

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

55 – NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

Buddy Epstein spent a day at the Weber Middle School in Port Washington, NY. He gave a history lesson and his personal story of his time in Korea during the war.

Robert O'Brien, 408 5th Ave., Cedarhurst, NY 11516



Buddy Epstein of Ch. 55 with Weber Middle School students

60 – ADIRONDACK [NY]

The Tell America program continues to be a significant activity for us. This school year we had the honor and privilege to present our program at four high schools in our area of upstate New York. Students at the schools in Galway, Ballston Spa, Fort Edward, and Saratoga Springs were courteous, attentive, and appreciative audiences

We followed a consistent format in

our presentations. Chairman Bruce Blackie welcomed the students, introduced the chapter members, and briefly described the national mood and environment that contributed to the description of the Korean War as the "Forgotten War." Commander Roger Calkins followed with a brief account of the war, using projected materials to discuss its various phases, from the Pusan Perimeter



The TA team of Ch. 60: Roger Calkins, Paul O'Keefe, Gene Slavin, Ed Bushey, Bill Reid, Bob Garland, and Bruce Blackie (L-R) Photo by Mark Bolles



At Ch. 60 presentation: Will Navin, student, Marion Crandall, Bruce Blackie, Roger Calkins, Gene Slavin, Bill Reid and Hunter Choy (Front row, L-R); Louise Finan, Lois Miner, Mary Kuelzow, Bob Garland, Paul O'Keefe, and Ed Bushey (Seated, L-R) The two students will be attending West Point.

to the final cease fire MLR.

The purpose of this introduction was to provide the background and environment for the main body and the purpose of our program. Our team related their personal experiences during the Korean War. Army combat veteran and chapter chaplain Paul O'Keefe described the grim realities and discomforts endured by himself and his fellow soldiers in battle. Paul had never fired even a BB gun before his induction into the Army.

Ed Bushey recounted his 1st Cavalry Division combat experiences from the Pusan Perimeter to the Yalu River. Ed was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" device in September, 1950, for his heroic action near Taegu. Paratrooper Bob Garland told of his jump experiences with the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team and also the put-down of the POW camp revolt on Koje-do Island.

Treasurer Gene Slavin, a Navy veteran who served aboard the destroyer John R Pierce (DD753), told of destroying trains along the east coast of North Korea and of

taking fire from North Korean shore batteries that wounded thirteen crew members and severely damaged the ship.

Air Force grounds crewman Bill Reid told of the challenges involved with the maintenance, repair, and patching of B-26 Marauder light bombers to keep them in action over the Korean Peninsula.

Another key component of our programs is the ample time allocated to a question and answer session with the students. We are continuously impressed by the thoughtfulness and insight they express. This year the students were very much aware of the current tensions on the Korean peninsula and the provocative actions of North Korea. We were often asked about our thoughts on this issue.

After the formal session, we had the opportunity to mix informally with individual and small student groups to discuss a wide variety of their personal questions and concerns. We have a small display of memorabilia and artifacts that

always draws their interest. The courtesy and respect they express is deeply appreciated by all.

Time is taking its toll on our pool of presenters, but we are still making

plans and looking forward to a Tell America program for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carol Waldron, CWald36709@aol.com

267 - GENERAL VAN FLEET [FL]

Members made two visits in May. The first was on May 13th to the Bucholz High School Junior Air force ROTC Cadets commanded by Colonel Jim Roberts and Chief Master Sergeant Rick Price. We spoke to 5 classes, around 100 students, and were very well received.

We showed a new video provided by Colonel Roberts called "Why did America Fight the Korean War?" This is a much more modern version than "Freedom is not Free," but we show this also when time permits. The students asked many questions during the end session and we gave them several handouts.

Five members went out on this visit: Colonel Jake Feaster, who showed slides of his time in Korea with the 92nd US Armored Artillery Battalion [SP], Lieutenant Norm Tankersley, Sergeant First Class Terry Fitzpatrick, Private Ron Carbaugh, and Staff Sergeant Don Sherry. Lieutenant Tankersley was the event coordinator.

The second visit was on May 20th to the Gainesville High School Junior Naval ROTC Cadets, commanded by Major Dennis Wait, USMC. We went

early and participated in both Reveille and in Retreat Ceremonies with the cadets. We spoke to five consecutive classes. The final class hosted two other classes invited by Major Wait.

We estimated that we spoke to around 140 students that day. Again, we were well received with "Why did America Fight the Korean War?" The students asked many questions during the end session and we gave them lots of handouts.

Five members also went out to this event: Lieutenant Norm Tankersley, Sergeant First Class Terry Fitzpatrick, Staff Sergeant Carl Covey, Private Ron Carbaugh, and Staff Sergeant Don Sherry. Lieutenant Tankersley was the event coordinator.

There was a great deal of interest at both visits, with the present state of unrest between the United States, our friends, the Republic of South Korea, and the unstable communist regime of North Korea.

Don Sherry, 9511 SW 56th Pl., Gainesville, FL 32608, dpskwa@yahoo.com



Jake Feaster of Ch. 267 addresses Air Force ROTC cadets



Don Sherry, Terry Fitzpatrick, Col. Jim Roberts, Jake Feaster, Norm Tankersley, and Ron Carbaugh (L-R) at Ch. 267 presentation



Presenters from Ch. 267, Ron Carbaugh, Terry Fitzpatrick, Norm Tankersley, Jake Feaster, and Don Sherry (L-R) at Bucholz High School

311 - H. EDWARD REEVES [AZ]

We presented a program to six history classes at the Chino Valley High School in Chino Valley, AZ. Chuck Stohr, P.O. Box 12492, Prescott, AZ 86304



Presenters from Ch. 311: Moderator Chuck Stohr, Bob Reynolds, Gerald Ginnely, Commander John McKinney, and George Thyden (L-R)