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I am sure most of us in our lifetimes have had things happen that we didn’t expect and that totally changed our lives. Well, that just happened to me. Suddenly I have been thrust into the leadership of the National KWVA and assumed all the responsibilities that go along with it.

I am sure that all of you know by now that President Jim Ferris has resigned, effective at midnight May 18, 2013. According to the By-laws, as 1st Vice President I am to assume the duties of the President in his absence.

As far as I am concerned, Jim has provided the impetus to make our organization better. His enthusiasm in putting together teams for recruiting and fundraising and improving the financial aspect of The Graybeards magazine will certainly pay off for us in the future. His dedication and commitment to the KWVA have been well noted and are very much appreciated by all who know and worked with him.

Thank you, Jim, for all the days and years you have given to our organization. May you and Felice have more time to enjoy your family and do some of the things you have had to put off until you “had time.”

I am quickly finding out that the President of the KWVA has many more obligations and responsibilities than just looking after the organization. We are honored to be invited to many of the events that take place in Washington DC, especially since this is the “Year of the Korean Veteran.”

Early this month I was part of the delegation that welcomed the South Korean President Madame Park on her first visit to this country. I will also attend the wreath laying ceremony in Washington DC on Memorial Day and then go to Korea to take part in their commemoration of the beginning of the war in late June. Then, just around the corner in July will be the major event of the year in Washington DC, our annual membership meeting and the DOD 60th Anniversary Commemoration of the end of the Korean War. I am looking forward to all these opportunities to represent the KWVA, but I can see it will be a very busy time.

Any time an organization like ours changes leadership it is normal to do a complete audit of the finances. In fact, I would be reluctant to assume the leadership role without such an audit. Jim Ferris has recommended that this be done, and I am in complete agreement.

One of the first things I want to do is organize a transition team that can help look into the issues that are facing us now. I have asked Board member and By-laws Chairman Lew Ewing to head this group that consists of 2nd Vice President Roy Aldridge, Board member and Membership Chairman Tom Stevens, Board member and Budget and Finance Chairman Tilford Jones, KWVA Secretary Frank Cohee, Past President Bill Mac Swain, and me. This group will be charged with making sure we stay on track and help us with the planning for the membership meeting in July. I hope to have a meeting with this group in early to mid June.

In closing this first letter to the membership, I say that I feel very blessed in my life for good health, family and friends. I have already had many calls from KWVA members and friends offering their support as we go forward.

I am one who believes in the power of prayer. We are going through some rough spots with our organization right now, but I feel strongly that with your support and prayers we will continue as a strong organization and Tell America about the good things we did in Korea 60 years ago.

Larry Kinard, 1st Vice President/Acting President

New Directors Elected

May 15, 2013

I am pleased to inform you of the official certified final 2013 election results as provided by D.J. Burrows, CPA.

The four Directors elected are:

- George J. Bruzgis (LR25474) Elected Director, 2013-2016
- George S. Covel (LR07212) Elected Director, 2013-2016
- Tine P. Martin Sr. (LR30530) Elected Director, 2013-2016
- Thomas W. Stevens (LR25716) Re-Elected Director, 2013-2016

I thank all candidates who were elected as Directors. All members who have an interest in serving as a Director for 2014-2017 are reminded to submit an application prior to Dec. 15, 2013 to the Election Chairman whose name will be announced at a later date. I cannot be Elections Chairman for 2014, since I will be a Candidate for office.

Respectfully,

Thomas M. McHugh, Director Chairman, Elections Committee
CONTENTS

Business

From the President .................................................................3
From the Secretary .................................................................6
Board of Directors Meeting - March 20, 2013 ......................10
Call For Annual General Membership Meeting ..................17
Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards .........................17
KWVA ByLaw/SPM Revisions .............................................18
60th Anniversary Memorial Fund-Raiser ..........................53
Official Membership Application Form ..............................71

Features & Articles

Three Years to The Day .......................................................23
The Last Month ...................................................................30
A Good Starting Point .......................................................54

Departments

The Editor's Desk .................................................................9
Reunion Calendar ...............................................................16
Thanks ................................................................................32
Chapter & Department News .............................................34
Feedback/Return Fire .......................................................62
Misfires .............................................................................66
Welcome Aboard ...............................................................67
Recon Missions ...............................................................68
Members in the News .......................................................69
Last Call ............................................................................74
Tell America .......................................................................76

News & Notes

KASF Scholarship for U.S. Korean War Descendants ........7
‘Why Are We Here? What Are We Fighting For?’ ...............18
DOD Hosts 60th Anniversary Commemoration ................19
KWVA Reunion Activity Registration Form ......................20
KWVA Reunion Schedule ................................................21
Tour Descriptions: Korean War Veterans Association Reunion ..........................................................22
Operation COMIX Relief ..................................................33
KWVA Members Attend Dinner For President Park Geun-hye ............................................................70
Application For Korean Revisit Tours ..............................78

COVER: Logo for the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War courtesy of the National Museum of the United States Air Force, Dayton, OH.
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From the Secretary

There Has to be a Way—And Sometimes Things Do Work Out

In the March-April 2013 issue there was an article I wrote about a specific VA claim being rejected because the veteran’s records had been destroyed in the St. Louis fire in 1973. It is a sad story. A friend is trying to get some help for him but she has about given up. I wrote the article primarily hoping that someone else may have gone through a similar experience and had resolved it somehow. So far I have not heard a thing about that specific situation. However, I received a handwritten letter from another veteran whose first comment was, “Keep after the VA.”

He says that his claim was turned down for several years, again because his records were supposedly destroyed in the 1973 fire. He goes on to say that he did not believe them—and he was right. They had a back-up file.

He had the VSO write several letters to the VA and other officials. He requested to be sworn in and go before the VA officials in Washington, DC to prove his statements were true. No one ever contacted him. This veteran has two Purple Hearts, the CIB, etc.

He wrote several letters about his disabilities and had them notarized by a VSO. “Experts” told him that when filing for compensation from the VA, keep them active about your claim. Always be aware of who you speak to and what you say. Almost everything you say to your doctor at all appointments is noted in your files; even your demeanor is noted.

Unfortunately, speaking of feeling “pretty good” or “better” can be held against you at some point. It seems that if you try to help yourself you take the chance of having your disability reduced. Something wrong here!!!

No reason is given, but this veteran re-filed on March 23, 2004. On September 14, 2004, a little less than six months later, he received a letter from the VA containing these words: “This is to certify that...is an honorable discharged veteran of the Army and has service-connected disabilities evaluated at 100 percent.”

So, it took a while—a long while, really—but sometimes things do work out.

Resignations/No Refunds

I am always disappointed when I receive a resignation from one of our members, especially when I have no idea what they are trying to tell me why they are resigning. Recently, I received two resignations, one from a life member and one from a regular member. The life member sent me a handwritten note in which he said, “About a year [ago] they dropped me from...Chapter.”

Who are “they?” The membership office does not arbitrarily remove members from Chapters. Then he said his magazine was stopped. Here again there had to have been a reason. My guess is that he never returned the card that was sent out by the membership office to all life members asking them to confirm their status.

He goes on to say that he was very unhappy with the KWVA “Club.” We certainly are not a club. He then says that he made phone calls, wrote letters, and never got the respect of an answer. I find that hard to believe unless he called me and did not leave a message.

As I have said previously, if you show up on my caller ID as unknown and do not leave a message I cannot return your call because I do not know who you are. As for the letters not being answered, I will apologize for that. If this ever happens to you, call me and leave me a message or send me a note.

He ended by saying that he was proud to have served in Korea till “I joined the KWVA. I would like my $150 back” (this after having paid no dues since 07/09). In any case, the KWVA’s policy is that dues are not refundable.

The explanation from the Regular member is actually a lot more ludicrous. He writes, “I no longer wish to be a member of your organization. I was always taught to respect the office of the President, Commander in Chief, who was duly elected by the majority of the citizens of our county. They can do their campaigning elsewhere, not using my dues money to promote their...”

The Charter of this Chapter (what Chapter) should be revoked or at least the officers should be suspended. I will not continue to support any organization that disrespects the office of and the President. I believe the National organization could face some problems also if you continue to condone this type of actions.”

There were six attachments to his letter that look like some quotes from various e-mails. Here are a couple examples:

1. Fw: Marines in inaugural parade had bolts removed from their rifles. “That’s it. That’s how you destroy every last vestige of pride, honor, esprit de corps. Infiltrate with Gays, put women in combat, choose spineless cowards as Generals... Words fail me. I cannot imagine a President of the United States of America believing or tolerating some paranoid gumshoe who would demand removal of the bolts from the ceremonial rifles carried by a platoon of Marines, ridiculous! He is scared because of his own words and actions against our military.

At the bottom of the page were these words. “Another insight into the character of our Phony-in-Chief.”

2. This one shows two pictures: one depicted Secret Service personnel and this comment: “Obama secret service shut down the memorial for most of the day, as families and veterans who had come to pay their respects to fallen loved ones were forced to stay hundreds of feet away.

The second picture shows President Obama speaking with these comments under the picture. “In his remarks, Obama made sure to mention that “As long as I’m president, we will make sure you and your loved ones will receive the benefits you’ve earned and the respect you deserve,” Obama said. “America will be there for you.”

This is just a continuation from the previous page with a picture of the President and Vice President and their wives, with similar wording as on page 4.
I am at a complete loss for words, but these are the facts. How can people get away with defacing the President and Commander in Chief that way. I hope that none of you are involved.

Whatever your thoughts are about the President, and sometimes I get e-mails that are out of order, we were given an oath to serve the Commander in Chief and support the United States of America. I gladly accept this member’s resignation because he obviously has the KWVA confused with some other organization. There is no way that the KWVA had any control or participated in any of the events he mentioned.

Frank Cohee
National Secretary, KWVA

KASF Scholarship for U.S. Korean War Descendants

The Korean American Scholarship Foundation (KASF) - Eastern Regional Chapter (ERC) is pleased to announce a new scholarship program in honor and recognition of 1.6 million American Veterans who served in the Korean War during the Korean War era (June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955). These men and women answered the call to fight for a country and people they never knew and never met. More than 54,000 Americans died and 103,000 were wounded.

To express our gratitude to these veterans for their sacrifices, KASF-ERC will offer their descendants an opportunity to apply for a scholarship. KASF-ERC scholarship program will recognize outstanding students who have demonstrated outstanding talents and potential for success. Awardees will receive a check of $2,000 scholarships from KASF and be able to attend the KASF-ERC Award Ceremony & Banquet in Washington, D.C. on September 22, 2013.

Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

The applicant should be:
1. A direct descendant of a Korean-War Veteran who served in Korea from June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955 (Korean War Era, as designated by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs)
2. Enrolled as a full-time student during the 2013-2014 academic year
3. Attend a school located in the KASF Eastern Region: MD, VA, DC, KY, WV, PA, NC, DE

Timeline
1. Application Deadline: July 10, 2013 (Postmarked by)
3. Award Ceremony: September 22, 2013

How to apply
Complete the application form online at http://www.kASF.org/eastern
If you have any questions, please contact us at erc.scholarship@kASF.org

Organization’s Background

Founded in 1969 by a small group of concerned Korean American community leaders in Washington, DC, KASF began as a local organization with limited focus and funding resources. However, with the dramatic growth of Korean immigrant communities in the U.S. and ever increasing need for financial aids for Korean American students, KASF became a national organization in 1989.

While headquartered in Washington DC, KASF has six regional chapters in Washington DC, Los Angeles, New York, Atlanta, Chicago, and Detroit (see states that are covered by each regional chapter). While all regional chapters operate under a single set of KASF bylaws, each chapter operates independently to raise funds, manage educational/cultural programs, and award scholarships.
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Headline/Story Lead In The Tuesday, July 28, 1953 Pacific Stars And Stripes (Korea Edition)

Korea Fighting Ends
By S/Sgt. Bob McNeill

Panmunjom, July 27 (Pac. S&S) — Truce delegates this morning quietly wound up their two years of peace-waging and rang down the curtain on the 37-month-old shooting war in Korea.

THE FORMAL END to the war was wrapped up in 10 minutes of document signing. Chief United Nations Truce Delegate Lt. Gen. William K. Harrison and North Korean General Nam II sat down at 10 o’clock this morning and in a business-like manner wrote the Korean war into history.

THE FIRST DOCUMENT of the imposing pile was signed by the opposing sides at 10:01. It took the generals 10 minutes to work their way through the war-ending papers....

One statement jumps off the page: “...wrote the Korean war into history.” Technically speaking, it had become a part of history when the first shot was fired on June 25, 1950. And, the fact that two generals had signed a pile of documents did not affect its historical status. Granted, McNeill did not have a crystal ball as he wrote his article. He had no way of knowing what would happen after the documents were signed. President Eisenhower and General Mark W. Clark had an inkling, though.

According to an AP dispatch, “Ike Declares Challenge Met By U.N.,” Eisenhower realized that the road to peace would not be easy. The opening paragraphs made that clear:

“President Eisenhower declared today that in the Korean war just halted by an armistice the U.N. had met the challenge of aggression ‘with deeds of decision.’

“But the chief executive warned the American people in an extraordinary radio-TV broadcast from the White House that ‘we must not relax our guard.’

Clark echoed that warning in a Stars & Stripes article on July 27th. The article, headlined “Clark Says Difficulties Not Ended,” carried cautionary words:

“General Mark W. Clark today told the troops in his command ‘that we cannot turn our backs on the conflict and go home’ after an armistice is signed.

“The U.N. commander described this morning’s armistice as a possible step toward peace but not the end of the war until the opposing governments work out a firm political settlement.”

Well, here it is sixty years later, and they have not done that. If they had, perhaps there would have been no reason to produce this 60th anniversary edition of The Graybeards. The war would truly have faded into history, and the men and women who fought it would not resent the fact that it is called “The Forgotten War.” But, the two sides are still technically at war, truce, armistice, cease fire, treaty, or whatever it is called notwithstanding, and Korean War veterans are still fighting to make sure it does not disappear from people’s minds. The memories and information in this edition are testimony to that.

It is ironic that North and South Korea—and by extension the U.S. China, and the UN—are still unable to actually end the war with an absolute peace. There are some folks who argue (in an academic sense) over the terms used to end the fighting.

Dwight L. Thomas, whose Korean War adventures will be chronicled in an ensuing edition, wrote that “The magazine continues to refer to the July 27, 1953 [settlement] as the Armistice. When everyone in Korea was given word of the cease fire to hostilities, we were told it was a Truce. It may be semantics, but I still think of that day as truce.

Similarly, in 1999, I, along with three OCS Class 11 grad officers, were honored to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. In fact, the Sergeant who instructed us at the top of the stairs we were to descend also used the term Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Now the news outlets refer to the Tomb of the Unknowns, since other remains have been added to the monument. But I will always say Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Just call me a traditionalist, but I’m not changing from the above memories.

Dwight L. Thomas, 319 Palm Dr., Marlin, TX 76661 dwighttfw@sbcglobal.net

Was it a treaty, a cease fire, an armistice...? Does it matter? Let’s just call it a stalemate—and keep the memories coming, as we do in this and ensuing editions.

As many of you may recall, we asked for KWVA members to submit their remembrances of July 27, 1953, so we could publish them in a special edition of The Graybeards. Scores of people responded. They sent so many stories, photos, newspaper clippings, etc., that we have enough to write a long book. In lieu of that, we have compiled much of what was contributed into a special edition of The Graybeards that will stretch out for a while.

Moreover, the stories and photos encompass the whole war. We have broken them into “chapters” to facilitate the reading. We hope you will enjoy the special edition and offer your comments where you see fit. In the meantime, enjoy these stories and photos—and feel free to add to them at any time.
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: E-mail from the Secretary, The Graybeards, Jan-Feb 2013 issue.

PLACE OF ANNOUNCED MEETING: Holiday Inn, Syracuse/Liverpool, 441 Electronics Parkway, Liverpool, NY, Tel: 315-457-1122.

ANNOUNCED PERIOD OF MEETING: March 20, 2013- 0900- Completion of business

CALL TO ORDER
Jim Ferris, President

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Tom McHugh, Director

INVOCATION
Leo Ruffing, Chaplain

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS
Jim Ferris, President

APPOINTMENTS
Jongwoo Han was appointed to act as the Sergeant-At-Arms.
President Ferris read a letter that 2nd VP Aldridge received from Lee Dauster’s daughter. Lee was a Past Director who passed away recently. 2nd VP Aldridge attended his funeral as a representative of President Ferris and the KWVA. Director Lawhon also attended the funeral and arranged for flowers to be sent by the Association.
Director Jones then made a motion that the Board approve the appointment of Carmen Zeolla as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and passed unanimously.
Director Brown made a motion to adopt the agenda that was prepared by Secretary Cohee and previously sent to all of the KWVA officers and board members. The motion was seconded by Director Dappen and passed unanimously.

ROLL CALL:
Jake Feaster, Asst. Secretary

KWVA Board Members:
• James Ferris, President
• Arthur S. Griffith, Director
• Larry Kinard, 1st Vice President
• J. Tilford Jones, Director
• Roy Aldridge, 2nd Vice President
• George Lawhon, Director
• Frank Cohee, Secretary
• Thomas McHugh, Director
• Carmen Zeolla, Treasurer
• Luther Rice, Director
• Richard Brown, Director
• Salvatore Scarlato, Director
• Luther Dappen, Director
• Thomas Stevens, Director
• Lewis Ewing, Director
• Frank Williams, Director
• James Fountain, Director

KWVA Staff: William B. Burns, Judge Advocate; Charlie Price, National Legislative Director; Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster; Jake Feaster, Membership Management and Assistant Secretary; Jongwoo Han. KWVA Liaison to Korean-American Assn.; Warren Wiedhahn, KWVA Liaison to Washington/Revisit Committee Coordinator; Colleen Reed, Recorder.

ACTION ON ABSENCES IF NECESSARY:
President Ferris commented that Secretary Cohee and Directors Rice and Williams were absent. They all had valid reasons, so all three should be excused. He asked for a motion to that effect. Director McHugh made a motion to approve our absences. The motion was seconded by Director Brown and passed unanimously.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:
President Ferris announced that there is a quorum.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF 10/11/2012 MEETING:
Director Brown made a motion that the minutes be approved as (Printed in the Graybeards, Nov-Dec 2012 issue) presented. The motion was seconded by Director Griffith and was passed unanimously.

GUEST SPEAKERS:
Dr. Jongwoo Han, President, Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation, Inc.; Col. Dave Clark, 60th Anniversary-Korean War Armistice Commemoration Committee; Mr. Bob Wiedower, Executive Director, USAA
First VP Kinard introduced Mr. Wiedower, Executive Director of the Military Affinity Development from USAA, to speak about the KWVA’s opportunities to work with USAA. He commented that he was here today to talk about the Affinity Program. USAA built relationships with several different veterans’ organizations and developed partnerships in which we work together for the mutual benefit of your membership. They are one and the same.
He said that USAA has over nine million members today and through this Association, that is USAA, those nine million members will have access to the KWVA. Some of them may not know you exist, but for whatever reason, never decided to join, didn’t think it was any benefit to them, etc. But they will—and they could enjoy the benefits of

President James Ferris Resigns His Position
KWVA National President James Ferris has resigned his position effective midnight May 18, 2013 “due to circumstances both personal and professional.” 1st Vice President Larry Kinard will assume leadership of the organization in his absence. A small group of Board members is being organized to assist with this transition.
The excellent leadership that Jim Ferris has provided KWVA, over many years, will not soon be forgotten. We wish both he, and his lovely wife Felice, many years of health and happiness.

Larry Kinard, 1st Vice President
Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
USAA and actually join the KWVA.

“What I am proposing is a co-branded credit card with KWVA logo on it and a USAA logo on it. The credit card will have a graphic of KWVA’s choosing. There is relatively no risk to the KWVA.”

- Director Jones commented that there are also some fringe benefits. For example, when one has to travel by air, you automatically get free travel insurance.
- Directors Lawhon and Aldridge asked if USAA members would have to get new cards. The answer was yes, new cards would be required.
- Director McHugh asked if there would be an annual fee for the card. Mr. Wiedower said that there would be no annual fee.

Following a few more questions, 1st VP Kinard asked Mr. Wiedower to step outside a few minutes while the subject was discussed internally with just the Board members. He mentioned that everyone has to understand that if the Board votes to proceed with this it will be necessary to make our database available to USAA.

Director McHugh made a motion that the KWVA proceed with the proposed Affinity Program. The motion was seconded by Director Stevens. 2nd VP Aldridge corrected the motion by saying it should be USAA, not Affinity. Director Jones further corrected the motion by commenting that the brochure says Affinity USAA. The motion was then approved unanimously.

President Ferris then commented that he had overlooked Past National President Mac Swain when making the introductions earlier and he thanked him for coming.

President Ferris then introduced Dr. Jongwoo Han as the next speaker.

Dr. Han reiterated that he is President of the Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation. The main reason for the foundation is to preserve the Korean Veterans legacy. This is being done by putting our memories into the website and the database. Many of the interviews appear in the website already. He reported that he now has done 123 interviews and has more than 5,000 artifacts, pictures, diaries, letters, posters, maps, etc.

1st VP Kinard then asked Dr. Han if he could have a few minutes to speak about the Tell America Program. VP Kinard commented that he has been working on the program for seven years. That program has grown over the years and the initial passion for it was to preserve our legacy. “I could not ask for a better companion and missionary for preserving our legacy than Jongwoo,” he said. “He is one of the biggest supporters of our Tell America Program. He is not only spending his time, but he is spending money to preserve our legacy and I think as a Board that we make sure we support what he has done.”

Dr. Han then asked Director Scarlato to say a few brief words about what is being done. Dr. Han was invited to come to the Stonybrook Veterans Home that is home to about 100 Korean veterans. When he interviewed them they seemed to come to life and things came out, where normally they were in their shell.

So when VP Kinard mentioned the legacy, there is a typical example how a resident who has a problem loosened up. And now Dr. Han has these new programs with grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We need the full support of the KWVA for that.

Dr. Han commented that when he left for Seoul in January he was asked by President Ferris to do two things: secure the funding for the KWVA and establish a channel where we could promote his policy of recruiting Korean Service War Veterans.

“I went down to talk to this guy (holding up a picture); his name is Park,” Dr Han said. “He is my drinking buddy and the founder of the company called Pantec. I asked him if he would be interested in funding the Korean War Veterans Association. His response was immediate.

“Yes, I want to do this, but I need to go through the Board of Trustees to pass it on,” he said.

They approved it, Dr. Han acknowledged, “so I was able to tell Jim you are going to get $100,000.”

President Ferris thanked Dr. Han and said that he has invited him to the sixtieth anniversary event in July. “I think we will continue to support him and he will continue to support us, I am sure. This is just the beginning.”

Dr. Han responded to President Ferris. Jim asked me to see if we can establish the kind of connections to promote and recruit the Korean Service Veterans. I went to U.S. Eighth Army, and I met with the promotion director and explained about the background... he was very receptive of this idea.

“So, as soon as Jim got cleared from New York and if you make a promotion brochure or poster I am ready to distribute it in Korea so that the KWVA can recruit those. I made a rough calculation of how many Korean War Service Veterans have been in Korea. Approximately—and this is very conservative figure—there will be more than one million American soldiers.

“So this is what we have to do. Promote what you did for Korea, what you did for the United States, and what you are doing now, including my own Foundation. So I came up with a list of souvenir items, something that we can co-memorial the Sixty Years Anniversary. If you look at the handout that I gave you there are three posters. You can show the big one.

“The first one is the mosaic and it is the collective items that I got. I have more than 5,000, so this is what we have to do. We have to make use of it. I think it gives you the good picture where you were, how you fought, all distance. I work with Norm, Sal, Larry and others about patches. There are sixteen and many of you are asking me why there are no patches. There is one there and I know that are hundreds.

“But we cannot fit those patches in this poster. It is just a draft so it needs to be fixed. When it is fixed, I will print this as an official poster to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Armistice and U.S. Korean alliance. We could also do it as whole poster, KWDM Foundation and KWVA together.”

Norm Champagne, Chapter 105, commented that on the patches themselves we can’t certainly satisfy everyone who was in Korea. There are probably 1,000 or more.

Dr. Han displayed the next poster. It is the Stars and Stripes, all made of the artifacts he collected from the Korean War veterans. The last one is the Korean flag.
First Dr. Han said his proposal is to see if we do with Korean War veterans did in the Memorial Foundation and distribute it together.

- There was a lot more discussion on the poster, like a title for each one, how many patches can really fit, pricing, etc. Dr. Han said he plans to print out tens of thousands by the end of March or early April. He wants the KWVA to come up with some kind of idea.

- President Ferris stated that, “I think we all agree that this project is worthy of our devotion. I guess maybe we ought to form a committee to work with Jongwoo so that we’re not all, you know, sending him e-mails, or phone calls or whatever. I’ll have to give that some thought. I’m sure you all agree that we’re going to cooperate with Jongwoo, is that correct?”

“All in favor say ‘Aye.’

President Ferris commented that he did not think we need a motion on that. It’s just a vote of confidence for Jongwoo.

“And I thank you, sir, very much,” President Ferris concluded..

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

- President Ferris commented he thought the report has been pretty well covered here this morning.

> “When I ran for President I did not promise anything, but I did mention that I was hoping that we could find some extra money here and there to take the burden off the membership’s dues and so forth. Well, we have done that; we got $100,000 this week. And now, along with the proposal that Jongwoo is working on, there is a good chance for some more money coming in once we get it rolling.

> “And with the USAA, of course, there is another opportunity for some financial gain on our part. So this is all good stuff. I mean, it is a win-win in every one of these things and there is more. I am talking more and more to more people, and hopefully we are going to see more of these things, donations and so forth, from large companies here and there.

> “The Korean Government cannot do it, as I mentioned, but there are people there that can and will. All we have to do is ask and that’s what happened in this case.

> “I had lunch with Jongwoo one day and I said, Jongwoo, I need $100,000. Well, he did not say, oh, okay, but he said, well, let’s work on it. And we got it, so all you have to do is ask. And, I am not afraid to ask. So, I will be asking more people as we go on.

> “Recruiting is coming along great. Tom Stevens and his committee, and Sonny [Edwards] of course—Sonny is working day and night on this and he is going to give us a report later.

> “Later on, when we finish with the old and new business, we are going to break out into small work groups which I have made up. So, I am not going to ask for any committee reports until after the group meetings because you might want to change your report.

> “We have some things to do here first so I am going to pass on the Treasurer’s and the Membership Management Reports now and go right to Old Business.”

**OLD BUSINESS:**

> “There is a petition in your package that you received from Frank from the Department of Florida about use of the website. I want Jake and Jim Doppelhammer to address this petition, President Ferris announced..

Proposal To Revise The SPM To Expand Chapter And Department Department Of Florida Access To The KWVA Database

- Jim Doppelhammer:

> “Let me go into a little bit of background on this. As an officer and/or Director of the KWVA you have membership access to the full membership database, that is, all information on who is a member, active, inactive, deceased, etc. Chapters and Departments have a lesser eligibility as far as what they can see. Chapters get to see only members listed in the database as their Chapter. Departments get to see members of the national database but only in their state.

> “What the Department of Florida’s webmaster is proposing is that all Chapters and Departments be given full access to the full national database for recruiting purposes. I do not feel personally myself just to recommend this as something that should be given out. I think that we need to at least keep it restricted—I might suggest that a Chapter be given access to not just his Chapter but possibly his state for recruiting purposes.”

- Mr. Price asked, “What is wrong with the way it is at present?”

- Jim replied, “Mr. Thiel [CID 169, KWVA of Lake County] feels that Chapters should be given full access to the database nationwide.”

- Mr. Price then said, “I don’t think he is entitled to my information. I don’t think he should have it and I would object to it.”

- President Ferris then commented, “At this point I would like a motion that we reject this agenda item to either allow them to have this database information, or not.”

Director Stevens made a motion that we reject this agenda item from the State of Florida and that we accept Jim’s recommendation that we leave access to the database as it is today. The motion was seconded by Director Lawhon, followed by some discussion.

- 2nd VP Aldridge commented that there should be some exceptions. He gave as an example two Chapters in New Mexico. Their Presidents are unable to find out who lives around them. “So I think local Chapters should have access at least to the state database,” he said.

- Director Lawhon responded by saying, “If you read what the gentleman in Florida has suggested, it’s a lot more than what is being discussed here.”

- Asst. Secretary Feaster then explained how the Chapters could get the information they wanted by contacting him.

At that point, Director Stevens said he would revise his motion to simply reject what the State of Florida is recommending here, and “I won’t say anything in the motion about the existing database.” The revision was seconded and passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Presentation And Discussion Of A Proposed Affinity Relationship With USAA

First VP Kinard
• President Ferris asked the First VP if there was anything further to say on this presentation and discussion of the proposed USAA Affinity relationship.

• First VP Kinard responded that there was nothing more. He talked with Bob, the USAA Representative, after the meeting and told him that we are ready to go forward and would like for them to tell us in detail what the contract and proposal will be. So we will be hearing more from him.

• President Ferris commented that he felt that the next item on the agenda would be better handled in an Executive Session. An Executive Session is attended only by Board Members and the Judge Advocate. So at that time President Ferris asked all guests to leave the meeting room. NOTE: The results (pages 102-120) of an Executive Session are not available to the General Membership.

(BOARD MEETING CONTINUED):

Discuss Revision to bylaws, Article 1, Membership To Further Clarify Gold Star Spouses’ Qualifications For Membership In The Association

Director Ewing

• Director Ewing commented that the Bylaws Committee is proposing four bylaws amendments and one SPM amendment. The first amendment deals with Gold Star Spouses.

• The Bylaws Committee has looked at all the proposed amendments. Our recommendation for the first one is that Bylaws Article 1, Membership Section 1, Qualifications for members, A. Regular Members. (5) Gold Star Spouses be revised to add some verbiage in the center of the paragraph to read “any person whose spouse was killed in Korea in action or was missing in action or died as a prisoner of war” and insert the words, “While serving within Korea, including territorial waters around and air space above, during the Korean War June 1950 to present, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.”

He said, “In order to get this on the floor for discussion on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, I recommend that we adopt this proposed amendment to the Bylaws to insert the words “while serving within Korea, including territorial waters around and air space above” in the center of that paragraph.

• Director Jones moved for the recommendation of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and passed unanimously.

• Director Ewing continued by commenting that “The one proposal that you do not have deals with Gold Star Parents—and it’s identical to the one you just passed except we insert—substitute the word “Gold Star Parents” for “Spouses.”

He moved to make that proposed amendment to the Bylaws. Director McHugh so moved. It was seconded by Director Griffith and passed unanimously.

• Director Ewing: “Our third and forth proposals, again, are identical except one deals with Gold Star Parents and the other deals with Gold Star Spouses. The way—in the section of the Bylaws where “Gold Star Parents” and “Gold Star Spouses” are listed right now, technically any Gold Star Parent or Gold Star Spouse could run for office in the Association. They could run for office as President or as a Director position based on where they’re listed in our Bylaws right now.

“We are proposing that we move them to a new section of the Bylaws. I make a motion that amendment be made to the Bylaws also.” Director Lawhon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

• Director Ewing: “The next proposed amendment deals with Gold Star Spouses, identical to the one you just passed. So, again, I make a motion that proposed amendment be adopted also.” Director McHugh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

• Director Ewing: “And the last one we have would be a SPM change based on the actions we just took, reclassifying Gold Star Parents. We would move Gold Star Parents in the SPM to Section 3.0 Korean War Veterans Association Incorporated procedure, Subsection 3.2, Associate Members, and description, list them as Item No. 4 and 5. Gold Star Parents, that is, items 4 and 5. So I would move that we make that amendment also.” Second VP Aldridge made a motion that we make that amendment. The motion was seconded by Director Dappen. The motion passed unanimously.

• Director Ewing: “I just would make one additional comment. There was some discussion about whether we should move Medal of Honor and Prisoners of War to a new section, but our feeling was that even if they do not pay dues they qualify as members of the KWVA on their own right based on their service. So we would encourage that they run for office.”

• Asst. Secretary Jake Feaster mentioned a couple of other items that possibly need to be clarified. One has to do with a member listed as a Medal of Honor recipient, which he did not receive it as a result of the Korean War. We also have a Gold Star member listed as such, but he is not a parent or a spouse. No action was taken on the foregoing items.

Contact The IRS Commissioner And Chief Council To Request Consideration Of A Change In IRS Policy Regarding The Definition Of A Korean War Veteran

Director Lawhon

• Director Lawhon first explained the relationships among the IRS Commissioner, U.S. Treasury Department, and Chief Counsel. “My action is, I want to recommend to the Board, if it is reasonable for the KWVA to contact the IRS Commissioner and Counsel to request con-

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The Graybeards

May - June 2013
sideration of a change in IRS policy with its limited regard to the def-
inition of a Korean War Veteran. And as I said previously, I am not
putting this before the Board in conflict with our efforts to get the
113th Congress to put a bill out. It’s in addition to.”

• President Ferris commented that he was in no way going to stand
in the way of any proposal that will help us get this classification
change. “And if this is going to help, I am all for it,” he exclaimed.

• Director Lawhon then made a motion that the KWVA contact the
IRS according to what you see here and ask them to change that reg-
ulation. It is not a law. It is a regulation. Director Griffith seconded
the motion and it passed unanimously.

• Second VP Aldridge said he had looked at the IRS revisions also
and he went into detail how they define a war veteran. The bottom
line is that 97.5 percent of the membership has to be a member dur-
ing that period of war. For us that is June 27, 1950 to January 31,
1955.

“I agree with George,” he noted. “We should bury the IRS with letters
from Congressmen or whatever to revise that to include up to pres-
ent along with if they have been awarded the Defense Medal, then
they are a war veteran.”

• Director Lawhon responded that the letter that will be prepared
would cover that.

• Past President Mac Swain commented that he did not believe that
this individual makes the code. Only Congress can make the code.
“So the main thing that I can say to you is I hope you do not try to
muddy the water because our bill, when resubmitted, can get
passed,” he suggested.

“I do not care if you go ahead and try to see the IRS people, but I do
not think the Commissioner can change the Code himself. That job
has to be done by Congress. And the other word that I have is the fact
that the Ways and Means Committee is going to want to change
the whole Income Tax Code after the Sequester so it may be quite a
while before we will be able to get a bill introduced.”

• President Ferris stated that he was aware what the Past President
was going to say and he is right about the Sequester holding up
everything” But, I still think we ought to make some moves,” he
averred.

The conversations on this subject continued for some time from
2nd VP Aldridge suggesting that we might want to go to a 501 (c)
(3) to Mr. Price saying “NO, NO, NO”—and then explaining why that
would not be a good idea.

• Finally, President Ferris asked Director Lawhon to form another
motion to sum up most of what had been discussed.

• Director Lawhon: “The body of this motion is to approve a plan
whereby KWVA regular members who have e-mail addresses can
contact their individual U.S. District Members of the House of
Representatives for the purpose of persuading their representative
to become a co-sponsor of the House bill that will replace HRr5903.
The rest of the content of this is in pages 2 and 3, of this which is
just a repeat of what we did in the last Congress. That is my
motion.” Director Fountain seconded the motion and it passed unan-
imously.

• Director Scarlato said he had the VFW Bylaws there and they
included how the VFW accepted the Korean Veterans. And they do
not have a problem. Why don’t they have a problem?

• President Ferris responded, “Because a membership of two mil-
lion people is a lot. That’s probably why.”

• Director McHugh announced that it might work out that Sonny
Edwards will be attending the VA meetings in Washington. That will
save some travel money. Chapter 299, the Color Guard that covers
Memorial Day, has offered to cover Veteran’s Day also and that has
been approved.

• President Ferris commented that we have a request for attendance
from the Canadian Recognition Group to the Sixtieth Anniversary.
We have an individual as our liaison, a Canadian Korean Veteran
with whom we have been working for years.

• “At this time I would like to make a motion that we approve our
Canadian liaison on June 21st to 23rd in Ontario, Canada,” he said.
“The representative is Garry Rockburn, our former Treasurer.”
Director Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

• President Ferris announced that he was going to assign a few
people to a few groups to discuss the items that he has listed. A
spokesman has been assigned to each group who will address the
Board when the groups are reconvened. The individual group meet-
ings were conducted off the record.

• President Ferris asked each Group Spokesman to state what he
was supposed to discuss and the results. First up was Director
Stevens and his group, which was to discuss recruiting and reten-
tion methods, new methods of opening new Chapters and
Departments, non-national members of Chapters , how to bring
them into the fold, and a method to help Chapters recruit.

• Director Stevens has recently written a letter to the Kansas City Star
to try and recruit additional members. He read the letter. Obviously as
a result of the letter, the membership office received twelve calls the
first day the letter was published. “We need to get our existence made
known through newspapers, radio, TV, etc.,” he observed. “Get better
known in the community by providing speakers to various functions,
etc. Consider when to hold your meetings. Many older veterans do
not drive at night anymore. Have events doing the year that involve
families. Participate in the Tell America Program.”

• After discussing these items, Director Scarlato suggested that all of
these ideas be put in a letter to all of the Department Presidents and
then follow up to see if the ideas are actually being floated down to the
Chapters level.

• Asst. Secretary Feaster suggested you wear your KWVA cap except
where it would not be appropriate.

• The next spokesman was Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer. Jim said
they had two projects: Determine a method that does not penalize the
Chapters but insures that Jake and Jim get the proper information that
is needed from the Chapters and Departments.

“A lot of information is now being put on line that the Chapters and
Departments can look at, but Jake still needs help,” Doppelhammer
explained. “We need to assign each Director 20 Chapters to monitor
and maintain and assist Jake with gathering information.”

The second project was to determine a method of having the CPAs
and accountants in one permanent location in lieu of changing them after each Presidential election. What has been discussed is to hire a professional firm, basically a bookkeeping firm, to assume that responsibility.

- President Ferris asked for a motion to allow Jim and his Committee to look a little deeper into this situation and to get some more bids. Director Brown made a motion to comply with the President’s request. Director Stevens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Next up was spokesman Art Griffin. “All in all we had four projects,” he revealed. “Number 1 was ideas for new fund-raising items. The majority decided they would like to see a car raffled off at $25 a chance. That may happen next year, but this year the grand prize is going to be a U.S. Springfield .03 rifle donated by Mr. Price. It is a U.S. Army 1917 weapon, called the Alvin York model that York carried when he won the Medal of Honor.

“Number 2 was to determine new methods for fund raising besides raffles. We concluded that raffles are about the only way out there to raise any type of funds with the exception of what Jim’s already doing getting hold via large companies in Korea donating here and there.

“Number 3 was recommending the use of profits and fund raisers. Everyone was against scholarships. The majority wanted to use the funds for VA hospitals and needy veterans’ families.

“Number 4 was advertisements, use of newspaper, posters, magnetic signs to put on your cars, KWVA National Challenge coins, neckties with Korean War Veteran embroidered on them, belt buckles, etc.”

TREASURER’S REPORT:  
Treasurer Carmen Zeolla

- President Ferris commented that “There are a couple of things in the report that I want to investigate at this point, so we are going to hold that in abeyance until I can talk to Tilford and Carmen.”

- President Ferris: “Up until now when we have our General Membership Meetings we have generally gone out to the Chapters and asked them to bid on the location for the next General Membership Meeting. Sometimes, there are no bids.

“I would like your approval to appoint a person to handle our membership meetings in the future. We are all set for this year, 2013, Washington DC and next year, 2014, Rochester, MN. So this will be for 2015. Just give me the okay to appoint someone at a later date.”

Director Brown made a motion to allow the President to appoint someone to arrange for the General Membership Meetings. Director McHugh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- President Ferris: “I failed to report to you what we did, the two VPs, myself, Charlie Price and Past President Mac Swain while you were in your breakout sessions. As far as the 5903 bill, Charlie is going to see myself, Charlie Price and Past President Mac Swain while you were in breaking out. We might get some response.

- President Ferris said that he had no objection to that as long as it goes through the committee that was just approved. He added, “Let’s move along, I have a couple of awards to give away right now.”

- President Ferris: “First of all, I would like Art Griffith to come up here please. Most of you probably know that Art is not going to run for Director this next term, although he is eligible. However, he has agreed to stay on as our fund-raising guru.

- “This is the President’s Award, Art, and it is presented to Arthur J. Griffith, United States Army. Art, thank you so much for all your hard work.

- President Ferris: “Tom McHugh, please come forward. Tom has timed out and cannot run this year. But he is going to stay on with us with the ceremonial duties that he has had and some other duties that I have for him to do. So, I present Tom with this award for outstanding vision, dedication, and commitment of time and excellence of duties while serving in the U.S. Army.”

- President Ferris: “I am going to ask Sonny Edwards to come up and give us a real quick preview of what he wants to show us.”

- Sonny Edwards: “I am still getting requests from the Chapters and Departments to how to obtain the DOD certificates. Those Chapters that have done that have recruited members from that. It is still going on and I still get telephone calls.

“I did not know anything about the DOD giving certificates. It tells me some of our members do not read The Graybeards to find out what is going on. I am pleased to report that three VFW Posts in VA have had three large ceremonies of presenting DOD certificates. I want to congratulate Chaplain Ruffling for holding three ceremonies to award the certificates.

“I have issued 60 recruiting guides to different Chapters and Departments. I have a couple of extra copies I will let you have.

“In January, I appointed Dave Barrett to my committee. He lives in Florida and has made two decals to go on our vehicles. At President Ferris’ request I have had a recruiting banner made.

“I share with you the recruiting results for the past 90 days. There are fourteen states that have recruited five or more members. There are 22 states that have recruited one to five new members. There are fourteen states that have recruited none. Gentlemen, this is not acceptable.”

- President Ferris: “Would you please stand and put your hand on the right shoulder of the person next to you and let’s sing together “God Bless America.” Please remain standing and uncover.”

- Second VP Aldridge: Good of the Order, Item presented would require Bylaws changes, so it was set aside until the next meeting.

- Chaplain Ruffling gave the benediction, Meeting adjourned.

Edited and submitted by Frank Cohee, KWVA National Secretary

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Edited and submitted by Frank Cohee, KWVA National Secretary
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.

JULY
91st Mil. Police Bn., 1952-54 (All area MPs), Pusan, Korea. 23-26 July, Wisconsin Dells/Madison, WI. John Norman Murray, PO Box 8, Clayton, WI 54004, 715-948-2422, normanjoan@msn.com

AUGUST
Korean War Veterans Committee of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, 8 Aug., Richmond, VA. JWW National Convention, Omni Hotel. Ainslee R. Ferdie, 305-445-3557, lawoffice@ferdieandlones.com

U.S. Army, 32nd Eng Construction Group (430th, 434th, & 439th Bns.), 9-11 Aug, St. Louis, MO. David Mikusch, 310 North Lake Drive, Hilliboro, MO 63050, 636-797-2323; hardwork50@sbcglobal.net

NSVA Convention and MCB1/MCB9/MCB10 (All Seabees welcome to attend), 21-25 Aug., Warwick, RI (near Davisville, RI old Seabee base). Peter Machado, 5445 S. Blythe Ave., Fresno, CA 93706, 559-266-2978; fcm@unwiredbb.com

SEPTEMBER
25th Inf. Div Photo Section (Any former member of Photo Section is invited) 4-7 Sept., Milwaukee, WI. Rollie Berens, 18400 Brookfield Lake Dr. #42, Brookfield, WI 53045, 414-797-8897.


USS Ozbourn (DD 846), 25-29 Sept., San Diego, CA. Jeff Parker, 909-365-1926, glw513@yahoo.com

194th Engineer Combat Bn., 29 Sept.-2 Oct., Laughlin, NV. Tropicana Express. Chuck Havey, 715 W. St. Moritz Dr., Payson, AZ 85541, 928-472-6956, cshavey@msn.com

OCTOBER
USS John R. Pierce (DD 753), Open to all former crew members. 1-4 Oct. Greensboro, NC. Keith Brauer, 910-571-0864, kdbrauer@embarqmail.com

USS Yorktown (CV 8, CV 12, CVS 12). All Seabees welcome to attend, 23-27 Oct., Waukesha, WI. 5th Comm. Gp./934th Sig. Bn. (Korea, 1950-54), 26-29 Sept., Virginia Beach, VA. Floyd Newkirk, 757-340-9801, Fnewkirk1@cox.net or Richard Stacy, 757-490-8022, p2vradio@verizon.net

25th Infantry Div. Assn. 14-19 Oct., Columbus, GA. PO Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031, TropicLtn@aol.com

18th Fighter Wing Assn. (U.S. Air Force), 17-19 Oct., St. Louis, MO. Thomas Chapman, 7039 South Clay Ave., Littleton, CO 80120, 303-794-3747, chapman7039@comcast.net

Veterans of the Korean War, Inc., 8-11 Oct., Virginia Beach, VA. Floyd Newkirk, 757-340-9801, Fnewkirk1@cox.net or Richard Stacy, 757-490-8022, p2vradio@verizon.net

25th Infantry Div. Assn. 14-19 Oct., Columbus, GA. PO Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031, TropicLtn@aol.com

18th Fighter Wing Assn. (U.S. Air Force), 17-19 Oct., St. Louis, MO. Thomas Chapman, 7039 South Clay Ave., Littleton, CO 80120, 303-794-3747, chapman7039@comcast.net

November
USMC All Korean SBC Classmates, 1-4 Nov., San Antonio, TX. Bob Lukeman, 405-842-3601, jrlukeman@aol.com, or John Featherstone, 310-833-2190, johnf9375@aol.com. (Be prepared to provide Basic School Class, name, address, phone number and email address.)

DECEMBER
11th Engineer Battalion Assn., 5-day cruise aboard the Celebrity Constellation, 9-14 Dec. Visit the Association website, www.11theengineer-battalionassociation.com, or contact Joe Papapietro, 717-818-7331 or o65e@aol.com
Call For Annual General Membership Meeting, July 26, 2013

The Annual General Membership Meeting for 2013 is called for July 26, 2013, from 0830-1500. The meeting will take place at The Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 South Orme St., Arlington, VA 22204, Phone 703-521-1900, and continue with recesses through the completion of all business properly brought forward. Members with items proposed for the meeting must insure that their items reach Frank Cohee, Association Secretary, not later than June 20, 2013. A Registration Form is available on page 20 of this issue and the March-April 2013 issue of The Graybeards.

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, October 12, 2012
• 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

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Submitted by Frank Cohee, Association Secretary

KWVA Annual Membership Meeting Rules Of Decorum & Debate:
(Based on Robert’s Rule of Order Newly Revised 10th Edition)

1. A voting member must obtain the floor and be recognized by the presiding officer using his position and name before addressing the assembly.

2. The voting member is to stand when addressing the assembly, and if the member makes a motion, that member has the first right to speak to the motion.

3. Voting members must be courteous and never attack or question the motives of other members.

4. Discussion shall be focused on the matter or idea in question and not on personalities.

5. Voting members are limited to 10 minutes on each subject during discussion and may speak the second time only if all other voting members who wish to speak have spoken on the pending motion.

6. A voting member may speak more than twice if the assembly grants additional time by a majority vote of the voting members present.

7. The Chair may recognize non-voting members attending the meeting only after voting members have completed their discussion on the pending motion.

8. The Chair may call for voting by a show of hands, or a voice yea or nay, or standing vote. A secret ballot vote may be called for by a request of one-fifth (1/5) of the voting members present.

9. The above rules may be amended, suspended, or rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of at least a quorum of the voting members present.

Frank Cohee
National Secretary, KWVA

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 Carmen Zeolla, 5077 Stagecoach Rd., Camillus, NY 13031 (315-484-9363; carmenzeolla@gmail.com). 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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KWVA DONATIONS

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Bylaw/SPM revisions and recategorizations approved by the Board of Directors at our meeting held in Syracuse, NY on March 20, 2013.

**Board Action Number 1:**
Bylaws ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1., Qualifications for Members., A. Regular Members., 4. Gold Star Parents revised to read as follows (with revision printed in bold type):

"Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

**Board Action Number 2:**
Bylaws ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1., Qualifications for Members., A. Regular Members., 5. Gold Star Spouses revised to read as follows (with revision printed in bold type):

"Any person whose spouse was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

**Board Action Number 3:**
Revision to Bylaws to transfer Gold Star Parents from Bylaws ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1., Qualifications of Members., A. Regular Members. 5. Gold Star Spouses to a new sub-section in ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1, Qualifications of Members. C.

**Gold Star Parents.** ‘Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

**Board Action Number 4:**
Revision to Bylaws to transfer Gold Star Spouses from Bylaws ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1., Qualifications of Members., A. Regular Members 5. Gold Star Spouses to a new sub-section in ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1, Qualifications of Members. D.

**Gold Star Spouses.** ‘Any person whose spouse was killed in action or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

**NOTE:** With the approval of Board Action Number 3 and Board Action Number 4 to the Bylaws, Honorary Members would be reclassified and become ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1, Qualifications for Members. E. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the Board).

Also, Ineligible(s) would be reclassified and become ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1, Qualifications of Members., F. 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.

‘Why Are We Here? What Are We Fighting For?’

O

n January 21, 1951, General Ridgway asked that this declaration be "conveyed to every individual assigned or attached to Eighth Army." In its opening he posed two questions: "Why are we here?" and "What are we fighting for?" He wrote:

The answer to the first question is simple and conclusive. We are here because of the decisions of the properly constituted authorities of our respective governments. As the Commander in Chief, United Nations Command, General of the Army Douglas MacArthur has said: "This command intends to maintain a military position in Korea just as long as the statesmen of the United Nations decide we should do so.” The answer is simple because further comment is unnecessary. It is conclusive because the loyalty we give, and expect, precludes any slightest questioning of these orders.

The second question is of much greater significance, and every member of this command is entitled to a full and reasoned answer. Mine follows. To me the issues are clear. It is not a question of this or that Korean town or village. Real estate is, here, incidental. It is not restricted to the issue of freedom for our South Korean allies, whose fidelity and valor under the severest stress of battle we recognize; though that freedom is a symbol of the wider issues, and included among them.

The real issues are whether the power of western civilization, as God has permitted it to flower in our own beloved lands, shall defy and defeat Communism; whether the rule of men who shoot their prisoners, enslave their citizens, and deride the dignity of man shall displace the rule of those to whom the individual and his individual rights are sacred; whether we are to survive with God's hand to guide and lead us, or to perish in the dead existence of a Godless world.

If these be true, and to me they are, beyond any possibility of challenge, then this has long ceased to be a fight for freedom for our Korean allies alone and for their national survival. It has become, and continues to be, a fight for our own freedom, for our own survival, in an honorable, independent national existence. The sacrifices we have made, and those we shall yet support, are not offered vicariously for others, but in our own direct defense. In the final analysis, the issue now joined right here in Korea is whether Communism or individual freedom shall prevail; whether the flight of fear-driven people we have witnessed here shall be checked, or shall at some future time, however distant, engulf our own loved ones in all its misery and despair.

These are the things for which we fight. Never have members of any military command had a greater challenge than we, or a finer opportunity to show ourselves and our people at their best—and thus do honor to the profession of arms, and to those brave men who bred us.

Contributed by Tom Moore, 20838 Glenegales Links Dr. Estero, FL 33928
DOD Hosts 60th Anniversary Commemoration

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee Marks the 60th Anniversary Commemoration of the Signing of the Korean War Armistice July 27, 2013

Thousands of Korean War veterans from across the United States and the general public will gather on the Mall in Washington, D.C. at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Saturday, July 27, starting at 8 a.m., to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended fighting on the Korean Peninsula in 1953.

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, along with the host for this event, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, will conduct a special ceremony that will pay tribute to Korean War veterans and recognize UN allies. Hagel and other senior U.S. and Korean government officials will deliver formal remarks.

The commemoration event will be the culmination of almost three years of committee activities that honored the service and sacrifice of Korean War veterans at hundreds of events across the nation and internationally, commemorated key events of the war, and educated Americans of all ages.

A variety of videos will be shown about various aspects of the Korean War, including Women in the Military, UN Allies in the War, Korean War Medal of Honor recipients, newsreels from the war, and other videos. In addition, many of the oral histories of Korean War veterans that have been recorded by the committee over the past three years will be shown at the event, along with special tributes to the veterans.

There will also be video messages from U.S. Forces Korea to veterans, multiple wreath laying ceremonies, and Korean cultural presentations. Colonel David J. Clark, the Director of the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, says the event on July 27 will resonate around the globe.

“The signing of the Armistice 60 years ago ended a brutal war that saw over 33,000 U.S. military service members give their lives to defend freedom on the Korean Peninsula,” said Colonel Clark. “Their ultimate sacrifice and the sacrifices of all Korean War veterans will never be forgotten. They helped to lay the foundation for the Republic of Korea to become the 15th largest economy in the world and a staunch U.S. ally.

“The 60th Anniversary Commemoration Event of the Signing of the Armistice will remind the world once again that freedom is not free and of our unwavering commitment to the Republic of Korea.”

Other special events for Korean War veterans have been planned for the week of July 22. On Wednesday evening July 24, Under Secretary of the Army Dr. Joseph W. Westphal and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington will host a special Twilight Tattoo at 7:00 p.m. at Whipple Field at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall in Arlington, Virginia. The Twilight Tattoo is an hour long military pageant featuring Soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) and the U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own.”

Experience a glimpse into American history through performances by The U.S. Army Blues, vocalists from The U.S. Army Band downrange, The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, and The U.S. Army Drill Team.

For more information and to register, contact the U.S. Army Military District of Washington at (202) 685-2888 or visit www.twilight.mdw.army.mil. You must RSVP by 1 JUL as there is limited seating available and will be first-come, first-served basis to attend. Twilight Tattoo is free of charge and no tickets are necessary. Pre-ceremony music begins at 6:45 p.m., with the program starting at 7 p.m.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James F. Amos, has authorized a special Evening Parade exclusively for Korean War veterans of all services and their families on July 25, 2013. The Evening Parade is a one hour and fifteen minute performance of music and precision marching.

The parade features “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band, “The Commandant’s Own,” The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the Marine Corps Color Guard, and the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. Guests are admitted beginning at 7:00 p.m. and should arrive no later than 7:45 p.m. There is no charge for admission.

Guests entering the barracks pass through magnetic detection devices. No weapons of any kind, including knives, are allowed inside the barracks. No food or beverages are permitted with the exception of water and baby food/bottles. To RSVP for the event, go to www.koreanwar60.com/july27Marine, email koreanwar60@triumph-enterprises.com, or return RSVP card by July 8.

On Friday, July 26 at 1:00 p.m., as part of the 60th Anniversary Ceremony marking the end of the Korean War events, the SSgt Reckless Monument will be dedicated and there will be an unveiling of the exhibit on SSgt Reckless inside the Museum of the Marine Corps, Semper Fidelis Park. “The President’s Own” Marine Band Brass Quintet will play and presentation of the Marine Colors by the Marine Corps Color Guard will open the event. RSVP: Robin Hutton (805) 380-4017 or SgtReckless@yahoo.com

“The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean Commemoration Committee has planned a number of activities and events for Korean War veterans to attend throughout the week of July 22,” said Colonel Clark. “We want them to know that they are not only an important part of U.S. history but also of world history and the fight against communist aggression.”

For updated information about activities and events in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary of the Signing of the Armistice, visit the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Commemoration of the Korean War website at www.koreanwar60.com.
# KWVA REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone orders accepted). Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a $20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afreg.com/KWVA2013 (3% will be added to total). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before June 27, 2013. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

**Armored Forces Reunions, Inc.**  
322 Madison Mews  
Norfolk, VA 23510  
ATTN: KWVA

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## OFFICE USE ONLY

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## CUT-OFF DATE IS 6/27/13

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<td>SATURDAY: 60TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION CEREMONY</td>
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<td>FRIDAY: Ladies Brunch</td>
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### MANDATORY REGISTRATION FEE (per person)

| Total Amount Payable to Armored Forces Reunions, Inc. | $ |

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**PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAMETAG**

**FIRST** ___________________________  
**LAST** ___________________________

**KWVA MEMBER #_____________ KWVA CHAPTER #_____________ POW: □ Yes □ No**

You are not required to be a member of the KWVA to participate in this Special Commemoration Event!

**BRANCH OF SERVICE:_____________ MAJOR UNIT ASSIGNED:_____________**

**YEARS IN KOREA: 19____ - 19____ EMAIL ADDRESS:_____________**

**SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING):_____________**

**GUEST NAMES:_____________**

**STREET ADDRESS:_____________**

**CITY, ST, ZIP_____________ PH. NUMBER (______)____-______**

**DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**  
(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly to hotel)

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? □ YES □ NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

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

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**May - June 2013**  
The Graybeards
KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION REUNION
JULY 24-18, 2013
SHERATON PENTAGON CITY, ARLINGTON, VA

Wednesday, July 24
1300 - 1800 Reunion Registration Open
Hospitality Room opens for the duration of the reunion
1500 - 1800 KWVA Committee Meetings
1800 - 2000 Welcome Reception at the hotel
1800 - 2100 Twilight Tattoo, Whipple Field on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. Please see the description below for instructions on how to make a reservation.

Thursday, July 25
Breakfast on your own
0900 - 1100 Reunion Registration Open
0830 - 1500 KWVA Board of Directors Meeting
0930 - 1500 CITY TOUR
1530 - 1730 Reunion Registration Open
1630 - 1730 Light Buffet dinner available in hotel restaurant
1845 - 2230 MARINE BARRACKS SUNSET PARADE

Friday, July 26
0730 - 0830 Breakfast Buffet
0830 - 1500 KWVA General Membership Meeting
0930 - 1130 Ladies Brunch with special entertainment
1800 - 2200 KWVA Banquet Dinner

Saturday, July 27
0730 - 0830 Breakfast Buffet
0630 Bus transportation boarding for the 60th Anniversary
Commemoration Ceremony. The Ceremony will begin at
9:45am.
1145 Immediately following the Ceremony, bus transportation will
begin departing the Ceremony for the hotel
Evening – Special event, in planning

Sunday, July 28
0830 - 1000 Breakfast Buffet

HOTEL RESERVATIONS
Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204
PHONE: (703) 521-1900
TO REGISTER: Central reservations (toll free) 800-325-3535 ◆ Local/direct 703-521-1900. Must mention Korean War Veterans to receive special $114.00/night room rate
KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION REUNION

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

TWILIGHT TATTOO
Wednesday, July 24
Please join Under Secretary of the Army, Dr. Joseph W. Westphal and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington this summer for a special Twilight Tattoo commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War. Twilight Tattoo is one of the Army’s most popular outdoor ceremonial programs in the DC-Metro area. Twilight Tattoo is an hour-long military pageant featuring Soldiers from The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) and The U.S. Army Band "Pershing’s Own." Experience a glimpse into American history through performances by The U.S. Army Blues, vocalists from The U.S. Army Band Downrange, The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, and The U.S. Army Drill Team. For more information and to register, contact the U.S. Army Military District of Washington at (202) 685-2888 or visit Twilight Tattoo Web site. You must RSVP by 1 JUL as there is limited seating available and will be first-come, first-served basis to attend. Please Note: the only seating is on the grass lawn, so if you plan to attend you should bring a blanket or a lawn chair. There will be no transportation provided by KWVA.

CITY TOUR
Thursday, July 25
See the sites of our nation’s capital during a driving tour of Washington, D.C. Ride by the Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, WWII Memorial, the Mall, Capitol Building, Washington Monument, White House, and other notable monuments and federal buildings. Free time will be allowed at the Korean Memorial, a stunning tribute to all those who served in the “forgotten war”. Afterward, stop at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, which is the largest building (3.1 million square feet) in Washington, DC and is the first and only federal building dedicated to both government and private use. While there, enjoy lunch on your own at the Reagan Building food court - named one of the “best family food courts” in DC. A photo ID is required for entrance to the Ronald Reagan Building.
9:30am, board bus, 3:00pm back at the hotel
$45/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch on your own.

EVENING PARADE AT MARINE BARRACKS
Thursday, July 25
Korean war veterans will be honored during the opening ceremonies at the Evening Parade at Marine Barracks at 8th and I Streets, Washington, D.C. Korean veterans who attend the parade will be recognized for their efforts in the historic campaign. With a private performance, we promise a memorable evening viewing the Silent Drill Team and enjoying the U.S. Marine Band as well as the ceremonial Drum and Bugle Corps. Even if you have been there before, tonight is for Korean Veterans!
6:30pm board bus, 10:30pm back at hotel
$28/Person includes bus and escort. There is no admission charge for the Evening Parade.

60th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION CEREMONY
Saturday, July 27
This is for transportation only. The buses will take KWVA attendees from the Sheraton Hotel to the Pentagon Parking lots, where we will disembark, clear security, and then re-board Department of Defense buses to be transported to the Ceremony site at the Korean War Memorial. After the ceremony the original buses will pick up from the ceremony site and return you to the hotel. The Ceremony will begin at approximately 9:45am, but all attendees must be seated no later than 8:45am. ***All passengers must pass through Secret Service security/magnetometers at the Pentagon Parking lots. Please do not bring pocket knives or any other type weapon with you. Cameras and video recorders are permitted.***
0630 board bus, 1145am begin returning to hotel
***TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON FINAL SCHEDULE***
$28/Person includes bus and escort.

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices. Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.
On July 27, 1950 the 29th Infantry Regiment of the U.S. Army set foot on Korean soil to begin the tedious task of pushing the invading North Korean military forces back across the 38th Parallel whence they came on June 25th, only five weeks earlier. The regiment was in combat within 24 hours—and half its third battalion was dead.

Regiment? A regiment usually contains three battalions. The Army did not have enough Soldiers to complete the 29th Infantry Regiment. So, the 29th went without a second battalion. It didn’t matter early in 1950. The North Koreans were destroying virtually every regiment, battalion, company, platoon, squad, fire team or other unit that the allies could put in the field at that time. But, things change.

Three years to the day later, the opposing sides implemented an armistice that ostensibly ended the fighting in Korea. The United Nations forces had recovered from the battering they had taken early in the war. They had compensated for their early losses and become a proficient military machine well able to stand up to the overwhelming numbers of Chinese and North Koreans that had attacked them time and time again. The Chinese had entered the war in October of 1950 and saved their North Korean allies from extinction.

But, dates and numbers do not tell the story of the Korean War. People do. And nobody can tell the story better than the people who fought that war. Many of them are no longer alive to do that. After all, the fighting ended sixty years ago. It is that 60th anniversary that we are commemorating in this edition of The Graybeards.

Some of them, including over 36,000 Americans, died during the war. They cannot tell their stories. Others must do that for them. We asked the members of the Korean War Veterans Association to help in that effort. They responded with their usual alacrity.

Scores of members submitted photos and stories that had never been published before regarding little known and historically significant events that took place in the Korean War. In essence, they were telling their individual stories—the parts that compose the total history of the Korean War.

The stories begin with the first battles fought by U.S. troops in Korea. They continue through the entire war, include participants’ remembrances of where they were and what they were doing on July 27, 1953, and culminate with post-treaty reactions and coming home memories.

Let’s start with a remembrance titled “My First Day Of War” from Morris Breed, one of the first U.S. Soldiers to set foot in Korea, and work our way from that point to July 27, 1953 as we add to the history of the Korean War, which has not been completed to this point—and will not be, as long as participants continue to add their stories to it and historians merge them into their accounts.

**My First Day Of War**

The U.S. Army’s 29th Infantry Regiment was in combat within 24 hours of setting foot on Korean soil on July 27th, 1950. A few hours later, about half of the members of the third battalion were dead. Within a few weeks, the entire regiment was destroyed, and the few survivors were assigned to different divisions.

I was assigned to 24th Division, which had arrived in Korea just a few weeks prior to the 29th Regiment. Not much later, the 24th was also decimated, and I became a member of the 25th Division.

In the early weeks of the war, the U.S. was totally unprepared for war and unorganized, compared to the North Koreans, who had months to plan and prepare after the U.S. forces pulled out of Korea on June 30th, 1949.

The North Koreans were moving south rapidly, leapfrogging from village to village, hill to hill. There was no front line, only chaos. I know of no other surviving member of the 29th, so these are my recollections of that time and group of men.

I was an eighteen year old farm kid from rural Pennsylvania when I enlisted on September 1, 1949, and reported to Fort Dix, NJ for basic training. Three months later, the Army loaded thirteen train cars with us newly minted privates. We traveled to Fort Lewis, WA for advanced training.

The trip was a long one, with many waits on side tracks to allow scheduled runs the right of way. We had a great time, hooting and hollering at any young thing in a skirt as we passed through cities and towns. Some braver souls actually left the train at girls’ invitations and straggled into Fort Lewis up to a month later.

On June 17, 1950, about 1,500 of us shipped out of San Francisco on the USNS General Hugh J. Gaffey (T-AP-121). We were assigned to three-year terms of occupation duty in Japan. On board, I was assigned to guard duty for prisoners who were kept in the brig, which was below the water line under the bow. My only prisoner at first was a Filipino man, a 20-year veteran with the rank of a Navy chief, who was being deported to the Philippines.

The prisoner had a single possession, a package he frequently held close to his chest. He would not say what it was, but it was very precious to him. Once, when I accompanied him to the mess for meals, I didn’t lock the cell. His scream of anguish at our return told me that his treasure had been stolen. When I reported this to the ship’s captain, he ordered the entire ship searched. Nothing was found.

A while later, an observant mail officer recalled that a soldier had brought in a package addressed to himself. He was called in, and could not identify the object inside the package. My prisoner claimed it. He was in tears when he revealed the contents: a complete baby layette he was carrying to his sister, his only living relative, who he had not seen in 20 years. The child was for her new grandbaby.

I never knew or asked what his crime had been, but I knew the content of his
Our group was assigned to the Hq Hq 3rd Battalion of the 29th Infantry Regiment. There were only the first and third battalions, as there weren’t enough men to fill the second battalion. We were given a short reprieve waiting for the typhoons at sea to settle down. We were issued our rifles, a duffle bag with bedding, and extra clothes and marched onto what

had once been called a luxury Japanese cruise ship. In more recent years, it had been refitted and used for hauling concrete powder in huge holds. It had a small Japanese civilian crew of 10 or so.

We were led to a 10 x 10 foot hole in the decking, where a rope ladder reached to the floor of the hold below, some 30-40 feet.

“There are your quarters for the next three days, men,” an officer said. “Go on down.”

I was the last to descend. There we were, some 1,000 men, standing in 3 inches of water, with nothing else in sight.

I was still standing next to the ladder. I looked around and did not see anyone else coming down. So, I turned to the man next to me, and said, “I don’t know what you intend to do, but I am going back up.”

When he decided reluctantly to follow, I said, “Don’t look back, and don’t stop unless you are given a direct order.” No one stopped us.

My first intention was to find a hiding space under some of the trucks and equipment tied down on deck. After one glance I knew that wasn’t a possibility. I didn’t see anyone in uniform on the deck between us and the bow, so I said to my fellow escapee, “Follow me and don’t stop.”

We marched to the bow and hopped down into the anchor locker. That was our spot till we landed in Pusan. We left our duffle bags. “They will be returned to you later,” we were promised, but we never saw them again. In exchange for our duffle bags we were given rifles and a handful of bullets. Those items and the clothes on our back were the sum and total of our possessions.

I never took those clothes off for six months. We would occasionally receive, or we would appropriate, additional shirts and pants, and we would simply layer them. By winter I had 10 layers, including an overcoat, on top and 6-7 layers below. We had long woolen socks. When we could, we replaced the wet ones for dry, and wrapped the former around our waist to dry under our clothes. We never had sleeping bags, and never slept in a tent, house, or bunker.

After we arrived in Korea we were herded onto slatted cattle cars, standing room only, and taken to Chongju, about 30 miles away. We bedded down in a school yard, but not for long. In the middle of the night we were moved out about thirty more miles to a village called Hadong.

By dawn we were mustered in a horse-shoe-shaped ring of hills near three thatched huts. My lieutenant asked me to accompany him to a confab of officers. There was a Japanese General who had been in Korea during their 40 year occupation of Korea, who was to act as an advisor, our Battalion C.O., U.S. LtCol. Harold W. Mott, and several other officers.

In the middle of the confab an ancient Korean woman burst from one of the nearby huts. She approached us weeping and crying words of warning: “Don’t go this way,” she said. “The hills are full of the enemy; you will surely die.”

The Japanese General translated this to our C.O., including his own strong reservations. The C.O., conditioned by his briefings that there were only some 300 North Koreans armed with clubs and axes,
refused to reconsider. He ordered the men to move up the valley between rice paddies. Soon, the bullets and larger salvos were raining down on us.

At one point I looked to the right to see the weeping Korean woman. Her hands were pressed together in prayer, and tears streamed down her cheeks. I lost track of her and never heard if she survived. Our lieutenant ordered us to move off to the right in the direction of a small hill, where he assigned us positions and ordered us to dig in and hold our ground. He led me nearly around the hill, from where I had a distant view of the valley below. He went on farther towards our truck of ammunition that was between us and the enemy. I saw the jeeps carrying the General and C.O. being shot at. I could see that everyone in the Japanese jeep was dead. The C.O. appeared dead as well.

Dead and wounded GIs littered the entire valley. I heard later that we had only three 50 caliber machine guns and, when the gunners tried to fire them, they discovered that the firing pins were missing. There were some .30 caliber machine guns, but in the haste to move out, many boxes of blank shells were included. There was no time to sort through these and find live ammo.

A call came for retreat. In my assessment, this was the only sane move. I had difficulty getting some of the squad to move without hearing from their lieutenant. But we made it back to the staging ground. The ammo there had been simply thrown off the trucks.

By this time, I was exhausted and there seemed no way that my 128-pound body could heft those 113-pound boxes on to the truck. Gasping for air, I saw a man shorter and smaller than me, with blood squirting out of a neck wound, just toss a box onto the bed of the truck.

“Well,” I thought, “if a wounded man can do that, I can, too.” I started throwing boxes, too. (On the troop ship going home a year later, I stood at the stern watching the war disappear behind me. I turned to see a small GI with a huge scar on his neck standing beside me. We compared notes and I discovered that he was the ammo throwing, wounded man. When I expressed my amazement and admiration, he said, “Ah, it was nothing but a flesh wound!”)

More guys helped, and we covered the bed with ammo, then placed the wounded Soldiers atop them. As many of us who could stood on the bed of the truck or hung precariously to the side rails as the truck peeled off in retreat. To be left behind was sure death or capture.

We drove back to Chinju on July 27th, 1950, grateful to be alive. Within hours, those with a survival spirit were laughing and joshing. Little did we know, by the next day the North Koreans had infiltrated the area we thought safe. As we learned, nothing was safe—and the amenities of home were all but gone. But, we did the best we could.
could to keep one another’s morale up and make life bearable. One mail call story demonstrates that.

Receiving mail was a rare happening in the early chaotic days of the war. We were always on the move, most times miles from anything that resembled a camp with mail service. I was blessed with a large extended farm family from rural Pennsylvania. Subsequently, I enjoyed an embarrassing richness of mail; seventeen letters in one delivery was my record.

In our squad was a young man from West Virginia. We didn’t know his name, and never learned it. We just called him “West Virginia.” He rarely spoke. He was obviously poorly educated and socially inept. Consequently, he was harassed unmercifully.

I noticed that he didn’t attend mail call and never received any letters. One day we were assigned a work detail together, and I determined to discover his secrets. I asked him casually whether he had heard from his family.

“I don’t have a family,” he said softly. Then his story slowly came out.

His parents were gone long ago. He had been raised by his grandmother in a remote hollow in the Appalachian Mountains. Later, their roles were reversed. For years he had cared for her, and now she was totally confined to her bed and rocking chair.

When the letter arrived, announcing that he had been drafted, he only knew he had to go. He should have applied for a deferment, but that was 1949 and it never occurred to him. Instead, he stockpiled some things for her and hoped the neighbors would realize he was gone and would care on her. Now he worried if she was still alive or had slowly starved to death.

Back with the squad, I let the word out to back off on the teasing. The next mail call, I pulled a letter out from my older married sister and tossed it to him.

“Hey, West Virginia, you got a letter,” I exclaimed.

He protested it wasn’t his, but I assured him he could open it. I could see his face change as he read her simple news of the crops, the kids, and goings on in small-town America. I encouraged him to write to her, and they exchanged letters all the while we were in Korea. After that, he became a more visible and verbal part of the squad.

That Christmas, I received seven packages. I gave him one to open. As was common practice, we shared the contents with the rest of the guys. I never really got to know him well, but I know that he survived and went home. I have often wondered what he found when he got there.

Anyway, he and I were among the lucky survivors of those first days of the war. In a reversion to my early days in Okinawa, I was transferred from outfit to outfit and my responsibilities changed. One thing that did not change was the series of strange events in which we were involved, including one in which an ox saved my life.

After the first weeks of chaos in Korea, I was assigned to the 25th Infantry and dubbed an “A and P Specialist.” That meant taking care of ammo and site preparation. Supply trucks would make the 20-30 mile trip on ox-cart roads to transport ammo and communication wiring from the supply depot to the front lines.

Even though the truckers tried to go in convoys, they lost a lot of the drivers who were not able to protect themselves adequately. They had their hands full staying on the road and couldn’t be looking for snipers and ambushes ahead. Eventually, the “brass” added a rifleman riding shotgun in the open-cab, six by six, flat-bed truck. One of my jobs was to ride “shotgun” on a truck.

We were fording a rocky stream on the way back to HQ on October 16, 1950. The driver, named Monty, punched a hole in one of our saddle tanks. My mom had just sent me a care package containing chewing gum, so we chewed a wad and patched the hole before we lost so much fuel we could-
I couldn’t speak any Korean, but I made eye contact with each villager, folded my hands together and bowed three times, saying “Thank you.” Then we drove off. Not too much farther along the road we found the jeep and the trucks that had passed us. All of the men had been killed in an ambush, and their loads were stolen.

After ascertaining that they were all dead, we high-tailed it into our camp. By the time I returned from taking a crew to retrieve the bodies and trucks, Monty was gone. He had been assigned to a different unit.

All of us who were in Korea in early 1950 lived every day with the knowledge that that day could well be our last, and that there were a thousand ways that we could be injured, captured or killed. Why I survived when so many good men didn’t is a mystery to me, and known only to God.

I wasn’t a believer at the time, but even then, I had to acknowledge that I had been saved from certain death that day by an ox. Had we not been detained 2-3 hours, it could have been us who were ambushed and killed.

I only hope that Monty came to that same conclusion.

Morris M. Breed
Kenai, AK
907-395-7000

There were not enough oxen in Korea to save a lot of the 36,000+ American service members who died in Korea between July 27, 1950 and July 27, 1953. The chaos Morris Breed experienced in those early days abated eventually, and the tide of war changed in the UN’s favor. But, by the time the armistice went into effect on July 27, 1953, little had changed.

The two warring sides occupied approximately the same pieces of ground they had occupied early in the war, roughly at the 38th Parallel. Nevertheless, a lot had happened in the intervening three years. Millions of Soldiers on both sides had accumulated experiences that were eventually translated into stories such as the ones that appear in these pages. Here are some of them, sixty years after July 27, 1953. Let’s hope the survivors continue to add to this collection.

Photos accompanying this article courtesy of Allen Affolter
Looking for Applicants!

KOREAN WAR VETERANS YOUTH LEGACY WORKSHOP

Please share this information with your families and friends!
In honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Armistice and the US-Korea Alliance, the Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation (http://www.kwvdm.org/) will host the first KWV Youth Legacy Project Workshop in Washington, D.C. A select group of high school and college students who are KWVs descendants will be invited to carry on the valuable legacy and lessons of the Korean War, KWVs, and the US-Korea alliance. Expenses up to $1,000 will be covered by the foundation for transportation, hotel, meals, and program fees.

Program Highlights

⇒ Attendance at the 60th Armistice event in the KWV Memorial Park
⇒ Visits to the Republic of Korea Embassy, Library of Congress, and Memorials
⇒ Launching of the National KWV Descendant Organization
⇒ $1,000 Scholarship Award for excellence in participation

Application Contact Information

Please submit application (form downloads from: http://bit.ly/16uf4q1) and questions to:
President Dr. Jongwoo Han at jonghan@syr.edu, (315) 480-9427

Please Apply By: June 20, 2013
(early birds with more benefits)
The KWV Legacy Workshop Project is a youth summit that will take place in Washington, D.C. July 24-28, 2013 in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Armistice of the Korean War and the US-Korea Alliance signed in 1953.

Admission is granted to selected KWV descendants, including high school and university students who show a passion for history, veterans’ issues, leadership, and the US-Korea relationship. Selected participants will stay at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel (rooms reserved and paid for) and attend the historic 60th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice and US-Korea Alliance. Other benefits include being potential candidates for Peace Camp (a 1-week program) in Seoul as well as other exciting scholarship and internship opportunities.

Application Process:
Proposal: Along with a 1-page resume, applicants should submit a 1-page proposal of 800 words or less describing the ways in which you would use the artifacts contained in the KWVDM database (interviews and artifacts cataloged at http://www.kwvdm.org/). Proposals can take the following forms:
1) Writing a research paper on the Korean War and KWVs’ legacy as well as US-Korea relations.
2) Working on art and computer graphics (e.g., the Korean Peninsula map on the KWVDM homepage, you need an authorization of using data from the Web).
3) Working on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or mobile apps to promote the legacy of the Korean War and the sacrifices of KWVs among your peers using the KWVDM database.
Submit the proposal to President Jongwoo Han by June 20, 2013. Those selected for the program will give presentations on their completed works. A scholarship of $1,000 will be awarded to the 3 best presenters in each category.

Tentative Schedule for KWV Youth Legacy Project summit:
I. Introduction (July 24): Registration, welcoming remarks, meet-and-greet activities
II. Workshop I (July 25): Keynote, database workshop, luncheon at ROK Embassy & Presentations
III. Workshop II (July 26, Friday): Database workshop, tour of Library of Congress, launching of descendant organization, banquet
IV. Conclusion (July 27, Saturday): Attendance at Armistice Event, Online Social Media Presentation, Intergenerational conversation, $1,000 Scholarship Awards and Banquet

Special thanks is due to the Republic of Korea’s Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs as well as Pantech® for making this exciting project possible.
It Wasn’t Any Safer In The Rear

Don Schnurr observed that troops didn’t feel safe anywhere in Korea. He revealed that one day he and his comrades watched a dogfight between one of our fighter planes and an enemy plane. They circled and fired at one another and then drifted out of our sight. I don’t know if either one hit the other. All he was concerned with was hitting the shores of home.

It was close to the first of June 1953 and I had enough points to rotate home. They took me to the rear to catch a ride to Inchon to board a ship. They were short on transportation so I was there for several days.

One day our message center jeep came back. I knew the driver. He said he was taking his replacement** back up front and then he was going home. He asked me if I wanted to ride along to see my friends one last time. I said “Okay” and got in the jeep.

He let the replacement drive. As we came over the hill into our artillery area, the enemy was shelling the area very heavily. I yelled for the driver to stop. Being new, he didn’t realize the danger and kept driving. When we got him stopped we were right in the center of it all. I jumped out of the jeep and headed for a dry river bed by a cliff. There were other people already in it, and I joined them.

The shells were falling all around us and hitting the cliff. I was swearing quite loudly and asking why I had gotten myself into this spot when I didn’t have to. I reached for my cigarettes, but I had lost them. I poked the guy beside me and asked for a cigarette. When he rolled over to get one I noticed he was a chaplain. I was embarrassed by my swearing, but he didn’t mention it.

When the shelling stopped I had them take me back to the rear. It was safer there—or so I thought.

The next day I was still in the rear when our lines got hit heavily. An officer came through, grabbed me, and said they had lost a machine gun crew. He added that I would have to go up on the machine gun.

While I was looking for a helmet, my old company commander happened to be back there and asked what I was doing. I told him I was ordered up on a machine gun. He said, “No, you have done your time and you are not going up there and get killed now. I’ll take care of the officer.”

I could have kissed him for that.

'Replacement' Was A Scary Word

There was nothing comforting to service members about the word “replacement” on their orders. It meant simply that they were going somewhere and were at the mercy of fate. Whatever outfit needed their services would be where they were assigned. They could not glean anything from their orders, which were generic in nature.

Consider these orders issued to PFC Richard R. Dombrowski, USMC and two other Marines, PFC Paul E. Holcomb and PVT Claud W. Nipp, on 24 November 1952. They were about as vague as could be. All they said was report to Camp Pendleton, California and somewhere “beyond the seas.” That could have meant the moon, for all they knew—but deep in their hearts they knew they were headed for Korea.

Sure enough, “beyond the seas” meant Korea for Dombrowski, Holcomb, and Nipp—as it did for so many other service members. Just about a year after Dombrowski reported to Korea, he completed Machine Gun School (13 December 1953 to 26 December 1953)—long after the fighting ended.

The Last Month

The troops on both sides had suffered through numerous rumors about the impending armistice. But, their leaders had no intention of ending the fighting until the negotiators were close to actually signing documents. And, they recognized that once there was a treaty in place there would be no opportunities for either side to gain and hold more ground.

Where they were when the treaty was signed was crucial. And, where they were was pretty close to where everybody had started out once the initial back-and-forth fighting had settled down three years earlier: the 38th Parallel. So, the last month of fighting was crucial for both sides as they struggled to hold what territory they had and add an inch or two to it.

Approximately two or three weeks before July 27th, the Chinese Communist Forces [CCF] massed a six-division force, comprising about 80,000 troops, in the Kumsong river area. The communists wanted to straighten the Main Line of Resistance (MLR) to influence the Panmunjom Peace talks.

James McCarthy, the Operation,

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OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER
MARINE BARRACKS, NAVAL AMMUNITION DEPOT
MC ALESTER, OKLAHOMA

ORIGINAL ORDERS

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The center of the bulge was controlled by Republic of Korea (ROK) troops. U.S. troops controlled the left flank at Sniper Ridge; Christmas Hill was on the right flank. The bulge was known as the Kumsong River Salient. The Communist troops hit the ROK units troops with everything they had. They overwhelmed and overran the ROK elements, along with the U.S. Army’s 555th (“Triple Nickel”) Field Artillery Battalion (FAB). The communists overran the 555th so quickly that the artillerymen did not have time to destroy their weapons. The Chinese attack was deadly for the Triple Nickel, which suffered 87 causalities: 46 were captured, 22 were killed in action and 19 were wounded. That’s when McCarthy entered the battle.

“My unit was sent along with the 15th Regiment to stop the Communist aggression,” he recalled. “We arrived on July 15, 1953 to stop the Chinese. The 3rd Infantry Division was the only U.S. unit directly involved in this offensive effort. It took us a week to get most of the lost territory back.” The division paid a steep price for its success.

According to McCarthy, “Our causalities were high, with 243 killed in action and 768 were wounded. But, casualties on the communist side were tremendous, too. Because of our efforts, the communists were stopped.” But, he added, his unit was still going to feel the effects of the drastic impact on the 555th a short while earlier.

On July 27, 1953, the communists fired over 20,000 rounds of artillery at the 65th Regiment. The barrage included the ammunition that was left over from when the Chinese overran the 555th FAB. It lasted until 10 p.m.—the cease-fire deadline. The onslaught put the 65th Regiment in grave peril.

“We did not have bunkers to go into; we only had foxholes,” McCarthy explained. “I remember getting fired on, and three of us were in one hole. You talk about a crowded foxhole! This was it.”

He also remembered that there was a jeep parked about six feet from their hole when a round went off between the hole and the jeep. “The jeep caught fire, and we had to stay in the holes because of other rounds that were coming in,” McCarthy revealed. “We lost our hearing for about three hours. But at least we were not wounded.”

McCarthy pointed out that such experiences never leave combat-experienced soldiers. “You remember them for life,” he stressed.

When 10 p.m. came everything, went quiet—at least momentarily. “We could see the communist troops coming out of their cover, waving their arms, raising their rifles, and yelling,” McCarthy said. “Of course, we couldn’t be upstaged, so we did the same. But not a shot was fired from either side.” Needless to say, he, along with his comrades, was grateful about that.

“Thank God it was over with,” McCarthy exclaimed. “I will never forget my buddies who did not experience this happy ending to a very costly war. We lost many young men in Korea, but we did stop the communist movement in the Far East.”

**Seventy -Two Hours To Go**

_Datetime: Korea, 2200 hours, July 24, 1953._

Would this war that had lasted over three years, cost tens of thousands of American lives and injured thousands more come to an end in 72 hours? This was the hope of troops stationed along the main line of resistance (MLR) this warm summer night.

I had served as a combat medic. Then, due to attrition I was promoted in January 1953 to an E-5 medical technician and attached to the 2nd Battalion Aid Station, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. We were stationed just north of the 38th Parallel in North Korea.

Our Aid Station was the first stop for the sick or injured in our battle zone. During my ten months in Korea we had attended to the medical needs of the Second Battalion’s casualties since the previous November. We did not ask the injured what outfits they were attached to or what countries they were from; time was of the essence for the most seriously wounded.

_Carried on page 50_
Seventy Central Florida Korean War and Service veterans, along with their spouses and friends, were honored by The Korean Baptist Church of Ocala, FL in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the signing of the Korean War Armistice on July 27, 1953.

Veterans attending were from KWVA chapters 169 (KWVA of Lake County), 16 (Ocala), 188 (South Lake County), and 267 (GEN James A. Van Fleet). They were treated to very tasty Korean foods. Each attendee received a lovely living orchid, and they all heard a lovely rendition of the “Song of Arirang,” which was better remembered by the vets as “ah di dong.”

In return, KWVA Asst. Secretary Jake Feaster delivered a harmonica rendition of the Army Song and the Battle Hymn of the Republic. Gold Star Spouse Carol Becker played the piano as she led the veterans in singing “God Bless America.”

Bill Shumaker, representing Ch 169, gave each of the Korean Church members one of the Chapter’s newly-produced lapel pins. This was the first ever such event in this area. It was facilitated by Reverend Joseph Ryu; Tom Thiel, Ch 169 past president, coordinated the KWVA participation. Pastor Kim of the Korean Baptist Church did the same for his group.

KWVA veterans greatly appreciated this beautiful occasion to remember them for their service defending Korea, and to make it the symbol of freedom and democracy in Asia.

They welcomed their new Korean American friends!

Tom Thiel, 19147 Park Place Blvd., Eustis, FL 32736, 352-357-3943 or 352-408-6612,

Members of the Korean Baptist Church of Ocala, FL
The organizers of the Ocala, FL “Thanks” event (L-R) Tom Thiel, Pastor Choong E. Kim, Minister Joseph Ryu

Carol Becker leads attendees at Ocala Fl church in singing “God Bless America”

Operation COMIX Relief

By V. Tarbassian, Chapter 299

Chris Tarbassian is the founder and CEO of Operation Comix Relief (OCR), which is based in Framingham, MA. OCR is a non-profit organization which ships free comic books to individual U.S. servicemen and women deployed anywhere outside the U.S.

OCR, which has been in operation since 2003, has mailed over 100,000 comic books so far. Chris can always use more names and addresses. If you have any addresses please e-mail or mail them to:

Operation Comix Relief
8 Capri Drive
Framingham, MA 01701

E-mail: operationcomixrelief@yahoo.com
Website: www.operationcomixrelief.org

Chris recently stated he was disappointed that U.S. troops in Korea are not receiving comics, because he has not received many addresses from our troops in Korea. He asks that we support them by providing names and addresses.

During the Iraq conflict, the Marine Corps League urged the Chapel of the Four Chaplains to honor Chris. This became a reality, with suitable recognition and rewards.

Recently, the U.S. Post Office made it difficult for OCR by not allowing them to use the media mail rate and increasing the postal rates. Each individual packet mailed out to a specific GI must complete several “red tape” hurdles before shipment from the U.S. Readers of this article can easily relate, I’m certain.

OCR invites KWVA members to read their website’s bimonthly newsletters. It’s heartening to learn the Army, Navy, and Marines enjoy the comics. However, the USAF and Coast Guard don’t seem to know much about OCR’s efforts. Let’s correct this!

This is a great way to publicly show the KWVA flag and foster future enrollment into the KWVA.
**CPT PAUL DILL #2 [DE]**

On September 19th, 2012, we held a small ceremony to donate two steel benches with embossed emblems of the branches of military services on the front of each bench to the Wilmington, Delaware VA Medical Center.

This ceremony was attended by VAMC Director Daniel Hendee and fifteen chapter members. Hendee was surprised at the quality of the benches and generosity of the members. He gave a speech thanking us for our continued support of the VAMC and all veterans. He is looking forward to working with us and said that the veterans’ families coming to the hospital to visit their loved ones, and the veterans in the Community Living Center, will appreciate the benches. He requested a third bench, which was approved by our membership and ordered.

The third bench will be set in the middle of the walking trail. The benches can be seen at the beginning and end of the walking trail that was installed on the VA campus last year.

Frank Howerton, 110 W. Pembrey Dr. Wilmington, DE 19803

**GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]**

The speaker at our April luncheon was Major General George B. Harrison, presently the Principal Research Engineer and Associate Director of the Georgia Tech Research Institute. He gave an outstanding presentation on the subject of President Obama’s sequestration policies and discussed specific reductions to the Armed Forces.

MajGen Harrison asked all of our members to contact their elected officials to head off the effects of such actions.

(See a related story about Ch 19’s activities in “Members in the News,” p. 51, re Dr. Lee.)

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net
A couple years ago I ran an article about the wonderful program which member Dale Parish hosts. He was given an award for the excellence of the program.

Our TV show, “The American Veteran,” filmed at ACCESS FT WAYNE at the Allen County Library, completed its second year on the air this January 2013. Our guests have been veterans from WWII till now, all branches of the service, privates to colonels, and from those who saw the worst of combat to those who didn’t see any at all but still had important stories to tell.

I’m proud to announce that our show received the “2012 Philo T. Farnsworth” award for excellence in community programming and was chosen #1 for Non-Professional Interview/Talk Show.

I thank our director, Norm Compton, for submitting our show, the one he named “Atomic Bill.” Shows were submitted not only from Indiana, but from Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky. The guest for this show was Bill Hambrock, a member Ch 30, who was stationed in Nevada at the nuclear test site in the early 1950s. Bill described the test and showed some fabulous pictures and talked about how the troops taking part in the test all suffered different degrees of radiation.

Also, I thank the staff of ACCESS FT WAYNE for the advice and encouragement they have given us, our co-hosts Carl Fowler and Bud Mendenhall, and all our guests. (Carl and Bud are members of our chapter.) Incidentally, if time allows on the show, we encourage all Korean War and Korean Service veterans to join us in the KWVA.

“The American Veteran” shows can be seen locally on Comcast channel 57 and on FIOS 27. Most shows can be seen on U-Tube by going to “cpl780thbn” or just “american veteran tv show.” We can be reached at the Americanveteran@frontier.com or dalesally@frontier.com.

Mary Anna Roemke, 9015 Farmington Ave.
Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Rain and cold in the early morning hours greeted the marchers in the St. Paul, MN Cinco de Mayo Parade this year. Some vendors, parade goers, and chapter members decided to stay snug-gled in their beds. Worse, our jeep was not available. But, that was not a major problem.

Chapter members traveled the parade route in Blair Rumble’s pick-up truck. President Ed Valle rode shotgun; Al Lindner was the “gunner.”

Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Ave.
Saint Paul, MN 55105, 651-224-8388

We hosted the year’s first state regional meeting at the American Legion Memorial Post 156 in Kirkwood, MO. The meeting was called to order by State Commander Frank Williams, with the pledge of allegiance, an opening prayer and a POW/MIA prayer by Milt Herrick. In attendance were Jim Fountain, National Director, KWVA, and Paul Phillips, former State Commander, and a member of our chapter.

The first order of business was to elect the new officers for the next term. The current officers all agreed to remain in their current assignments. Chapter Commander Don Guttmann administered the oath of office to the “new” officers: Frank Williams, State Commander; Joe McMahon, 1st Vice Commander; Forest O’Neal, 2nd Vice Commander; Bob Markham, Adjutant; Ken Hoffman, Treasurer and Frank Hunleth, Judge Advocate. All of
the appointed positions remained the same.

The next order of business was for each chapter to give its report on operations and activities since the last regional meeting in Rolla, MO. Next, the Legislative Officer, Robert Osborn, gave his report on actions in the Missouri Legislature dealing with all veterans. The one specific action being worked on is to establish a boarding fee on all state casinos, reserved for the State Veterans Committee in support of state veterans’ benefits, which includes the state veterans cemeteries and retirement homes.

Upon conclusion of this report a general discussion of a variety of subjects was held before a closing prayer and salute to the flag.

Kenn Dawley, 382 Autumn Creek Dr., Apt. A
Manchester, MO 63088

**55 NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]**

On April 3, 2013 Commander Donald Zoeller and Director Joseph Carco, our liaison to the Korean community, were honored guests at the annual dinner gala for the Seoul Gyeonggi Province Association of Eastern USA, held at Kum Gang Restaurant in Flushing, New York.

Zoeller and Carco became honorary members of the association.

Representatives of the New York State KWVA and Central Long Island chapter (CID 64) also attended.

Robert P. O’Brien, P.O. Box 1591
N. Massapequa, NY 11758

**56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]**

We were invited to a meeting of the Korean War Veterans, Western Region, at Los Angeles. The unit’s new president, Hong K. Park, extended the invitation.

Attendance at our January meeting was high. One member’s daughter depicted the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC in a painting she completed and gave to her father, Manuel Adame, at the meeting.

David Lopez, 3850 W 180 Pl., Torrance, CA 90504

The setting of the Korean War Veterans Association, Western Region meeting attended by Ch 56 members
On October 13, 2012 the Chicago South Korean Consulate representative, Consul Jin Hyun Lee, and PMX President Si Geun Kim were in Cedar Falls, IA at the University of Northern Iowa to present “Ambassador for Peace” medals to Korean War veterans or members of their families.

Approximately 600 veterans, family, and friends attended the event held in the GallagherBluedorn Performing Arts Center. Ch 99 and the University of Northern Iowa hosted the event.

Vilas (“Sid”) Morris, Jr., 5026 Sage Rd.
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Korean American Society of Iowa
President John Lee
and Ch 99
President Sid Morris

Eric Benson, University of Northern Iowa veteran, speaking on his experiences locating and identifying Korean War soldiers
We had the privilege of hosting the 2013 memorial service to honor the Four Chaplains on February 3rd. It was held at the Temple Beth El Israel in Port St. Lucie, FL. Veterans of all branches of the armed forces attended.


The Legion of Honor was presented to chapter member John Holdorf.
About a year ago, we established a fund to benefit veterans residing at Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center/Montevue Home. This fund provides personal items that are not provided by the institution and that veterans cannot afford with their personal money. To date, items such as barbering and beauty shop care, pizza parties, a foot stool, three winter jackets, and some minor clothing needs have been provided from the fund.

Trustee Vincent Parmaesano’s remarks at a recent presentation explained how the extra attention added to the quality of life of the veterans.

Robert C. Mount, 6518 Fish Hatchery Rd.
Thurmont, MD 21788

Members visited with ROTC students at Florida Southern College in Lakeland recently.

Frank Cohee, kwvasec@gmail.com

Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet
Send your photos and a short write-up to The Graybeards editor for publication!
Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Alexander Atheras (L) and Pasquale Candela carry Ch 170’s banner in parade

Ch 158 members and ROTC students at Florida Southern College (Front, L-R) Jim Bradford, Cadet Michele Bogle, Cadet Heather Weaver, Cadet Steven Howard, 3rd VP Bill McCraney, President Frank Cohee (Back, L-R) Cadet Bryce Loudermilk, Cadet Wesley Cook, Cadet Matt Leonard, Cadet Michael Reynolds, Cadet Alex Emrich, LTC Scott LaRonde, Sgt.-At-Arms Richard Champion, Jim Schultz

Twenty-one members participated in the 51st annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade at Pearl River, NY on March 17th. They were joined by members of another New Jersey chapter, CID 48, Chorwon.

19 of the 21 members of Ch 170 who marched in the Pearl River St. Patrick’s Day Parade

Alexander Atheras (L) and Pasquale Candela carry Ch 170’s banner in parade

Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet
Send your photos and a short write-up to The Graybeards editor for publication!
Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Alexander Atheras (L) and Pasquale Candela carry Ch 170’s banner in parade
All veterans groups marched in the Honor Battalion. It was a great honor for them, since they all have one thing in common: they love our country and would again defend it against all enemies.

This year’s parade was dedicated to the 69th New York National Guard, the “Fighting 69th.” It also commemorated the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and the valor displayed and the sacrifices made by the Irish-Americans who fought in that bloody conflict known as the American Civil War. In fact, it was the Confederate commander, Robert E. Lee, who gave the 69th its nickname.

Chapter Surgeon Thomas Boyle led the chapter’s marchers and Color Guard Captain (and Jr. Vice Commander) Henry Ferrarini headed its Color Guard as the throngs along the parade route cheered wildly for the veterans groups. When the announcer mentioned the New Jersey Korean War veterans, a resounding cheer went up.

Following the parade, chapter president Dr. Richard Onorevole invited the members to a great meal at the Clifton, NJ Buffet.

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

183 NEBRASKA #1 [NE]

Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) was the guest speaker at our March meeting.

Bill Wirges, Jr., 15010 Holmes St., Omaha, NE 68137, 402-894-0559 (Home), 402-894-0559 (Cell)

195 QUEEN CITY [CO]

On April 7, members were recognized and honored at the Annual United Veterans Committee of Colorado Banquet in Denver, CO. We received the Outstanding Veterans Service Organization Award for 2012.
This award was earned partially due to our “Proud To Be An American” program, which recognized and awarded seven schools in the Jefferson Country School District for their outstanding patriotic programs and activities, and for the recognition they gave to the veterans in their areas.

Kenneth E. Camell, 3120 Baylor Dr., Boulder, CO 80305, 303-494-2013, CamellK@yahoo.com

We presented the colors at each Pittsburgh Pirates home spring training game at McKechnie Field in Bradenton, FL. At one game, Robin Fernandez, Executive Director/Leadership Coach, Nature of Being, sang our National Anthem prior to the game. Her sister took the photo on back cover.

Thomas G. (“Skip”) Hannon, 4721 Mt. Vernon Dr., Bradenton, FL 34210, 941-795-5061 skip-pat-han@hotmail.com

As we mentioned in the previous issue, a group of Korean veterans traveled to Falfurrias, TX to witness the unveiling of the Korean War highway sign. Here is a bit more info.

Senate Bill (SB) 58, introduced by Senator Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo), designates segments of State Highways 359, 16 and 285 as the Korean War Memorial Highway. The highway extends from Laredo to Falfurrias.

We have new officers for 2013-14: President Eduardo R. Sanchez, Jr.; 1st VP Dave Leyendecker; 2nd VP John McKeown; Secretary Nicholas Nunez; Treasurer Hector Castaneda;
Chaplain Jesus J. Trevino; Historian Pete Trevino. District Attorney Isidro Alvaniz administered the oath of office to them.

President Eduardo Sanchez presented a plaque of appreciation to our chapter’s first President, David Leyendecker, who served in 2003 and 2004.

Several members received Ambassador for Peace Medals late in 2012.

We sponsored “American Heroes Café” during February. This café is open every Friday of the year. Spiegelhoff’s Super-Value grocery store in Kenosha, WI provides free coffee and rolls to all veterans who attend.

On December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day, 97 veterans visited the café.

Prisoner Of War/Missing In Action Ceremony

On March 11, 2013 at Okutsu Veterans Home, Hilo, HI, LtCol Eric Shwedo, commander of Pohakuloa Training Area, presented a POW/MIA flag, Korea Ministry of Patriots Medal, and Korean War 60th Anniversary Medal to Anita Mathews and Elsie Rivera,
sisters of PFC Fernando Rivera Jr., who was a member of Co. L, 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Regt., 24th Inf. Div.

Rivera was taken prisoner of war while fighting near Taejon, South Korea on July 20, 1950. He was forced to march to North Korea on the “Tiger Death March.” Rivera died on the march between Manpo and Ch'ungg'ang-ji, North Korea on November 2, 1950. His remains were not recovered.

A POW/MIA flag was also presented to Cpl Hisashi Morita. Cpl Morita was held a POW in Camp 1, North Korea for 27 months after he was captured on 18 May 1951. He was released on 16 August 1953 after the signing of: the armistice on 27 July 1953 at Panmunjom, Korea. Morita was assigned to Co. I, 23rd Regt., 2nd Inf. Div.

Members and spouses of chapter members and three Korean War veterans from Okutsu Veterans Home attended this ceremony.

Robert L. Montague, 1590 Kilikina St.
Hilo, HI 96720, 808-961-2528

250 CHARLES B. THACKER [VA]

As always, we had our annual dinner at Pine Mountain Grill in Whitesburg, KY. Again, Commander Kenny Fannon and his lovely wife Jean took care of all the arrangements. It was also a business meeting and get-together with wives and friends.

Jack Bentley, P.O. Box 114, Pound, VA 24279

We have enjoyed over 120 quality speakers during our eleven years of existence. Here are two examples.

Carol Cottrell, a past mayor of Saginaw, MI, was the guest speaker at our February 6, 2013 meeting. She talked to us about
her new assignment as CEO of the McNally House, which serves the Covenant Hospitals in Saginaw for relatives to stay while their loved ones are hospitalized. The McNally House has 18 bedrooms, 18 bathrooms, and free breakfast.

At our March 6, 2013 meeting, Beth Ernat, Director of the Saginaw, MI Downtown Development Authority, spoke to us on eliminating condemned business buildings and blighted homes around the local Saginaw High School.

On February 8, 2013 the V A Hospital, in conjunction with the Veterans Council, put on the “Sweethearts Ball.” About 185 veterans and ladies from all wars were invited for a great free meal and dancing.

On April 3, 2013, we had a fantastic speaker, Detective Sgt. Williams, from the Saginaw, MI police department. He spoke to the 43 people at the meeting about crime and homicides in Saginaw, the third worst crime city in Michigan. This 17-year police veteran stated the police department is down to 68 officers from over 100 due to budget decreases.

He noted that the city has two police dogs that are full policemen, and they work hard tracking criminals. There are at least eight large gangs in Saginaw. They have no regard for human life. Most gang-bangers carry stolen guns. Young adults drop out of high school to join a gang to get protection. Local witnesses to a shooting do not talk. Saginaw cannot afford a Witness Protection Program like they used to have.

Incidentally, we all thank my wife Lois Simon for being acting Historian over the past 3 years.

Bob Simon, 7284 Spring Lake Trail
Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718

We swore in eight new members on April 10th. Our chaplain, Pete Roberts, constructed an Honor Roll of all Rhode Islanders killed in the Korean War. LtGen Reginald Contracchio (U.S. Army, Ret.) and Chapter
Join Us as Our Nation Commemorates the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice

HEROES REMEMBERED

July 27, 2013 • 8:00 a.m.
Korean War Veterans Memorial
Washington, DC

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee invites you to this special event to honor our Korean War Veterans. Highlighting the event will be tributes, recognition of UN Allies and formal remarks from senior government officials.

To learn more and request invitation to activities visit www.koreanwar60.com/27July or call 703-545-2656.
Commander Richard St. Louis presented United States Department of Defense certificates to members in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Korean War armistice.

Norman J. Paiva Sr., 42 Morgan Ave.
North Providence, RI 02911, 401-231-9176

New members of Ch 258 are sworn in (L-R) Albert G. Barnds (U.S. Navy), Gerald F. O’Neill (U.S. Army), Robert A. Forget (U.S. Navy), Richard A. Ackley (U.S. Navy), Robert G. Jaworski (U.S. Army), Philip S. Sabella (U.S. Army), Russell F. Godin (U.S. Army), and John D. Abrosen (U.S. Army)

Our speaker at the April meeting was James R. Bishop, Colonel (USA, Ret.) He had been assigned to important positions connected with the search for POW/MIAs of the Korea, Vietnam, and Cold Wars. One of his positions was with the Presidential-level Joint U.S./Russian Commission on POW/MIA matters, as primary investigator.

He explained the complications of dealing with Russian agencies that had records of captured and deceased U.S. personnel. Especially disturbing was his description of the limits of secrecy placed on some important information that is locked up for many more years. It is supposed that such unavailable files contain incriminating details about events that the government does not want to be held responsible for in the next 50 years.

Some other records that the Russians made available have proved helpful to the U.S. in determining the cause and time of death in some cases. That was encouraging news.

Bishop also served in 1991 in the Regional Security Office of the American Embassy in Moscow. He had seven years of research duty studying case histories of the Cold War and other
military operations. Due to political tensions created by the Robert Hansen FBI scandal, he and 49 other Embassy personnel were expelled from Russia in 2001.

Another guest at the meeting was Col Bishop’s five-year-old son, Gregory, who seemed to enjoy his dad’s talk.

The Indianapolis Veterans Affairs Office presented us with a Certificate of Appreciation for the contributions members have made to hospital patients and other veterans.

John Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com


Because Doyle Dykes and other members actively seek out new members, 270, which was formed in 2001, now ranks as the 4th largest KWVA chapter.

297 PLATEAU [TN]

At our March meeting Commander Bob Johnston presented Public Information Officer (PIO) Dick Malsack with a plaque of appreciation for outstanding work and invaluable service to the chapter. Malsack has been the PIO officer since the chapter was chartered in spring 2004.
In a build-up to the National Medal of Honor Convention to be held in Knoxville, TN in October 2014, Commander Bob Johnston and his wife Donna attended the “In the Company of Heroes” luncheon at the Cherokee Club in Knoxville. The purpose was to award the Medal of Honor to Walter “Joe” Marm for distinguished gallantry during the La Drang Valley in Vietnam, which was recreated in the 2002 movie “We Were Soldiers.”

Sr. Vice Cmdr. Joe White assisted volunteers in accumulating and loading donations of clothing and other needs he transported to the veterans facilities in Murfreesboro, TN for distribution to deserving and needy veterans. White makes the trip almost every week.

Richard W. Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr.
Crossville, TN 38558

317 SGT BILLY FREEMAN [GA]

Last year was a sad, but mostly happy and eventful, year for our chapter. We lost several of our comrades in arms during this period. Richard Prater and George Wallace, two of those comrades, will be greatly missed.

On October 27, 2012, Mr. Keon Lee presented a slideshow titled “Forgotten Korean Veterans of NW Georgia.” These pictures were of soldiers during their training and their combat zones of Korea during the war. All veterans were invited to the showing at the Desoto Theater in Rome, GA.

Over the holidays, a Christmas banquet was held for local members and their families at the Landmark Restaurant in Rome, GA. General Brown, a member of our chapter, spoke about the
recent happenings and uneasiness in Korea.

At our March 2013 meeting we had a guest speaker, Mr. Sang-Ok Cho, who served with a MASH unit in Korea during and after the war. Mr. Cho told of his experiences that led to his serving with the American forces at the MASH hospital.

Mr. Cho is a friend of chapter member Charles Kelley, who also served with a MASH unit after the Korean War.

On July 27, 2013, we will sponsor a barbecue at Rolater Park in Cave Spring, GA to commemorate the 60th year Armistice agreement ending hostilities of the Korean War. Mr. Keon Lee will be our speaker.

Charles W. Patterson, 545 N. Avery Rd., NW
Rome GA 30165

**322 CPL JOHN U. MOORE [NM]**

Senator Tom Udall from New Mexico, along with our new 1st Vice President, presented awards to Korean War veterans’ widow on behalf of our chapter.

Bruce W. Fonnest, brucefonnest@hotmail.com

A few of Ch 323’s new members

**323 PO2 TAYLOR MORRIS [IA]**

We are a new chapter—almost. Our charter is still pending.

Bill Hartsock, 5180 Stone Creek Dr.
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

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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.*
Casualties from the ill-fated “Operation Smack” on T-Bone Hill on January 25th, from Old Baldy at various times, and from the mid-April battles on Pork Chop Hill occupied us when there was action. During other times we provided medical support for firefighters and daily sick call to the 600-700 or so troops of the Second Battalion.

As the time for the cease fire to go into effect neared, the typical Aid Station was staffed with one medical doctor, one medical service officer, two medical technicians, two litter jeep drivers, and one truck driver. On July 24 ours was a forward aid station, so our staff was limited to one combat medic, one medical technician, and two litter jeep drivers.

We had heard previously of proposed cease-fire agreements emanating from Panmunjom that had never materialized. (The Korean War cease fire talks were the longest ever in the world’s history. The two sides held 765 rounds of meetings and finally concluded the agreement two years after the beginning of the talks.) However, it looked as though this one would take hold. We were given a 72-hour warning to shut things down and move out beyond the three-mile Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) agreed to in the cease-fire agreement.

During those seventy-two hours the troops withdrew systematically. Battalions withdrew leaving one company, the company withdrew leaving one platoon, the platoons withdrew leaving one squad, and the squad withdrew leaving one litter jeep driver and one medic. Throughout all this, there was a lot of shooting going on, which we understood to be a way to use up the ammunition and avoid having to return it to the states.

Front-line outfits spent the first day expending ammunition and preparing to leave. As a consequence, we had 4th of July fireworks to be halted at 10 p.m. the first day. I was stationed in the 2nd Battalion Forward Aid Station on the MLR for the whole 72 hours, so my knowledge of happenings in other places is limited.

We knew that mine removal was taking place, because we spent some time patching up engineers who inadvertently tangled with mines. On the third day, as prescribed, a litter jeep driver and I were the only Gls in our sector. Our duties were to pack up the remains of the aid station and inspect Easy Company’s sector of the MLR to insure that the sanitary installations had been removed and were visibly nonexistent. We did this and then climbed into the litter jeep and cut out for a three-mile ride south well before sundown. We ended up at Camp Casey or some similarly peaceful spot on the banks of a slow flowing picturesque river.

As I remember, there was little joy anywhere, because the cease-fire was as tenuous then as it is today. We were holding our breath.

(Writer’s Note: During those final 72 hours before the cease fire we were admonished time after time not to use the term armistice. Rather, we were to say only that a cease-fire agreement had been reached. Sixty years later I found that an armistice was signed in Panmunjom at 10:00 hours on 27 July 1953 by NAM IL, Senior Delegate of the Korean People’s Army and WILLIAM K. HARRISON JR., Lieutenant General, United States Army, Senior Delegate, United Nation’s Command Delegation.)

Kevin M. Kelly, 2 Glen St.
New Hartford, NY 13413
315-794-7725, kkelly@usawood.com

I Never Got My Medal

George Coyle graduated from Saint Mary’s High School in South Amboy, NJ in June 1952 and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in September. By the following April he was in Korea, assigned to “D” Company, 2nd Bn., 1st Regt., 1st Marine Division. His unit at the time was holding positions on the MLR in the area of Panmunjom, Korea. Coyle was nineteen years old.

As he recalled, “I arrived in Korea on April 5, 1953 (Easter Sunday) and the next day moved up to Panmunjom, where I joined my company on line. We stayed on line until May 5, 1953, at which time the entire Division was moved into a reserve area to be on stand-by in the event we were needed to reinforce a unit that was on line. We were located in an area named Camp Britannia.

Because I was a recent arrival, along with others I served in what was called a “clutch” platoon. This was a group of Marines selected from various units to move up behind the lines to serve as a ready backup for units in the event of an attack by Chinese Communist Forces (CCF).

“For the next two months, May and June, I was involved in ‘clutch’ platoon duties, training and stand-by along the Panmunjom Road to rescue the UN negotiators in the event the Chinese and North Korean armies attempted to take them prisoner.

“The area where the truce talks had been taking place was approximately one mile inside ‘no-man’s land,’ the area between the UN lines and the Chinese/North Korean lines. Whenever the talks were taking place, “D” Co., along with a company of tanks, waited just behind the lines to act as a rescue party. I figured out some time later that this was a suicide mission for the rescuers.

“Most vivid recollections are of the last few weeks of the war in July 1953. We had been moved around where there was a lot of action, always acting as a ready rein-
forcement. The nights were the most dangerous because that is when all the action took place. I recall nights of artillery, mortars, and flares going off constantly and very little sleep. When I did sleep, many times it was in a muddy trench.

“At some point around the 20th of July, “D” Co. was assigned to reinforce the 7th Marine Regiment. We moved up on line in the area of the outposts Berlin and East Berlin in support of Hill 119, named Boulder City. The Chinese were trying to take Boulder City because it would give them a foothold across the Imjin River and a clear shot into Seoul, 35 miles south.

“The nights, again, were a constant bombardment of artillery and mortars thrown by the Chinese. Historians Meid and Yingling (U. S. Marine Operations in Korea, Vol. V., Operations in West Korea) estimate that enemy artillery and mortar fire at times during the days of the battle of Boulder City was about 125-150 rounds per minute and more than 46,000 rounds of artillery and mortars during this period.

“During the night of 24 July we were under constant bombardment. It seemed I was bouncing off the deck every minute and eating a lot of dirt. During this night I helped carry out three wounded Marines of my squad. One was a Marine from Philadelphia, Angelo Afilani. He would have bled to death he was wounded so severely.

“Part of the trench line we had to pass through was no deeper than ankle depth and we were exposed to small arms fire. The trench lines at other points were so narrow that my hands were badly scraped for several months after. When I returned to my fighting hole I discovered it had taken a direct hit. While I was not too happy about digging out my fighting hole, I realized that I had been saved because I was carrying out a wounded Marine.

“I guess the CCF were out to get me because I was wounded the last night of action, actually the early hours of 27 July 1953. I was treated and returned to my fighting position because of expected enemy activity. I was recommended for a Bronze Star for my actions in carrying out the wounded under such intense artillery, mortar and small arms fire, but I never received it.”

Olympian Dr. Samuel Lee Honored

Dr. Samuel Lee was honored by the America Korea Friendship Society as its 2013 New American Hero Award Recipient. Dr. Lee was the first Asian-American to win an Olympic gold medal for the United States and the first man to win back-to-back gold medals in Olympic platform diving. After graduating from the University of Southern California School of Medicine, where he received his M.D. in 1947, Lee served with the U.S. Medical Corps in Korea from 1953-55.

In 1953, while in Korea, he won the James E. Sullivan Award, which is awarded annually by the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) to the most outstanding amateur athlete in the United States.

The America Korea Friendship Society was established in 1997 in Atlanta, GA to foster and strengthen the special relationship between the people of the Republic of Korea and the U.S.
Sons and Daughters of KWVA Participants enjoy a ROK Helicopter Static Display last September during the Inchon Invasion Commemoration and Reenactment.

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The Graybeards

May - June 2013
A Good Starting Point

Many people are aware that the combatants in Korea signed an armistice on July 27, 1953. However, there may not be a lot of people who know what the document contained. The men and women involved in the actual commission of the war were more concerned with the cessation of the fighting and how it affected them than they were with the wording of a document. So, it is appropriate here to include in our special edition with the text of the Korean War armistice agreement, which was a long time coming.

A Long Time Coming

Peace talks began well before July 27, 1953, which may or may not have been the original date scheduled for the signing. In either case, the signing was a long time coming. Keith R. Bennett, Sr., who was in Korea from August 12, 1950 to February 1952 with the 502nd Tactical Control Groups (radar), and was one of the last Americans out of North Korea during the 1950 retreat, attested to that in an excerpt from his July 31, 1951 letter he wrote from Taegon to his aunt Blanche:

“We sure have been having some nice weather since it stopped raining. The sun has shined every day for a week now and I hope it decides to stay that way for a while.

They are still going strong on the peace talks but I’m afraid they haven’t accomplished much so far. I sure hope they settle this thing before long so we can get out of here.”

As it turned out, he was in Korea for another seven months. He returned home, received his discharge, and returned to the work world. He married Clara Jean exactly one month before the cease fire went into effect. Bennett was working for Union Carbide, Linde Division at the time.

“When he returned home from work that day, I was anxiously awaiting at our door with the good news,” Clara Jean recalled. “He said, ‘Thank God! I hope my buddies made it out alive.’”

They cried together. “The tears in his eyes and the far away looks said it all,” Clara Jean continued. “Words were not needed for his thoughts.”

Bennett was correct in his assessment of the peace talks. They actually began in July 1951, as he suggested, and went on for two years. The negotiators hemmed and hawed over trivial issues that oftentimes had little or nothing to with the actual conduct of the war. In fact, the actual signing date was pushed off six days because of a controversy over a non-war related issue, according to Jacob Huffaker.

July 27th Was A “Put Off” Date

It is interesting to note that July 27th may not have been the original proposed signing date. Huffaker suggests that it was not. Rather, he said, it was a “Put-Off” date. The original date set for the signing of the truce was July 21, 1953, at 10 a.m.

Huffaker wrote, “All kinds of excuses have been printed and told by the US-UN officials as to why it was put off. The real reason was due to who was going to furnish and pay for the equipment for the truce-signing building that the Chinese Soldiers built themselves.

“I was assigned to the 304th Signal Corps and worked in Crypto in the 8th Army headquarters in the Seoul University Building. I saw and read the message that came through Crypto on the 14th of July 1953. We were sending messages and experts over to Korea even before the armistice signing. I sent some of them.”

According to an article his daughter, Deborah Stretcher, wrote for Military Matters:

On July 27th, 1953, the morning of the signing of the armistice, [Jacob] was working with another Army sergeant while all the workers were at the signing of the armistice in Panmunjom, North Korea. He was told by the Sergeant to sign off on the armistice message before sending it to 8th Army Headquarters. His name is on the original message.

He was also assigned to KMAG, the Korean Military Advisory Group. While there, he was sent to North Korea to set up the 5th ROK Corps Crypto Units. He was there for three months....

Mark Clark For Prescient

Finally, the truce was signed. But not everybody was optimistic that it would truly end the fighting. The Soldiers in Korea at the time may have been happy—albeit a bit unsure of their immediate individual situations post-truce—but some of the leaders knew the document was a stop-gap measure.

On July 27 1953, General Mark Clark, commander of the United Nations command in Korea, told his troops that “We cannot turn our backs on the conflict and go home” after the armistice is signed. No doubt that disappointed many of them. And, he added, the July 27th armistice represented only a step toward peace, not the end of the war. Clark advised the troops that the two sides had to work out a firm political statement or the armistice would be moot.

Clark warned the UN troops that in some ways the armistice made their jobs tougher. Henceforth, their responsibilities and duties would be intensified, rather than diminished. He made it clear that there would be no immediate withdrawal of troops from Korea. Clark stated flatly that he did not see a withdrawal anytime soon. That was prescient, to say the least.

Clark made those statements the day the armistice was signed. It is now sixty years,
later and the U.S still has about 30,000 troops in Korea. And, true to his assertion then, the UN (read U.S.) has still not let its guard down.

Source: Stars and Stripes (Pacific Edition), July 28, 1953, Vol. 9 No. 208

So Near, Yet So Far Away

Indeed, Clark was correct in his assessment of the post-armistice era. The end of the fighting did not mean that troops could return home immediately.

There was a myriad of administrative details to be ironed out, and troops who did not have the required number of points to be returned to the United States were left behind. The signing of the treaty made the waiting all the more bittersweet for the troops left behind in Korea—and still not entirely safe for some of them. Joseph Farriella was among them. That was in part because not all of the enemy soldiers had gotten the word that there was a treaty in place—or cared if they did know about it.

Farriella was aware that he was not entirely safe post-treaty. He hadn’t been in Korea long before the treaty went into effect, but he had been there long enough to earn a Combat Infantry Badge (CIB) and two Bronze Stars.

Farriella had been drafted into the Army in December 1952 and undergone the requisite combat training and some driver’s training. After he arrived in Korea, with his military driver’s license in hand, he had to wonder which branch of the service he was actually assigned to. His first assignment was to undergo a week of training with the First Marine Division. Then reality set in. Farriella was sent to a line company in the 40th Infantry Division, 223rd Regiment, where he participated in combat.

“The fighting was heavier before the truce was signed, and we were all waiting day after day,” he recalled. “When the treaty was finally signed, I was in a trench on Sandbag Castle. We were told to evacuate to a rear unit as soon as possible. I could see the guys running off the hill, and we left all our heavy equipment behind.” Not too much later, Farriella was placed in the same position. The 40th Division left him behind.

“Af-ter my combat with the 40th Division ended, I was reassigned to the Headquarters Company of the 40th as a company driver with the Troop, Information and Education Unit,” he reported. “I went to Seoul every night to pick up the Stars and Stripes and mail to be distributed throughout the division. Care had to be taken while driving, because some North Koreans were still hidden around.” He may have been happier in his new position, but he was not always safer.

His new assignment was short-lived. When the 40th left for home, he was short a few points. The Army reassigned Farriella to the 24th Infantry Division Replacement Depot, and put him in charge of the generators to supply electricity to the whole company. “This was my civilian M.O.,” he stated. “It was a sign for me that civilization was on the way. I finally came home in October 1954.”

Dates aside, here is the text of the armistice document. Granted, the document is a bit lengthy, but it will help readers understand the outcome of the fighting, whether the two sides lived up to the terms post-1953, and where the future of the two Koreas lies.

July 27, 1953
Agreement between the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, on the one hand, and the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s volunteers, on the other hand, concerning a military armistice in Korea.

Preamble

The undersigned, the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, on the one hand, and the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s Volunteers, on the other hand, in the interest of stopping the Korean conflict, with its great toil of suffering and bloodshed on both sides, and with the objective of establishing an armistice which will insure a complete cessation of hostilities and of all acts of armed force in Korea until a final peaceful settlement is achieved, do individually, collectively, and mutually agree to accept and to be bound and governed by the conditions and terms of armistice set forth in the following articles and paragraphs, which said conditions and terms are intended to be purely military in character and to pertain solely to the belligerents in Korea:

Article I
Military Demarcation Line and Demilitarized Zone

1. A military demarcation line shall be
fixed and both sides shall withdraw two (2) kilometers from this line so as to establish a demilitarized zone between the opposing forces. A demilitarized zone shall be established as a buffer zone to prevent the occurrence of incidents which might lead to a resumption of hostilities.

2. The military demarcation line is located as indicated on the attached map.

3. This demilitarized zone is defined by a northern and southern boundary as indicated on the attached map.

4. The military demarcation line shall be plainly marked as directed by the Military Armistice Commission hereinafter established. The Commanders of the opposing sides shall have suitable markers erected along the boundary between the demilitarized zone and their respective areas. The Military Armistice Commission shall supervise the erection of all markers placed along the military demarcation line and along the boundaries of the demilitarized zone.

5. The waters of the Han River Estuary shall be open to civil shipping of both sides wherever one bank is controlled by one side and the other bank is controlled by the other side. The Military Armistice Commission shall prescribe rules for the shipping in that part of the Han River Estuary indicated on the attached map. Civil shipping of each side shall have unrestricted access to the land under the military control of that side.

6. Neither side shall execute any hostile act within, from, or against the demilitarized zone.

7. No person, military or civilian, shall be permitted to cross the military demarcation line unless specifically authorized to do so by the Military Armistice Commission.

8. No person military of civilian, in the demilitarized zone shall be permitted to enter the territory under the military control of either side unless specifically authorized to do so by the Commander into whose territory entry is sought.

9. No person, military or civilian, shall be permitted to enter the demilitarized zone except persons concerned with the conduct of civil administration and relief and persons specifically authorized to enter by the Military Armistice Commission.

10. Civil administration and relief in that part of the demilitarized zone which is south of the military demarcation line shall be the responsibility of the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command; and civil administration and relief in that part of the demilitarized zone which is north of the military demarcation line shall be the joint responsibility of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s volunteers. The number of persons, military or civilian, from each side who are permitted to enter the demilitarized zone for the conduct of civil administration and relief shall be as determined by the respective Commanders, but in no case shall the total number authorized by either side exceed one thousand (1,000) persons at any one time. The number of civil police and the arms to be carried by them shall be a prescribed by the Military Armistice Commission. Other personnel shall not carry arms unless specifically authorized to do so by the Military Armistice Commission.

11. Nothing contained in this article shall be construed to prevent the complete freedom of movement to, from, and within the demilitarized zone by the Military Armistice Commission, its assistants, its Joint Observer Teams with their assistants, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission hereinafter established, its assistants, its Neutral Nations Inspection teams with their assistants, and of any other persons, materials, and equipment specifically authorized to enter the demilitarized zone by the Military Armistice Commission. Convenience of movement shall be permitted through the territory under the military control of either side over any route necessary to move between points within the demilitarized zone where such points are not connected by roads lying completely within the demilitarized zone.

**Article II**

**Concrete Arrangements for Cease-Fire and Armistice**

**A. General**

12. The Commanders of the opposing sides shall order and enforce a complete cessation of all hostilities in Korea by all armed forces under their control, including all units and personnel of the ground, naval, and air forces, effective twelve (12) hours after this armistice agreement is signed. (See paragraph 63 hereof for effective date and hour of the remaining provisions of this armistice agreement.)
13. In order to insure the stability of the military armistice so as to facilitate the attainment of a peaceful settlement through the holding by both sides of a political conference of a higher level, the Commanders of the opposing sides shall:

(a) Within seventy-two (72) hours after this armistice agreement becomes effective, withdraw all of their military forces, supplies, and equipment from the demilitarized zone except as otherwise provided herein. All demolitions, minefields, wire entanglements, and other hazards to the safe movement of personnel of the Military Armistice Commission or its Joint Observer Teams, known to exist within the demilitarized zone after the withdrawal of military forces therefrom, together with lanes known to be free of all such hazards, shall be reported to the MAC by the Commander of the side whose forces emplaced such hazards. Subsequently, additional safe lanes shall be cleared; and eventually, within forty-five (45) days after the termination of the seventy-two (72) hour period, all such hazards shall be removed from the demilitarized zone as directed by the under the supervision of the MAC. At the termination of the seventy-two (72) hour period, except for unarmed troops authorized forty-five (54) day period to complete salvage operations under MAC and agreed to by the MAC and agreed to by the Commanders of the opposing sides, and personnel authorized under paragraphs 10 and 11 hereof, no personnel of either side shall be permitted to enter the demilitarized zone.

(b) Within ten (10) days after this armistice agreement becomes effective, withdraw all of their military forces, supplies, and equipment from the rear and the coastal islands and waters of Korea of the other side. If such military forces are not withdrawn within the stated time limit, and there is no mutually agreed and valid reason for the delay, the other side shall have the right to take any action which it deems necessary for the maintenance of security and order. The term “coastal islands”, as used above, refers to those islands, which, though occupied by one side at the time when this armistice agreement becomes effective, were controlled by the other side on 24 June 1950; provided, however, that all the islands lying to the north and west of the provincial boundary line between HWANGHAE-DO and KYONGGI-DO shall be under the military control of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s volunteers, except the island groups of PAENGYONG-DO (37 58’ N, 124 40’ E), TAECHONG-DO (37 50’ N, 124 42’ E), SOCHONG-DO (37 46’ N, 124 46’ E), YONPYONG-DO (37 38’ N, 125 40’ E), and U-DO (37 36’ N, 125 58’ E), which shall remain under the military control of the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command. All the island on the west coast of Korea lying south of the above-mentioned boundary line shall remain under the military control of the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command. (See Map 3).

(c) Cease the introduction into Korea of Reinforcing military personnel; provided, however, that the rotation of units and personnel, the arrival in Korea of personnel on a temporary duty basis, and the return to Korea of personnel after short periods of leave or temporary duty outside of Korea shall be permitted within the scope prescribed below: “Rotation” is defined as the replacement of units or personnel by other units or personnel who re commencing a tour of duty in Korea. Rotation personnel shall be introduced into and evacuated from Korea only through the ports of entry enumerated in Paragraph 43 hereof. Rotation shall be conducted on a man-for-man basis; provided, however, that no more than thirty-five thousand (35,000) persons in the military service shall be admitted into Korea by either side in any calendar month under the rotation policy. No military personnel of either side shall be introduced into Korea if the introduction of such personnel will cause the aggregate of the military personnel of that side admitted into Korea since the effective date of this Armistice Agreement to exceed the cumulative total of the military personnel of that side who have departed from Korea since that date. Reports concerning arrivals in and departures from Korea of military personnel shall be made daily to the Military Armistice Commission and the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission; such reports shall include places of arrival and departure and the number of persons arriving at or departing from each such place. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, through its Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, shall conduct supervision and inspection of the rotation of units and personnel authorized above, at the ports of entry enumerated in paragraph 43 hereof.

(d) Cease the introduction into Korea of reinforcing combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition; provided however, that combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition which are destroyed, damaged, worn out, or used up during the period of the armistice may be replaced on the basis piece-for-piece of the same effectiveness and the same type. Such combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition shall be introduced into Korea only through the ports of entry enumerated in paragraph 43 hereof. In order to justify the requirements for combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition to be introduced into Korea for replacement purposes, reports concerning every incoming shipment of these items shall be made to the MAC and the NNSC; such reports shall include statements regarding the disposition of the items being replaced. Items to be replace which are removed from Korea shall be removed only through the ports of entry enumerated in paragraph 43 hereof. The NNSC, through its Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, shall conduct supervision and inspection of the replacement of combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition authorized above, at the ports of entry enumerated in paragraph 43 hereof.

(e) Insure that personnel of their respective commands who violate any of the provisions of this armistice agreement are adequately punished.

(f) In those cases where places of burial are a matter of record and graves are actually found to exist, permit graves registration personnel of the other side to enter, within a definite time limit after this armistice agreement becomes effective, the territory of Korea under their military control, for the purpose of proceeding to such graves to recover and evacuate the bodies of the deceased military personnel of that side, including deceased prisoners of war. The specific procedures and the time limit for the performance of the above task shall be determined by the Military Armistice Commission. The Commanders of the opposing sides shall furnish to the other
side all available information pertaining to the places of burial of the deceased military personnel of the other side.

(g) Afford full protection and all possible assistance and cooperation to the Military Armistice Commission, its Joint Observer Teams, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and its Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, in the carrying out of their functions and responsibilities hereinafter assigned; and accord to the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, full convenience of movement between the headquarters of the Neutral Nations supervisory Commission and the ports of entry enumerated in Paragraph 43 hereof over main lines of communication agreed upon by both sides (see Map 4), and between the headquarters of the Neutral Nations Supervisory commission and the places where violations of this Armistice Agreement have been reported to have occurred. In order to prevent unnecessary delays, the use of alternate routes and means of transportation will be permitted whenever the main lines of communication are closed or impassable.

(h) Provide such logistic support, including communications and transportation facilities, as may be required by the military Armistice Commission and the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and their Teams.

(i) Each construct, operate, and maintain a suitable airfield in their respective parts of the Demilitarized Zone in the vicinity of the headquarters of the Military Armistice Commission, for such uses as the Commission may determine.

(j) Insure that all members and other personnel of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission hereinafter established shall enjoy the freedom and facilities necessary for the proper exercise of their functions, including privileges, treatment, and immunities equivalent to those ordinarily enjoyed by accredited diplomatic personnel under international usage.

14. This Armistice Agreement shall apply to all opposing ground forces under the military control of either side, which ground forces shall respect the Demilitarized Zone and the area of Korea under the military control of the opposing side.

15. This Armistice Agreement shall apply to all opposing naval forces, which naval forces shall respect the water contiguous to the Demilitarized Zone and to the land area of Korea under the military control of the opposing side, and shall not engage in blockade of any kind of Korea.

16. This Armistice Agreement shall apply to all opposing air forces, which air forces shall respect the air space over the Demilitarized Zone and over the area of Korea under the military control of the opposing side, and over the waters contiguous to both.

17. Responsibility for compliance with and enforcement of the terms and provisions of this Armistice Agreement is that of the signatories hereto and their successors in command. The Commanders of the opposing sides shall establish within their respective commands all measures and procedures necessary to insure complete compliance with all of the provisions hereof by all elements of their commands. They shall actively co-operate with one another and with the Military Armistice Commission and the Neutral nations supervisory Commission in requiring observance of both letter and the spirit of all of the provisions of this Armistice Agreement.

18. The costs of the operations of the Military Armistice Commission and of the Neutral Nations supervisory Commission and of their Teams shall be shared equally by the two opposing sides.

B. Military Armistice Commission

1. Composition

19. A Military Armistice commission is hereby established.

20. The Military Armistice commission shall be composed of ten (10) senior officers, five (5) of whom shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, and five (5) of whom shall be appointed jointly by the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s Volunteers. Of the ten members, three (3) from each side shall be of general of flag rank. The two (2) remaining members on each side may be major generals, brigadier generals, colonels, or their equivalents.

21. Members of the Military Armistice Commission shall be permitted to use staff assistants as required.

22. The Military Armistice Commission shall be provided with the necessary administrative personnel to establish a Secretariat charged with assisting the Commission by performing record-keeping, secretarial, interpreting, and such other functions as the Commission may assign to it. Each side shall appoint to the Secretariat a Secretary and an Assistant Secretary and such clerical and specialized personnel as required by the Secretariat. Records shall be kept in English, Korean, and Chinese, all of which shall be equally authentic.

23. (a) The Military Armistice Commission shall be initially provided with and assisted by ten (10) Joint Observer Teams, which number may be reduced by agreement of the senior members of both sides on the Military Armistice Commission.

(b) Each Joint Observer Team shall be composed of not less than four (4) nor more than six (6) officers of field grade, half of whom shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, and half of whom shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, and half of whom shall be appointed jointly by the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s Volunteers. Additional personnel such as drivers, clerks, and interpreters shall be furnished by each side as required for the functioning of the Joint Observer Teams.

24. The general mission of the Military Armistice Commission shall be to supervise the implementation of this Armistice Agreement and to settle through negotiations any violations of this Armistice Agreement.

25. The military Armistice Commission shall:

(a) Locate its headquarters in the vicinity of PANMUNJOM (37°57’29” N, 126°40’00” E). The Military Armistice Commission may re-locate its headquarters at another point within the Demilitarized Zone by agreement of the senior members of both sides on the Commission.

(b) Operate as a joint organization without a chairman.

(c) Adopt such rules of procedure as it
may, from time to time, deem necessary

(d) Supervise the carrying out of the provisions of this Armistice Agreement pertaining to the Demilitarized Zone and to the Han River Estuary.

(e) Direct the operations of the Joint Observer Teams.

(f) Settle through negotiations any violations of this Armistice Agreement.

(g) Transmit immediately to the Commanders of the opposing sides all reports of investigations of violations of this Armistice Agreement and all other reports and records of proceedings received from the Neutral nations supervisory Commission.

(h) Give general supervision and direction to the activities of the Committee for Repatriation of Prisoners of War and the Committee for Assisting the Return of Displaced Civilians, hereinafter established.

(i) Act as intermediary in transmitting communications between the Commanders of the opposing sides; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not be construed to preclude the Commanders of both sides from communicating with each other by any other means which they may desire to employ.

(j) Provide credentials and distinctive insignia for its staff and its Joint Observer Teams, and a distinctive marking for all vehicles, aircraft, and vessels, used in the performance of its mission.

26. The Mission of the Joint Observer Teams shall be to assist the Military Armistice Commission in supervising the carrying out of the provisions of this Armistice Agreement pertaining to the Demilitarized Zone and to the Han River Estuary.

27. The Military Armistice Commission, or the senior member of either side thereof, is authorized to request the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to conduct special observations and inspections at places outside the Demilitarized Zone where violations of this Armistice Agreement have been reported to have occurred.

29. When the Military Armistice Commission determines that a violation of this Armistice Agreement has occurred, it shall immediately report such violation to the Commanders of the opposing sides.

30. When the Military Armistice Commission determines that a violation of this Armistice Agreement has been corrected to its satisfaction, it shall so report to the Commanders of the opposing sides.

3. General

31. The Military Armistice Commission shall meet daily. Recesses of not to exceed seven (7) days may be agreed upon by the senior members of both sides; provided, that such recesses may be terminated on twenty-four (24) hour notice by the senior member of either side.

32. Copies of the record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Military Armistice Commission shall be forwarded to the Commanders of the opposing sides as soon as possible after each meeting.

33. The Joint Observer teams shall make periodic reports to the Military Armistice Commission as required by the Commission and, in addition, shall make such special reports as may be deemed necessary by them, or as may be required by the Commission.

34. The Military Armistice Commission shall maintain duplicate files of the reports and records of proceedings required by this Armistice Agreement. The Commission is authorized to maintain duplicate files of such other reports, records, etc., as may be necessary in the conduct of its business. Upon eventual dissolution of the Commission, one set of the above files shall be turned over to each side.

35. The Military Armistice Commission may make recommendations to the Commanders of the opposing sides with respect to amendments or additions to this Armistice Agreement. Such recommended changes should generally be those designed to insure a more effective armistice.

C. Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission

1. Compositions

36. A Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission is hereby established.

37. The Neutral Nations supervisory Commission shall be composed of four (4) senior officers, two (2) of whom shall be appointed by neutral nations nominated by the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, namely, SWEDEN and SWITZERLAND, and two (2) of whom shall be appointed by neutral nations nominated jointly by the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and the Commander of the Chinese People's Volunteers, namely, POLAND and CZECHOSLOVAKIA. The term “neutral nations” as herein used is defined as those nations whose combatant forces have not participated in the hostilities in Korea. Members appointed to the Commission may be from the armed forces of the appointing nations. Each member shall designate an alternate member to attend those meetings which for any reason the principal member is unable to attend. Such alternate members shall be of the same nationality as their principals. The Neutral Nations supervisory Commission may take action whenever the number of members present from the neutral nations nominated by one side is equal to the number of members present from the neutral nations nominated by the other side.

38. Members of the Neutral nations Supervisory Commission shall be permitted to use staff assistants furnished by the neutral nations as required. These staff assistants may be appointed as alternate members of the Commission.

39. The neutral nations shall be requested to furnish the Neutral nations Supervisory Commission with the necessary administrative personnel to establish a Secretariat charged with assisting the Commission by performing necessary record-keeping, secretarial, interpreting, and such other functions as the Commission may assign to it.

40. (a) The Neutral Nations supervisory Commission shall be initially provided with, and assisted by, twenty (20) neutral Nations Inspection Teams, which number may be reduced by agreement of the senior members of both sides on the Military Armistice Commission. The Neutral
nations Inspection Teams shall be responsible to, shall report to, and shall be subject to the direction of, the Neutral Nations supervisory Commission only.

(b) Each Neutral Nations Inspection Team shall be composed of not less than four (4) officers, preferably of field grade, half of whom shall be from the neutral nations nominated by the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, and half of whom shall be from the neutral nations nominated jointly by the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army, and the Commander of the Chinese People’s Volunteers. Members appointed to the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams may be from the armed forces of the appointed. In order to facilitate the functioning of the Teams, sub-teams composed of not less than two (2) members, one of whom shall be from a neutral nation nominated by the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, and one of whom shall be from a neutral nation nominated jointly by the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s Volunteers, may be formed as circumstances require. Additional personnel such as drivers, clerks, interpreters, and communications personnel, and such equipment as may be required by the Teams to perform their missions, shall be furnished by the Commander of each side, as required, in the Demilitarized Zone and in the territory under his military control. The Neutral nations Supervisory Commission may provide itself and the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams with such of the above personnel shall be personnel of the same neutral nations of which the Neutral nations supervisory Commission is composed.

2. Functions and Authority

41. The mission of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission shall be to carry out the functions of supervision, observation, inspection, and investigation, as stipulated in Sub-paragraphs 13(c) and 13(d) and Paragraph 28 hereof, and to report the results of such supervision, observation, inspection, and investigation to the Military Armistice Commission.

42. The Neutral nations Supervisory Commission shall:

(a) Locate its headquarters in proximity to the to the headquarters of the Military Armistice Commission.

(b) Adopt such rules of procedure as it may, from time to time, deem necessary.

(c) Conduct, through its members and its Neutral nations Inspection teams, the supervision and inspection provided for in Sub-paragraphs 13(c) and 13(d) of this Armistice Agreement at the ports of entry enumerated in Paragraph 43 hereof, and the special observations and inspections provided for in paragraph 28 hereof at those places where violations of this Armistice Agreement have been reported to have occurred. The inspection of combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition by the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams shall be such as to enable them to properly insure that reinforcing combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition are not being introduced into Korea; but this shall not be construed as authorizing inspections or examinations of any secret designs of characteristics of any combat aircraft, armored vehicle, weapon, or ammunition.

(d) Direct and supervise the operations of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams.

(e) Station five (5) neutral nations Inspection Teams at the ports of entry enumerated in Paragraph 43 hereof located in the territory under the military control of the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command; and five (5) Neutral nations Inspection Teams at the ports of entry enumerated in Paragraph 43 hereof located in the territory under the military control of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s Volunteers; and establish initially ten (10) mobile Neutral nations Inspection Teams in reserve, stationed in the general vicinity of the headquarters of the Neutral Nations supervisory Commission, which number may be reduced by agreement of the senior members of both sides on the Military Armistice Commission. Not more than half of the mobile Neutral Nations Inspection Teams shall be dispatched at any one time in accordance with requests of the senior member of either side on the Military Armistice Commission.

(f) Subject to the provisions of the preceding Sub-paragraphs, conduct without delay investigations of reported violations of this Armistice Agreement, including such investigations of reported violations of this Armistice Agreement as may be requested by the Military Armistice Commission or by the senior member of either side on the Commission.

(g) Provide credentials and distinctive insignia for its staff and its Neutral nations Inspection Teams, and a distinctive marking for all vehicles, aircraft, and vessels used in the Performance of this mission.

43. Neutral nations Inspection Teams shall be stationed at the following ports of entry:

Territory under the military control of the United Nations Command

INCHON .................(37 28’N, 126 38’E)
TAEGU .................(35 52’N, 128 36’E)
PUSAN .................(35 45’N, 129 02’E)
KANGNUNG ..........(37 45’N, 128 54’E)
KUNSAN ..............(35 59’E, 126 43’E)

Territory under the military control of the Korean People’s Army and the Chinese People’s Volunteers

SINUJU ..............(40 06’N, 124 24’E)
CHONGJIN ..........(41 46’N, 129 49’E)
HUNGNAM ...........(39 50’N, 127 37’E)
MANPO .............(41 46’N, 126 18’E)
SINANJU ...........(39 36’N, 125 36’E)

These Neutral Nations Inspection Teams shall be accorded full convenience of movement within the areas and over the routes of communication set forth on the attached map (Map 5).

3. General

44. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission shall meet daily. Recesses of not to exceed seven (7) days may be agreed upon by the members of the Neutral nations Supervisory Commission; provided, that such recesses may be terminated on twenty-four (24) hour notice by any member.

45. Copies of the record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Neutral Nations Supervisory commission shall be forwarded to the Military Armistice commission as soon as possible after each meeting. Records shall be kept in English, Korean, and Chinese.

46. The Neutral Nations Inspection Teams shall make periodic reports concerning the results of their supervision observations, inspections, and investigations to the Neutral Nations supervisory Commission as required by the Commission and, in addition, shall make such special reports as
may be deemed necessary by them, or as may be required by the Commission. Reports shall be submitted by a Team as a whole, but may also be submitted by one or more individual members thereof; provided, that the reports submitted by one or more individual members thereof shall be considered as information only.

47. Copies of the reports made by the Neutral Nations Inspection teams shall be forwarded to the Military Armistice Commission by the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission without delay and in the language in which received. They shall not be delayed by the process of translation or evaluation. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission shall evaluate such reports at the earliest practicable time and shall forward their findings to the Military Armistice Commission as a matter of priority. The Military Armistice Commission shall not take final action with regard to any such report until the evaluation thereof has been received from the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission. Members of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and of its Teams shall be subject to appearance before the Military Armistice Commission, at the request of the senior member of either side on the Military Armistice Commission, for clarification of any report submitted.

48. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission shall maintain duplicate files of the reports and records of proceedings required by this Armistice Agreement. The Commission is authorized to maintain duplicate files of such other reports, records, etc., as may be necessary in the conduct of its business. Upon eventual dissolution of the Commission, one set of the above files shall be turned over to each side.

49. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission may make recommendations to the Military Armistice Commission with respect to amendments or additions to this Armistice Agreement. Such recommended changes should generally be those designed to insure a more effective armistice.

50. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, or any member thereof, shall be authorized to communicate with any member of the Military Armistice Commission.

Article III Arrangement Relating to Prisoners of War

51. The release and repatriation of all prisoners of war held in the custody of each side at the time this armistice agreement becomes effective shall be effected in conformity with the following provisions agreed upon by both sides prior to the signing of this armistice agreement.

(a) Within sixty (60) days after this agreement becomes effective each side shall, without offering any hindrance, directly repatriate and hand over in groups all those prisoners of war in its custody who insist on repatriation to the side to which they belonged at the time of capture. Repatriation shall be accomplished in accordance with the related provisions of this Article. In order to expedite the repatriation process of such personnel, each side shall, prior to the signing of the Armistice Agreement, exchange the total numbers, by nationalities, or personnel to be directly repatriated. Each group of prisoners of war delivered to the other side shall be accompanied by rosters, prepared by nationality, to include name, rank (if any) and internment or military serial number.

(b) Each side shall release all those remaining prisoners of war, who are not directly repatriated, from its military control and from its custody and hand them over to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission for disposition in accordance with the provisions in the Annex hereto, “Terms of Reference for Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission.”

(c) So that there may be no misunderstanding owing to the equal use of three languages, the act of delivery of a prisoner of war by one side to other side shall, for the purposes of the Armistice Agreement, be called “repatriation” in English, ( ) “Song Hwan” in Korean and ( ) “Ch’ien Fan” in Chinese, notwithstanding the nationality or place of residence of such prisoner of war.

52. Each side insures that it will not employ in acts of war in the Korean conflict any prisoner of war released and repatriated incident to the coming into effect of this armistice agreement.

53. All the sick and injured prisoners of war who insist upon repatriation shall be repatriated with priority. Insofar as possible, there shall be captured medical personnel repatriated concurrently with the sick and injured prisoners of war, so as to provide medical care and attendance enroute.

54. The repatriation of all of the prisoners of war required by Sub-paragraph 51 (a) hereof shall be completed within a time limit of sixty (60) days after this Armistice Agreement becomes effective. Within this time limit each side undertakes to complete repatriation of the above-mentioned prisoners of war in its custody at the earliest practicable time.

55. PANMUNJOM is designated as the place where prisoners of war will be delivered and received by both sides. Additional place(s) of delivery and reception of prisoners of war in the Demilitarized Zone may be designated, if necessary, by the Committee for Repatriation of Prisoners of War.

56. (a) A committee for Repatriation of Prisoners of War is hereby established. It shall be composed of six (6) officers of field grade, three (3) of whom shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, and three (3) of whom shall be appointed jointly by the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and the Commander of the Chinese People’s Volunteers. This Committee shall, under the general supervision and direction of the Military Armistice Commission, be responsible for coordinating the specific plans of both sides for the repatriation of prisoners of war and for supervision the execution by both sides of all of the provisions of this Armistice Agreement relating to the repatriation of prisoners of war. It shall be the duty of this Committee to co-ordinate the timing of the arrival of prisoners of war at the place(s) of delivery and reception of prisoners of war from the prisoner of war camps of both sides; to make, when necessary, such special arrangements as may be required with regard to the transportation and welfare of sick and injured prisoners of war; to co-ordinate the work of the joint Red Cross teams, established in Paragraph 57 hereof, in assisting in the repatriation of prisoners of war; to supervise the implementation of the arrangements for the actual repatriation of prisoners of war stipulated in Paragraphs 53 and 54 hereof; to select, when necessary, additional place(s) of delivery and reception of prisoners of war; and to carry out such other related functions as are required for the repatriation of prisoners of war.

...to be continued
We’re Not Veterinarians, Either

A few months ago, I was invited to a local middle school to talk to some 5th graders about what a veteran is. I told them about military life and training, traveling by ship and plane, what some foreign lands are like, how we live with our buddies, etc. I thought I did pretty well so I opened it up for questions. There were some good ones. These kids are pretty sharp.

A little guy in the front row raised his hand. I asked, “What is your question?”

He asked, “Do veterans eat meat?”

Well, to say the least, I was very confused. The teacher explained, “He thinks you are vegetarians.”

So, I told the youngster, “Yes, we eat meat.”

I probably should have added that we do not doctor dogs and cats, though, lest he confuse us with veterinarians as well.

Bob Soesbe, 900 So. 6th St. Clinton, IA 52732

Let Slip the Dogs of War

The November-December 2011 edition of The Graybeards had an article on page 66 titled “The Battle of Chang-To,” by Martin Lee Broussard. It was about the GHQ 1st Raider Company.


Soon after the war started, two guys in my platoon told me they had volunteered for a special unit to go to Korea. Bates and Graves were on their second hitch and had served in Korea as occupation troops until they were pulled out of there and shipped to Japan.

Bob Graves was the tallest guy in our company. I tied for second tallest with a person named Talley at 6’2”.

I went with Bates and Graves to the office to inquire about volunteering, but the two of them were there for their second interview. We were told they had over 100 volunteers and did not need anymore. They were selected to go, I would guess, because they were familiar with Korea and were both older, very big, people. Both are now deceased.

Bob Graves was awarded the Silver Star at Chang-To and was involved in the 1956 Olympics at the University of Wisconsin on the rowing team. I only saw them once in Tokyo after they returned, and really did not get much of a chance to talk to them.

I did manage to call Graves on the phone a couple times, but long distance charges made it hard to talk very long.


Donald W. Killmeyer, 2850 Middletown Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15204

Wilfred Burchett Contributed To The Worst 2-1/2 Years Of My Life

I was a prisoner of war in North Korea from November 2, 1950 to April 24, 1953. Those were the worst 2-1/2 years of my life.

I saw Wilfred Burchett in North Korea in the summers of 1951 and 1952. He was a French correspondent. Burchett came to Camp #5 and gave lectures on communism and tried to convince us how good it was. He tried to talk to some of the POWs individually, although I was not one of them. As far as I am concerned he is as much of a villain as was “Hanoi Jane” Fonda in the Vietnam War—and he will always be a villain. Burchett simply cannot be forgiven for what he did.

We were practically naked, always hungry, always cold in the winter, always abused—and there he stood trying to tell us how good communism was and how bad our country was. He told us that we were “cannon fodder” for the Wall Street warmongers, whatever that meant.

What Burchett did and what he told us has never left my mind and never will. He was not alone, though. Two English correspondents with similar political views visited our camp during the summers. They were no more welcome to us than was Burchett.


The Female Communist Soldiers Were The Worst

We asked in a previous issue about female communist soldiers. Charles Petersen advised us of this passage from p. 450 in T. R. Fehrenbach’s book, This Kind Of War, regarding female soldiers in the Korean War:

“Among the thousands of Communist POW’s on Koje-do had been 474 North Korean female personnel, and the girls had been among the worst of the lot. At about the time Charles Schlichter and his comrades were coming home, these women were put on a South Korean train and sent north to Freedom Village for repatriation. On the way, they broke out Communist flags, and screamed and yelled at the gaping South Koreans alongside the tracks.
“As they neared Panmunjom, they began to tear off their capitalist-made and imperialist-issued clothing, to return home in Communist purity. Then they screamed and shrieking and ripped and tore up the train seats. They urinated on what they could not destroy.

Finally, before they got off the train, a number of them defecated in the aisles. Men and women come home in different ways.”

The Chinese Soldier

We asked in the Nov/Dec 2012 edition, p. 15, for opinions on who was the more formidable enemy combatant, the Chinese or the North Korean. Here is one description of Chinese soldiers taken from an unnamed book which was probably published sometime during the Korean War, based on the writer’s use of present tense:

“At the fighting level, the Chinese soldier has the Asian stamina and mental fortitude to withstand the harshest demands of command, conditions and climate. Battle fatigue is not recognized in the Chinese armies because it is a symptom of failure unacceptable to the Oriental mind. The average Chinese soldier fighting in Korea has a low standard of education, but he has been taught a blind obedience to orders which will make him attempt to carry out an order regardless of the consequence.

“This seemingly fatalistic obedience stems from two sources: a new arrogance and reckless aggressiveness built on a long succession of victories and the stern, uncompromising demands made upon them by their leaders. Each unit has its informers and when an action is closed and the unit withdrawn, a critique is held. Men who have done poorly are exposed in a kangaroo-type of court.

“There are three forms of punishment the unit commander can mete out depending on the seriousness of the charges. The lesser of the three would mean extra duty in the unit until the next battle, at which time the accused would lead the attack; the second degree of punishment would entail extra work, and a notification of cowardice sent to the man’s village; anything more serious than the first two is remedied by a shot in the back of the head from the unit commander’s pistol.”

We thank Roland W. Thom, N 5562 County Rd. #J, Ellsworth, WI 54011, 715-273-4934, for the information.

Veterans Meet After 61 Years

I share this amazing story with you because I know you are going to appreciate it. Back in January when I was in Puerto Rico, I drove my dad, Gilberto Rodriguez, to see a friend he met in Korea (they both were drafted to go to Korea). They had not seen each other in 61 years. I had the privilege to witness such a wonderful reunion.

It is written in Spanish but really no words are necessary to understand the power of this moment. A journalist from Puerto Rico helped me put the video together.

The reunion is dedicated to all the soldiers who never returned home, especially to two soldiers from my hometown, Marcos Massini (my dad’s best friend who was killed in Korea), and Dario Medina, who lost his eyesight as a result of an explosion.

I hope this short video helps you, as much as it helped me, to understand that in spite of everything bad we see around us, life is really good and every now and then it does give us wonderful, precocious moments!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYQlTCW jęU
Thank you,
Gisela Rodriguez, Esq., 2910 Kerry Forest Pkwy.
Suite #D4-302, Tallahassee, Fl 32309
Cell: (850) 284-9420, gr@giselarodriguezlaw.com

The Steel Strike Of 1952

On p. 64 of the March/April 2013 edition you asked about a steel strike in the middle of a war. The strike was implemented by the United Steelworkers against U.S. Steel and nine other steel makers, for a wage increase. The strike was to begin in April 1952, but President Harry S. Truman nationalized the American steel industry before the workers walked out. The steel companies sued to regain control of their facilities.

On June 2, 1952, in a landmark decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the President lacked the authority to seize the steel mills. The strike lasted 53 days, and ended July 24, 1952. More than 19 million tons of steel were lost.

I was in the military at the time. It, of course, caused the armed forces some problems, but they got through the steel strike, because most of the things we used were old WWII toys pulled out of the Pacific area. Most guys around me knew that by this time the war was the forgotten war. It seemed the civilians did not care that much.

At that time in 1952, the Korean War, if mentioned in the newspaper at all, was on the back pages. It had become a bunker war, and Americans seemed to lose interest. I recall during the Korean War I was aboard a train in uniform. Also aboard was a group of college students on a field trip. During the trip the students came up to me and asked where I was stationed, etc. They thought my campaign ribbons were for WWII battles. When I told them they were from the Korean War, they asked me where in the world Korea was located.

I believe the Korean War was too close to WWII. The American people were tired of war, and were moving on.

And, re “Feedback/Return Fire,” pg.63, 502nd TCG, USAF, American Presidential Unit Citation vs. Republic Of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, in the same issue: they were two different awards. It would seem Mr. Gavel was correct, not Mr. Winkler.

Tom Moore, 239-495-9879, tm103ps@yahoo.com

They Still Had Cosmoline On Them!

I remember the steel strike well. I was a PltSgt. in Item Co., 35 Rgt., 25th Div. We were dug in on Heartbreak Ridge June through August. We test fired our weapons every three days at 6 p.m. Then word came down from the C.P. we could fire only with direct orders from them.

A couple days later this beautiful sexy voice came over the Chinese loudspeaker telling us about how our capitalist family and friends were on a steel strike. She stated that thousands of people were marching in the streets in support of the union, urging them to continue for a long time.

She also said they knew we were short on ammo, but they wouldn’t attack. We should come over, as she had plenty of women to satisfy our needs, good food, and good American music. Each evening she would play sad songs like Johnny Ray’s “Cry” and

The Graybeards

May - June 2013
that a steel strike in Pittsburgh had caused a shortage of munitions in August. I went home on points in September, so I don’t know how they called for mortar support, we were told by our 81 mortars that they used up what we had. When contact was made with the enemy and we requested additional ammo, we had to fill out a form telling why we needed it. They gave “Georgia” an M-1. He threw a round in the chamber, aimed, and fired. Bed Check Charley blew up. Everyone cheered.

“Georgia” said simply, “Where I’m from, if you don’t hit what you shoot at, you don’t eat.” Everyone had a lot more respect for “Georgia” after that. Grogan had a simple question: would “Georgia” have been an ace if he shot down four more “Bedcheck Charleys”?

Reach Stanley J. Grogan at 2585 Moraga Dr. Pinole, CA 94564, 510-758-7534

Looking For Photos of LSTs

I am responding to Frank Sarver’s request of photos of LSTs in your “Recon Missions” section in the March/April 2013 edition, p. 66. I was assigned to the 339th Transportation Harbor Craft & Marine Maintenance Co. in Inchon, so anytime I see the word “Inchon” or “Landing Craft” it quickly draws my attention.

He indicated that he is looking for pictures of the “LST’s...with fence wire and barbed wire to keep the prisoners from escaping.” I am not certain that he is looking for the right class vessel.

The Graybeards edition of Nov/Dec 2012 has some wonderful photographs of Operation Big Switch. (I had missed this issue until recently as I do fall behind in reading all of each magazine.) I think the craft you are describing is a Landing Craft Utility (LCU). I am very familiar with that boat.

As a young lieutenant, I was skipper of one of them for several months. Unfortunately, I did not get to participate in Big Switch, as I had been moved back to the unit HQ in preparation for my returning to the U.S. (I went back on a troop ship loaded with our American P.O.W.s who had been released in August.)
Viewers cannot tell from the pictures the type of vessel that was unloading the P.O.W.s from the ship on to the barge. I unloaded several thousand United Nation troops on to a barge like that from troopships.

The Jan/Feb 2013 edition of The Graybeards has letters from two veterans, each of whom served on an AKA: the USS Winston and the USS Seminole. LSTs had been used to transport P.O.W.’s from Koje-do to other P.O.W. camps. The Graybeards edition of May/June 2012 had a very interesting article on that operation.

Memories play tricks on all of us, but there was not a stationary pier in the outer harbor of Inchon that an LST could tie up to. They sometimes came up on the beach, empty, to perform maintenance, but I think there would be a real security risk to unload militant P.O.W.s from the beach. So the barge, anchored in deep water, was used for the transfer to the LCU.

Good luck in finding the appropriate picture for your history book.

Philip M. Campbell, Detroit, MI
313-393-8830, hil1512@sbcglobal.net

My Father’s Last Letter
Enclosed you will find the last letter my dad wrote the night before he died. I wanted to make sure I finished his job.

He never told me he received the Bronze Star.

He will truly be missed.

Elroy Fitzgerald, Jr., (USMC)

VFW Post 4600 hosted a 60th Anniversary tribute to Korean War vets and their spouses. We had 250 people attend. Dinner was served and several vets gave speeches on their adventures in Korea.

Congressman Joe Walsh gave a speech before dinner and thanked all Korean vets for all they had done. VFW Commander Ronnie Reber welcomed all guests and introduced each one individually. The chief speaker after dinner was the Korean Consulate of Chicago.

It was a very enjoyable day and I learned a lot. I never knew why it was called a “police action” until one of the speakers explained why. Harry Truman couldn’t declare it a war unless Congress approved, which they would not do. But, he could declare it a police action with-out their approval. That’s what he did!


Elroy Fitzgerald, Sr.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Mr. Fitzgerald passed away unexpectedly the day after he wrote the above letter.

Elroy Fitzgerald, Sr.

The Korean Consulate of Chicago addresses guest at 60th Anniversary commemoration

Chow time in Chicago

Darcy Flanagan Photos
I found the pictures submitted by Darcy Flanagan (“Thanks, Darcy Flanagan,” p. 74, March/April 2013) very interesting. (I also found the GHQ Raider story, “Swimming As A Diversion,” p.64, fascinating—although I had to read it with a magnifying glass.)

The picture on p. 75, lower right, is of a flopped negative. Patches are on right arm and U.S. Army (black) and homemade name tags are reversed. It’s the first time I ever saw homemade
tags like that. Now I’m curious about when they were first required.

There were no such tags during my time in the Army (1949-52). Knowing when U.S. Army name tags were first used would help date the pictures.

The African-American PFC has a tailored fatigue shirt and dress belt. They may be left over from the U.S. or Japan. The white stripe is another clue. And, he has a name on his tag that looks like “Pris.”

The picture at the top center looks like it includes a helicopter rotor (top right). It’s hard to tell how big the chopper is because it is in the foreground.

The truck in the center photo looks like it has armor plating on the side.

The top and bottom pictures might have been taken at a Christmas or New Year’s celebration. Everyone is dressed warmly. The Soldier in the fur hat in that photo holding a girl in his arms is named Houle.

The tent with straw in the left bottom photo on p. 74 is odd. It looks like a big fire hazard.

It is intriguing to note that some of the Soldiers in the photos are wearing fur hats, while others are wearing fatigue caps. Why the mix? It’s cold out, but not too cold, apparently.

I may not be able to figure out where or when the pictures were taken, or who is in them, but I sure enjoyed studying them.

Donald W. Killmeyer, 2850 Middletown Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15204, 412-922-2743

Shot Out Of The Sky By An Ace

“Uncle Joe and His Boys,” by Tom Moore, March/April 2013, p. 56, was a very nice read for me. At midnight on July 3, 1952, Maj Anatoli Karelin blew us out of the sky high over North Korea. I was just a passenger, not trained in how to use a parachute. I was very lucky to even survive, but somehow I did. It took many years to find the whole story.

All the crew members are gone now, and I’m still here. Maybe just good luck. But, the story was a nice read with some bad memories.

Gene Evers, ejeve@frontier.com

Almond Imitates Patton

In the March-April edition, in the article “The Taking of Punji Pass,” p. 68, the author stated that the U.S. X Corps withdrew through the port of Wonsan back to Pusan when the Chinese attacked the day after Thanksgiving Day in November. At that time I put together a train of 3 coaches and 7 flatcars in the Wonsan rail yard and took the 1st Bn of the 65th Infantry north to Hungnam. In the Hungnam rail yard we met the 17th Regiment that had been on the Yalu River.

There they had watched the Chinese on the north bank and had also observed LtGen Almond, the X Corps commander, drive down to the river so he and his staff could urinate in it with photographers as George Patton had done in the Rhine River.

The January 8, 1951 edition of Life Magazine had a several-page article entitled “We Walk Not Run to the Nearest Exit” covering the Christmas withdrawal of X Corps from Hungnam harbor, not Wonsan. In addition, we took 94,000 North Koreans with us to Pusan who wanted to escape Kim II Sung’s government.

When the 187th Airborne Regiment was in the battle for Punji Pass, I could see them from my observation post. Our assistant division commander, Brigadier General “Red” Mead, came up, and I said that we should help them. He said, “No, it was time for them to do some dying.”

LtCol Wells B. Lange (U.S. Army, Ret.), 1340 Forest Park-1, Lafayette, CO 80026, 303-604-6694, wellspollv@comcast.net

Occasionally, we make mistakes in The Graybeards. We try to be as accurate as possible, and we apologize for any errors that slip through. We do not have the funds for a fact checker, so we miss a fact or two now and then. Here are a couple clarifications. Incidentally, we rely on readers to inform us of any “misfires” that need correcting. We will print corrections in the next available edition.

Lopez, Not Sanchez


Carl Cramer, 2 E. Main St., P.O. Box 98, Newburg, PA 17240, 717-423-6425, thecramers@pa.net

Half The Picture Is Missing

We printed the photo below—at least half of it—on p. 66 of the March-April 2013 issue. This time we print the entire photo with the same caption. The submitter, Richard J. Clark, is looking for the identity of the Soldier receiving the field commission.

Please note the change in Mr. Clark’s phone number.

Contact Richard J. Clark, 2755 S. 600 E., Greenfield, IN 46140, 317-318-5342 with any information regarding the photo.

Teague, Korea, 1950: Gen Charles D. Palmer, assisted by Capt. John Betz, awards field commission to unknown member of 1st Cav. Div. Artillery
Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ALABAMA
R044793 ABRAHAM BENEFIELD

ARIZONA
R044835 JOSEPH P. CLARK
R044853 JAMES K. KRUGH
LR44888 CLYDE H. QUEEN
R044756 JACK Z. JACCARIA

CALIFORNIA
R044798 PHILIP J. DIMENNO
LR44697 ROBERT D. GOBLE
R044885 DAVID E. LEUE
R044850 DAVID P. LINDIG
R044886 JUDITH A. MCKAY
R044770 SHANT C. MINAS
LR44700 SANTOS OJEDA
R044730 FRANK F. ROSE
R044837 ALBERT Y. SHOTA
R044820 THOMAS ZAYAS

CONNECTICUT
A044871 PAUL E. SWENSEN

DELWARE
R044784 JOSEPH R. WRIGHT JR.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LR44865 JAMES N. BUTCHER

FLORIDA
R044836 JENNIFER C. BROOKS
R044707 ROBERT E. BURFORD
LR44733 RAYMOND L. BURKARD
R044876 RALPH BYRD
R044765 TO PYO CHO
A044877 MICHAEL P. GENTZ
A044814 ALBERT H. GREER JR.
R044824 THEODORE H. JACOBS
LR44878 ARTHUR M. JOHANSEN
R044899 JAMES F. KIDD
R044829 PETER L. ODO
A044880 EDWARD POZZOLI
LR44762 EDWARD C. QUINN
R044875 DEBORAH A. SMITH
R044882 CHARLES W. STOUT
R044823 BOBBOY L. STULL
R044815 MARTIN J. SULLIVAN
R044778 HARVEY C. THIBAUD

FLORIDA
P044742 LEE S. WALTERS
R044874 JOHN E. WARDELLE
R044810 JACK D. YATES

GEORGIA
R044866 THOMAS J. GHUZZI
R044802 JOHN W. SHOEMAKER

HAWAII
LR44897 HERMAN J. ENCARNACION

IDAHO
R044854 DUANE SEVERSON

ILLINOIS
R044834 DENNIS M. BOLSEGA
R044811 LOYAL W. BRANNAN
R044764 ARNOLDO CABELO
R044829 RONALD M. CLOUGH
R044768 RONALD W. COVINS
R044831 ROBERT L. HAYNES
R044906 DONALD LEISH
R044694 PAUL A. LILL
R044731 BERNARD C. OGLE
R044766 FRANK O. ONTIVEROS
R044760 JAMES L. THOMPSEN

INDIANA
R044736 DELMA M. GUITARD
R044763 SAMUEL HATTEN

IOWA
R044702 RICHARD W. CAREY
R044711 WILLIAM A. COULSON
R044713 NOEL C. FRIDAY
R044735 RICHARD A. GUNDERSON
LR44712 GORDON L. PERKINS
R044873 DONALD H. POLZ

KANSAS
LR44790 KENNETH L. BENDER
LR44767 DAVID W. BROWN
R044738 CHARLES E. BURRIS
R044796 CHARLES L. GUTH
R044754 JOSEPH J. HAYS
LR44729 CHARLES F. MCBEE
R044750 RICHARD R. MOES
R044813 MIKE A. MORRA
R044890 WILLARD E. SHIELDS
R044809 ARISTIDES M. AC SIMOES
R044797 PAUL A. SPONH
R044743 JEROME L. WOHLER

KENTUCKY
R044783 WILLIAM E. HIXON

MAINE
R044779 GARY W. MICHAUD

MARYLAND
R044782 DARWIN W. ASHURN
R044802 LEON CONDR
R044741 DONALD L. FUNK
R044803 ELWOOD E. HALIVER
R044781 ROBERT D. NEAD
R044872 KICHAN SO

MASSACHUSETTS
A044898 PHILIP D. JORDAN
A044904 SAMANTHA C. TILIKKALA

MICHIGAN
R044772 FRED E. BOYER
R044812 DALE L. BROOKS
LR44851 LLOYD W. CONNER
R044893 LOUIS J. FIORILLO
R044892 DEAN T. GREGS
R044715 FRANK F. ORELLAS
R044714 GORMAN WOLFE

MINNESOTA
R044887 GARY BOSSEY
R044789 FRANK J. RANGEL

MISSISSIPPI
R044698 BOBBY H. CALHOUN

MISSOURI
R044858 JOSEPH C. ARANDA
R044725 WILLIAM W. BELL
R044747 JAMES W. BRYANT
R044751 FRANK E. CHASE
R044732 MICHAEL W. COLLINS
R044861 JAMES C. COOPER
R044718 DOMINIC CURRICURU SR.
R044840 J.W. J. WAYNE DUNN
LR44722 LESTER J. ECKELKAMP
R044726 ROYDNEY W. EGGERS
R044780 JOE V. FERGUSON
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R044933 BARBARA A. DALEY
R044881 CHARLES M. SLUSSE
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NEW YORK
R044843 ROGER D. CARPENTER
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R044818 DANIEL E. FŁORSKOWSKI
R044699 DUANE E. GREEN
R044891 DONALD L. MILLER
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R044864 HENRY F. SCHRODER
R044853 MIYRON E. SIMPSON
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R044856 GENE A. LAHOTE
R044737 JAMES L. LEHNERT
R044776 JACK J. STOLL
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TENNESSEE
A044759 JOYCE D. EVERINGHAM

TEXAS
R044868 HERBERTO CARLOS AGOSTO
R044842 EDELMIRO AMADOR
LR44866 DELBERT D. BOWERS
R044883 PETER H. BRAUN
R044819 BURTIN S. CAZEN
LR44832 RAY D. GRIFFIN
R044709 FREDERICK R. HOFFMAN
R044869 EDWARD L. LAWRENCE
R044822 MARCO A. MARIN
R044791 DAVID R. PERKINS
R044900 ROBERT M. ROW
R044777 RICHARD L. SCHULTZ
R044845 EDWARD L. ED SKOEN
R044844 WILLIAM H. SMITH JR.

UTAH
LR44701 WARREN L. GILMOUR

VIRGINIA
R044704 DAVID E. CLARK
R044703 JOHN F. MCGUIRE
WASHINGTON
R044748 EDWARD L. BARNES

WASHINGTON
R044825 ELLAR E. EDWARDS
R044785 LAWRENCE D. HIGGINS
A044749 THOMAS R. THOMPSON

WEST VIRGINIA
R044740 LOREN G. ‘GENE’ GRAY

WISCONSIN
R044896 EUGENE R. CHRISTOPHERSEN
R044801 CHARLES J. CREASER
R044879 JOE A. MARCIL
R044895 TIMOTHY P. NICHOLS

The Graybeards

May - June 2013

Evans received national attention in 1951 when he became the only Marine authorized to wear a beard, despite military regulations against it. As the story goes, during the Korean War, when MajGen John T. Selden instructed all Marines to be clean shaven, he made one exception: “Bull” Evans.

The reason was simple, according to Selden: “For honor and distinction, Sgt. Evans will be exempt from this order and permission to let his beard grow is granted.” Officially, Sgt. Evans was the only Marine accorded this honor in the history of the Marine Corps.

Anybody who knew Evans or has any information about him is asked to contact Arthur G. Sharp, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, 860-563-6149, sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net.

Curtis Allen Payne…Charles Payne is looking for anyone who might have served with his dad, Curtis Allen Payne, U.S. Army Cpl., from Alabama. He was with the 7th MP Co., 7th Inf. Div. between Sept, 1950 – Nov, 1951, at which time he was evacuated out of Korea. Reach Charles Payne at cpayne1757@sbcglobal.net.

James H. Walker…Lewis K. Reeder is looking for anyone who knows about James H. Walker, a POW during the Korean War. He was in the 16th FA in support of the South Korean “Rock” Division. All his records have been lost, so Reeder requests anyone who can help him to call 580-357-7297 or write to him at 2810 NW Lynn Circle, Lawton, OK 73507.

Burial Plots Available In Frazer, PA

My father was a Korean War veteran who passed away on Christmas Day 2012. Throughout his life, he had been haunted by his service past in what the Korean War stood for and the participation. He was extremely loyal to his fellow servicemen.

We recently discovered that he was awarded a Silver Star, although his pride in doing what he was “supposed” to do kept him from revealing the medal to any of his seven children. We knew he was special, but this takes it all to another level.

While working through the separation of his estate, we have discovered that my father has two burial plots in the Philadelphia Memorial Park in Frazer, PA, just outside Philadelphia. The cemetery is owned by a national entity which does not honor any buy back of the plots. The two plots are side by side and located in the Veteran’s Memorial section of the park.

I am inquiring whether you have any information or contact that would allow me to donate the plots to a Korean War veteran in need. It is very important for us to extend the loyalty my father had for his fellow servicemen to a current Korean War veteran who is in need.

Any information or contacts you may have in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Fran Bridge, 717-575-6937, frb1967@embarqmail.com

What Do I Need In My Shadow Box?

I served in Korea from September 1966 through October 1968. I was a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2ID artillery. Our base was located within walking distance of a small village called Pobwoni. I graduated from the Imjin Scout School at Camp Sitman and spent about half of my time in Korea on the DMZ.

I have been trying to get all of my medals and ribbons together and in a display case for my son before I am subjected to the “last call.” Can someone help me with the ribbons and awards that I should display in the shadow box?

Unfortunately, when I came back to the states, a friend of my brother’s “borrowed” them for display on his uniform when he got married. I never got them back and he never left the states.

Any help you can give me with respect to this matter will be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance.

Glen Newsome, 136 Foxcroft Dr., Timberlake, NC 27583, 336-364-2651, gnewsome1@embarqmail.com

Survivor of 8240th AU Who Recruited Chinese POWs

Thank you for running an advertisement for me in the Reconnaissance column of your last issue of last year. It helps a lot for the TV documentary about the Korean War we are working on at Voice of America.

We are asking you to do the same thing for us again. This time, we are looking for any survivor of the 8240th AU (UNPIK/CCRAK) of the U.S. 8th Army that has recruited Chinese POWs to carry out Special Operations behind enemy lines during the war. (The nearby photo shows the Chinese team with American instructors of this special unit.)

Anyone who served with or knew these Chinese please contact me. Note that the few survivors have been living in shadows for half a century! They were truly the unsung heroes of the Forgotten War.

Lin Du, Voice of America, 202-382-5633, xdu@voanews.com

The Chinese team with American instructors of the 8240th AU (UNPIK/CCRAK) of the U.S. 8th Army

We are asking you to do the same thing for us again. This time, we are looking for any survivor of the 8240th AU (UNPIK/CCRAK) of the U.S. 8th Army that has recruited Chinese POWs to carry out Special Operations behind enemy lines during the war. (The nearby photo shows the Chinese team with American instructors of this special unit.)

Anyone who served with or knew these Chinese please contact me. Note that the few survivors have been living in shadows for half a century! They were truly the unsung heroes of the Forgotten War.

Lin Du, Voice of America, 202-382-5633, xdu@voanews.com
B. Co., 30 Inf., 3rd Div

I would like to hear from any of the Soldiers in the nearby photo. We were in B Co., 30th Inf. Reg., 3rd Div. at Ft. Benning, GA, 1949-50. We were split up as replacements to various divisions in Korea.

Thomas Sherry, 340 US Highway 11, Gouverneur, NY 13642, 315-287-0694, gimlet3689@yahoo.com

Love/Mike Co., 35th Regt., 25th Div.

I was with Love Co., 35th Regt., 25th Div. on the Berlin Outpost as the signing of the peace treaty approached. We were relieved by the Marines on or about July 10, 1953 and went into reserve status at Camp Casey.

On July 13th there was a celebration for the 37th birthday of the 35th Regt. At that time I and few of my comrades received our CIBs. I also received my PFC stripe.

Shortly after the truce was signed I was transferred to Mike Co., as I had a heavy weapons MOS. There, I was assigned to a 75mm recoilless rifle squad. I rotated back to the states September 17, 1954.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who served with me during the dates mentioned above.

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

John T. (“Sonny”) Edwards…KWVA National Recruiting Chairman, has been appointed by Gov. Bob McDonnell of Virginia to serve on the Joint Leadership Council of the Department Of Virginia Veterans Affairs. Edwards said after learning of his appointment, “It is indeed an honor for me to serve on this council, representing the Korean War Veterans Association. I can assure you that my decisions will be in the best interest for our veterans.”

Reach Edwards at kvetedwards@yahoo.com

Bill Freeman, Korean War POW…spoke at the National Prisoner of War Museum at Andersonville, GA on April 6, 2013. Below is the press release announcing his presentation.

ANDERSONVILLE, Georgia - 2013 marks the sixtieth anniversary of the Armistice that ended the Korean War, and led to the release of American prisoners of war. To mark this anniversary, and the upcoming National Former POW Recognition Day, the National Prisoner of War Museum at Andersonville National Historic Site is proud to announce that former Korean POW Bill Freeman will speak at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday April 6, 2013 in the museum theater.

William Freeman, a World War II veteran, was in the reserves when the Korean War began. He was recalled to active service in late 1950 and ended up in Korea in Company A, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. On February 12, 1951, he was captured by the enemy during the Hoengsong Massacre and was held captive in a North Korean POW camp until Aug. 19, 1953.

National Former POW Recognition Day is April 9, just a few days later. This year also marks the fifteenth anniversary of the National Prisoner of War Museum. The Avenue of Flags will also be raised in the National Cemetery from April 5-12 in honor of National Former POW Recognition Day.

Andersonville National Historic Site is located 10 miles south of Oglethorpe, GA and 10 miles northeast of Americus, GA on Georgia Highway 49. The national park features the National Prisoner of War Museum, Andersonville National Cemetery and the site of the historic Civil War prison, Camp Sumter. Andersonville National Historic Site is the only national park within the National Park System to serve as a memorial to all American prisoners of war. Park grounds are open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. with the museum opening at 9:00 a.m. Admission is free. For more information on the park, call 229-924-0343, visit on the web at www.nps.gov/ande/, or find us on Facebook at facebook.com/AndersonvilleNPS
Members of several KWVA chapters were invited to a special dinner for South Korean President Park Geun-Hye in Washington, D.C. on May 7, 2013. The dinner, which commemorated the 60th anniversary of the partnership between South Korea and the United States, was held in the courtyard of the Smithsonian American Arts Museum. Approximately 500 Korean and American business, government and military personnel and about 120 KWVA members attended.

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hegel introduced President Park. Both Secretary Hegel and President Park thanked the Korean War veterans for their service in pushing back the threat of communist aggression and thereby preserving the territorial integrity of South Korea. President Park acknowledged that the tremendous growth of her country would not have been possible without the sacrifices of the Korean War veterans.

She asked the veterans to stand; they were applauded loudly by those in attendance. (Note: Seeing all those two-, three-, and four-star officers face and applaud this old enlisted man nearly prompted a tear or two.)

The KWVA members, who were led by 1st Vice President Larry Kinard, came primarily from four chapters: 33 – Maryland (Baltimore, MD); 142 - William E. Weber (Frederick, MD); 312 - Antietam (Hagerstown, MD); and 313 - Shenandoah (Winchester, VA). Several other KWVA notables attended, including National Directors Lew Ewing and Art Griffith, Col. Warren Wiedhahn, and Col. William Weber.

All the KWVA members were honored and inspired. They thoroughly enjoyed being invited to this great event. The program that was presented will leave many pleasant memories.

In addition to President Park’s and Secretary Hegel’s speeches, there were several others who remarked on the United States – Korean partnership. The gathering was also entertained by superb performances by Shin Zia on violin and Son Yeoleum on piano. A mixed American-Korean children’s choir also delighted the audience.

All in all, it was a wonderful evening for everyone.

Les Bishop, P.O. Box 868, Funkstown, MD 21734, 240-420-3755, lbishop@myactv.net
Official Membership Application Form
The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

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 ____________
Apt. or Unit # (if Any) ____________ 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 Dates of service:
Division _____________ ☐ Army
Regiment ______________ ☐ Air Force
Battalion ________________ ☐ Navy
Company ________________ ☐ Marines
Other __________________________ ☐ Coast Guard

“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” listed below, complete the “Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership” Form on page 2.]

Applicant Signature: __________________________________________ Date: __________________________

Note: If this is a GIFT Membership – please sign here to certify, under penalty of law, that to the best of your knowledge, ALL of the information you have provided about the Applicant is true and correct. [Note: If applicable, you must also complete and sign the Eligibility Form on page 2.]

Signature: __________________________________________ Relationship to Applicant: ________________________

Make checks payable to: KWVA — Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407
(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # ____________________________ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD (only)
Expiration Date ____________________ V-Code ____ Your Signature __________________________________________

Adopted 10/27/2012
CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA Membership Application Form on page 1, persons applying for, and qualifying for, membership under one of the categories listed below, are also required to fill in the appropriate blanks, and sign in the space provided below.

Check Only One Category:

☐ 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 by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces 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 during the Korean 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. I do not qualify to be a Regular member.

☐ 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.”

Applicant Signature: ________________________________________________ Month ______ Day________ Year ______

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualifications of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

A. Regular Members.

1. Service in the United States Armed Forces. Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.

2. 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 of 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.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/26/2009, R4 Approved 10/27/2012
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24 Aug – 6 Sep Vietnam “Chu Lai to the DMZ”
24 Aug – 7 Sep Vietnam I-II-III-IV Corps “Delta to the DMZ”
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8 – 13 Nov Bermuda Golf Getaway USMC Birthday Dinner & Veterans Remembrance Day Parade

26 Jan – 4 Feb ‘14 World War II in the Philippines
15 – 28 Feb ‘14 Tet Offensive & Battle of Hue City
14 – 21 Mar ‘14 69th Anniversary Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor—Guam & Charter Iwo Flight
28 Mar – 5 Apr ‘14 50th Anniv of the Vietnam War—1964
13 – 25 ‘14 Apr Vietnam I Corps
19 – 27 Apr ‘14 Turkey Gallipoli Campaign, ANZAC Day, Istanbul & Troy
19 Apr – 2 May ‘14 Vietnam “Saigon to the DMZ”

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The Graybeards

May - June 2013
**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**
  - Douglas W. Blalock
  - Marshall Byrd
  - William E. Conerly Jr.
  - James L. Copeland
  - Ralph C. Dula
  - Jane F. Etheredge
  - John S. Granger
  - William R. “Bill” Hunter
  - Irving Jordan Jr.
  - Hugh E. “Sonny” Langham
  - Robert J. McDowell
  - Norval M. Miner
  - Jacob M. Prince
  - John C. Rader
  - Melvin J. Sands
  - Ellis F. Polk
  - Lee Merworth
  - William A. Margrave
  - Ira Brown

- **ARKANSAS**
  - Lawrence W. Wright
  - John J. Ronan
  - Alfred M. Marquez
  - Matthew L. Leshinski
  - Kenneth J. Kennedy
  - Arthur F. Kull
  - Matthew L. Lesinski
  - John Lyons
  - Alfred M. Marquez
  - John J. Ronan
  - Charles Bradford Smith
  - Lawrence W. Wright

- **ARIZONA**
  - Clinton C. Bangs
  - Delwyn H. Barkdoll
  - Romeo J. Bartola
  - Robert J. Belanger
  - Elwood D. Wilson
  - Constant A. Valerio
  - Cleophus Thomas
  - Joseph R. Strong
  - Edwin J. Smith
  - Richard C. Pulling Sr.
  - Domenick J. Pantalone
  - Charles E. Melcher
  - Douglas A. Harris
  - Robert V. Galvin
  - James D. Deeney
  - Joseph J. Valitsky Sr.
  - Thomas R. Samokar
  - James P. Rybeck
  - William H. Robinson Jr.
  - Clayton Rogers
  - Thomas R. Samokar
  - Joseph J. Valitsky Sr.

- **CALIFORNIA**
  - Andrew Aguirre
  - Bernard B. Balough
  - Harold J. Bates
  - Howard J. Beadleson
  - Aurelio R. Bianchi
  - Daniel R. Bonilla
  - Frank R. Bonner Jr.
  - William H. Bossard
  - Byron Francis Brady
  - Roy J. Brazzale
  - William R. Bremer
  - Frank Brittain
  - Larry A. Brotman
  - Willard G. Burris
  - Thomas D. Caie
  - Umberto Capurro Jr.
  - Jules A. Carvalho Jr.
  - John N. Cashman
  - Robert G. Chamberlain
  - Jean Clawson
  - Norman Clawson
  - William D. Clemens
  - Jerry Daniels Jr.
  - Walter F. Davis
  - Darel I. Deal
  - Tarsicio Delgado
  - Robert C. Esterbrooks
  - Charles H. Finn
  - John L. Gallegos
  - Donald B. Geddes
  - Emery A. Geiger
  - Mike A. Geraci
  - Emery A. Geiger
  - Donald B. Geddes
  - John L. Gallegos
  - Donald B. Geddes
  - Emery A. Geiger
  - Mike A. Geraci
  - Emery A. Geiger
  - Donald B. Geddes

- **COLORADO**
  - Kenneth H. Barber
  - Dominic Castillo
  - Henry J. Dure
  - Richard D. Kleckner
  - Margaret A. McLaughlin
  - Robert G. Hesselius
  - Thomas M. Hughes
  - Celeste L. Hungerford
  - William E. “Bill” Hutton
  - Gordon Hyde
  - William E. Jacques
  - J. W. Jeffers
  - George P. Jessen
  - Nathan Jurist
  - Bill Katz
  - Irving Langell
  - Daniel Leibowitz
  - Charles S. Liddell
  - Richard F. Losch
  - James Mcconnell
  - Samuel C. Meanus Jr.
  - Lelia McGuire
  - Marino M. Michetti
  - James D. Miller
  - Jerry Morgan
  - Angelo “Andy” Motola
  - Robert B. Murray
  - Michael S. Nanartowich
  - Charles W. Newcomb
  - Richard L. Owen
  - Chun Byon Park
  - Thomas C. Parramore
  - Roy R. Ray
  - Roger E. Reynolds
  - John H. Rimes
  - Charles R. Rines

- **CONNECTICUT**
  - Richard Annunziata
  - Dara Bartlett
  - Edward J. Galica Sr.
  - Arthur J. R. Gamache
  - Sebastian Golino
  - Arilice A. Granata
  - Alton E. Lathrop
  - David E. Law
  - Thomas M. McCusker
  - Thomas P. Nappes
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  - William H. Robinson Jr.
  - Clayton Rogers
  - James P. Rybeck
  - Thomas R. Samokar
  - Joseph J. Valitsky Sr.

- **DELAWARE**
  - Joseph “Sonny” Cannon
  - James D. Deeney
  - Robert V. Galvin
  - Douglas A. Harris
  - Charles E. Melcher
  - Domenic J. Pantalone
  - Richard C. Pulling Sr.
  - Elmer J. Smith

- **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
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  - Benajmin R. Lemlich
  - Grace Lillian Mueller
  - Luke Wright

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  - Harry Alicia
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  - Donald Cor. Grudt
  - James H. Guffy
  - Robert C. Harod
  - Sidney L. Hatten Sr.
  - Robert C. Hessemius
  - Thomas M. Hughey
  - Celeste L. Hungerford
  - William E. “Bill” Hutton
  - Gordon Hyde
  - William E. Jacques
  - J. W. Jeffers
  - George P. Jessen
  - Nathan Jurist
  - Bill Katz
  - Irving Langell
  - Daniel Leibowitz
  - Charles S. Liddell
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  - Samuel C. Meanus Jr.
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  - Robert B. Murray
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  - Charles W. Newcomb
  - Richard L. Owen
  - Chun Byon Park
  - Thomas C. Parramore
  - Roy R. Ray
  - Roger E. Reynolds
  - John H. Rimes
  - Charles R. Rines

- **GEORGIA**
  - James Furman Cook
  - Carl H. Green
  - Charles E. Nunally
  - Joe E. Reynolds Sr.

- **HAWAII**
  - Boniface Dau Bui Choy
  - Jae Jo Ha

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  - Don Adcock
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  - Lyle E. Woith

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  - Robert G. Dalton Sr.
  - Floyd Ehlerding
  - H. David Hill
  - Stanley J. Lamerson
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- **IOWA**
  - Jack M. Dexter
  - Howard W. Schaeffer

May - June 2013

The Graybeards
Send to: Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407
The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

41 – FROZEN CHOSIN [MN]
We placed a display at the Blue Earth County Library in Mankato, MN. The display, which was installed on May 1st, remained in place the whole month of May.

Don Stember, dstemper_2@yahoo.com

43 – KANSAS CITY MISSOURI #2 [MO]
Another First For The KC Metro Area
March was American History Month. My son, Tim Jones, who has been with the Blue Springs School district for 24 years, was at a meeting where they were talking about a two-day conference, hosted by the Teaching American History Grant Consortium, for history teachers which was going to be held in three historic venues.

On Friday, March 9th, the conference was to be held at the Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, MO. On Saturday, March 10th, the conference was to be held concurrently at the WWI Museum and the historic Union Station in downtown Kansas City, MO. He told them about the Tell America program that I was involved in. They said they would like to have us set up our display at the Truman Library, along with others they had invited.

Paul Wolfgeher and I got there about 2:30 p.m. We were there until 6:30 p.m. We were set up in the corridor where the history teachers had to pass by us to get from one seminar to the other. I was told that there were over 400 history teachers registered to attend the conference.

When they started checking in and coming down the corridor, all we could see was history teachers in bright red t-shirts with the wording on the front “Teaching American History.” On the back was written “americanhistoryk-12.com.”

We enjoyed talking to just history teachers and we hope this will result in us getting into more of the schools. Oh yes, after the conference, my daughter-in-law, Kathy Jones, who also works for the Blue Springs School District, came up with two of the red t-shirts for me and Paul to have. Thanks, Kathy.

Robert R. Jones, Apt. 28, 13975 E 35th St., Independence, MO 64055, 816-836-0969 (H), 816-809-0123 (C), bobjones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com

Paul Wolfgeher (L) and Bob Jones display “Teaching American History” shirts

Kathy Jones (in Levi jacket) and Tim Jones (R) check in history teachers at Kansas City conference

Paul Wolfgeher talks to unidentified history teacher at Kansas City history conference

History teachers Stephanie Ladd, Jennifer Minnis, Beth Roberts (L-R) in Kansas City
Seven members, Fred Connolly, John Hartley, Bill Millison, Andy Jackson, Ray McBride, Charles Jackson, and Charles Kerber, presented their stories about the Korean War at Washington Township High School in April. They were featured in a Courier-Post article on April 12, 2013. Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net

Thanks from Olivia Cope

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APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT TOURS  
(UPDATE 03/07/13)

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

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.

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 Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501
C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS Fax: 703-590-1292
13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202 E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com
WOODBRIDGE, VA 22193-5285 www.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
For the 60th anniversary (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). 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, National Cemetery.

Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary:
Day 1: Fly to Korea
Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, Korea check into Seoul Hotel.
Day 4: Korean War Commemoration Ceremonies.
Day 5: Panmunjom, DMZ Thank You Banquet in the evening.
Day 6: War Memorial Museum tour, Korean culture show.
Day 7: Departure

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 whatever nature during the Revisit tours.
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 and 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 group administered by MHT.
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.

Former KWVA Secretary
Bill Hutton Dies
William (“Bill”) Hutton, former KWVA National Secretary and COC Subscriber, passed away on April 4, 2013. Bill, a graduate of the University of Connecticut, and I enjoyed coffee and camaraderie with one another on several occasions in Rocky Hill. His brother lived only a couple miles down the road, in Cromwell. Bill always made it a point to stop in Rocky Hill.

He was a loyal University of South Florida football fan. I hold season tickets to UConn’s football games. He invited me on more than one occasion to be his guest at a South Florida game. Unfortunately, I never took him up on his offer. I always waited until the right time.

Well, the right time will never come. He has moved on, and I am left behind. I will miss Bill and his hearty laugh. No, the right time never came. It was certainly the wrong time for him to pass on.

He served the KWVA well, and he will be missed.

Arthur G. Sharp

KWVA Founder, Arthur Patterson, Passes
Art Patterson, one of the 39 original KWVA founding members, passed away on April 10, 2013. Art, who resided with his wife Betty in Stillwater, NY, was an outstanding supporter of the KWVA.

Art served his country in the U.S. Army in Korea, in the 25th Infantry Division, the Wolfhounds, 27th Infantry Regiment. He participated early in the war, when elements of the U.S. Army were in the thick of the battles to stop the North Korean army from taking over South Korea.

Art Patterson was a patriot and defender of freedom and liberty. We honor his service to his country and his life.

Jack E. Cloman
Color Guard from Ch 199 at Pittsburgh Pirates spring training game (L-R) Hank Buhlinger, Dick Roehr, Skip Hannon, Robin Fernandez, Terry Willis, Jim LaFreniere (Canadian) and Ted Czerwinski (Some of the Color Guard members did not have their caps on, as they were unprepared for the photo). For details see Ch 19 news on page 41.