper. I fought alongside the Americans in Afghanistan. I came here today to be with my mates."

That made our Memorial Day all the more special.

Ron Cole, VP, CID 279, Kailua Kona, Hawaii



Our mate "Ken" from Australia at West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery

Also in Hawaii

There was a Veteran's Day ceremony held on Memorial Plaza. Cadets from the Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy were in attendance.,

Robert K. C. Young, 1329 Akalani Loop
Kailui, HI 96734, 808-263-9315



Cadet Jorrak (L), Robert Young, and Cadet Yoshiczu (R) at Hawaii Memorial Day ceremony

19 – GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

The State of Georgia Memorial Day Ceremony conducted by The Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor, honored Georgia's Fallen Heroes from May 2010 through May 2011.

The 22 names mentioned while TAPS was sounded represented the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



Ch19 members Bob Hendershott, Thaddeus Sobieski and Jim Conway pose with Georgia Governor Deal after Memorial Day ceremony

25 – GREATER CHICAGO [IL]

We participated in Chicago's Annual Memorial Day Parade on 26 May 2012. The one-mile or so parade route traverses State Street from Lake St. to Van Buren. We were one of 160 units in the parade.

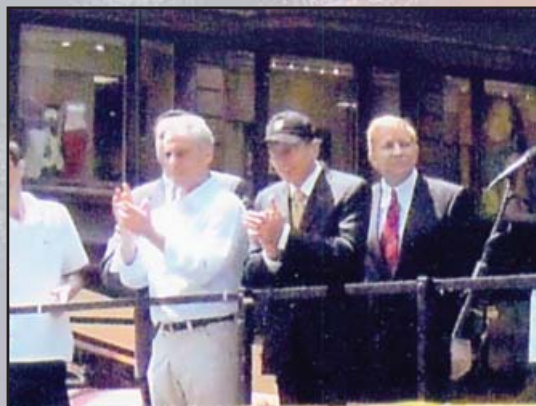
Joe Henmueller, 5641
N. Olcott, Chicago, IL
60631

Members of Ch 25 at
Chicago's Memorial Day
Parade



Ch 25 Honor Guard in Chicago parade





Mayor of Chicago Rahm Emanuel applauds at Memorial Day Parade; Grand Marshal Gen. David A. Petraeus, USA (Ret.), wearing baseball cap, stands to his left



Bus pushes Ch 25 marching contingent in Chicago Memorial Day Parade

A large crowd watches Ch 25 members march along Chicago parade route



40 – MINNESOTA #1 [MN]

Around the corner and over the slope, the red, blue, and silver coach shimmering in the early light waits for its passengers at the American Legion Post #542 parking lot. The men and the ladies board the coach and head for the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery at Little Falls.



Group from Ch 40 prepares to board the bus carrying them to Memorial Day ceremony (Photo by Mike Jansen)

Ch 40 members salute their deceased comrades at Little Falls, MN State Cemetery



Ch 40 members gather with U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar (L-R) Blair Rumble, Mike Jansen, Al Lindner, Dick LaMotte, John King, Mel Behnen, Mike Sweeney, Bud Van Hatten, Larry Dittel, Ed Valle, Judith Ayers, Bob Pellow, Merle Peterson, Harvey Sell, Chanley Lundgren, Bernie Jaworski (Photo from Mike Jansen)

A flag line of the Patriot Guard encircles the ceremony area. A band concert precedes a parade of flags at which the Colors are posted follows the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance, the national anthem, a wreath placing, and a medley played by an armed forces band. Then the highlight of the Memorial Day salute to veterans begins with addresses by MajGen Richard C. Nash and U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN).

Our members performed the Helmet/Rifle Ceremony. "God Bless America" was sung, followed by a benediction. The Crow Wing DAV Memorial Rifle Squad performed the rifle salute, "Taps" was played, and the Colors were retired.

After the formal ceremonies were concluded, we marched to the area where the Korean war veterans are buried. We stood at attention and saluted our comrades.

The "Men in Blue" have been coming to the national cemetery since 1984 to remember our veterans of all wars. The tenth veteran to be buried here was a Korean War soldier.

Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Ave.
Saint Paul, MN 55105

122 – ARDEN ROWLEY [AZ]

Members participated at a May 28th Memorial Day Ceremony held at National Memorial Cemetery in Phoenix, AZ.

Lew Bradley, lew.bradley@gmail.com



Honor Guard of Ch 122 at National Memorial Cemetery in Phoenix, AZ (L-R) Lew Bradley, Lou Truesdale, Wayne Zumhof, Don Taylor

Lew Bradley of Ch 122 presents wreath at Phoenix Memorial Day commemoration



170 –TAEJON [NJ]

Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole led the Memorial Day ceremony in front of the Korean War monument erected in June 2000 in Saddle Brook, NJ. He welcomed the crowd to the Memorial Day service in honor and tribute to those men and women who gave their lives in the defense of their country and principles of freedom. We as veterans honor those who gave all.



The Ch 170 Memorial Day contingent



Commander Richard Onorevole of Ch 170 addresses Saddle Brook Memorial Day commemoration crowd



Saddle Brook, NJ mayor Karen Chamberlain speaks to Memorial Day audience

Wreaths were placed at the monument by several Saddle Brook organizations, including Chapter 170, VFW, American Legion, and the township.



William Burn (driver), front seat passenger Walter Amos, and back seat passengers Robert Domanski and Raymond Cohen "march" in Saddle Brook, NJ Memorial Day parade

Speakers included two members of the U.S. House of Representatives, Steve Rothman and Bill Pascrell, Jr., and Saddle Brook Mayor Karen Chamberlain.

Sr. Vice Commander Kenneth Green read the names of chapter members who are no longer with us. Taps and a rifle salute by the Saddle Brook Police Color Guards followed.

The parade started after the ceremony ended. Commander Onorevole led nineteen members of the chapter, some of whom rode in cars. Those who marched the three-mile route did it with ease, singing cadence at the command of Color Guard Captain Henry Ferrarini.



Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) speaks to Saddle Brook, NJ crowd at Memorial Day event



Congressman Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) addresses audience at Saddle Brook, NJ commemoration

Saddle Brook VFW Post 3484 sponsored and organized the parade. Many of our members belong to this post as well.

The refreshments we enjoyed after the parade included hot dogs, beer and soda—all of which were welcomed by the hungry and thirsty parade participants.

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

249 – COL JOSEPH C. RODRIGUEZ (MOH) [TX]

On May 28th, we participated in a special Memorial Day ceremony at the new memorial park that has been set up and sponsored by the El Paso Flags Across America group. The memorial park got its start in 2002, when the El Paso Community College donated a plot of land on a corner where a boulevard crosses under a major highway. Flags Across America acquired some donated funds and erected a tall flag pole from which a very large American flag is flown. The park now contains a replica Statue of Liberty, and memorials to WWII, women who have served, and the Korean War.

Marshall Davis, 915-479-4812, texmarsh1@gmail.com



Korean War veterans at the El Paso Memorial Day ceremony: Ch 249 President Roy Aldridge (3rd from right), next to Korean War veteran Billie Tiller (in cowboy hat) who initiated and funded the new memorial to Korean War veterans



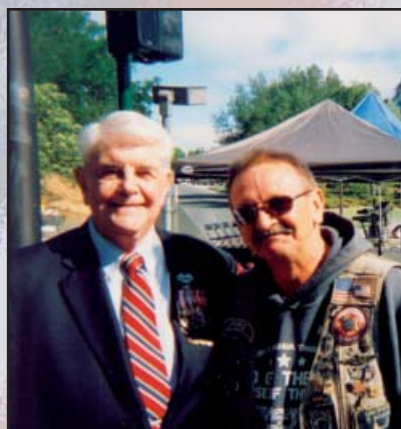
Flags, half staff until "Taps" at the end of the El Paso, TX Memorial Day ceremony

264 – MT. DIABLO [CA]

We co-sponsored a Memorial Day observance on May 28th at the Veterans Memorial Flagpole Monument in Clayton, CA. The event was truly a community effort that brought together civilian and military personnel who put on a memorable commemoration.

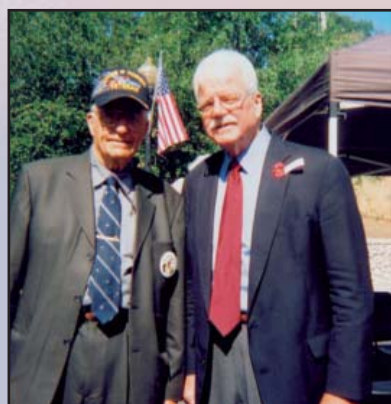
The Diablo View Middle School band, directed by Eric Thompson, provided musical background. The JROTC from Mt. Diablo High School and Boy Scout Troop 262 helped set up chairs, and the Clayton Police Department blocked roads and handled traffic.

Yesterday's Kids sang, among other patriotic numbers, "God Bless America," accompanied by everyone in attendance. Vietnam Helicopters Inc. provided an over flight, and several



Dan Helix (L), Emcee at Clayton, CA Memorial Day ceremony, and Korean War veteran Spike Schrau, who was born in Germany. (His uncle was a Luftwaffe pilot in WWII.)

The Diablo View Middle School Band and Director Eric Thompson at Clayton, CA Memorial Day celebration



U.S. Congressman George Miller and Stanley J. Grogan (R) at Clayton, CA



Don Sharp and Ray Henderson of Ch 264 at Clayton, CA booth



El Paso, TX Color Guards, 19th Marine Rifle Co. (L) and the Benavidez (MOH)- Patterson chapter, 82nd Airborne veterans

honored guests attended. They included U.S. Congressman George Miller (D-CA), California State Senator Mark DeSaulnier, California Assembly Member Susan Bonilla, City of Concord Mayor Ron Leone, and City of Clayton Mayor Howard Geller.

Dan Helix, MGen, USA (Ret.), Korean War veteran and former Mayor of Concord, served as Master of Ceremonies. Helix was a platoon leader in Korea, where he earned three Purple Hearts.

Chapter members passed out bottles of water to attendees. All in all, the event was truly representative of what Americans can do to commemorate Memorial Day.

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr.
Pinole, CA 94564

289 – MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

The Kingsport, TN Memorial Day service was held on Monday, May 28, 2012, at 11 a.m.

Six chapter members attended.

Past Commander Robert Shelton gave a short statement on the goals of our chapter by reading our Mission Statement, which is printed on the bottom of our stationery:



Arlen Hensley, Robert Shelton, Fred Himelwright, Mack Duinford, Bill McCoy and Dewey Harlan (L-R) represent Ch 289 at Kingsport, TN Memorial Day ceremony

- To serve as living memorials to those who served and those who died during the Korean War.
- To keep the Forgotten War from being forgotten by our witness.
- To remind everyone that protecting freedom comes with a cost.

There were other Memorial Day services held in other cities in our area. Members attended some of them.

Carol Shelton, cselton37663@yahoo.com

296 – CAYUGA COUNTY [NY]

Joseph Casper; Neal Taylor, and Lyell Brown led our Color Guard at the Auburn, NY Memorial Day Parade. There was a special ceremony held at the Korean War Monument, Auburn, NY.

John Barwinczok, Commander
jbarwinczok@verizon.net

Joseph Casper;
Neal Taylor and
Lyell Brown (L-R)
of Ch 296 Color Guard
at the Auburn, NY
Memorial Day
Parade



Members of Ch 296 at 2012 Memorial Day commemoration (L-R) Jim Ferris, Neal Taylor, Joe Casper, Fred Perriello, Lyell Brown, John Barwinczok, Carl Bobbett, Don Tavener, Richard Darrow, John Fiermonte, Fred Pfeifer

297 – PLATEAU [TN]

We participated in the ceremonies at Fairfield Glade, TN. We had an impressive turnout.

Dick Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr.
Crossville, TN 38558



Members of Ch 297 Color Guard prepare to present the Colors and raise the American and Tennessee flags at Fairfield Glade ceremony: Joe White, Dan Brook, Carroll Reusch, Bob Gruber, Ted Hirabayashi, Bob Johnston (L-R)



Past Commander of Ch 297,
Don Eliason (L), and Mike
Rupe, U.S. Army (Ret.) at
Fairfield Glade Memorial Day
event



Ch 297 Color Guard presents the Colors at Fairfield Glade

Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicated a Memorial? Attending a Banquet

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



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ALASKA

LR44091 TIMOTHY KRIZAUSKAS

ARIZONA

R044049 ROY C. BADER
R044028 GEORGE A. JAEGER
R044050 CLIFFORD L. WHEELER

CALIFORNIA

R044057 ALVIN J. BAPTISTA
R044134 GERALD H. BOWERS
R044120 RAPHAEL E. CURTIS
R044022 JESS M. GARCIA
R044063 GUILLERMO GONZALES
R044038 JAMES H. GUTHRIE
R044119 WILLIAM C. HARMAN
R044037 GORDON E. LINK
R044136 TERRANCE W. QUINN
R044023 FRANCISCO J. RECLOSADO
R044024 BENJAMIN K. SABEAN
R044088 MYRON L. THOMSEN
R044128 MARVIN J. WOODSTRUP

COLORADO

R044077 RUDOLPH L. REHBEIN

DELAWARE

R044118 GEORGE H. PHIPPS

FLORIDA

R044133 TROY W. BLAKELY
R044084 JOHN C. CASSULO
R044026 LEONARD J. DEGROOT
R044051 JACK A. HARRIS JR.
R044048 ERNEST D. HAYNICK
R044062 RUSSELL S. HEADY
R044140 ARTHUR P. IVERSON
R044035 MICHAEL C. MOREHOUSE SR.
R044061 MURRY PAVLOFF
R044103 RAYMOND D. RICHARD
R044067 GARY SINGER
R044066 FLOREDA D. VARICK
R044090 NEILL J. WOODS JR.

HAWAII

LR44100 BROOKS W. OUTLAND

ILLINOIS

LR44082 LYLE L. DAVIS
R044081 DONALD R. GUSTIN
R044045 OLAV E. JORE
R044096 WAYNE E. MCCOLLOM

INDIANA

R044121 WILLIAM M. GRAFF

IOWA

R044044 EDWIN D. HOGAN
R044025 GLEN E. HOLLISTER
R044042 RONALD OSBORN

KENTUCKY

R044111 WILLIAM S. TATMAN

MAINE

R044101 JAMES R. PALMQUIST SR.

MARYLAND

R044093 CHARLES D. 'DON' PATTERSON

MASSACHUSETTS

R044079 THOMAS GLENNON
R044116 WILLIAM T. KILEY

MICHIGAN

R044032 RICHARD R. CARPENTER
R044033 ALFRED J. COLLET
R044046 RALPH F. DELVALLE
R044076 DELWYN L. WESTENBROEK

MISSOURI

R044102 CHARLES J. CHEVALIER
R044075 DAVID A. RICHIE
R044104 DAVID L. SWINNEY

NEBRASKA

R044110 MICHAEL H. RODDY
R044109 LARRY B. SMITH

NEVADA

LR44053 RONALD G. FEEMAN

NEW HAMPSHIRE

R044125 CHARLES CATHCART
R044040 JOSEPH LABRETTO
R044137 ARNOLD SUOKKO

NEW JERSEY

R044105 CHARLES J. REED
R044056 SAVAS J. SAVAS
R044108 IRVING K. SEIF

NEW YORK

R044099 LOUIS A. BARBONE
R044085 EDWARD B. DANDARAW
R044117 FRANK DICOSTANZO
R044114 PAUL GARCIA JR.
R044086 GUY B. KITTELSEN
R044039 HARRY MILLER
R044131 JAMES W. MILLIGAN
R044070 LEWIS WARD

OHIO

R044138 FLOYD G. SPICE
R044095 ROBERT L. WEISENBARGER

OKLAHOMA

A044130 KAROLYN S. ANDERS
A044129 KENNETH G. GRASS
R044123 JAMES D. HOLMAN
A044083 DONALD R. SCOTT
R044124 MILFORD G. SCOTT
A044043 MARTY TALLEY

OREGON

R044126 RICHARD E. DEMERS
A044072 DENISE M. HALUPKA
R044073 CHARLES I. MOON
R044065 ALBERT F. PHILLIPS
R044031 GLENN SHUCK
R044055 PAUL J. SUNDERMIER

PENNSYLVANIA

R044135 ANGELO L. DEFELICE
R044132 FRANK N. DIPPOLITO
R044074 LLOYD B. GINDER
R044092 JERRY S. MOORE

RHODE ISLAND

A044064 ANN M. SWIFT-DELANEY
R044034 EARLE TRAVIS
R044087 FRANK M. WUNDERLER
R044097 REV GEORGE YANY

SOUTH CAROLINA

R044054 RONALD D. KICHLINE
R044112 BILL SPEARS

SOUTH DAKOTA

R044036 LYLE E. FUERST

TENNESSEE

R044098 JOSEPH M. BENDER

TEXAS

R044052 JOHN T. FURLOW
R044089 JOHN D. NEAL
R044027 ANTONIO M. VICARIO
R044122 ARMANDO C. VILLARREAL

UTAH

R044107 BRUCE B. WAINWRIGHT
R044047 DOUGLAS R. MASON

VIRGINIA

LR44041 EDWARD L. BROOKS
R044127 JIMMIE CARTER
R044068 STEPHEN P. GLASSER
R044078 MARVIN R. JOYNER
R044030 JAMES T. MARKLEY
R044071 EWING E. RAY
R044029 JERRY A. WHITE

WASHINGTON

R044069 ROY H. BILLINGS
R044060 CLIFFORD A. BOOTH
R044058 LYLE E. BOSE
R044113 THOMAS P. DOMBECK
R044059 DONALD P. KARLING
R044094 TERRILL L. VAN BUREN
R044080 ROBERT A. WILLIAMS

WISCONSIN

R044106 WILLARD H. RECK
R044139 THOMAS E. WELSH

ONTARIO

R044115 ROBERT J. GLICKMAN

How to Dispose of a Flag

The members of CID 37, Mahoning Valley [OH], demonstrated recently how a flag is disposed of properly. As Charles Stepan said, "We're old, but we remember."

They may be old, but they were still able to participate in the 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Youngstown, OH, along with their "Silver Soldier." The trailer on which the float was carried was the work of Paul Lawson. Chuck Stepan provided the truck float.

Charles Stepan, 175 Erskine Ave., Youngstown, OH 44512

BELOW: Members of Ch 137 in the St. Patrick's Day Parade



ABOVE: Ch 137 members salute as flag is burned

Emily Dickinson Said It Best

By Rego Barnett

Emily Dickinson wrote in an untitled 1866 poem that “The bustle in a house the morning after death is solemnest of industries enacted upon earth.” (Her poems are untitled. They are simply numbered and sorted by date.) Presumably, that bustle involved a lot of cleaning, at least metaphorically. Cleaning is what has been going on in our office, in reality, rather than metaphorically.

Dickinson died long before the Korean War began—in 1866, to be exact. She probably would not have known there was a war going on anyway, since she was a veritable recluse during her 56-year lifetime, which included the Civil War. Emily did not mention that war often, at least not directly, in her poems, many of which were written between 1861 and 1865.¹

Of her 1,775 total poems, 1,768 of which were not published until after her death on 15 May 1886, hundreds were written as the Civil War raged. The one referenced here, and printed below, was not among them. It is a safe bet she never would have mentioned the Korean War either, had she lived between 1950 and 1953. For her, it truly would have been a “Forgotten War.” Nevertheless, the bustle she described in her poem continues at *The Graybeards* office.

We have discovered a lot of material in corners here and there that for one reason or another never made it into *The Graybeards*. Unlike Dickinson, who suggested that material involved in the bustle

in the house shall not be used again “Until Eternity,” we prefer to include some of our archived material earlier than that.

We’ll start with the story of two veterans, Elwood Varney and Marion Johnson, who got together in 2004 after serving together with 45 INFD 158 FA BN. Johnson provided a few details of his service in Korea, which was harsh, to say the least.

For example, he was in a bunker that was blown up on a Sunday in February 1953, killing several people and injuring many others. It took a team of medics and a rescue helicopter to remove the dead and injured.

To begin with, February was a difficult time for Johnson and his buddies. The destruction of their bunker just made it worse. “The winter months were hard because you kept wondering if you would freeze to death or have frost bite and lose fingers and toes—or even feet,” he said. “It was below zero for weeks at a time, with a foot of snow on the ground.”

As he explained, “Everything kept your nerves on edge.”

Of course, things were not any better during the warmer weather. Johnson had suffered minor injuries during the previous summer that did not make life any easier for him. That was the lot of a Soldier in Korea—as it is in all wars.

“The fires of the 158th Field Artillery Battalion increased greatly in June and July of 1952 during the battles for Old



Tough winter? Marion Johnson (L) and Hodge view the twelve inches of snow that fell in December 1952

Baldy and T-Bone Hill,” he noted. “There was no reserve for the battalion even though the division gained respite from the fighting in July 1952. That month the battalion joined Group B of X Corps artillery in support of the 8th ROK Division on Korea’s eastern front.”

Around that time, Johnson suffered a minor injury from a 105 shell that fell on his right foot and broke a bone on the top. “I still have a calcium deposit on the top of my foot from that,” he revealed.

As if a broken foot was not bad enough, Johnson also had a constant ear ache due to the loud noise generated by



Elwood Varney (L) and Marion Johnson in Korea on 12 September 1952



Elwood Varney (L) and Marion Johnson 52 years later, on 17 May 2004

the practically non-stop firing of the 105s. “Combat incidents like this were causes of PTSD,” he observed.

But, not everything was adverse during his stint in Korea. At one point he received a pleasant surprise when he met “Junior” Haith.

“We were raised only five miles apart,” Johnson exclaimed. “Imagine the excitement of seeing your next door neighbor in Korea!”

Eventually, Johnson rotated home and returned to North Carolina. He left his experiences behind him, but not his connections with his buddies. He and Elwood Varney had a lot to talk about when they met one another in 2004—and they did

not have to wait until “Eternity” to catch up on old times.

Reach Marion R. Johnson at 5150 SC Snow Camp Rd., Siler City, NC 27344, 919-742-3974 and Elwood L. Varney at N8840 County Rd., J, Boyceville, WI 54725, 715-643-6372

The Bustle in a House
The Morning after Death
Is solemnest of industries
Enacted upon Earth—
The Sweeping up the Heart,
And putting Love away
We shall not want to use again
Until Eternity.

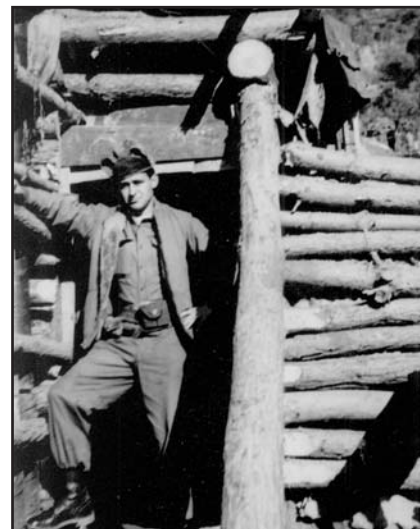
—Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)



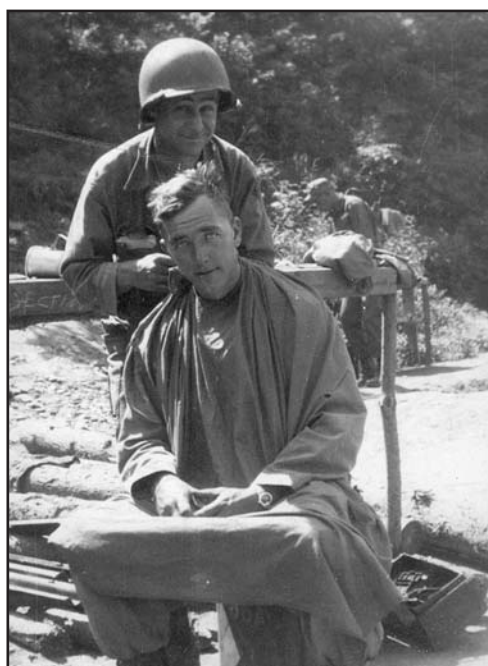
Junior Haith (L) and Marion Johnson on the eastern front of Korea, October 1952



Marion Johnson reads his local newspaper next to a 105 howitzer on 10 September 1952 as Freddie Walker looks over his shoulder



Marion Johnson in front of his Korea “lodgings” in October 1952



Marion Johnson cutting PFC Blake's hair in Korea on 10 June 1952



Marion Johnson (L) and a sergeant from Rhode Island on their way home in 1953

¹Some scholars disagree. Drew Gilpin Faust, in her best-selling—and well-worth reading—book, *This Republic Of Suffering: Death And The Civil War*, disagrees. She wrote on p. 205, “War provided Dickinson with inexhaustible material for her metaphysical speculations...Her poetry uses the deaths of war to ask timeless questions, but her speculations at the same time engage more timely issues that also tormented her far less gifted contemporaries.”

Why Are Our Guns Blowing Up?

By Bob Black

I was a 2nd Lieutenant and Armament Officer in IX Corps, 17th D.S. Company, Chorwan/Kumwha Valley Area, in the Iron Triangle in 1952-53. I was with the 82nd Airborne at Ft. Bragg, NC when I received orders for Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD to attend an Armament Officer school. It seems that they had a problem with some of our guns in Korea blowing up and killing the gun crews.

I grew up working in my father's garage, where I was introduced to being a machinist/mechanic. I had good knowledge of and could use calipers, micrometers, pull over gauges, etc. That came in handy, as all the men with whom I was assigned to the class at Aberdeen had similar machine/mechanic backgrounds. We studied all the guns, howitzers, mortars, and automatic crew served armament weapons from A to Z there.

The atomic cannon was one of the guns we came in contact with. It was 280mm bore, which was of a similar type to the German guns named "Leopold" or "Anzio Annie" 280mm Bruno class- railway guns or fixed position guns.

All material we studied was classified. The huge gun was mounted on a cradle

We did have a problem in our sector with guns blowing up and killing their crews...The men started using 100' lanyards to alleviate the problem because they were afraid their guns would blow up.

with two large tractors to propel it, one pulling in front and one pushing in the rear. It was big, awkward, extremely heavy, and difficult to move due to its weight and size. I was told that two guns were in Europe and none were in Korea. (Perhaps the people who saw it in Korea were looking at our largest gun there, a 240mm gun.)

Anyway, I had a sixty-man armament platoon in that sector in Korea. We inspected any gun that needed it, and test fired any gun if there were questions about it. My platoon was scattered all over the firing lines. Our motto was "Service to the line on the line." I spent most of my time test firing guns that were hit in counter-battery fire or satisfying requests for service from the FA Bns we were supporting.

We had 300 guns and howitzers in our sector. The 105 was a good artillery piece. We had a ROK unit that tied the lanyard and was firing the gun automatically, believe it or not.

The guns were diverse. They included the 155mm howitzer, which put out a lot of iron on targets. The 8" howitzer ("Big 8") was the most accurate gun I had in the 424 FA Bn. Then, there were the 155 SP (Self Propelled) guns operated by the 937 FA Bn.

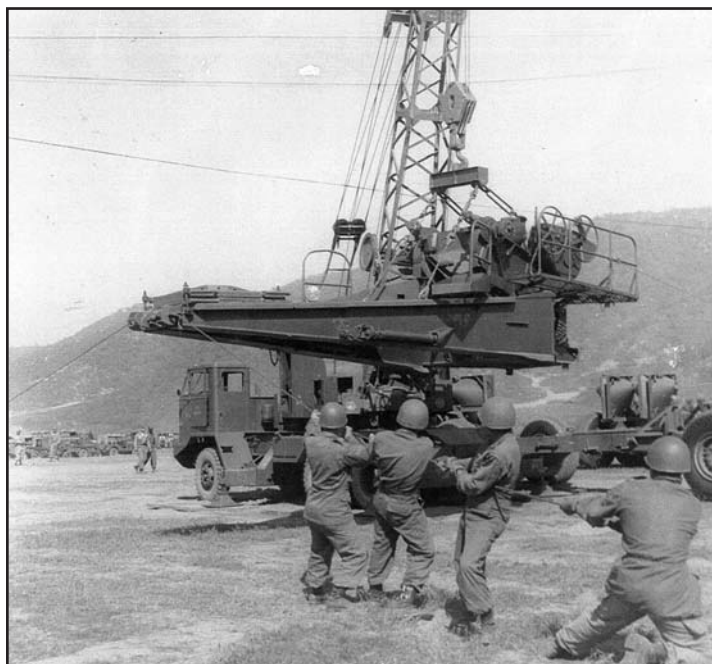
These guns, also known as "The Arkansas Long Toms," could really "scoot and shoot." They were loud and nasty, and covered a lot of ground. The 155 SPs comprised the bulk of the guns for which I was responsible.

The 240mm guns were few and far between. A crane was required to assemble a gun from two carriers. One had the tube assembly; the other carried the trailer and cradle assemblies.

We did have a problem in our sector with guns blowing up and killing their crews. In fact, I was assigned to the Corps the day a second 155 blew up. What a greeting that was to my new assignment. The men started using 100' lanyards to



Assembling a 240mm gun



Tug of war with the 240



Inspection day for a 240, as Lt Black stands by



Lt. Black gets ready to test fire 240

alleviate the problem because they were afraid their guns would blow up. Therefore, the rate of fire dropped.

The crew members were getting exhausted from running back and forth to reload. LtGen Hickey, the Corps' Commanding Officer, was irate about the loss of men, guns, and morale among the artillery units, which combined to cut the number of rounds being fired by one-half. So, I was put on the carpet and ordered to find out why these guns were blowing up and correcting the problem—"PERIOD."

My orders were to inspect every gun in the Corps. Then, after I said a gun was "Okay," I would have to fire the first ten rounds, full service charge, using the 30' lanyard, before I turned it over to the firing batteries. (Hey, 2nd Lieutenants were

expendable, and I said a lot of prayers.)

I was a bit lucky. Two of the armament officers who graduated with me from Aberdeen were killed due to bad tubes. Fortunately, I caught 21 bad tubes before they killed anyone. All the guns that we pronounced okay for use were safe to fire.

I did uncover some of the problems. Basically, there were three types of failures:

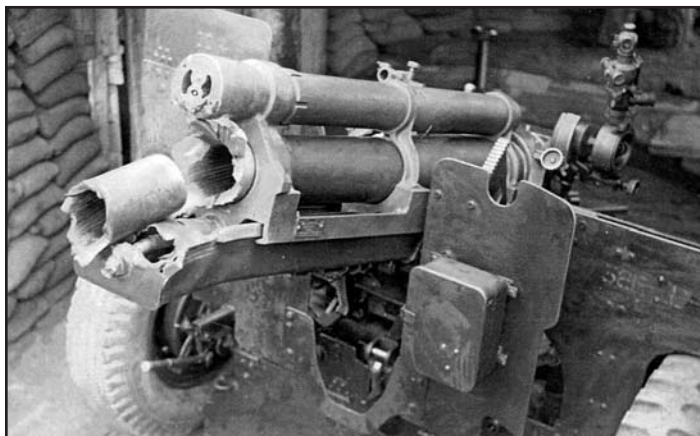
1. World War II guns (tubes) that were worn out and issued as new tubes because the gun books that were lost got back into the supply channel.
2. Fire missions were canceled after the projectile was rammed into the breech. Then, the hot tube cooled and shrunk around the projectile. To compound the problem, the gun crew sometimes failed to

put the missile cap on the tube, allowing dust to settle on the projectile, restricting the tube even more. Consequently, when the fire mission was given, the tube blew up.

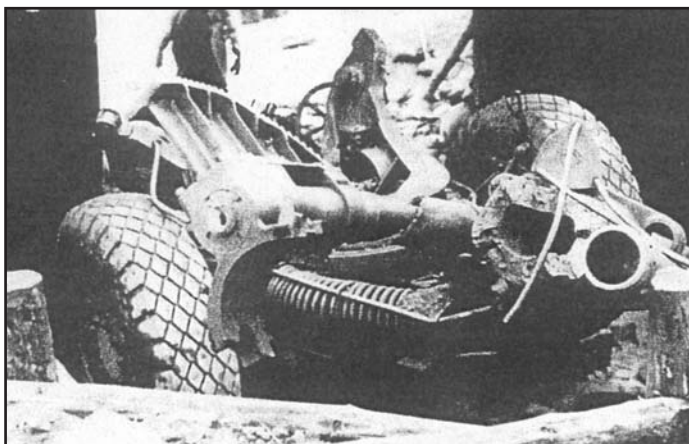
3. Tubes were damaged by incoming counter battery fire.

I spent all my time in Korea with the artillery units, and I have great respect for their professional abilities. It was a mutual respect, because they inducted me into the Sacred Order of St. Barbara of Artillery and presented me with a metal name plate that I wore with great pride. Plus, each FA Bn CO wrote a letter of thanks and praise. I treasure all these letters and mementoes to this day.

Reach Col. Robert L. Black, USA (Ret), 27 Michael Rd., Dedham, MA 02020



Howitzer with blown tube



155 Howitzer with a tube that blew apart and killed crew members

Moonbeams And Linemen

These photos were submitted by Tony Dalla Costa, a member of 1st Bn., 7th Reg., 3rd Inf. Div., who served in Korea during 1952-53. They were taken in the Kumwha-Chorwon area, where he spent seven months.

Anthony J. Dalla Costa, 3714 188th Pl.
Lansing, IL 60438-3881, 708-418-1457

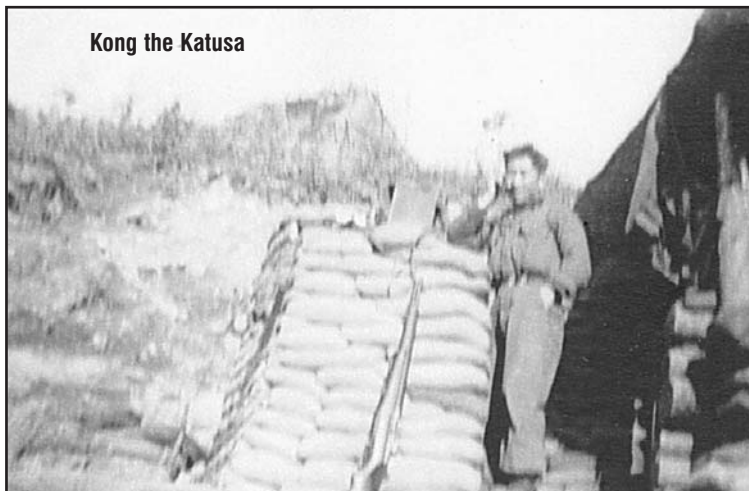
Moonbeam on the top of a Korean hill



Floodlights in Korea



Kong the Katusa



Tony Dalla Costa waits to repair lines



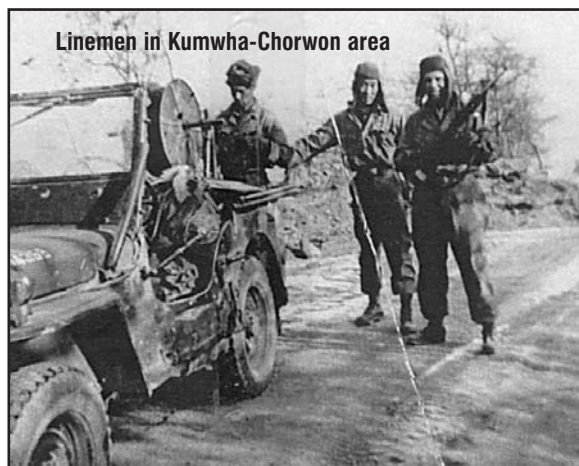
Tony Dalla Costa protects Wire Section jeep near "Moonbeams"



Washday for Radio Section men

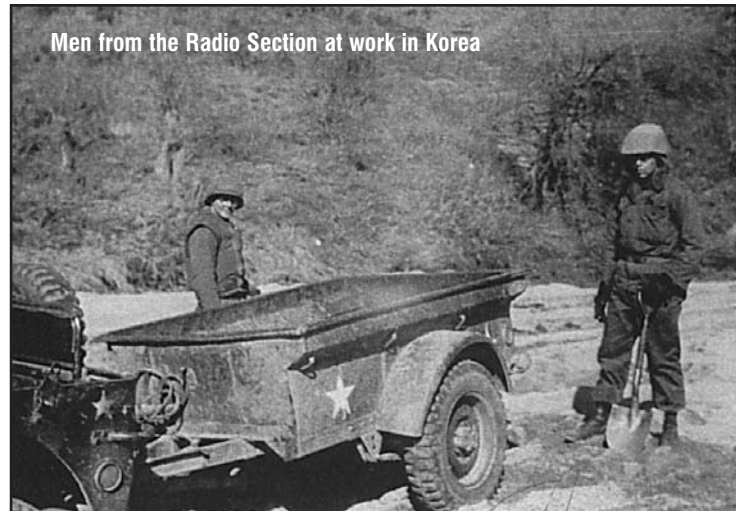
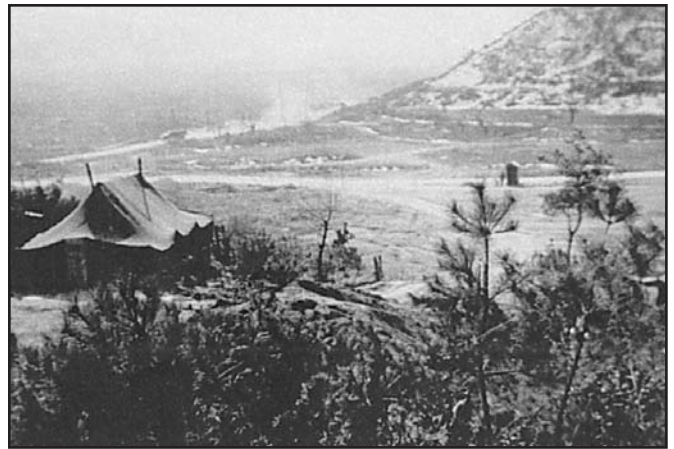


Linemen in Kumwha-Chorwon area

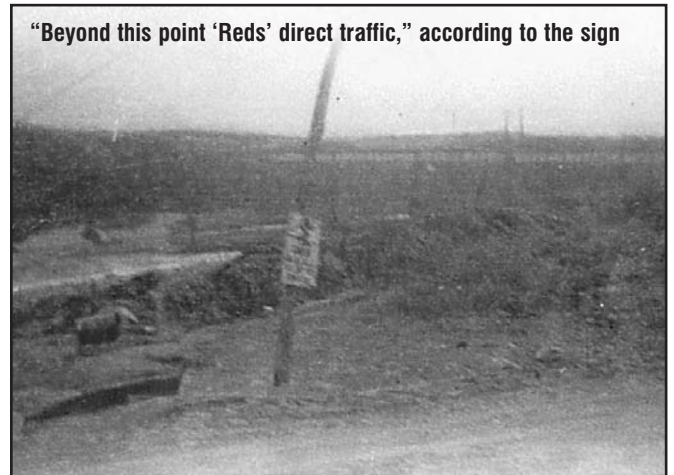




Radio Section specialist in action in Kumwha-Chorwon area



Men from the Radio Section at work in Korea



"Beyond this point 'Reds' direct traffic," according to the sign



1st Bn., 7th Reg., 3rd Div., HQ Co., with First Sgt. in center



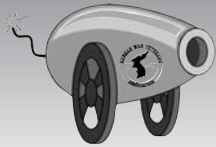
"Sharky" and Kong, linemen



Wire Section linemen discuss events in Korea

Crossing the 180th Meridian on Gen. C.C. Ballou





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 Skyview Drive, Rocky Hill, CT, 06067; E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 202-3088. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

Thanks for the Scholarship Help

Thanks to the KWVA's help and advice, we have selected two awardees for the KWVA-KUSCO scholarship. Actually, we received only two applicants, both of whom are excellent Space & Technology (S&T) major students.

1. Andrew Haynes, University of Colorado, Aerospace Engineering

2. Tiffany Bobcock, NOVA Southeastern University, Marine Biology

In order to increase the number of applicants for the 2013 KWVA/KUSCO scholarship, we changed the requirements. Henceforth:

- All college student/applicants are enrolled in BA, MA, PhD courses in science and engineering areas
- Deadline is October 31, 2012
- No requirement of poster/oral presentation material

Woojin Lee, S&T Program Director, Korea-US Science Cooperation Center, 1952 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-893-9772 (Ext. 2)

(See the announcement on page 13 regarding the next scholarships.)

When MiGs Would Not Fly

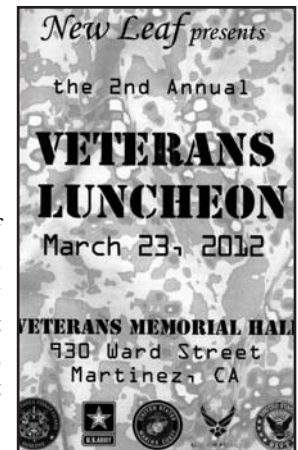
William J. ("Bill") Anthony was my flight leader and honcho of Red Flight at Itazuke, Japan, 1951-53. Each member of the flight completed 26 night combat missions in the F-94B. When enemy controllers heard the F-94B was on the prowl north of the bomb line, the MiGs were grounded on most occasions.

During WWII, Anthony was a B-17 pilot. He graduated to the F-94B and later the F-86 in Korea. In addition to being a great pilot, he was also an exceptional football player on the 6160AB team, which had a few ex-professionals on the roster.



Captain (later Major) William J. Anthony in front of the 68th Fighter Interceptor Squadron alert shack at Itazuke (1st Lt Raleigh Stapleton was his R/O)

Front cover of 2nd Annual New Leaf Luncheon program



Incidentally, several members of CID 264, Mt. Diablo, Concord, CA attended the Second Annual New Leaf luncheon on 23 March 2012 at the Veterans Memorial Hall in Martinez, CA. The story of the first one appeared in the May-June issue of *The Graybeards*.

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr., Pinole, CA 94564

EDITOR'S NOTE: Access <http://www.kmike.com/NoSweat/Pages/Itazuke.htm> to get a few stories about airmen's experiences at Itazuke during the Korean War and after WWII—some of which may be very disturbing.

Our Members Are Our Field Reporters

EDITOR'S NOTE: This exchange between a member and our Membership Office Technical Advisor/Webmaster has implications for every member of the KWVA. Please bear in mind that we rely on you to be our "field reporters." Please don't resign if you don't see stories about your unit. Write a story and send it to us instead. (See the letter on page 68 to another disgruntled member.)

Request for Removal

Please remove me from the membership rolls of the KWVA. I have not seen in any issue during the past year any reference to my organization in the USAF, the Training Command, at Keesler AFB or anywhere else.

I'm sure there are many ex-service people out there who are very pleased with the KWVA. I wish them and the KWVA well.

Thank you, Stanley Maciejewski

Membership Administrator's Response

You're already considered an "inactive member" since you haven't paid your renewal dues. However, I think it's a shame that you didn't send in information or a story or article to Art Sharp, the editor of *The Graybeards* magazine, for him to publish.

The Graybeards editorial staff is a "staff of one." He is it, so he

relies on members to send information to him to share with the membership.

If you were to write an article or send him something (that is not copyrighted by another publication) I'm sure he would be more than happy to receive and publish it so it can be shared with the membership!

Jim Doppelhammer, KWVA Membership Office, PO Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407, Office: 217-345-4414, Cell: 217-512-9474

Does 'Bedcheck Charlie' Count in an Ace's Total?

Re the May-June, 2012 Graybeards, page-67, Stanley Grogan: Does "Bedcheck Charlie" Count In An Ace's Total?

On 29 June 1953, Lt. Guy P. Bordelon, Jr., USN, of Squadron VC-3, flying a Navy F4U-5N night fighter aircraft named "Annie-Mo," shot down two "Bedcheck Charlies." He shot down two more on 30 June 1953. Lt. Bordelon shot down his fifth heckler on 17 July 1953, to become the U.S. Navy's only ace of the Korean War.

Lt. Bordelon was awarded the Navy Cross medal. Cdr. Bordelon retired from the Navy in 1969, and passed away in December 2002 in Ruston, LA.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

Re June 25th

The ruthless North Korean communists invaded South Korea and set into play our unplanned trip to the Far East for a war where most of us did not even know the country, its people, or the background of animosity between N. Korea and S. Korea since the country was divided at the end of WW2.

Three years, one month and two days later there was a cease fire. Look at the tragic loss of our troops: 36,940 KIA, 8,170 MIA, plus wounded 101,367 (per DOD) among the 1-1/2 million people who served there. That changed the 21 year olds into older men who still carry the bad memories to our grave!

The consolation is that S. Korea is a free and prosperous democracy with its citizens still giving, thanks to the troops that came to their rescue. Compare this with the war in Iraq and the ongoing eleven-year-war in Afghanistan, where the tribal people and governments not only show no appreciation but kill at any opportunity our troops along with their own population. What a difference!

We can hold our heads high with a feeling of an accomplished part of our country's proud history.

Wayne Pelkey, wppelkey@charter.net

The Marines Did Not Fight Alone

I disagree with Mr. Gordon Provost's statements in his article "The Last 33" in the May-June 2012 issue of *The Graybeards*, p. 26. He stated: "The 1st Marine Brigade valiantly defended and held the Pusan perimeter until the Inchon landing changed everything. While the First Marine Brigade held off the North Korean assault at Pusan, thousands of Marine reservists were being rapidly recalled and shipped to Camp Pendleton."

The following facts were taken from the book *Second United States Infantry Division in Korea, 1950 - 1951*, by Lt. Clark C. Munroe:

- The first ship, *USNS MM Patrick*, left Seattle July 17, 1950 with part of the 2nd Division. By August 20, 1950 the entire 2nd Infantry

Division had arrived in Korea.

- August 16, 1950: elements of the 1st Provisional Marine brigade arrive; the next day the 9th RCT and the Marines launched a new attack.

- On 28th August the 23rd relieved elements of the 1st Cavalry Division.

- September 2nd: the 1st Marine Brigade was attached to the 2nd Division.

- First week of September: 4,500 South Korean soldiers were incorporated into the 2nd Division.

- September 15: at 2040 1st Marine Division made successful amphibious landing at Inchon, accompanied by the 7th Division and ROK troops.

- September 16th: the first major offensive of the Korean War from the Pusan perimeter began.

It was a slow advancement by all units but was the start of the march to North Korea. There were many units involved in holding the Pusan perimeter and we were told, "Stand or die."

I left the USA on August 5, 1950, arrived in Pusan between the 10th and 15th of August, and was assigned to "K" Co, 23rd Reg, 2nd Infantry Division. The first night in Korea I was in a hole with a another GI and a 30 caliber machine gun. Returned to the USA August 3, 1951 and was glad to be home.

Tom Kittrell, tomkittrell@cablone.net

Marilyn Monroe and Mamie...MMM

Page 60 in the May/June 2012 issue of *The Graybeards* mentions Marilyn Monroe's visit to the 'Artillery Bowl' in the Kumwha Valley in November, 1953. I was there! However, I was so far back that I needed binoculars to see the show.

After the show there was a traffic jam even worse than those after concerts today. The only benefit was that during the slow exit in our 4x4 we saw Marilyn traveling the other way with some GIs, and I got a close-up view of her big smile for a few seconds.

On another note, an issue of the *Stars & Stripes* mentioned that actress Mamie Van Doren was having difficulty finding dates in Hollywood, so I sent her a letter signed by everyone in the 424th FABn HQ survey section, including our two Katusas, telling her that she was the gal we would most like to survey.

A few months later a large envelope arrived with autographed photos. The Katusas went wild over them, saying they would show their families a photo of their "American girlfriend."

Finally, on page 22, Gene Marken asked about troopships. The troopship that took me to and from Korea was the USNS General William M Black (T-AP-135). Anyone interested in details about the ship can 'Google' AP-135 and view the Wikipedia page. The references listed there can lead to information on other transport ships.

Richard Stelter, 2407 Democracy Dr., Buford, GA 30519,
770-965-6651 (H), 678-472-6100 (C)
rstelter@bellsouth.net

All Because of a Mistake

This letter is in response to a letter posted in our magazine, written by George R. Morris, as to his status as an inactive reservist being called up. (See "Unfortunate Timing For WWII Reservists," p. 68, May/June 2012.)

This recall for Morris was in September, as was it for me, as an inactive reservist. I was discharged in February of 1950 after my first enlistment, and transferred to the inactive reserves, per the agreement with the government when I enlisted in July of 1948.

I was sent to Ft. Lewis, Washington, then after processing, shipped out to Japan on 19 December 1950. From there I was sent to Korea until October of 1951, when I was sent home to be discharged. I served with M Co., 5th RCT, 24th Inf. Div.

When I was recalled from the inactive reserves, I believed that was not to have happened. I was inactive, no weekend training or pay, as the enlisted reserves or the National Guard experienced

After getting home and going back at work, I noticed an article in a Chicago paper regarding the mother of a soldier who was an inactive reservist, was recalled, sent to Korea, and killed in action. Her letter to the Department of Defense (DOD) was requesting an answer as to why the inactive reserves were being called up and the active reserves were not.

I remember that answer as if it was yesterday. DOD told her it was a mistake, that the inactive were called up on order from Congress. So, that young man lost his life due to a mistake Congress made. I often wonder how many of us inactive boys were sent to Korea. There were a lot, many of whom ended up as KIA.

I ended up with PTSD, a Purple Heart, hearing aid, almost the loss of my fingers due to frost bite, and a damaged knee—all because of a mistake.

John W. Sonley, 9037 E. Sun Lakes Blvd-S
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

Thank You, George Lampman and Barry A. Zulauf

In the May-June 2012 edition of *The Graybeards* you published a piece on page 53 called “The Last Americans Out of Seoul.” The substance of the article was apparently entirely drawn from an article published by George Lampman and me in the June 2000 *Leatherneck Magazine* on the 50th anniversary of the events.

Your piece gives no credit to this article. Nor did you, apparently, contact Mr. Lampman, the last survivor of this group. I think you ought to give credit, not so much for the article he wrote, but for what he did.

CDR Barry A. Zulauf, Zulauf@dodiis.mil

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tom Moore, the author of the article, to whom CDR Zulauf's email was addressed, responded to me. He said, “In doing research on the article, I did not run across anything from Leatherneck that I was aware of. You do a good job with The Graybeards, and I want to apologize, if I have caused you or the KWVA any embarrassment.”

Then, he called the aforesaid Mr. Lampman, who he described as a “very nice man.” Moore reported that Lampman seemed surprised at CDR Zulauf's actions and “said it's ok.”

The two gentlemen had a nice talk, during which Lampman reported that he was in Korea for a total of seven years—and that four of the Marines are still alive, contrary to what CDR Zulauf claimed about Lampman being the last survivor. In fact, Moore learned that one of them lives about 100 miles from him.

Finally, Lampman said, he hoped our membership enjoyed the article.

The Writer Could Not Have Been in Korea

I acknowledge your disclaimer as to accuracy and validity of submitted articles!! However, there should be some reality check to the articles so as not to be entirely fictional as the Gordon Provost article, “The Last 33.”

If Mr. Provost rotated to Japan with the 1st Marine Division as stated, he was obviously NOT in the 1st MAR DIV and if he was not in the Division then he was not in Korea. If he was not in Korea, then he did not disembark from a ship using cargo nets too large to grip.

Blake Jones, Life member and former 7th MAR REG,
1ST MAR DIV, Korea 1954-1955 jonesblake@q.com

Gordon Provost's Response:

Thanks for forwarding that from Mr. Jones. His message is dysfunctional and inaccurate. For him to label my story as “made up” is shameful and discounted out of hand as coming from a blowhard. And I am sorry that you have to spend valuable time dealing with such matters.

The article I wrote is entirely factual, including the names and dates. Mr. Jones was probably not even in the Corps by the time I returned to the states and was discharged on August 29, 1952, so where he obtained his wealth of knowledge about my service with the 1st Mar. Div. and my integrity is beyond me.

Everything I wrote can be backed up by the records. Why in the world would I make up such a story? Please note that at no time was there any chest beating hero self worship, or tales of daring do. That simply is not who I am. And yes, [some of] the members of the First Mar Div who landed at Inchon were those 2nd Mar. Div. Marines who were moved from Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton, where activated Marine reservists were (much to their dismay) joined with us creating what was officially referred to as the 1st Marine Division Reinforced.

We shipped out of San Diego on the George Clymer some time the latter part of August 1950 and spent 10 days at sea. We landed in Yokosuka (sp?), Japan where we were loaded onto other transports. It is all in the record.

In terms of the “Med Cruise” Marines (there was always a battalion of Marines who were afloat in the Mediterranean, but rotated every six months). I have no idea if they removed those troops to join with us and leave no Marines afloat in the Med. Given their mission, I doubt it.

Let us not forget the members of the “1st Marine Brigade” who held off the North Koreans at the Pusan Perimeter until the landing at Inchon. They were actually the original 1st Marine Division from Camp Pendleton who were shipped post haste after the June 15 invasion by the North Koreans. I do not know if they integrated with us at or after Inchon, but in any event had they not done such an incredible job of stopping the North Koreans we might not be telling our stories now.

C-124 vs. C-125

I believe that the repeated reference to C-125 aircraft in Charles S. Douglas' “A Soldier's Story,” May/June 2012, p. 18, must actually be to C-124 aircraft.

The Armed Forces did apparently have a few C-125s, which could accommodate approximately 40 passengers; however, the article states that the aircraft (termed a C-125) carried “...200 infantry

soldiers fully equipped and combat ready with jeeps and support equipment.” The references are undoubtedly to C-124s.

Donald R. Swygert, drswygert@rcn.com

Charles Douglas Has A Great Memory

I personally related to most of the reflection by Lt Charles S. Douglas in the May-June, 2012 issue of *The Graybeards*, “Korea Remembered, 60 Years later: A Soldier’s Story,” p. 18. One major difference was that I was enlisted from Tennessee and he was an officer from New York.

We were in Korea about the same time and in the same division. His story indicates to me that he has a great memory. I thank him for the article, which I enjoyed very much.

Paul E. Riley, KW60th Ambassador, 2117 Covington Dr., Florence, AL 35630, perch2117@comcast.net

You Can’t Fight A War With One Carbine

Re Charles G. Douglas’ story (see above), I could relate to his reference to Baldy.

I arrived in Korea in March of 1953 and was assigned to the 78th Engineer Field Maintenance Company, some 20 miles north of Seoul, a short distance from the 38th Parallel and the MLR. My job was to supervise a platoon of mechanics repairing bulldozers, graders, etc.

After the Armistice in July of 1953, my platoon and I were assigned to “no man’s land” between the two opposing armies. We were in support of the Engineers who were building a holding camp for the many thousands of prisoners who had chosen not to return to Communism. The location was the Panmunjom area north of the Imjin River. I had a chance to witness the prisoner exchange and to explore the area.

One particular hilltop looked out on Baldy a short distance away. This spot was laced with trenches and an underground cave to escape into when there was incoming artillery. There was lots of ammo left around.

So we could not start something, my platoon’s only weapon was my carbine, which was not a great weapon. Had the truce broken, the railroad bridge which was the only access to this area was all set to be blown up.

When I returned to Korea in July 2003 with an 18-year-old grandson to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the armistice, I saw this bridge again. The area across the bridge, known as “Freedom Bridge,” where I had been stationed, was now enemy territory.

In June of 2011 I took another grandson, this one was 16, to this same spot. Only being able to take this revisit tour every 5 or so years means that I’ve got to live a long time to show them all, for I have 13 grandsons.

Bob Hoyt, Jr., 25B Park Circle, Nantucket, MA 02554
(Summer only, June 20-Sept. 20th), 508-228-7865

On Slinging the Bull In Korea

I’ll expand on the letter by Eddie Deerfield in the Jan/Feb 2012 edition regarding Slinging the Bull In Korea, which was reviewed in the Sept/Oct 2011 issue, p. 71. (I even take offense with the name of the book.) I don’t know Mr. Deerfield’s background, but he did a pretty good job in his remarks.

After flight training in the beginning of 1952, I was sent to Korea

to fly B-26s. A tour was fifty missions. Before I was finished I was transferred to a newly formed CIA wing at Clark AFB called the “581 Air Resupply and Communication Wing.” That was a misnomer, because the real purpose was to fly psychological warfare missions in Korea, which were in violation of the Geneva Convention.

We flew B-29s at night out of Yokota AFB, Japan. They were unarmed, painted black, and carried no USAF markings on them. Thank God our plane had no markings on it, or I would not be writing this.

The Korean War ended in the summer of 1953. A year later the 581 was disbanded. When I found out the book was written by a Dr. Campbell, who was supposedly in our wing, I tried to find anyone who knew him. I couldn’t find anyone. Then I called the University of New Mexico, where the book was published and he was a professor. I wanted to talk to him and get a copy of the book.

I talked to several people there, but they could not get Dr. Campbell to talk to me. I do not know why. Eventually, he sent me a copy of the book with a short note. I was surprised that someone with so little knowledge of what we did in Korea would write a book and no one seemed to know him. I was hoping to talk to him to point out numerous mistakes in the book.

One mistake was calling it a “bloodless battle.” On our first B-29 mission we lost our wing commander, Col. Arnold, and eleven other crew members. They were shot down! The Chinese knew he was on board.

Art Snyder, 429 Manor Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

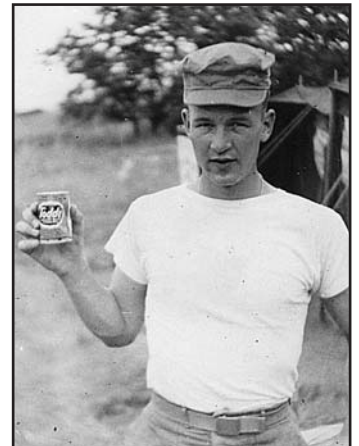
Toddy

Here are a couple pictures promoting “Toddy”...evidently. The pictures of Jake and Charley were taken in the late summer of 1952 in the rear area of the Kumwha Valley. (I can’t remember Jake’s last name. I think it was Jacobsen, perhaps with a Norwegian spelling. I believe he was from Oregon.)

We were with the 17th Infantry Regiment (the “Buffalos”). When the regiment came off line this was their reward—a chocolate drink.

Thanks for the memories.

Charlie Malone, Pinehurst, NC 28374,
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LEFT: Charlie Malone, RIGHT: Jake

ARTHUR G. SHARP

THE GRAYBEARDS EDITOR

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June 13, 2012

Robert M. Eaton
1950 45th Ave. NE Apt 111
Salem, OR 97305

Mr. Eaton:

I received a copy of the below email from Tilford Jones recently:

I received a letter today with a \$50.00 check contribution to the *Graybeards* from Life Member Robert E. Eaton LR12818. In the letter he stated "I further desire that the mailing of my copy of the *Graybeards* be terminated. As a navy veteran of the Korean War I find very few articles of interest. Seems the effort and contributions of the naval forces are receiving little recognition." Perhaps Art, you could write and tell him we would love to print any article from the Navy but we have no contributors. Maybe he could start by submitting something.

I wonder if he really wants to stop receiving the G/B.

Thanks, Tilford

Here is my response:

Gentlemen:

I have been the editor of *The Graybeards* for eight years now. I cannot tell you how many times I have heard this same complaint in some form or another. It is part of the job.

I frequently get complaints from people regarding lack of coverage for specific branches of the armed forces, specific units within the branches, favoritism for one service over another...

One that I heard frequently was that I favored Marine Corps stories and news and gave them priority over every other service because I was a Marine. Then, a Marine accused me of bending over backwards not to print Marine Corps-related news and stories, so I would not be perceived as prejudicial to the Marine Corps. I cannot win.

Jim's answer is the only correct one: if people want to see stories about their favorite armed forces branches or specific units, send them in. I make an effort to get to everything printable eventually (and I get a lot that is not), even if it takes years in some cases (literally) to do so.

I will make the point about we print what we get in the next *Graybeards*—again. I am guessing that for every one person who resigns because of "lack of coverage," two more join.

Bear in mind that I am the entire staff of The Graybeards. I do not have the time or the resources to seek stories. I can only print what KWVA members send me. I do have stories from Navy members scheduled. Please add to them by submitting one of your own.

Cordially,
Art Sharp

A Survivor of the Sunchon Massacre

Pallbearers from Ch 40 escort William Henninger's casket (R-L) President Ed Valle, Larry Dittel, 2nd VP Ervin Lewandowski, Bud Van Hatten



By Blair Rumble

High school students back in Minnesota may have been oblivious to what was happening in Korea on the night of October 20, 1950. But, William Wallace Henninger of Hastings, Minnesota was not, as the events chronicled in his recent obituary in the St. Paul Pioneer Press made clear.

As the obituary revealed, "[He] served proudly in WWII and Korea. As a POW he survived the Sunchon Tunnel Massacre and was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and other awards." Indeed, Henninger was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII. He reenlisted to fight the North Koreans after war broke out in June 1950, and served with the 34th Regt., 24th Inf. Div.

Bill was captured and interned in a prison camp near Pyongyang. As U.S. forces approached, the North Koreans loaded about 180 prisoners into railroad cars and fled north.

During the night of October 20, 1950, the train stopped in the Sunchon Tunnel. The prisoners were unloaded. They thought maybe they were going to get their first meal in days. Many of them were already malnourished—and had been since their four-day march began.

But, meals were not to be. North Koreans tied the prisoners' hands, herded them into a ravine, and shot them. Only twenty prisoners lived to tell about the massacre. Henninger was one of them—and the only one to escape without bullet holes. Altogether, 68 men of the group reportedly died from machine gun fire, malnutrition, or disease.

Henninger used a clever ruse to survive the massacre. When the man next to him was hit, he fell to the ground and the other Soldier fell on top of him. The guards shot and bayoneted anyone who moved or could be seen moving before they left the area in the darkness. Henninger escaped that fate as well. He attributed his survival to his position under the unknown Soldier who shielded his body and the cover of darkness.

He lived another 62 years after the massacre. He died on 1 April 2012. Henninger, a member of Minnesota Chapter One [CID 40], was buried at the Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis nine days later. Many of his comrades from the chapter attended his wake and/or served as pallbearers at his funeral.

That was a fine tribute for one of the few survivors of the Sunchon Massacre.

Reach Blair Rumble at 969 Lombard Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105, 651-224-8338

Korea, yet they never complained about the hardship of being away from their families in a foreign land. He asked them why they were there and they told him it was to fight communism and to help South Korea.

They asked him, "Were my country to need help, would you come?" He said yes, knowing that America was very far away but that Americans had come without asking how far or why.

My father died three years ago of cancer. I am working to preserve his history and the U.S. soldiers who trained him. At every veterans' gathering, through research and many phone calls, mailings, e-mailings, and faxes, I would show veterans my father's pictures and ask them if they recognized him or whether they were the American soldiers in the pictures. I learned so much about these great soldiers in my quest to know my father better. My dealings with them validated my father's judgment of them as the best.

He left a legacy to be proud of. He showed his children that hard work was its own reward. He left no debts. He was brutally honest, and never pulled a punch. He kept every promise he ever made, and lost all respect for those who failed to keep theirs.

My father gave no one a second chance to do the right thing. He made America a better place in the only way he knew how: working hard, paying his taxes, helping his neighbors. He taught us to be grateful to those who served and to always appreciate the freedoms they defended. He was a prototypical American, imported from Korea.

Our generation must cherish their stories of service and pass them on to coming generations who will not know these men other than through the record of their service and sacrifice. Preserving their legacy is my way of relaying my father's "thank you" to them.

I ask readers who served in 8240 Army unit and other associated special operations units to please contact me and share your stories of your unique experiences during the Korean War. My address is 6531 Milva Lane, Springfield, VA 22150, (703) 912-4218, monikastoy@yahoo.com. Thank you
***Monika Stoy is a life member of the KWVA, Chapter 100, and a retired US Army officer.*

Last Laugh On A Mess Sergeant

Marvin Reed was apprehended liberating cans of fruit out of "five-in-ones" for his hungry quad .50 crew members, who he suspected were being deprived of rations at times. That put him and the crew at the bottom of the mess sergeant's list of favorite folks. Reed determined to restore his reputation—and make sure the gun crews were better fed.

There was an empty hut—or what was left of it—about 500 yards up a hill from his position. Reed ordered his gunner to line up the quad 50s on that poor shell of a hut and open fire. Needless to say, that created a lot of excitement.

Immediately, there were "spit and polish" personnel running around

screaming and hollering about being attacked. Their panic amused Reed and the gun crews no end. Pretty soon the "brass" showed up and asked a lot of questions about what was going on.

Reed had the answers right at hand. He told the officer that his crew members thought they had detected an enemy sniper holed up in the hut, and they were trying their best to protect the mess sergeant and his helpers. That caught the officer's attention.

Happily, Reed reported, he and the gun crew members got all the rations they wanted.

Reach Marvin Reed at 2900 Right Hand Canyon Rd., Palomino Valley, NV 89510, 775-475-0290

THANK YOU

 from page 15

The Major looked at my records and thought I could do it. (I never used my training as a field wireman)

I made numerous trips to the front line, so I realized how much better I had it than the troops there did. We, at least, lived in ten-man tents and had a pre-fab for the mess hall.

One incident really stands out in my memory of Korea. One night, three of us were assigned guard duty. About halfway up the side of a hill there was a fifty caliber machine gun guarding the valley that led up to our location. We went up there in the dark, with a heavy wet snow coming down.

I took the first duty shift while the others were in the pup tent sleeping. A trip flare went off in the valley, but I couldn't see anything because of the heavy snow and darkness. I got on the telephone and alerted the Sergeant of the Guard. He said to let him know if any more went off.

In a few minutes, another flare went off, so I alerted him again. While he was on the phone, a third one went off. He organized a patrol to scout it. In the meantime, since I had never seen a fifty caliber machine gun before, I woke the other two guards. Neither of them had

seen a machine gun before, let alone know how to load it.

Fortunately, as we discovered, it was the heavy snow that was tripping the flares. After that, I complained strongly about our lack of training; I guess it helped. The brass set up two fifty caliber guns and everyone in the battery had to take a turn at firing one.

My job was interesting, and time went quickly. But, I remember being tired most of the time as we were always short-handed. That subjected us to long hours, but I have no regrets.

Promotions were frozen for some time, resulting in my being a Private E-2 for many months. That lasted until Frances Perkins, a member of the U.S. Civil Service Commission appointed by President Truman, came to Korea at the request of the President.

Ms. Perkins stated when she left Korea that there were too many privates holding down sergeants' jobs, and she wanted to do something about it. As a result I went from Private E-2 to Sergeant E-5 in a few months. I was also awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

Reach Donald Score at 5256 Jomar Dr., Concord, CA 94521-2343, 925-825-0524

AIR FORCE, NINETEEN FIFTIES

By Frank Mandriota

In World War II the U.S. Army Air Corps was training pilots at a number of bases. From 1943 on they accepted student pilots from the Free French. This type of arrangement was repeated during the 1950s with student pilots from several other countries. This recounts my involvement with imported student pilots starting with the decision to enlist in the USAF in 1952.

On my 19th birthday there was a little party for family and friends in our second floor apartment in Astoria, Queens, New York City. After dinner, my cousin and two friends whispered to me a need for beer, thanked my Mom, and headed down to go to Connolly's Bar. I started to follow, but Mom grabbed my sleeve and said "You stay with the family!"

I sulked in the kitchen, opened the window, let out the washing machine electric cord, slid down to the plug, let go, and dropped about five feet to the sidewalk. Mom was up when I returned, sitting at the door at 1:30 a.m. Her lecture included orders, "You listen to Momma as long as you live here!"

I enlisted in the USAF two weeks later as an airman, took the tests for Aviation Cadets, passed, and worked for about a year as a fireman waiting for Class 54P. During the Korean War, college was not a requirement for pilot training.

My career flying T29s (a Convair 240 called the "flying classroom"), carrying 4 desks, 2 instructors and 16 student navigators and bombardiers, was very enjoyable and uneventful, with only minor adventures.

The adventurous part was primary and advanced training at Hondo AFB and Reese AFB, both in Texas. What made the adventures was flying with imported cadets and officers who trained in the U.S. as part of the MDAP (Mutual Defense Assistance Pact).

The ones I met and flew with were from France, Belgium, Denmark, Colombia, and Iran. Most were from privileged families,

Hondo Group

and they were gentlemen to varying degrees. Some spoke very little English, though speaking English was supposed to be a requirement.

There was a big cultural difference in attitudes about what was a "Good Pilot." The USAF finally, when uniforms went from brown to blue, preached "A Good Pilot is a Safe Pilot." With the exception of the Danes, these guys acted out "A Good Pilot is a Daredevil."

In Primary, we flew PA-18 Super Cubs, then T-6s. The MDAPs had a little primary in their home countries and I first met them in T-6 training. My roommate, Jaime, was from a Colombia coffee plantation family. He was a nice, well spoken, friendly guy.

Note: Trainees' last names have been omitted to protect their reputations—and their families.

After his check out in the T-6, I saw him at the ramp. He was starting to taxi out for his first solo. Then, as I was jogging to the mess hall with a few cadets, we heard the familiar take-off run a few hundred feet away on this small base. Then, there was an unfamiliar silence, followed by the unmistakable sound of scraping and bending aluminum.

We ran to the runway and saw at the far end a T-6 scrunched down with its gear up. There was a little smoke and dust rising from the aircraft. Within a few seconds, Jaime jumped out, his seat parachute dragging, and heading toward us.

I yelled, "Jaime! Jaime! What happened?"

He said "Frank, I jump in airplane, start engine, taxi out and take off. I raise landing gear—engine stop turning! I do emergency check last. Ignition off, master switch off,



gas off—gas, it is off!"

He had never turned the fuel valve on in his disdain for check list use. Consequently, he had enough gas in the line to taxi and get fifty feet off the ground. Two days later he was shipped back to Colombia. We corresponded afterward and I received several packages of excellent coffee.

After six months of primary training, we graduated and they offered a sort of lottery choice of fighters or bombers for advanced training. I pondered and finally called my mother for advice. (I was 20 years old).

She said "Sonny, (she called me that until I got married and my wife asked her to switch to Frank) what are you going to do when you get out of the Air Force?"

"I don't know, Mom."

She answered her own question. "Sonny, how many airlines have airplanes with one motor?"

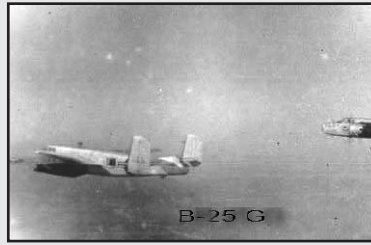
So I went to Reese AFB, Lubbock Texas, for multi-engine training.

That was an interesting setting, with blowing dust and sand making IFR (instrument flight rules) conditions about a third of the days. We first flew T-28 Trojans to transition to nose gear from tail dragger. This was a placid phase, as it was pilot and instructor and no interaction with the daredevils. We had great aerobatic training in those planes that had jet characteristics.

Next were B-25s and our new connection with student co-pilots. The procedure



Frank Mandriota standing by a PA-18



B-25s in formation



Frank Mandriota in his T-6

was taxing: it consisted of an instructor and four students at briefing tables in morning, afternoon and night sessions. (At noon-time I napped in the tunnel of a B-25 connecting to the nose compartment). Students were paired and I drew as one flying cohort Mohammed, a thin, tall prince in the Pahlavi royal family of Iran.

Until then, we suffered the consequences of only our own goofs. Now, half the time in the left seat, we sometimes squirmed as co-pilots. Prince Mohammed spoke only a few words of English and did not answer radio calls. He also flew staring straight ahead and made corrections in heading and altitude in jerks.

Formation training consisted of the instructor in the lead, and one student airplane at the right wing. The drill was to tighten it up, left wingtip just behind the lead's right wing tip. We went up to 8,000 feet. With Prince Mohammed in the left seat, that meant quick glances to the left and quick jerks to the lead's wingtip.

We were about ten feet behind the instructor's right wing and the prince kept jerking further to the left. Finally, with one large jerk, he got our left wing behind the right prop of the lead, and the prop wash flipped us over on our back. I was riding the controls trying to complete the roll to upright. Meanwhile, our early Model G B-25, without the later pressure carburetors, was sputtering.

We thrust right and left, while Mohammed pulled back hard starting a Split-S in our non-aerobatic medium bomber. We seemed to be pointing straight down for a long time and passed the red line. I was pulling back as well and pulling several Gs.

Engines smoothed out at last, and we leveled at about 2,000 feet. The instructor called, "Air Force 789, where are you?"

Silence.

Then, I answered, "Behind and under

you at two thousand feet, sir."

He asked, "What are you doing down there?"

I explained the scenario, and he said "Tell him not to do that."

Then came the dreaded call: "Air Force 789, rejoin!"

He slowed and we climbed, and Prince Mohammed started once again getting close in and getting in past the instructor's wing tip. I wrestled with him on the controls and called, "Sir! He is doing it again."

The instructor acknowledged and ordered, "Air Force 789, return to base and land."

Two days later Mohammed was gone and I never heard from him again.

Sometimes on training flights we were student in the left seat and instructor in the right seat, and another student in the nose. On one flight, a low-level triangular cross country, which we were supposed to fly between 100 and 200 feet AGL (Above Ground Level), I was in the nose.

We were in loose formation with another B-25 student, Bernard, from France, to the left. In the nose at 100-200 feet there was quite a view: ranchers shaking fists when their cattle bolted, near hits on windmills, and hills looming to our altitude.

I heard Bernard's instructor call Reese tower that they were returning with one engine out. We returned a little later and pulled into the ramp next to them. I dropped out of the bottom hatch, looked to the left, and saw Bernard's plane with the right prop tips bent forward at about 90 degrees. They had grazed the top of a hill about ten inches too low (engine running, prop blades bend forward when striking something).

Bernard shipped out—not back to France, but to Laredo, for fighter advanced in T33s. We did not

get the story as to why this unusual switch was made. Later, toward the end of training, we heard that Bernard "bought the farm" on a low level solo training flight, strafing targets lower and lower until he crashed.

I spent three happy years as Mission Pilot of T-29s carrying navigator training crews. The pilots were a hearty group and made good friends, one a best friend to this day. Happily, nothing untoward happened on these missions in these very safe aircraft. Adventures were flights from Texas to Bermuda, for which we received overseas pay, single engine drills, and sometimes goofy behavior of a crew member about to retire.

Captain Farnam, leaving in a week to resume life in his apple orchard in Wisconsin, carried a cap with a propeller on top. I was flying right seat and excused myself to go to the head in the tail compartment. When I came out and started forward in the aisle, I saw a startled crew looking at the Captain sauntering toward the head in his propeller hat. He had put the plane on autopilot when he suspected I was returning to the cockpit. It was quite against the regs, but an isolated incident.

These three great years flying (and marriage to a San Antonio nurse) completed my Air Force career. I still love flying (and marriage). My Air Force training was a solid foundation for 23 years of ownership and countrywide flying our Cherokee Six.

*Frank J. Mandriota, Bayport, NY
lifesciassoc@pipeline.com*



A T-29 in flight

2012 Fundraiser TICKETS

KWVA Membership # _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail To: KWVA Membership Office, PO Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407

OR, alternatively, you may pay by Credit Card:

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____ V-Code ____ ☐ VISA ☐ Master Card

Signature _____

Contact: Art Griffith, Chairman, Fund-Raising Committee, ArtArmy299@yahoo.com for information about this historic fund-raiser.

Ticket(s) Instructions: Print your membership number in the boxes on both the left and right side of ticket(s). Your ticket number is your membership number. If your membership number is R088888 then your ticket number is R088888. Cut out tickets, keep the left side for your records and return the stub. If you donate for two tickets, fill in two ticket(s). To donate for three tickets, fill in your information on three tickets. **Cutoff date Oct. 01, 2012**

<p align="center">2012 Fund-Raiser Ticket</p> <p align="center">Keep this \$20 Ticket for your records</p> <p>Win a M1 Garand rifle first prize, \$2,000 cash second prize or a flat screen TV, third prize.</p> <p>Print your membership No here: Nº</p> <p><small>You do not have to donate to be eligible to win</small></p>	<p align="center">Return this stub with donation</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Street Address: _____</p> <p>City State & Zip _____</p> <p>Phone # _____</p> <p>e-mail address _____</p> <p>Print your membership No here: Nº</p>
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✂ Cut this section and keep for your records

✂ Cut this stub and return

<p align="center">2012 Fund-Raiser Ticket</p> <p align="center">Keep this \$20 Ticket for your records</p> <p>Win a M1 Garand rifle first prize, \$2,000 cash second prize or a flat screen TV, third prize.</p> <p>Print your membership No here: Nº</p> <p><small>You do not have to donate to be eligible to win</small></p>	<p align="center">Return this stub with donation</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Street Address: _____</p> <p>City State & Zip _____</p> <p>Phone # _____</p> <p>e-mail address _____</p> <p>Print your membership No here: Nº</p>
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✂ Cut this section and keep for your records

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KWVA's 2012 FUND RAISER

Three Great Prizes

Please Help   Win a Prize



Lend a hand to your association by buying \$20 fund-raising tickets. Each ticket gives you opportunity to, win one of three super prizes.

First Prize M1 Garand Rifle



Second Prize



Two
Thousand
Dollars

Third Prize



Large Flat Screen
TV



To enter this exciting fund-raiser, complete the enclosed order form. Winners announced at 2012 National Membership Meeting in St. Louis, Mo. in October. You need not be present to win.

Deadline for ticket donations — Oct. 1, 2012.

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** (# _____)

Please Check One ☐ **Medal of Honor** ☐ **Regular Member** ☐ **Regular Life Member** ☐ **Associate Member**
☐ **Ex-POW** ☐ **Honorary** ☐ **Gold Star Parent** ☐ **Gold Star Spouse**

(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

Branch of Service

Division _____ ☐ Army
Regiment _____ ☐ Air Force
Battalion _____ ☐ Navy
Company _____ ☐ Marines
Other _____ ☐ 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** (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD (only)

Expiration Date _____ V-Code _____ Your Signature _____

Adopted 10/26/2009

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1, 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 Medal of Honor recipient 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 ____.
- ☐ 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 the 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.

- 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, is eligible for membership if:
a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or
b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
- Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
- Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
- Gold Star Parents.** Any parent whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
- 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 (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

B. Associate Members.

- Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
- 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 KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

C. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

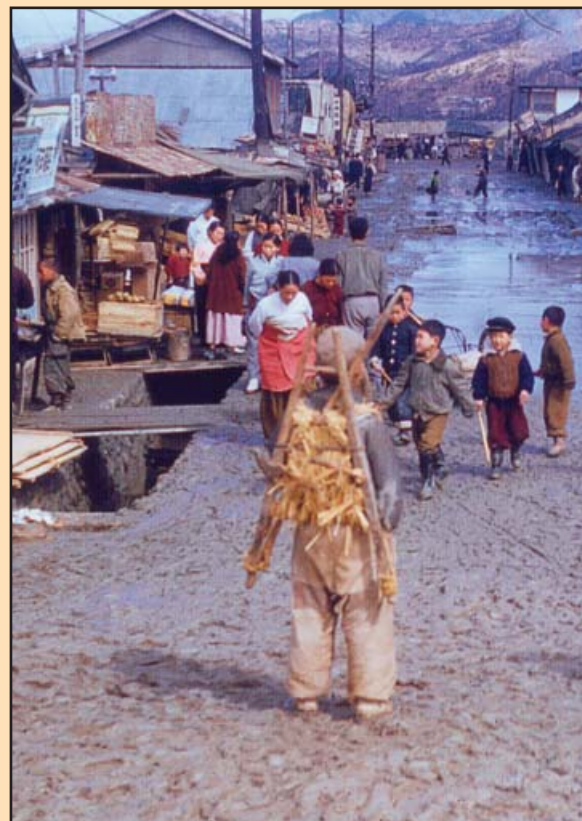
D. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

Seven Korean Scenes

The photos below were taken from the fall of 1953 through June 1954, while I was with Co. C of the 430th Construction Engineers. The photo of a northern Wonju street scene in the summer of 1954 is significant. There was an article in the Jan/Feb 2008 issue of *The Graybeards*, "Wonju and Hill 342," p. 56, that described some of the action around the area during February 1951. Three years later—and what a difference.



Company compound near Wonju on Christmas Day 1953



Street scene in northern Wonju in the summer of 1954



Troops boarding LST in Incheon Harbor



A road northeast of Wonju



Troops on a road march



Wash day in a river near Wonju



Convoys northeast of Seoul

APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PEACE CAMP FOR YOUTH (PCFY) TOURS

(UPDATED 01/14/11)

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____

KWVA Member, # _____ Expiration Date (Exp date) _____

NOTE: If you have not yet received your membership # from KWVA please insert "applied for."

List all your addresses, (seasonal/if more than one per year) and dates of residence, no P.O. Boxes.

1. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Dates _____

2. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Dates _____

Phone # _____ Fax _____ E-Mail* _____

*- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES

Korea Revisit Only

Veterans Passport# _____ Exp Date _____ Date of Birth (DOB) _____

Companion Name/Relationship _____ DOB _____

Companion's Passport# _____ Exp Date _____

NOTE: If you do not have a passport with 6 months validity after last date of return to USA and have applied for a new one, please insert "Applied for" in the space provided and contact MHT when you receive it.

Veteran's Korean Service Information (Both Tours)

Branch of Service _____ Unit _____

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

Veterans / family member signature _____ Date _____

Complete and mail this form along with the \$450.00 deposit / service-fee per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted within sixty days of tour departure.

(PCFY) Peace Camp For Youth (Only)

Grandchild: Last Name _____ First _____ DOB _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail¹ _____ Passport #² _____ Exp Date _____

NOTES: 1- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES 2- If no passport put Applied for in this block and call in when received.

Credit Card Authorization:

I authorize Military Historical Tours by my signature above to charge my Visa, Master Card or Amex \$450.00 Per Person,

The amount of \$450.00 Per Person Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date: _____ please include the 3-Digit code on back of card _____

Name as it appears on the Credit Card _____

Korea Revisit related material please send to:

KWVA Revisit Korea Program

C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS

13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202

WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285

Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501

Fax: 703-590-1292

E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com

www.miltours.com

Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul) in 1975 for the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War to express the **Republic of Korea (ROK's)** government's gratitude to Korean War veterans and their families also to show them the bountiful results of

their sacrifices and devotion.

MPVA's Eligibility Requirements

Korean War Veterans who served in or supported ground, naval, or air operations in the Korean Theater between June 25, 1950 and October 15, 1954. **Family members** of deceased or disabled Veterans are eligible to participate in the "Korea Revisit Program." An eligible applicant is allowed

to bring a family member or friend as a "travel companion."

Expanded Eligibility

- 1) For the 60th anniversaries (2010-13) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2006 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)

2) Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as **Veteran Representatives**.

Benefits & Schedule

Free hotel accommodations for the veteran their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and the National Cemetery.

Peace Camp For Youth (PCFY) Program for Grandchildren of Veterans

Purpose is to express the sincere gratitude of the Korean people and to build a network for future collaboration among **Families of Korean War Veterans**. Grandchildren must be at least 18 years old.

Benefits & Schedule for (PCFY)

Same as the Veterans tour with an extra day of events and subsidizes are per person, with no companions.

Sundry Notes

1. The MPVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
2. Participants are required to have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after return to the USA.
3. Neither MPVA Seoul nor MHT Virginia U.S.A is responsible for any loss of or damage to personal or other items; medical expenses, injuries or loss of life due to any accident of any nature during the tour.
4. Hospitalization, Evacuation and Trip Cancellation Insurance is required by MPVA for all veterans, companions or veteran representatives. Insurance costs are included in the admin service charge for Korea only.
5. Transportation costs to/from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The Korean government is now subsidizing airfare for persons traveling with the MHT administered group.
6. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, first-served" basis.
7. Use of frequent flyer miles or other "free" transportation is allowed, but the administrative service fee of **\$450.00** per person is still required for the insurance and administration.



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

JOHN WILLIAM HANBACK
DARETH A. RAYMER
RAYMOND EARL SWINDLE
BOBBY J. WOODRUFF

ARIZONA

RONALD S. BAYERS
JUAN J. GARCIA
JOHN E. MILLER

CALIFORNIA

EUTIMEO BEAS
VINCENT CALA
JOHN C. DOUGLAS JR.
HARLAND E. FORELL
JOHN MILTON CRESSY FULLER
FRED H. KEELER
CHARLES 'CHUCH' LUNA
MARVIN E. REAM
GUILLERMO H. TOVAR

COLORADO

J. ENRIQUE TRUJILLO

CONNECTICUT

RAYMOND J. H. JOANIS

DELAWARE

LOUIS J. WILHELM

FLORIDA

PAUL N. GONYEA
LARRY C. JACKSON
ALFONSO LATINI
RALPH C. LEVY
BERNARD T. O'BRIEN
RICHARD D. ROSENFELD
DAVID W. ROULEAU
ANGELO R. SACCENTE

GEORGIA

RICHARD M. PRATER
GEORGE F. STANFIELD
RANCE J. TAYLOR

HAWAII

GILBERT J. CORREA

ILLINOIS

DAVID EUGENE AMERMAN
RAYMOND M. ENGLING
RICHARD E. HENDRICKS
BILLY J. 'B.J.' JONES
EDGAR EUGENE LIST
L. JOSE MARTINEZ
BERNARD A. SCOTT
HENRY B. SHEPHERD JR.
DONALD R. STOCKWELL
PAUL W. SUTPHIN
CLETUS R. SWANSON

HIJINIO F. VILLARREAL

ARTHUR W. WILLIAMS JR.

INDIANA

ALBERT GARCIA
WILLIAM F. HULLINGER
CHARLES E. KINNETT
DONALD E. MITCHELL
HOMER M. MUIR
ALAN H. STEWART
ROBERT E. 'BOB' WENDEL

IOWA

VINCENT G. FRUTH

KANSAS

LYLE J. CORDLE
JOSE FOLCH
LEON GOODHART
GLENN RAY SHERIDAN

MAINE

RICHARD G. CHICK
JAMES A. UMBLE JR.

MARYLAND

GROVER N. KERSHNER

MASSACHUSETTS

ANTHONY J. PENNINGTON

MICHIGAN

DEWAYNE R. BULLARD SR.
JAMES HOMER CONNER
AXEL W. LAXO

MINNESOTA

WILLIAM W. HENNINGER SR.
MILTON C. ROBSAHM
ALBERT JOSEPH STAUBER
THOMAS M. TINTES
FLORIAN G. WERSAL

MISSOURI

RAY K. ECKLES
BILLY G. GARNER
DAVID A. MILLS

NEVADA

ARNOLD L. WETZSTEIN

NEW JERSEY

KENNETH BENSON
MICHAEL PILEGGI
ROBERT C. SCHOFIELD
EDWARD J. SMARSH

NEW YORK

CHARLES DEBERRY
SALVATORE FINAZZO
GEORGE D. GRIFFIN
JACOB F. KHERDERIAN
ROBERT B. MARVIN
RONALD P. MCKEOWN
RONALD J. MILNE
JOHN J. MORIARTY
EDWARD P. MORRIS
ANGELO C. RAGONE
FREDERICK V. THOMPSON

NORTH DAKOTA

LEROY F. JAGER

OHIO

JAMES W. AEPPLI
DAVID E. BOSTON SR.
JACK D. BRAMMER SR.
WILLIAM E. BRITT
JOSEPH R. FARIS
LESTER L. SMITH
CHARLES R. SUDER
ROGER TARR
CLOYD D. THOMPSON

OKLAHOMA

TED K. VERSAW

OREGON

THOMAS A. O'NEILL

PENNSYLVANIA

RICHARD B. BAKER
JOSEPH G. RUHE
HARRISON J. SCHLUSSER

TEXAS

ALFRED A. HOWARD
JACK W. LATHAM
JAMES T. PROFITT

VIRGINIA

CARROLL WAYNE DELP
GEORGE C. JUSKALIAN
ROBERT J. LITTLE
CHARLES H. 'JACK' PATTON

WASHINGTON

DEAN A. CHAUSSEE
ROBERT W. ROBINSON

WISCONSIN

JOHN D. IRELAND

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

Korean War Veterans Association
Membership Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407

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Brig. Gen. Vincent A. Coglianese, commanding general, Marine Corps Installations West, Korean War veterans from the Chosin Few, and Republic of Korea government representatives pose with the Little Angels Children's Folk Ballet of Korea during a memorial wreath laying ceremony at the South Mesa Club here, Feb. 16. During the ceremony, the group performed several selections for the audience, including Amazing Grace and the Marine Corps Hymn. The Little Angels, Korea's cultural ambassadors of peace and goodwill, are commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Korean War by touring the 16 United Nation member nations that sent troops to the conflict, as well as the six nations that sent medical units. The purpose of the tour is to honor the Korean War veterans and their families. Official U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Jovane M. Henry.