

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



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100
YEARS

November 11, 2018

VETERANS DAY

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America's Forgotten Victory!

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

In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, Deceased.



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Awards Committee

Ed Brooks (See Directors)

Scholarships

Lewis M. 'Lew' Ewing

See detailed list of committees at
WWW.KWVA.US



From the President

Paul Cunningham

The first annual meeting of the KWVA Board was held in Arlington, VA, July 26-27, 2018. The minutes are included in this issue. I recommend that you read these minutes carefully to gain some idea of the considerable amount of work taken up at these meetings.

One measure taken up by the Board was approval of a set of eighteen goals for the organization as recommended by the Committee of Missions and Visions. This was the culmination of almost five months of teleconferencing. As the minutes will reflect, a motion to approve passed unanimously.

I asked this committee, headed by past president Larry Kinard, to remain intact for several reasons. First, I thought they may wish to tweak a few of the goals. Second, realizing that we could not tackle all items at once, I asked them to place the goals in a priority order. Finally, I want them to serve as a watchdog and monitor progress on each of the selected goals.

The interaction among members and the iterations of their product was a thing to behold. It was a model of committee work at its best.

...I ask each of you to consider the gravity of our situation and to do your utmost to encourage well-qualified candidates to consider running for one of the three open Director positions which will be on the next ballot.

Despite the oppressive heat of Washington D.C. on July 27th, we conducted an impressive ceremony at our Korean War Memorial, observing the 65th anniversary of the armistice signing that ended hostilities. Whereas Jim Fisher could do little about the heat, all other aspects bore evidence of his meticulous planning. Thanks, Jim.

That same evening the Korean American Association of Washington hosted a banquet to honor Korean War veterans. Approximately 50 members of KWVA were in attendance, including the two immediate past presidents, Larry Kinard and Tom Stevens.

Subsequent to the Board meeting, I proposed that its size be reduced from its present 12 Directors to 9 Directors. Utilizing the provision in the by-laws to do "Business without a meeting," a motion to

reduce the size was passed by a vote of 7 Yea, 6 Nay. This vote must be ratified at the Board meeting in Orlando. Likewise, changes to appropriate sections of the by-laws must be approved.

Considering the narrowness of the vote, in a grass roots effort, I appealed to all department and chapter presidents and commanders to poll their groups to see how they stand on this issue and convey their results to me by letter or email. As of this writing, I have had replies from ten chapters, all of which reported overwhelming support for reducing the number of directors to nine.

One reason for the move is the lack of multiple candidates for each office. Consider the most recent election. Except for the office of president, all other offices had only one candidate for each vacancy. This is not an election; it is merely an affirmation.

The lack of candidates may really account for the extremely low voter participation. Of a membership count of 11,293, only about 1,500 cast ballots. That's about only 13% turnout. With only one candidate for each of six offices, one might legitimately ask. "Why bother?" Is it even worth the cost of a 50-cent postage stamp?

Concurrent with our move to reduce the size of the Board will be our attempt to encourage a larger pool of candidates committed to the growth of our proud organization. More will be written in our next issue. Meanwhile, I ask each of you to consider the gravity of our situation and to do your utmost to encourage well-qualified candidates to consider running for one of the three open Director positions which will be on the next ballot.

Regards to all,

Paul

Ongoing Series

Remember that we have ongoing series for which we are always looking for submissions. Among them are:

- Where I was on July 27, 1953
- Humor in Korea
- How I joined the KWVA

We will continue the series as long as we receive your stories. Please send your submissions to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

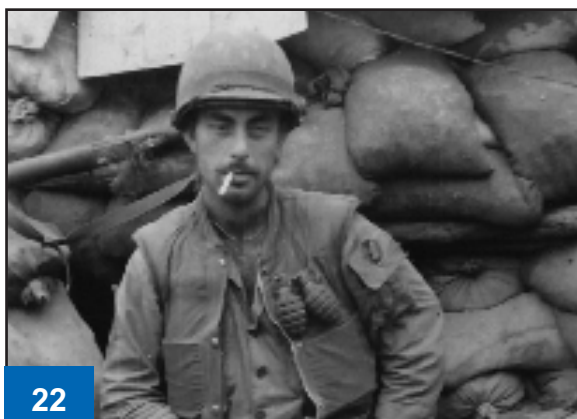
Articles to be published in the *The Graybeards* must be received by the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.

Jan-Feb	Jan 15
Mar-Apr	Mar 15
May-June	May 15
July-Aug	July 15
Sept-Oct	Sept 15
Nov-Dec	Nov 15

COVER: The official 2018 Veterans Day poster provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (modified to fit).



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CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2019 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, INC. (KWVA) positions:

The offices of three (3) DIRECTORS. The DIRECTORS will serve 3-year terms: 2019-2022.

No later than December 15, 2018, any regular members in good standing of the KWVA seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Elections Committee, L T. Whitmore, in writing, using the following format:

Applicants must:

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

B. Present a current photograph in which the applicant is the central feature and which is suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.

C. Submit a letter, signed and dated, limited to approximately one (1) page, including the following:

- 1) Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
- 2) A resume of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.

3) Your current mailing address, telephone number, email address, availability, and KWVA membership number.

4) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and will respond to all calls for Business Without a Meeting, and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.

5) A statement that your dues are current through the entire term of the office that you are seeking.

Note: *Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.*

D. Send the above items by USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, or USPS Express Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the Elections Committee Chairman, to arrive not later than 5 p.m. EST 15 December 2018. Scanned documents and pictures sent by email will be deleted.

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

Application packages and questions are to be addressed to:

L T. Whitmore, Election Committee Chairman
Churchland Psychiatry Associates, 3300 Academy Ave.,
Portsmouth, VA 23707

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards* and the KWVA

Members are invited to help underwrite the publication costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer, 430 W. Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920 or Treasurer@KWVA.US. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION	CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION
GRAYBEARDS DONATIONS			
Alan R. Ekberg	IL	NMS	IMO Donald B. Eisnor
Charles E. Gebhardt	IL	NMS	IHO Uncle Pete Gentzel
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Brooks W. Outland	AR	NMS	IMO Orville Owen
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Leo E. Tremblay	MA		
Edwin R. Wong	CA		
NMS (4)			
NMS			
Joanne Bumb			
NMS			
IMO Kenneth Canner			

Corrections:

Two of my IMO entries were shown incorrectly in the July/August 2018 issue:

- IMO Cpl Joe Caterra (USMC) should have been IMO Joe Calcaterra (USMC)
 - IMO Al C Zarnecki (USMC) should have been IMO Al Czarnecki (USMC)
- Barry Dugan

LEGEND: IMO = In Memory Of; NMS = Non Member Sales



From the Secretary



Alves J. "AJ" Key

As I was reflecting on my past and present experience serving on not for profit volunteer boards, I thought back to servant leadership concepts taught at Law Enforcement Command and Management School and numerous work sessions for not for government and public not for profit leadership. The information below is included in most articles and/or books on Servant Leadership.

I recommend that all KWVA members in or considering leadership positions read and reflect on each of Ten Characteristics of Servant Leaders noted in the article and seminal writings by Robert K. Greenleaf.

If your initial thought is "Why should I reflect on servant leadership? I've got a Chapter to run and activities to delegate," you truly do need to read and self-reflect on your leadership function.

1. Listening: Listen to understand (even what you don't want to hear)
2. Empathy: Empathy needed to relate to other's emotional state, also known as EQ (emotional quotient)
3. Healing: Leaders role in reenergizing the organization (knowing your people)
4. Persuasion: Convincing rather than coercing
5. Awareness: Knowing what's going on with people begins with knowing yourself
6. Foresight: Ability to anticipate outcomes (living the other 9 characteristics is essential)
7. Conceptualization: See the big picture (parts to whole—whole

I recommend that all KWVA members in or considering leadership positions read and reflect on each of Ten Characteristics of Servant Leaders...

to parts) within and without

8. Commitment to growth: Servant leaders nurture others (mentoring and coaching)

9. Stewardship: Putting service to others ahead of self-interest (leadership is not a position of authority, but of living the other 9 characteristics)

10. Focus on Community: Building community (internal and external) (Carroll)

"Management is not something you do to other people. You manage your inventory, your checkbook, your resources. You can even manage yourself. But you do not manage other human beings. You manage things, you lead people." (Hunter)

Reference Notes:

Carroll, Archie. *Nonprofit World* • Volume 23, Number 3 May/June 2005. Published by the Society for Nonprofit Organizations. 5820 Canton Center Road, Suite 165, Canton, Michigan 48187—734-451-3582, <http://www.snpo.org>

Hunter, James. *The Servant*, Crown Publishing Group, page 27, 2012 ed.

Standard Procedure Manual Change Request

NOTE: New wording is in bold italics.

PREAMBLE/WHEREAS: These four Standard Procedure Manual provisions and one form relate to the downsizing of the KWVA Board of Directors from twelve (12) Directors to nine (9) Directors – (reference: Bylaws Change Request B1/08_24_2018).

BE IT RESOLVED: Upon approval of the reduction in number of Directors, the following SPM changes are to be made.

3.6 ELECTIONS (page 40)

3.6.1 Call for Election. The KWVA Secretary is to submit the following "Call for Election" to *The Graybeards* editor for inclusion in the July/August and September/October editions of *The Graybeards* magazine for the upcoming Officer and/or Director Election:

"The offices of the President, First Vice President and Second Vice President for the years 201x-201y, 2 year terms, are now open (and/or) the offices of ~~four~~ **three** Directors for the years of 201x-201z, 3 year terms, are (also) now open."

3.9 MEETINGS (page 48)

MEETING CRITERIA. The Association Board will consist of ~~seven-~~ ~~ten~~ ~~(17)~~ **fifteen (15)** members, being the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, **an Executive Director** and ~~twelve~~ **nine** Directors.

3.9.3 VOTING (page 50)

3.9.3.1 All votes of the Board shall be by simple majority, unless stated otherwise hereinafter, with a quorum of at least ~~eight (8)~~ **seven (7)** elected members in attendance. Only the elected ~~twelve~~ ~~(12)~~ **nine (9)** Directors and the First and Second Vice Presidents have a Board vote — the President has a tie breaking vote only at any called meeting. In the case of a mailed ballot vote, the President is allowed to vote. Appointed officials of the Board, other than those appointed to fill vacant elected Director positions, do not have a vote.

3.9.6 Special Meetings (page 50)

A. The President or ~~ten~~ ~~(10)~~ **eight (8)** members of the Board other than the Secretary or Treasurer, may call a Board meeting for one (1) purpose only, by giving two (2) weeks written notice to all Board members, stating the date and time, the exact location of the meeting place and the agenda of the meeting.

SPM FORM 4.9-3 (page 86)

ELECTION – BALLOT TALLY SHEET OVERALL SUMMARY

Delete the line listing: DIRECTOR #4 EDDY BUTLER

Respectfully submitted, Narce Caliva, Bylaws Committee Chairman, August 24, 2018

Massachusetts governor receives copy of *Korea Reborn*

KWVA National 2nd Vice President Albert McCarthy presented a copy of the *Korea Reborn* book to Governor Charles Baker at the Soldiers Home in Chelsea, Massachusetts on August 28, 2018.

Also attending the ceremony were Thomas Daley, retired Massachusetts State Adjutant, Disabled American Veterans, and Francisco Urena, Secretary of Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services.

McCarthy also thanked Kia Motor Company for not forgetting our veterans.

Al McCarthy, kwvamccarthy@gmail.com

Albert McCarthy, Thomas Daley, Governor Charles Baker, and Francisco Urena (L-R) at the Chelsea, MA Soldiers Home

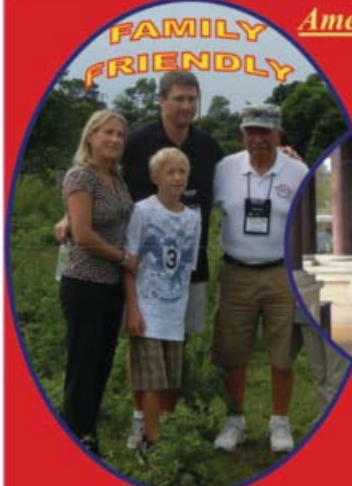


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- 3 – 13 Apr '19 Philippines WWII
- 20 – 26 Apr '19 Turkey—WWI Gallipoli Campaign
- Highlite: 27 Apr – 10 May '19 Vietnam 50th Anniversary Delta to the DMZ
- 18 – 27 May '19 WWI France Battlefields Doughboys & Devil Dogs & Paris
- 27 May – 9 Jun '19 75th Anniversary of D-Day plus Bulge & Belleau Wood
- 1 – 9 Jun '19 75th Anniversary of D-Day Normandy & Ceremonies
- 12 – 19 Jun '19 75th Commemoration Liberation of Saipan plus Tinian
- 4 – 14 Jul '19 Russia "Eastern Front" Moscow-Kursk-Stalingrad

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Korean War MIAs Recently Identified

Here is the up-to-date list of Korean War MIAs'/KIA's' remains ID'd by the DPAA as of 9/21/2018.

NOTE: All the individuals named below are members of the U.S. Army.

NAME	UNIT	DATE/PLACE LOST	
Pfc. Mathis O. Ball, Jr.	Co. M, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt., 24th Inf. Div.	7/12/50	NK
Pfc. Leo J. Duquette	Co. L, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt., 24th Inf. Div.	7/11/50	SK
1st Lt. Herman L. Falk	Co. B, 38th Inf. Rgt., 2nd Inf. Div.	2/12/51	SK
Pfc. William H. Jones	Co. E, 2nd Bn., 24th Inf. Rgt., 25th Inf. Div.	11/26/50	NK
Pvt. Charles G. Kaniatobe	Co. A, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt., 24th Inf. Div.	7/10/50	SK
M/Sgt. Charles H. McDaniel	8th Cav. Rgt. Med Co.	11/2/1950	NK
Pfc. George L. Spangenberg	Co. E, 8th Cav. Rgt., 1st Cav. Div.	11/2/50	NK
SFC James S. Streetman, Jr.	Co. B, 19th Inf. Rgt., 24th Inf. Div.	7/22/50	SK
Pfc. John A. Taylor	Co. C, 2nd Bn., 24th Inf. Rgt., 25th Inf. Div.	8/12/50	SK
Pfc. Kenneth B. Williams	Heavy Mtr Co., 32nd Inf. Rgt., 7th Inf. Div.	12/2/50	NK

Source: <http://www.dpaa.mil/>

Pfc. Joe S. Elmore

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, accounted for from the Korean War, are being returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army Pfc. Joe S. Elmore, 20, of Seminary, Kentucky, accounted for on July 3, was buried August 18 in Albany, Kentucky. In late November, 1950, Elmore was a member of Company A, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Approximately 2,500 U.S. and 700 South Korean soldiers assembled into the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), which was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when it was attacked by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces.

As the Chinese attacks continued, American forces withdrew south. By December 6, the U.S. Army evacuated approximately 1,500 service members; the remaining soldiers had been either captured, killed or missing in enemy territory. Because Elmore could not be accounted for by his unit, he was reported missing in action as of Dec. 2, 1950.

Elmore's name did not appear on any prisoner of war lists and no returning Americans reported him as a prisoner of war. Due to the prolonged lack of evidence, the U.S. Army declared him deceased as of May 1, 1953.

Joe S. Elmore



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Nathaniel Walters stands by the remains of his great uncle, U.S. Army Pfc. Joe S. Elmore, before transport during a chain of custody event at the Senator Daniel K. Inouye Center of Excellence on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Aug. 14, 2018. Walters visited the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) as part of his duties as the U.S. Military Special Escort for his great uncle's remains en route to the final resting place in a cemetery near the family's home in Kentucky.



LEGEND: NK = North Korea SK = South Korea SFC = Sgt. 1st Class

Losing your 'hare' can be painful

Sgt Mike Inouye returned home to Hawaii in February 1952 after serving with the 5th Regimental Combat Team in Korea from July 1950. He recalled the many hardships he endured in see-saw battles with North Korean soldiers and driving them back into North Korea.

When the massive Chinese Army entered the war in support of North Korea, Mike's unit retreated to Waegwan, about 200 miles south of Seoul, where a temporary defensive perimeter was established. During this period something special occurred that distracted his thinking from the chaotic and gave him a heartwarming experience.

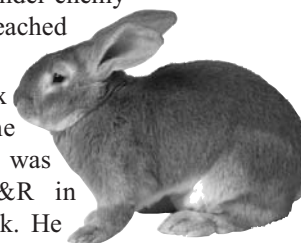
As he positioned himself in a foxhole expecting another counter-attack, Mike was surprised to see a wild rabbit approach him from the wilderness. He gently picked it up and noticed the rabbit kept staring at him. Mike thought it was hungry and searching for food. Since he only had C-rations, he fed the rabbit whatever he had.

Mike noticed that the rabbit preferred frankfurters and spaghetti among other rations. It also enjoyed drinking water purified with halazone tablets, but would not drink until after Mike took the first sip. He was surprised at the rabbit's intelligence and the fact that it was as cautious as a human being. Mike hoped the rabbit would stay after it was fed and not run away so he could enjoy his unique companion. It stayed. From that moment they became inseparable.

Mike named the rabbit Henry and it accompanied Mike wherever he went. It slept whenever Mike slept. It climbed on Mike's back as he crawled from one position to another under enemy fire until they reached a sheltered area.

After six months on the front lines Mike was eligible for R&R in Japan for a week. He

A Henry the Rabitt lookalike



Please turn to **RABBIT** on page 29



To kill or preserve history: that is the question[©]

It is amazing how some people do not appreciate the value of history even when they have created it. These same people want the history of their significant contributions to die with them. That is killing history, not preserving it.

I was at the general membership meeting of The Chosin Few, Inc. in Norfolk, VA a few weeks ago, which got me to thinking about the future of the KWVA. The question arose regarding whether to convert The Chosin Few into a legacy association or make it a "last man standing" organization.

A couple members spoke elegantly against turning the Chosin Few into a legacy organization. Their argument was cogent: we are old and we are about to assume our posts in heaven. We were the ones who fought the battle at the Chosin Reservoir. It is over for us. Let our heroic efforts and history die with us. But, does letting history die and become a footnote in a textbook or two perpetuate a well-earned legacy?

Supporters demurred. They argued that converting the Chosin Few into a legacy association would perpetuate history. They noted that survivors of the Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Air Forcers, and others who participated in, at, or around the battle were the perfect people to maintain the legacy of the warfighters' unparalleled valor at Chosin. One proponent of the change pointed to the success of the Iwo Jima Association of America (IJAA), which converted to a legacy organization and has fared well membership wise since.

...if the last Chosin or Korean War survivor is no longer among us, whose job will it be to preserve their memories and work for their returns, or those of the other warfighters whose remains still lie in Korea?

Ultimately the motion to convert the Chosin Few to a legacy organization passed. The children, grandchildren, relatives, and friends of the survivors can now move forward with their task of keeping alive the history of the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir, long after the last veteran has assumed his final duty post. That is what legacy associations do.

Yeah, there are pros and cons of turning military associations over to the survivors' kin and friends. But, it must be remembered that even though people pass on, their legacies don't—unless there is someone to keep it alive for them. Has anyone forgotten the veterans whose remains lie to this day at the Chosin, but whose spirits are still alive in the hearts and minds of their comrades who said goodbye to them out of exigency and their families who still pray for them to come home? Somebody has to work to bring them home—and that will happen someday.

But, if the last Chosin or Korean War survivor is no longer among us, whose job will it be to preserve their memories and work for their returns, or those of the other warfighters whose remains still lie in Korea? That job will fall to the legacy members of the Chosin Few Inc., and perhaps the KWVA, if it ever comes to that. The KWVA is not at the crossroads of a legacy versus last man standing organization yet, but it may be soon.

Certainly legacy members may not have been the warfighters who made the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir in particular or the Korean War in general significant historical confrontations. But, they will be able to bear witness to the struggle based on the stories that they learned from their fathers, grandfathers, grandmothers, uncles, aunts et al who participated in the Korean War. Spreading that knowledge will keep the history of the Korean War alive. That is what legacy associations do.

The KWVA may face the legacy organization dilemma in the near future, although in a slightly different context. There are many Korea Defense Veterans eligible for—and already participating in—membership in the KWVA. They have a sense of history of the Korean War. Certainly the people who benefited most from that war, the South Koreans, don't want the legacy to die.

Until the United States pulls all its troops out of South Korea, Korea Defense Veterans' membership ensures that there is somebody with firsthand knowledge of what is transpiring and has transpired there. More important, they can pass on the knowledge to keep the legacy alive.

Let's face it: it's not likely that peace will reign across Korea anytime soon and unicorns will rule the land, so the issue of a legacy KWVA is moot for the moment. Until that day comes, the question for the KWVA will remain: does it want to exist as a "last man standing" organization or convert to a legacy body? The answer, of course, lies with the members and leadership of the association. Someone needs to pass on the history of each organization though.

That's what legacy associations do. They want to preserve history, not kill it.

Disclaimer

Neither *The Graybeards* editor nor the KWVA is responsible for misinformation, discrepancies, or embellishments, intentional or unintentional, that may be contained in communications in any form that appear in *The Graybeards*.

We do not have staff to fact check all material that is sent to us. We depend on the honesty and integrity of those who submit material for publication, and on the expertise of our members and readers to correct misstatements or misinformation, whether intentional or not.

KWVA Bylaws change re number of Directors

Number of KWVA National Directors Reduced

At an August 2018 Board of Directors meeting a reduction in the number of directors from twelve (12) to nine (9) was approved, to become effective immediately. The Bylaws change was presented for ratification by the full Board at its October 18, 2018 Board meeting and for ratification by the membership at its October 19, 2018 meeting, in Orlando, Florida.

NOTE: New wording is in bold italics.

The exact rewording follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That ARTICLE II – OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS be amended as follows, with the changes in bold:

Section 2, Board of Directors. The KWVA, Inc. shall have a Board of Directors consisting of ~~eighteen (18)~~ **fifteen (15)** members: five (5) officers, (President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer), an Executive Director, and ~~twelve (12)~~ **nine (9)** Directors, ~~four (4)~~ **three (3)** of whom shall be elected annually, prior to the Annual Meeting.

A. Voting. All votes of the Board shall be by simple majority, unless stated otherwise hereinafter, with a quorum of at least ~~eight (8)~~ **seven (7)** elected members in attendance. Only the elected ~~twelve (12)~~ **nine (9)** Directors and the First and Second Vice Presidents have a Board vote – the President has a tie breaking vote only at any called meeting. In the case of a U.S.P.S. mailed, or electronically transmitted vote, the President is allowed to vote. Appointed officials of the Board, other than those appointed to fill vacant elected positions, do not have a vote.

B. Open Meetings. [NO CHANGES]

C. Special Meetings. The President or ~~ten (10)~~ **eight (8)** elected members of the Board may call a Board meeting for one (1) purpose only, by giving two (2) weeks written notice to all members of the Board, stating the date and time, the exact location of the meeting place and the agenda of the meeting. Said meeting may also be conducted electronically, specifying the latest date by which votes can be submitted.

Business Without a Meeting. [NO CHANGES]

Section 7. Vacancies.

D. Directors. If a vacancy occurs in any of the ~~twelve (12)~~ **nine (9)** elected Director positions, the position may be filled by the Board until the next election, or not filled if the term is less than one (1) year for said office. Should the Board choose to fill the position, by majority vote, they may do so by using the next unelected candidate for Director from the most recent election with the most votes. If there is no candidate eligible the office shall remain empty until the next Association election.

Upon ratification, the applicable Standard Procedure Manual provisions will be amended to support these specific changes in the Bylaws.

Jefferson and Napoleon can't be wrong

Dear KWVA Comrades

"We don't have a leadership of the majority; we have an organization led by the majority who participate." (Thomas. Jefferson)

In a few weeks we will elect or re-elect one-third of our Board of Directors. We will be calling upon members of our Association to dedicate themselves to serving their KWVA comrades. We are also calling upon the general membership to exercise responsibility by voting.

To Candidates:

The last election brought seven worthy comrades into leadership positions for the ensuing term. We are very grateful for their willingness to step forward. Unhappily, there were only eight candidates from which to choose.

A review of recent leadership rosters suggests that a relatively small group has occupied the fifteen leadership posts with some consistency. We must certainly be grateful for their willingness to carry the load, but we herewith call upon others to enter leadership rolls.

In the Call to Election, the criteria for eligibility are listed. In addition, it is important to provide the electorate with information about past or current leadership and/or service roles at the Chapter, Department or National level. Equally important is to inform the voters of any changes that are felt to be important and what is envisioned for expanding and strengthening the Association.

To KWVA Members:

Granted, there was only one contested position in the past election, so it may have appeared that voting was of minor importance. In the past election just 10% of eligible members cast a vote. The ballot is pre-addressed and is included in The Graybeards. It only requires the transfer of The Graybeards address label and a stamp after it has been appropriately marked. We urgently call upon you to cast your ballot.

Remember what Napoleon said: "The world suffers a lot. Not because of the violence of bad people, but because of the silence of the good." We are not equating our election process to good vs. evil forces, but the principle is the same. We NEED good candidates to present themselves and we NEED good voters to choose.

Sincerely

L T WHITMORE,
KWVA National Director and
Chairman, Election Committee

Task Force Dog

Task Force Dog relieved Marines and 7th Army Division troops at Chosin. Then they had to fight their way back 79 miles after the evacuation at Hungnam was completed. They don't often receive credit for their effort.

DPAA Report:

Attached is a copy of the subject DPAA notes from their quarterly "Family/Veterans Group" teleconference meeting on July 19, 2018. Please note that this meeting took place before the North Koreans turned over the 55 boxes of what is believed to be the remains of U.S. servicemen from the Korean War. Therefore, the DPAA notes do not reflect those most recent developments on the Korean War personnel accounting issue.

However, my previously submitted report from the Korean War/Cold War Annual Government Briefings does cover the more recent developments following the repatriation of 55 boxes of remains from North Korea to the United States. Since then, there are no significant developments to report.

We will be getting a DPAA update at our KWVA annual Membership meeting in Orlando in October 2018.

Bruce (Rocky) Harder, KWVA POW/MIA Coordinator and Director, 540-659-0252, harderbr@aol.com

NOTE: We are presenting only relevant Korean War excerpts from Mr. Harder's report.

Summary:

Keeping the families of our missing as well as veterans informed is a primary objective of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's (DPAA) and KWVA's missions. This update is intended to provide an overview of efforts during the previous quarter to account for our missing.

North Korea

From Singapore Summit, there is strong priority and commitment at all levels of the government to recovering and repatriating remains, including those already in their possession. Overarching strategic engagement with Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) still sensitive, fragile, so some information we're able to share with you, others we are not at liberty to do so at this time. State Department and United Nations Command have the lead on repatriation and coordination, but DPAA is involved in all-aspects of the process.

The 200 number in the press is what they previously told Governor Richardson, but they have not acknowledged a number since the Summit. But, whatever number of boxes the DPRK chooses to turn over will be what they believe to correspond to the number of remains; based on past unilateral turnovers we assess the number will be something different due to a commingling of remains. Whenever the DPRK repatriates remains, DPAA will have personnel at the turnover to conduct field forensic reviews of the remains before they are flown to Hawaii and accessioned into the DPAA laboratory.

If future negotiations reach agreement on the resumption of field operations, DPAA will be ready. We have drafted concept plans based on our 10-years of experience as well as the 2011 record of arrangement in our planning. If DPAA is permitted to resume operations in North Korea, we do not anticipate adverse impacts to our global missions as currently planned.

Will inform all of you as soon definitive information becomes available.

Budget

Our budget request for FY19 is \$131M and has been reviewed by the Authorization and Appropriation Committee in the House and Senate. House Appropriations Committee added \$10M for Southeast Asia (e.g. Vietnam War) operations. **The House added an additional \$20M for Korean War during floor debate.** (Emphasis added.)

Engagements

Republic of Korea: We continue to improve our partnership with our counterparts at the Ministry of National Defense Agency for KIA (Killed in Action) Recovery and Identification (South Korea) (MAKRI).

Korean-Cold War Annual Briefings

From August 9-10, 2018, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) hosted the annual 2018 Korea/Cold War Government Briefings in Arlington, Virginia and presented information on efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of missing Americans from the Korean and Cold War. Highlights included a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown, briefing from DoD leadership, the Korean War Disinterment Project Panel and a dinner hosted by the Republic of Korea Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs.

Family Member Updates (FMU)

We hosted an FMU in Louisville, KY on May 19, 2018, with 181 family members attending. Local representatives from Congressional offices and Veterans Service Organizations attended as observers. The full FMU and Annual Meetings schedule can be found at: <http://www.dpaa.mil/Families/Family-Events/>

National League of Families Meeting

The Agency supported the 49th Annual Meeting of the National League of Families from June 20 to 24. More than 20 personnel from DPAA, DoD, and the Department of State provided briefings to the 300-person audience. Also, the families of more than 120 losses had one-on-one meetings with DoD experts and casualty officers to update them on the government's efforts to account for their respective loved ones.

Fam-Web Update

In June 2018, DPAA launched the Family Website (Famweb): a centralized online resource designed to increase proactive information flow and improve website experience for family members of personnel missing from past conflicts. The site can be accessed from the DPAA website "Families" tab. From Famweb, family members can select a specific conflict to view a summary and photo of their loved, with newly available battle level summaries (Tet Offensive, Battle of Tarawa, etc.) developed through working with our University partners.

Field Operations Overview

U.S. – Russia Joint Commission (USRJC) Update

The USRJC conducted Cold War Working Group Technical Talks in Vladivostok, Russia in May and will conduct Korean War Working Group Technical Talks in Arlington, Virginia in August. The USRJC is also current-

ly planning the 22nd Plenum, which will occur in Washington, DC in November.

Scientific Analysis:

- DPAA anticipates many more identifications before the end of the fiscal year. The lab has added additional staff and are expanding our facilities in Hawaii (Bldg. 200).

- Working with the Defense Forensic Enterprise, we are in the process of standing up our stable isotopic analysis testing capability. This involves testing of bones and teeth and provides a geographic area of origin for remains. This is helpful for Korean War remains as some percentage is of foreign nationals. The isotopic testing will enable us to differentiate between Asian American servicemen and ethnic Korean remains. This is critical information when paired with other evidence to establishing an identification.

- We now have the largest scientific staff ever and are expanding our lab facilities.

FY 2018 Identifications, as of 16Jul 2018:

- Korean War = 25

Questions and Answers

Rick Downes, Coalition of Families:

Q: I know the media has reported the 200 number of remains, have the North Koreans acknowledged a number and why are they picking 55?

A: No, the North Koreans have not referred to a specific number. We don't know why the North Koreans selected 55. We can expect commingling.

Q: How long until the remains reach the tables and how is the table space?

A: Once the remains are accessioned into the DPAA Laboratory, they will go straight into the Korean War Project with no delays. We are getting more laboratory space and have copious table space. There will be no delays; we will begin the analysis the day they arrive.

Q: If Joint Recovery Operations are allowed, how long until they would begin?

A: Our first opportunity for operations after negotiations occur would be spring of 2019.

Frank Metersky, Korean War Advocate:

Q: Has DPAA asked what has to happen before we can negotiate with North Korea to resume field operations?

A: At this time we do not have any indication when talks will occur; we remain in close contact with State of Secretary Pompeo is still pressing hard on the issue.

Q: Are we doing field operations in China.

A: We did a WWII case in 2017, and will use a partner for a Korean War loss in 2019.

Tank Commander Bob Jones calls the War, The Forgotten Victory

By Therese Park

In October 1948, Bob Jones of Kansas City, MO arrived at Fort Sill, OK, for a two-month basic infantry training. When the training ended, he landed at Fort Benning, GA, in the 73rd Tank Battalion "Company C." In the summer of 1950, Jones was looking forward to his discharge due in October, when he heard the news of the Korean War—that 95,000 North Korean communists launched a surprise attack across the 160 mile-long and 2 mile-deep 38th Parallel with 150 Russian tanks and rifles.

Like many of his army comrades, Jones had no clue where Korea was and why the two Koreas were in war, brothers killing one another. He was glad that he was about to be discharged and counted his blessings.

In early July in 1950, while enjoying his short leave in his Kansas City home with his family, a privilege given to all soldiers before their discharge, a telegram reached him, asking him to return to Fort Benning at once. Jones thought it was about his impending discharge in October and was glad. When he got there, to his surprise, everyone was busy packing for a trip. As he tried to find out what was happening, his first sergeant sent for him. Seeing Jones enter his office, he said, "Your service is extended for another year. No discharge!"

"What?" was all Jones could say.

The First Sergeant said, "You have two choices, Bob. You can

stay here with the 73rd Tank Battalion or be transferred to another outfit."

Jones stayed with the 73rd Tank Battalion.

"The company loaded dozens of our tanks onto flatbed cars and sent them to San Francisco," Jones remembered recently. "And then the infantry followed them on a troop train. We left San Francisco for Korea on July 23rd, arriving in Pusan two weeks later, on August 7th. By then, most of South Korea had fallen to the communists, except the southeast flank around Pusan bordered by Nakdong River, known as Pusan perimeter.

"And under General Walton Walker's command 140,000 UN troops from a dozen nations—including the United Kingdom, France, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada—were fighting against the communist North, which the history books identify as the Battle of Pusan Perimeter."

The 73rd Tank Battalion was ordered to send its companies to support the operations around the Pusan perimeter, and Bob Jones's C Company settled on a spot north of Taegu, which the infantry later called the "Bowling Alley."

As they arrived, the troops saw the North Koreans and the ROK Army fighting on the high hills nearby. The infantry dismounted from its tanks and engaged in combat; the group on either side of the road swept the lower hills, while the tanks passed them and

Please turn to VICTORY on page 65

Survivors Pension

The Survivors Pension benefit, which may also be referred to as Death Pension, is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to a low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse and/or unmarried child(ren) of a deceased Veteran with wartime service.

Eligibility

The deceased Veteran must have met the following service requirements:

- For service on or before September 7, 1980, the Veteran must have served at least 90 days of active military service, with at least one day during a war time period.

- If he or she entered active duty after September 7, 1980, generally he or she must have served at least 24 months or the full period for which called or ordered to active duty with at least one day during a war time period.

- Was discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions.

Survivors Pension is also based on your yearly family income, which must be less than the amount set by Congress to qualify.

While an un-remarried spouse is eligible at any age, a child of a deceased wartime Veteran must be:

- Under 18, OR Under age 23 if attending a VA-approved school, OR

- Permanently incapable of self-support due to a disability before age 18

Your yearly family income must be less than the amount set by Congress to qualify for the Survivors Pension benefit. Learn more about income and net worth limitation, and see an exam-

ple of how VA calculates the Survivors Pension benefit.

How to Apply

To apply for Survivors Pension, download and complete VA Form 21P-534EZ, "Application for DIC, Death Pension, and/or Accrued Benefits" and mail it to the Pension Management Center (PMC) that serves your state. You may also visit your local regional benefit office and turn in your application for processing. You can locate your local regional benefit office using the VA Facility Locator.

IRS and Tax Scams

E-mail, Phishing and Malware Schemes involve emails which are designed to trick taxpayers into thinking these are official communications from the IRS or others in the tax industry, including tax software companies. The phishing schemes can ask taxpayers about a wide range of topics. E-mails can seek information related to refunds, filing status, confirming personal information, ordering transcripts and verifying PIN information.

IRS-Impersonation Telephone Scam is an aggressive and sophisticated phone scam targeting taxpayers, including recent immigrants. Callers claim to be employees of the IRS, but are not. These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They use fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver's license.

Source: Internal Revenue Services

Ch. 20 Welcomes Home KIAs

On August 1, 2018, Vice President Mike Pence officially welcomed 55 flag-draped caskets believed to contain the remains of American soldiers repatriated from North Korea. They arrived on American soil aboard two Boeing C-17 Globemaster IIIs at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The repatriation began on the 65th anniversary of the armistice that ended the Korean War fighting on July 27, 1953. This process was part of an agreement at a summit meeting in Singapore by President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on June 12, 2018.

A group of veterans from Ch. 20 participated in this "Honorable Carry Ceremony" with other official guests and families. It was tearful seeing groups of four caskets being carried off the planes by military honor guards from each branch and placed on stands in a hangar, accompanied by moving background music from a Marine band.

Like many others in the audience I prayed and thanked God

for bringing the soldiers home after 65 long years. Their homecoming will finally bring closure to their loved ones as their souls rest in peace forever in heaven. The ceremony ended with the playing of 'Taps.'

Indo-Pacific Commander Admiral Phil Davidson and deputy director Rear Admiral Jon Kreitz of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) organized and coordinated this heartwarming and memorable ceremony. DPAA is responsible for collecting and identifying the remains of American service members lost in conflict in all wars. The Korean War alone reportedly lists 7,692 American servicemen as still missing; 5,300 of the remains are believed to be in North Korea.

A video coverage of the entire event may be seen at www.dvidshub.net by clicking on Honors Fallen Korean War Heroes.

Stan Fujii, Publicity Director,

See photos on pages 78 & 79

Korean War veteran still serving veterans—and others should too

Senior Chief Brooks W. Outland, USN (Ret)

I am a proud Life Member of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). My service as a crewmember of the battleship USS Missouri (BB-63), aka “The Mighty Mo,” during her first combat deployment to Korea in 1950/51 qualified me for membership.

Before relating for you a few examples of how I believe veterans can help themselves and their brothers and sisters who face daily battles with those agencies which are supposed to be helping us, I should tell you a little about myself.

My military biography reveals that I served two years aboard each of two ships; the USS Missouri (1950/52) and the USS Forrestal (CVA-59) (1957/59). I served in various North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) organizations for a total of 10 years, including the NATO Headquarters (three years prior to Vietnam in Paris and three more years in Paris and Brussels after Vietnam). I served a volunteer tour in Vietnam at the Military Assistance Command Vietnam/Special Operations Group (SOG) Headquarters in 1966/67.

Rounding out my career, I served at Commander Service Force Atlantic (COMSERVLANT - 1951/54), Enlisted Personnel Distribution Office Atlantic (EPDOLANT - 1971/74), and Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET - 1971/73).

I started out in the Navy as a Fire Control Man (Striker) aboard Missouri. My battle station was as the Telephone Talker/Assistant Director Operator on a Bofors Quad-40mm Anti-Aircraft gun emplacement located on the port side of the fantail. Shortly after reporting aboard Missouri, it was somehow discovered that I was, in fact, the youngest crewmember aboard the ship! I was only 17 years, 2 months, 28 days of age! After about 18 months aboard “Mo” I switched to an administration rating which seemed to offer more attractive duty assignments!

When the ship returned to the U.S. I requested “A” School for Yeomen. I learned that administrative ratings received the best shore duty/overseas assignments. I retired as a Senior Chief Yeoman.

The highlight of my career was as a Senior Chief, when I was selected as the first and only (at the time) Enlisted Flag Officer Aide in the Navy. I served as Writer for Rear Admiral Dean L. Axene while he was assigned to SACLANT in Norfolk, Virginia, and as his Writer/Aide when he was selected to be Deputy CNET in Pensacola, Florida. I was authorized to wear the two-rope aiguillettes of an Aide for a two-star Admiral (1970/73).

Subsequent to my retirement in 1973, I become an avid “pro-active” supporter of legislative issues affecting veterans! The first piece of legislation that I devoted all my attention to was the so-called “concurrent receipt (CR) bill!” This bill addressed the absurd congressional decision to deny veterans the receipt of their earned retired pay and their awarded VA disability compensation concurrently.

An injury to my spine aboard Missouri during a bombardment

mission in North Korea in 1950 eventually forced me to have surgery to repair the damage. At the time of my retirement, the Navy offered me a disability rating of 3%. I refused this offer and received my honorable discharge. I immediately sought disability compensation from the Veterans Administration.

The VA doctors gave me a disability rating of 60%. In 1980, I was considered permanently and totally disabled and started receiving compensation at the 100% rate, due to being “individually unemployable (IU)!” In April 2018, the VA increased my original disability rating to 80%!

When I applied for my VA disability compensation, I was severely shocked to learn that if I chose to receive VA disability compensation, every penny I received from the VA would be deducted from my retired pay! WOW! In actuality, veterans were required to subsidize their own disability compensation!

Congress was adamant that CR for all eligible veterans would be much too costly, so the bill realistically didn’t have a chance of ever being approved! The largest VSOs demanded that all eligible veterans rated 10% through 100% should be authorized CR. The VSO’s stance was: “authorize concurrent receipt of both benefits for all eligible disabled veterans, or none of us!” And that’s what we received: nothing! Because the veterans would not negotiate for a partial CR bill, the bill was “dead in the water!”

For more than a century, many disabled veterans were barely able to provide a living for themselves and their families. I wrote individual letters to every member of Congress in an effort to get the CR bill revived, but Congress was as adamant as the VSOs.

I wrote articles re this bill and posted them on the internet. One day, I was invited to join a small group of disabled veterans who were lobbying Congress for passage of the CR bill. Four of us, all permanently disabled veterans, decided we would lobby for a “partial receipt bill!”

When the “sense of the congress” re disabled Veterans was announced, stating that veterans rated 50% or higher by the VA were considered to be our most severely disabled veterans, our “group of four” requested and received an appointment to sit down with Congressman Michael Bilirakis, the author of the CR bill.

We proposed a partial CR bill which would permit VA patients rated 50% or higher to receive their retired pay and disability compensation concurrently. The Congressman thought this might just be acceptable to Congress. The bill was quickly passed. In 2004, veterans rated 50% or higher were authorized concurrent receipt of both benefits!

Following that tremendous victory for the veterans, Cathy and I decided to get married on the beach in Hawaii (like the young folks were doing). We ended up getting married aboard my old battleship in 2006. This had never been authorized before and not, to my knowledge, since! Three months later we pulled up stakes and moved to the island of Oahu.

Welcome, Charles Ronald Burt

New member Burt sent us an article that appeared in *Wingspan*, which is published at the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, TX. It was in the June 15, 2017 issue. He had one simple message for his KWVA membership: "To answer your question about was it worth it: YES."

Local Korean War veteran shares story, honors brother

By Jason Kucera, NASCC Public Affairs

During the Korean War, Ron Burt served in the U.S. Navy with honor and distinction, earning the Navy Combat Action Ribbon, along with five Bronze Stars. A Fort Worth native, he graduated high school in 1950 and then decided to enlist rather than risk being drafted. Now at 85 years old, Burt reminisces about his time in uniform as if he had just come home a few weeks ago.

"I had two high school buddies who I joined with that year about a month after we graduated," Burt said. "After boot camp, I wasn't granted any leave but put on a ship and sent to Japan."

Burt was assigned aboard *USS Burlington* (PF-51) in December 1950, while the patrol frigate was still in Yokosuka, Japan, prior to setting out for exercises and maneuvers, as the Korean War had just broken out. He was at sea for 15 months as part of the Naval Blockade operating north of the 38th parallel, experiencing many challenging moments that he says stick with him today.

"The interesting thing is despite four cruises to the Far East and participating in the Korean War, being a part of the Naval Blockade for so long, I never set foot on Korean soil," Burt explained. "We were in hostile waters every day and night."

In May 1951, Burt remembers a burial at sea for a Navy pilot whose plane was hit by enemy gun fire. He said it was a sobering moment for him as he wondered if he would be next.

"At near sundown, all hands gathered onto the deck," Burt said. "The chaplain gave a eulogy, the gun salute sounded, and the body was slipped into the sea." Burt also described some of the missions the ship was tasked to do as it operated between Wonsan Harbor and Songjin, bombarding shore targets, serving as a harbor entrance control vessel, and patrol duties.

"We used to help deploy South Korean Marines, a really tough looking bunch," Burt explained. "We would sail north, putting them out at night, and they would infiltrate the communist land in that region. There would be 15 of them on the way in and we would usually pick up about 11 on their way back out because they would always get into a skirmish," Burt added.

"These guys had the look of Pancho Villa, with bandoliers across their chests, hand grenades hanging on their belts around their waists, and Russian 'burp guns.'" Burt says they did that mission quite often, moving up and down the North Korea coastline and up into the southern Russian coastline.

He was then briefly assigned to San Diego, where he attended Personnelman "C" School. In February 1952, while serving

aboard *USS Shelton* (DD-790) off the coast of Yang Do-an Island, Burt said he was serving as a lookout on the bridge of the ship.

"I observed about 180 North Korea troops attempting to recapture the island they had lost to South Korean and U.S. Marines in the middle of the night. That morning, I watched some of the action with binoculars as the enemy continued trying to work their way up a hill," Burt said. "The South Korean Marines, then commanded by USMC 1st Lt. Joseph Bartos, pushed the invaders back into the sea."

Following that attempted raid, and as the enemy was retreating, *Shelton* and a New Zealand patrol frigate sank about 45 sampan vessels the North Koreans were using as sea transport. Bartos then requested the ship to conduct patrols around the island for some time as he expected another attack.

As *Shelton* began its mission circling the island, the ship came upon the area where many of the sampans had been sunk, discovering countless dead enemy in the water. The ship's captain ordered the men to try and retrieve intelligence from the enemy's dead.

"During the attempts to recover some of the bodies, I noticed that these men were not wearing enemy uniforms, but were dressed as Chinese servants. There was a light snow falling, the sea was very cold, so many faced hypothermia," Burt said. "That memory has haunted me for many years."

Just a couple days later, North Koreans managed to move five large shore battery guns onto the shore of the main land of North Korea during the night or early morning. While on patrol around the island, *Shelton's* captain noticed gun flashes from the main land, and immediately alerted the crew to its stations.

"As I was scrambling to get my station, a loud explosion knocked me to the deck, shrapnel whistled over my head, and I saw the gun flashes from the main land," Burt added. "As I looked out at the water, I could see and count the shells splashing into the sea as the firing battery 'walked' them towards the ship. One, two, three, the fourth hitting us, and the fifth shell flying over and landing in the water."

Burt said it took at least 25 minutes for the ship to zig zag itself out of the battery's range, but meanwhile they had been hit four times, had about 50 near-misses, and 12 casualties. "After we were clear from the area, I went below deck to my sleeping compartment.

There, just about 10 feet forward from where I slept, was a five-foot hole in the starboard side of the ship from the first hit of enemy fire," Burt said. "The thought that easily could've been me didn't help me sleep well at all."

Navy records show that *Shelton* returned to Sasebo for repairs a couple of days later. Burt then tested to advance in his rate to PN2 while still stationed in Japan. "I passed the examination in March 1954, but the Navy then put me on quota," he said. "I didn't understand that until I got to San Francisco for my discharge processing and was told that if I re-enlisted, they would give me my 2nd Class."

He decided to receive his honorable discharge from the Navy so that he could head back to Texas and attend Texas Christian University, attaining his Bachelors of Science in Commerce degree, graduating in 1958.

"After several jobs in Fort Worth, I ended up taking a position with a company that put me in Corpus Christi, for 27 years," Burt said. "I retired from that company in 1999, then briefly substituted for Corpus Christi Independent School District."

Burt had two older brothers, one who served in WWII. He said his brother Pete did not discuss much of his experience from WWII, but he had serious scars physically and mentally.

"Eventually I decided I would write a book about my brother after some persuasion by a friend," Burt said. "I didn't think my brother would be keen to the idea. I called him up one afternoon and surprisingly, he was really excited to do a book together."

Burt spent several years interviewing and researching his brother's accounts from WWII. "Pete survived four Japanese kamikaze attacks while on board USS Ommaney Bay and USS Columbia," he said. "Both of those ships encountered countless attacks leading to the sinking of Ommaney Bay, while Columbia took three hits, significantly injuring my brother."

He said Pete was hospitalized for more than 22 months, enduring 50 operations during that period. He also said he was pronounced dead twice and unconscious for seven days.

"I always thought very highly of my brother and it was just a story I really wanted to share with others," he said. Burt's book is named Kamikaze Nightmare and was published in 1995, 10 years before Pete passed away. Burt has been married to Joy for 44 years. They have three children, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. (Source: https://cnic.navy.mil/content/cnic/cnic_hq/regions/cnrse/installations/nas_corpus_christi/news/wingspan/_jcr_content/parbody/pdfdownload_8/file.res/17-06-15_Wingspan_-_Web_Version.pdf)

Reach Charles Burt at 4817 Eider Dr.,
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Reunion Calendar: 2019

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141 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. NOTE: Submissions may be edited for space considerations.

NOTE: Many people are submitting reunion notices barely a few days or weeks before the actual gatherings. Please allow at least four months—six or more is better—if you want your reunion notices printed in enough time to give potential attendees adequate notice to make plans, and in more than one issue.

MAY

24th KWVA All State Reunion: A simple get-together for anyone willing to join us. May 9-13, Las Vegas, NV, California Hotel. Warren Nishida, 287 Kolohala Dr., Kula, HI 96790, 808-878-1247, wnishida@hawaii.it.com or Tommy Tahara, 949 Hahaione St., Honolulu, HI 96825, (808) 220-1711, tommy@tkat888.com

AUGUST

1st Marine Division Assn., Aug. 4-11, Louisville, KY. Details to be announced.

SERVING from page 15

Immediately noticing that, unlike the other states, Hawaii had not yet allowed veterans to take advantage of an exemption of the annual vehicle tax, I sat down with Congresswoman Maile Shimabukuru and we hashed out a proposed bill. It took several years to get it passed, but it finally was passed in 2015.

In addition to helping with the maintenance and upkeep of the battleship, I accepted a nomination to be Supervisor of the USS Missouri Memorial Association's Wounded Warrior Program. When the folks in charge of the classes set up at Tripler Army Medical Center for veterans suffering from PTSD asked for permission for their Warriors to tour the ship, I organized and supervised each of those visits.

I met with and greeted the Warriors when they came through the front gate. I presented each of them with the coveted Missouri ball cap and I walked alongside them with an official Tour Guide. My personal contact with those heroes became a part of all of their future tours. The Warriors seemed to really enjoy chatting with the Old Chief!

As if being a Supervisor of Volunteers and Supervisor of the Wounded Warrior tours wasn't enough, I happily accepted the request of the managers of the Chief Petty Officers Legacy Academy, which was held aboard the ship annually to indoctrinate CPO Selectees, to be guest speaker for them. I usually spoke to the Selectees during their first evening meal aboard the ship, in the CPO Mess.

I related the story of my experiences as a crew member during Missouri's first combat deployment to Korea in 1950/51. At the conclusion of these talks, I signed all the Selectees' Log Books and presented each of them with an 8X10 autographed color photo of the ship in action in Korea, personalized for each Selectee. This became an immediate hit with the new Chiefs and for the next seven years these historical photos of the ship were presented to the new Selectees.

In mid-2015, Cathy and I returned stateside; Hawaii had become overcrowded and more expensive each year! We now reside within the largest gated community in the U.S., at Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. We believe that we have finally found a truly amazing place to live out the balance of our lives.

When I retired from the Navy in 1973, I realized that if I were going to receive proper support from our government, I was going to have to become personally "proactive" and get involved with legislation that affects veterans.

At age 85, and enjoying life in the Arkansas mountains, I don't have much opportunity to get involved nowadays, but when I see that I might be of assistance, I jump right in and help in any way that I can. The implementation of the VA Mission Act of 2018 (Choice) is the only thing I am still closely involved with. I have worked vigorously on that program since its inception in 2014!

If all veterans who are capable of lending a hand by getting involved would do so, well, together we could make it happen!

Fair winds and following seas, mates!

Brooks Outland, bwoutland@yahoo.com

Our last days in Pyongyang

By Ken Crump

The author was an Air Force photographer covering maneuvers of the 101st Airborne Division at Camp Campbell, Kentucky when the news broke of the North Korean invasion of South Korea, June 25, 1950. Thirty days later he was en route by air to Korea, along with other military photographers. He was assigned to the 8th Fighter-Bomber Wing as a photographer/gun camera specialist, August 2, 1950. Here is his story.

Shortly after the Inchon landing September 15, 1950 and the subsequent capture of Seoul, my outfit, the 8th Fighter-Bomber Group, Fifth Air Force, was ordered from its base in Japan to an airfield near Suwon, South Korea. Suwon was an old walled city about thirty miles south of Seoul. It had been “liberated” from North Koreans the last week in September.

The 35th Fighter-Bomber Squadron was moved to Suwon. A week later the 36th was moved to Kimpo Airfield, near Seoul. The First Marine Air Wing had just departed Kimpo, later to support the First Marine Division in its landing at Wonson and advance to the Chosin Reservoir.

By mid-October the 35th joined the 36th Fighter-Bomber Squadron at Kimpo as UN armies moved on north to Pyongyang, the North Korean capital. Both squadrons flew old P-51 Mustangs left over from WWII. They had been taken from Air National Guard units across the U.S. and quickly shipped on the aircraft carrier Boxer to Japan during the first month of the Korean War.

We arrived in Pyongyang in mid-November 1950. The airstrip was a mess. It had been heavily bombed before Pyongyang was captured and was strewn with rubble. Tents were quickly erected next to the airstrip to be used by the operations sections of the two fighter squadrons. The weather had turned cold and the tents offered shelter for the crew chiefs and armament men when they were not working on the aircraft. In addition to the cold, it was extremely dusty as the winds blew down from the north.

Not far from the airfield was a large



Ken Crump and his camera

complex of Russian-built barracks and government buildings. They were unlike anything else in Pyongyang: massive European-style structures in contrast to the low profile city. Airmen and pilots were housed in the barracks at night. We had been living in tents since the war began, so the barracks proved some relief from the bitter cold weather.

There was evidence the Russian “advisors” had departed the barracks quickly, as there was still some clothing hanging on hooks. I still have an old Russian tunic which I kept as a war souvenir. Adjacent to the barracks, the government buildings housed a large printing press with communist party cards stacked nearby. Some propaganda posters were evident on tables in other rooms.

On another occasion I was able to obtain several glass-plate negatives from a photo studio in Pyongyang of Russian sol-

diers. These were later printed in a make-shift darkroom and exist to this day.

The airfield had two badly damaged hangars. Inside we found an assortment of old planes. Several Japanese Zeros which had been captured by the Russians near the end of WWII had been painted with North Korean insignia. A Japanese transport plane and two Russian Yak fighters stood nearby. All had been damaged and were inoperable.

At Pyongyang we used many North Korean laborers to help load bombs, move freight, dig perimeter gun placements, and repair the airstrip. I am convinced that some of these laborers were North Korean soldiers dressed as civilians as evidenced by several attempts at sabotage.

Once, while we were assembled at an outdoor chow line late at night, a Filipino soldier in front of me pulled out his weapon and killed a North Korean attempting to tamper with our food. Evidence found on his body indicated he was a North Korean soldier.

Our pilots had been flying up to four combat missions a day as the front was only about forty air miles north of us. Many of the pilots were WWII vets who had been called back into service from civilian jobs. Others had been part of the Japan occupation force following the end of the war.

It was quite an effort to refuel and rearm the aircraft at that pace. One of our pilots, Capt. Joe Rogers, had flown 140 combat missions by mid-December. His P-51, “Buckeye Blitz/Little Joe’s Red Eraser,” gained fame in the war but had to be destroyed at Pyongyang on December 5, 1950 when the airfield was about to be recaptured.

My job in Pyongyang was to service the gun cameras in the P-51s and load them with film for each combat mission. Unfortunately many of the aircraft had been robbed of their gun cameras before they left the U.S., so most combat strikes went unrecorded on film.

It was in Pyongyang that I learned what cold weather was all about. The temperature by the end of November had dropped to twenty degrees below zero at night and was around zero degrees during the daylight hours. The Russian barracks had no heat, so aside from protection from the chill wind they offered little relief from the cold.

Winter parkas were flown in and distributed to all of us. We made a practice of "layering" clothes before it became fashionable back home. By December my clothing consisted of summer underwear, winter long johns, fatigues, field jacket,

shaggy parka liner, two pair of woolen socks, winter shoe paks (a disaster in that when you sweat inside the sweat would turn to ice at night), woolen army cap, helmet, and gloves with liners. It was impossible to shave under those conditions, so it wasn't long before we all looked like shaggy dogs.

My job in Pyongyang was to service the gun cameras in the P-51s and load them with film for each combat mission. Unfortunately many of the aircraft had been robbed of their gun cameras before they left the U.S., so most combat strikes went unrecorded on film. The extremely



Russian soldiers in Korea



cold weather also added to our film problems. The gun cameras had heaters built in them, but even then the film became brittle and would break inside the magazine. It is a tragedy that so little footage was recorded of some of the bitterest combat of the war.

My still photography was also limited in that the film for the press camera was hard to come by. Many of the photographs of air units in the Korean War were taken by pilots and airmen equipped with their personal 35mm cameras. This was the last war in which the 4 x 5 Speed Graphic served as the camera of military photographers. Photographers from Life magazine and other news magazines and newspapers all used lightweight 35mm cameras in Korea.

North of us the Eighth Army consisted of four U.S. infantry divisions supported by brigades from Great Britain and Turkey. The South Korean II Corps was located to the east of these divisions. Late in October the 8th Regiment of the First Cavalry Division had been struck decisively by a large body of troops later identified as Chinese.

We were still under the assumption that the Chinese would stay out of the war, as they had only defeated the Nationalist armies barely a year earlier. The Chinese leadership had threatened to intervene in the Korean War if U.S. forces entered North Korea, but these threats had been largely ignored by our top brass. After this one brief encounter the Chinese slipped back from the fighting and we assumed they were too few in number to stop the UN armies.

All of the airmen and pilots in our unit were treated with a genuine hot Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. Our mess kits were loaded down with turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, sweet potatoes, peas, salad, dessert, and even some mixed nuts. The cooks worked very hard under adverse weather conditions to bring us this meal.

Chow normally consisted of C-rations and hot food—when it could be prepared. Once a hot food line was set up it was kept going day and night. Food consisted of canned meat and vegetables that could be heated over burners used in all field kitchens. Hot coffee helped keep the effects of the cold weather bearable.

Two days after Thanksgiving the UN army was ordered to resume its offensive toward the Yalu River, which bounded North Korea and communist China. General MacArthur had indicated that this was the “home for Christmas” offensive. The advance of the 8th Army stalled almost as soon as it got started.

The South Korean army to the east of U.S. units had been hit with a huge counter-offensive by newly arrived Chinese armies. The Chinese had slipped almost 400,000 men across the Yalu undetected. They had divided into two army groups; one directed down the western corridor toward Pyongyang, the other to the Chosin Reservoir to the east, where U.S. Marines and the Seventh Infantry Division were located. One of the great episodes in Marine Corps history took place there. Twenty-five thousand Marines and Soldiers managed to break out of the Chinese trap and fight their way to the port of Hungnam on Korea’s east coast.

For a brief time we had a few of our aircraft operating out of an airfield at Sinanju, on the south bank of the Chongchon River and about 20 miles down the river from Kunu-ri. If the UN offensive went as planned, we were scheduled to move up to that airfield from Pyongyang. The airfield was in bad shape, however, and Sinanju would serve only as an emergency airstrip. It would have been the most forward airfield in use by a U.S. air group in support of the Eighth Army.

Approximately fifty miles north of our airfield was the Second Infantry Division. Further west were the 25th and 24th Divisions. The First Cavalry Division was in reserve near us. The British Commonwealth Brigade and Turkish Brigade were situated just north of us. Under extreme pressure (and the collapse of the ROK army to the east) these divisions were driven south by the Chinese armies. The First Cavalry Division was rushed north to help as were the Turkish and Commonwealth Brigades.

Our pilots flew dawn-to-dusk combat missions in support of our ground troops, especially to help out the Second Infantry Division, which was fighting its way south from the Chongchon River and the town of Kunu-ri. A photographer friend of mine, who was equipped with a Bolex

16mm hand-held movie camera, had flown over the road south of Kunu-ri in a little L-5 aircraft to record the disaster unfolding. S.L.A. Marshall’s book, *The River and the Gauntlet*, tells the story of the retreat of the Second infantry Division south from Kunu-ri and toward Pyongyang.

It would be only a matter of several days before the Chinese armies reached us at Pyongyang. (Note: To the average airman the “Big Picture” was still unknown. He went about his business of re-fueling and re-arming our planes, not realizing the full extent of the problem up north.) We had some idea things were not going well, however, when “Bed Check Charlie” started dropping fragmentation bombs on us nightly. These attacks were intended to scare us, although several of our airmen were killed and wounded and a few planes were damaged beyond repair.

The North Koreans flew Russian P0-2 biplanes at night, which made little noise until their bombs were dropped. These same planes had been used effectively against the German armies in Russia during WWII. I was sleeping right next to one of our perimeter artillery pieces, an Army Bofors twin 40mm piece, when they opened up on Bed Check Charlie. They shot him down simply by filling the air above us with artillery rounds.

By December 3, 1950 the Second Division passed by us on the road south. They were followed by elements of the 24th and 25th Divisions (which had not passed through the “gauntlet” but had followed another road south to Pyongyang) and the Commonwealth Brigade with their huge Centurion tanks. We threw them C-rations as they passed by and really did not give much thought to what might be following them.

The next day was ominously silent. Around 4 o’clock that afternoon we noticed a large dust cloud toward the north and started making assumptions that it might be the point of the Chinese armies. That same day we had been ordered to burn everything we couldn’t carry and to prepare to evacuate Pyongyang. A photographer from Life magazine captured the moment in the December 18, 1950 issue. Aircraft that could not be flown out were to be burned along with everything else.

The column of dust turned out to be the Turkish Brigade marching south on foot. The Turks camped next to the road and warmed themselves by our fires. One of our pilots. Capt. Howard Tanner, realized they had no food and drove a jeep loaded with C-rations among them passing out cartons to welcome hands. The next morning the Turks were gone.

By December 4th another event occurred next to our airfield that added to the confusion of evacuation. A British truck loaded with ammunition exploded, causing others nearby also to explode. This ignited a nearby supply dump which really rocked the airfield. The explosions lasted over an hour, and once again we were apprehensive about a Chinese attack.

We had been told that we were to be airlifted out of Pyongyang. C-54 cargo planes were en route, would be on the ground only for a short time, and would not shut down their engines. Orders were to climb aboard the nearest plane, carrying only our weapons (standard issue to air-men was the M-1 carbine). At that time I had been helping our G-2 sergeant move his 350-lb. safe filled with classified documents out to a waiting aircraft. The pilot attempted to prevent us from loading the safe, but with the help of several other air-men we got it into the aircraft.

We had no time to secure the safe before takeoff. Sure enough, as the plane left the runway the safe rolled to the rear of the plane, forcing the aircraft into a dramatic ascent. The pilot must have thought we were all goners as he struggled to gain control of the large cargo plane. He informed us on landing at the old Seoul City airport that we came close to going in.

Within hours our remaining P-51 Mustangs were back flying combat missions from the steel-mesh runway along the Han River. Our pilots were now strafing and bombing the airfield we had evacuated the previous day. Pyongyang had been held by U.S. forces forty-seven days.

NOTE: Mr. Crump wrote this article eighteen years ago for the 2nd Infantry Division-Korean War Alliance. It is reprinted here with his permission.

*Ken Crump, 8931 Oak Trail Dr.,
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WOR contributions from chapters and book sales exceed \$31,200.00

KWVA Executive Director Jim Fisher announced that as of October 10, 2018 individual chapters have donated \$30,976.00 to the Wall of Remembrance (WOR) fund. Some chapters have donated more than once. *The Graybeards* editor, Arthur G. Sharp, has—with members' help—supplemented that amount by \$222.00 as of the same date, for a total of \$31,198.00.

Books make great holiday gifts—and enhance the WOR fund

Editor Sharp donates \$2 from the purchase of every copy of *Atomic Cannons and Nuclear Weapons: A Mystery of the Korean War* and \$1 from the purchase of every copy of *Joey: The Street Fox of Newark* ordered directly through him to the WOR Fund. The \$222.00 amount raised so far may not be immense, but every little bit helps.

To add your contribution you can order signed copies of one or both books directly from the author. For:

Atomic Cannons and Nuclear Weapons: A Mystery of the Korean War, submit \$22 to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

Joey: The Street Fox of Newark, submit \$16 to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

The price of the books includes shipping & handling and a contribution to the WOR fund.

If your chapter has not done so already, we encourage you to make a donation to the WOR fund. Hey, the holidays are coming, and these books will make great gifts for everyone. And, we thank all of you who have donated.

Art

“Sacred Cow”

President Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 onboard a U.S. Air Force VC-54C named Sacred Cow. That presidential transport was the first aircraft used for the role of Air Force One.

Editor's office hours

Editor Sharp's office hours, such as they are, are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST, Monday-Friday. He is not an employee of the KWVA, so his hours vary.

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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*.

A treasure trove of photos

We found these photos of a neighbor of ours, Ralph Hogue, who passed away in 1989. He was a veteran of the Korean War. Apparently he took the photos in Korea, but we do not know the exact location.

We believe they should be shared with other Korean War veterans.

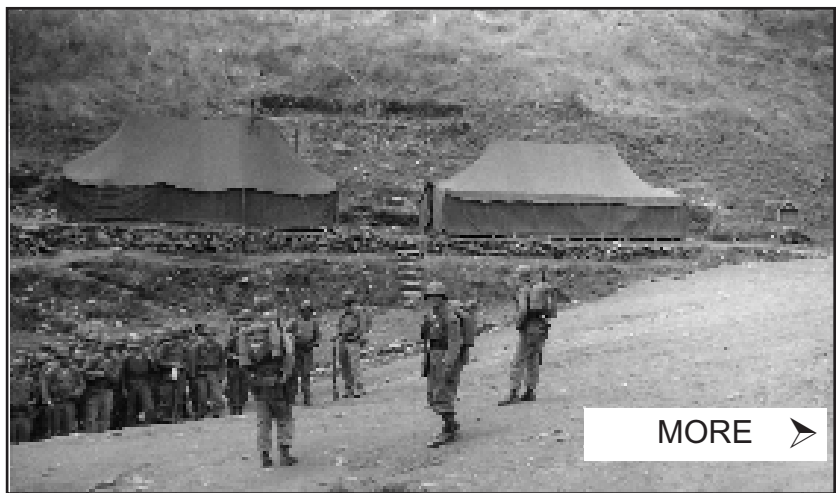
Gary & Angela Dutra, 6381 Shields Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647

EDITOR'S NOTE: Most of the photos are labeled "Korea." The individual photos are Ralph Hogue. There is one photo labeled Co. K Headquarters and another "A shot of I Co." Not a lot to go on, but if anyone has any idea of what we are looking at, let us know.

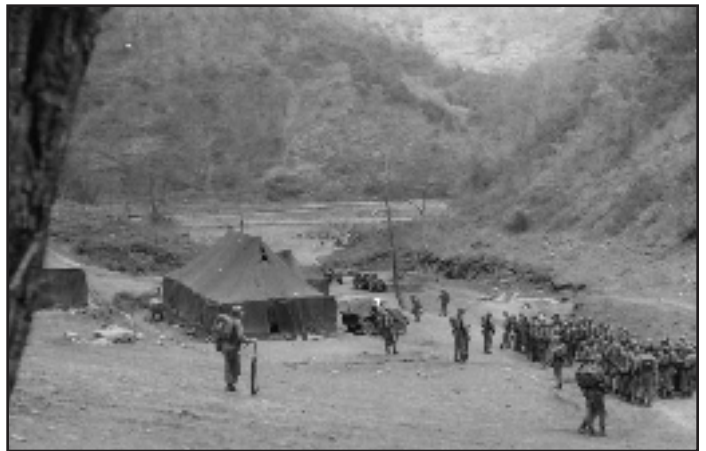
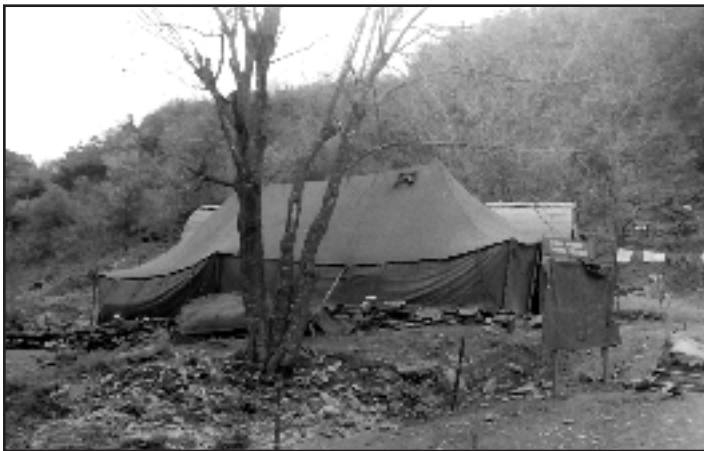
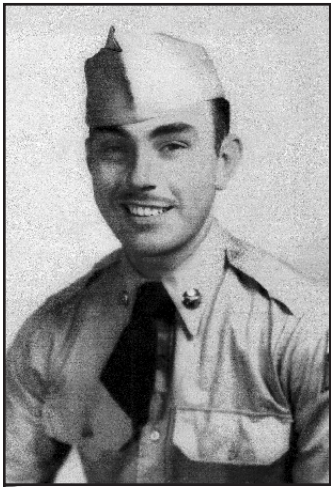
Ralph H Hogue

The deceased was born Thursday, April 21, 1932. He died December 23, 1987 at the age of 55 years, 8 months and 2 days. (<https://newspaperarchive.com/ralph-hogue-obituary-281458120/>)





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Saint Peter, Minnesota Veteran's Memorial dedicated

By Pell Johnson

The veterans in my home town of St. Peter, MN decided to put up a grand memorial for all veterans dating back to the Civil War. Of the St. Peter area Korean War vets, 127 names are on the service wall and four on the Honor Wall.

Eight years ago six Vietnam veterans were having an idle conversation while sipping beer in the local American Legion club. The idea of a veterans' memorial came up because the city did not have one. It seemed to them all veterans become forgotten over time. The idea stuck.

In the next three years they developed a concept of what they wanted and contacted a local architect. A conceptual plan was designed that contained all the issues they wanted to address. Walls would provide space for the names of all veterans who wore the uniform of the U.S. government, starting with the Civil War (including Confederate veterans) and space for the names of all veterans in future engagements.

Once the concept had been developed they focused on financing. Over the following five years they solicited financing from private sources and from contractors and suppliers that provided in-kind services. A budget of \$700,000 was established to house a sculpture that would support the theme of Peace and Freedom. An extensive search for a sculptor ensued.

The selected artist created a masterpiece consisting of a ten-foot tall bronze eagle with a five-foot wing span springing free on a column of water from a pool of chaos and repression. The dynamic piece of art draws the interest of passersby to view the unique features of the memorial. It took two years to get the project under construction.

The city of St. Peter offered a readily accessible site near the daily parade of the public passing by. A GPS is not needed to find it. It is located where the monument would be in concert with its Americana theme of what our great country stands for. The site is in an eleven-acre city park that is the center of communal life of the city. The location is easily accessed and visible in a city park, where many public activities take place. And, it is located adjacent to a



The 10-ft bronze sculpture that sets the theme of the St. Peter, MN Memorial called "Freedom and Peace."

major highway that passes through the city.

Major holidays, e.g., Fourth of July and Veterans Day, are celebrated there, and several well attended musical events that draw thousands occur in the park. It contains a major children's playground that is heavily used and the local college has several events in the park. All events are expressions of Peace and Freedom that these veterans contributed to preserve and perpetuate.

The architect's memorial plan is a well-conceived blend of materials and design that draws the viewer into the heart of the memorial. Two black granite service walls are inscribed with the names of all the local men and women who served the nation in times of need, some of whom may have suffered mental and physical scars of war.

These walls converge to draw viewers' interest to a circular cover of black granite that composes the Honor Wall carrying the names of those who did not survive the ordeal of military service or were missing in action. This is complemented by the Donor Wall, which lists those who enthusiastically funded the project. The American

flag, the Minnesota state flag, and the POW flag provide the finishing touches to the elegant St. Peter Area Veterans Memorial.

The memorial was dedicated on July 1, 2018. It was overwhelming. A torrential rain hit us in the morning and we thought we would be drowned out. But the sun came out three hours before the program began—and the ceremony was a brilliant success. Over 10,000 people were in the park, and the memorial was packed with viewers all day. Incidentally, the statue cost \$100,000, and it is well worth the price.

The Frozen Chosin Chapter of the Korean War were contributors, and I am on the Memorial Board of Directors. The Vietnam vets really carried the freight. We all worked our tails off—and scored!

Pell Johnson, a member of Ch. 41, Frozen Chosin, can be reached at 709 N 9th St., Saint Peter, MN 56082, 507-934-1312, 507-340-8874 (cell), fowlstories84@gmail.com

Photo credits go to John Smithers, Wildlife, Nature, Landscape & Aerial Photography, www.JonSmithers.com

Nebraska honors state's Korean War Veterans

By Holden Armstrong

On July 27th, 2018, Governor Pete Ricketts hosted a ceremony at the Nebraska State Capitol to honor veterans of the Korean War. Over 300 people, including veterans from across Nebraska and their family members, joined the Governor for the ceremony. At the ceremony, the Governor signed a proclamation and presented Ambassador for Peace medals to veterans, surviving spouses, and family members as a symbol of gratitude from Nebraskans and the Republic of Korea for their service.

"My administration strives to make Nebraska the most veteran-friendly state in the nation, both in providing excellent service to our veterans and in recognizing and honoring them for their bravery and sacrifices," said Governor Ricketts. "I want all our state's veterans to know how much we appreciate them. While the Korean War is often referred to as 'the Forgotten War,' today's ceremony is a reminder that Nebraskans have not forgotten our veterans or the sacrifices they have made in defending our republic."

July 27th is National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day in America, which marks the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement. This year is the 65th anniversary of the signing of the agreement.

The Ambassador for Peace medals were created by the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. Korean War veterans who served in Korea between June 25th, 1950, and July 27th, 1953, or participated in UN Peacekeeping operations in the country before January 1st, 1956 were eligible.

"There are many ways to honor our state's veterans, and this is just one step we're taking to do that," said Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs (NDVA) Director John Hilgert. "Whether it's through recognition, benefits, advocacy, care in one of our facilities, or any other service we can provide, serving Nebraska's veterans is our mission, our passion, and our duty."

Also attending the ceremony was Deputy Consulate General of Korea in Chicago Donghan Yang. Mr. Yang's overseas postings include Minister-Counselor at the Embassy in Manila; Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Korea in Geneva; Counselor at the Embassy in Libreville; and First Secretary at the Embassy in Washington, DC. He has a Master's Degree from UC San Diego, and a BA in Political Science from Seoul National University. (All photos by Jake Daniels)

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Nebraska Governor Ricketts addresses the crowd with NDVA Director John Hilgert (L) and Deputy Consul General Donghan Yang (R)



Korean War veterans and their family members welcome Governor Ricketts, Deputy Consul General Yang, and NDVA Director John Hilgert

Governor Ricketts addresses the crowd at Nebraska Armistice Day ceremony



Deputy Consul Yang (L), unidentified Korean War veteran, and Governor Ricketts (R)



Over 300 people attended the Korean War Veterans Armistice Day Ceremony at the Nebraska State Capitol



Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs Director John Hilgert calls for a moment of silence during the ceremony



Governor Ricketts and Deputy Consul General Donghan Yang greet Korean War Veteran Carl Lewis of Kearney, Nebraska



Deputy Consul General Yang thanks the veterans for their service in Korea as Governor Ricketts (L) looks on



Governor Ricketts (L) shakes hands with WWII and Korean War Veteran Walter Barsell of Wahoo, Nebraska

A true testament to the power of brothers in arms

Al Cooper and I were co-workers at Rock of Ages granite quarries and manufacturers of many national veteran memorials, including the Korean War Memorial and Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. Over the years our lives have followed the same trails of family traits and have tied us together like the roots of a lilac tree.

The heartwarming essay below that he wrote about a “welcome home” from Korea is representative of the love some people have for their country—especially those who have fought under its flag for peace and democracy everywhere.

It is printed here with the author’s kind permission. As Wayne Pelkey said, “Al Cooper is like a brother and he would be honored to have his writing in “The Graybeards,” as he is a patriotic flag waver like me! He attends all his area veteran and Korean American functions and is always dressed proudly in his uniform.”

Incidentally, Al Cooper’s years of conducting a weekly radio show and writings are recognized in our country as well as worldwide (especially in Korean-American communities.)

REMEMBERING A WELCOME HOME UNLIKE ANY OTHER

By Al Cooper

HOME COUNTRY

This one publishes on August 5th, 2018; by a rare and happy synchronicity, the same day this little-known event actually happened in 1953. With a special dedication to my near-lifelong friend and Korean War Brother Wayne Pelkey, an original member of this very personal email family, and one of the most honorable warriors I have ever known.

The Korean War of 1950-53, the largely “Forgotten War” by most people in the western world - goes into the history books as a conflict unlike any other. Within the 37-month window in which it played out, the United States suffered more casualties than in any other war save only the American Civil War, and the scars left behind on those who saw combat there are still with the survivors—mostly untended still today. There is no such thing as an unwounded combat veteran.

It was not simply a war between two parts of a thousand-year-old culture and country, but a test to determine the future of communist rule. (After our VICTORY in Korea, the creep of worldwide communist military aggression never took another free country.) The Korean land war was fought with left-over and ill-repaired World War II weapons, equipment and ordnance, but more exactly duplicated World War I in tactics; the viciousness of trench-warfare and close combat. Even when it came to aviation it was WWII B-29s that carried the bomb loads, and Mustang, Corsair and Sky raider fighter-bombers that dominated air combat for the first two years (and were actually best suited to winning the tactical air war. I was closely involved with that aspect of the fighting during my service there.)

The Korean land war was fought with left-over and ill-repaired World War II weapons, equipment and ordnance, but more exactly duplicated World War I in tactics; the viciousness of trench-warfare and close combat.

Another arena in which Korea differed has to do with the treatment of POWs by an enemy who couldn’t have cared less about international protocols. American prisoners of Germany in the 1940s suffered a 4% mortality rate, while in the Korean “police action” 45% of American POWs died, mostly of intentional starvation.

Shortly after the signing of the armistice at Panmunjom on July 27, 1953, (the same day on which I pen these words 65 years later,) the long-anticipated prisoner exchange known as Little Switch and Big Switch began at a place known as Munsan-ni. I had been on a field assignment not far away on the Imjin River. A foot bridge crossed a deep gorge separating the two Koreas, over which the exchange would take place. On our side several hundred G.I.s gathered behind a quickly assembled military band and an Army color guard.

By agreement the North Korean and Chinese prisoners crossed over first - well-fed, hearty and belligerent, hurling curses and slogans at us as they went.; many in their underwear having tossed their U.S.- issued prison garb on the ground beside the trucks conveying them. Then came the Americans, emaciated, hobbling on hand-made walking sticks and crutches, helping each other across the bridge. Last, came a lone, wounded and crippled individual, struggling to walk. Finally he fell to his knees and began crawling. A big American military policeman, breaking from formation, began to run toward the straggler. But the skinny soldier would have none of it, raising his hands in opposition.

The crowd watched in silence as the scrabbling continued. As it became obvious that the soldier was trying to reach the color guard holding the flag, the big MP had seen enough. He ran to the crumpled figure, picking the lad up in his strong arms and conveying him to the flag-holder, who lowered the stars and stripes to where the gaunt figure could grasp the flag, wrapping it around his face as he wept uncontrollably. The only sound was the scattering of gravel as the M.P. Lieutenant lovingly carried the brittle POW to the waiting ambulance.

Those who were there and are still alive will never forget what they witnessed that day. And for a million or more of us who helped to save freedom for the 40 or 50 million people of The Republic of Korea who enjoy it today, it will never be THE FORGOTTEN WAR.

Al Cooper, ascooper@infowest.com

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

327 - GEN. JOHN H. MICHAELIS [PA]

On May 25th, six members met with three third-grade classes at the Rohrerstown Elementary School. This invitation was a direct outgrowth of these same classes, which sent cards and messages to our members to honor us on Veterans Day 2017.

The program was well organized. After each veteran gave a brief overview of his experiences in

Korea, students took turns asking questions which they had prepared beforehand. The veterans fielded many good questions, which showed that the students had given much thought and effort in preparation for our visit. All agreed it was a very rewarding experience.

Paul H. Cunningham, 717-299-1990, pcunningham1841@verizon.net



Participants in Ch. 327's presentations: Dr. Walter Kreider, grandfather of Ms. Kassees; Sam Stoltzfus, James Shuman, Jay Meiskey, Paul Cunningham and Donald Lohr (L-R)

The classes of Ms. Kayla Kassees, Mrs. Cenekofsky, and Mrs. Skundrich that attended Ch. 327 sessions at the Rohrerstown Elementary School

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in The Graybeards should be sent to:

**Art Sharp, Editor
2473 New Haven Circle
Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141**

or

**emailed to: sharp_arthur_g
@sbcglobal.net**

RABBIT from page 9

asked his buddies to take care of Henry and feed him during his absence. Mike became angry when one of his buddies said they would cook and eat him while he was away. Mike was unsure if his buddies were just joking with him. When he returned from R&R, Mike was happy to see Henry alive and rushed to cradle him in his arms like a precious pet.

One of Mike's saddest moments was when Henry was killed during a heavy bombardment of deadly mortars that rained on his unit's positions. Mike grieved when he saw the lifeless body of Henry. He dug a hole, buried his adorable pet, and placed a cross made of tree

branches on the grave. Even though they spent only a few months together, Henry brought comfort to Mike and he missed his pet.

Memories fade over time, but every moment he spent with Henry remains vivid after 67 years. Mike reminisces about Henry and shares this heartwarming story with friends and family, delighting them especially his children and grandchildren.

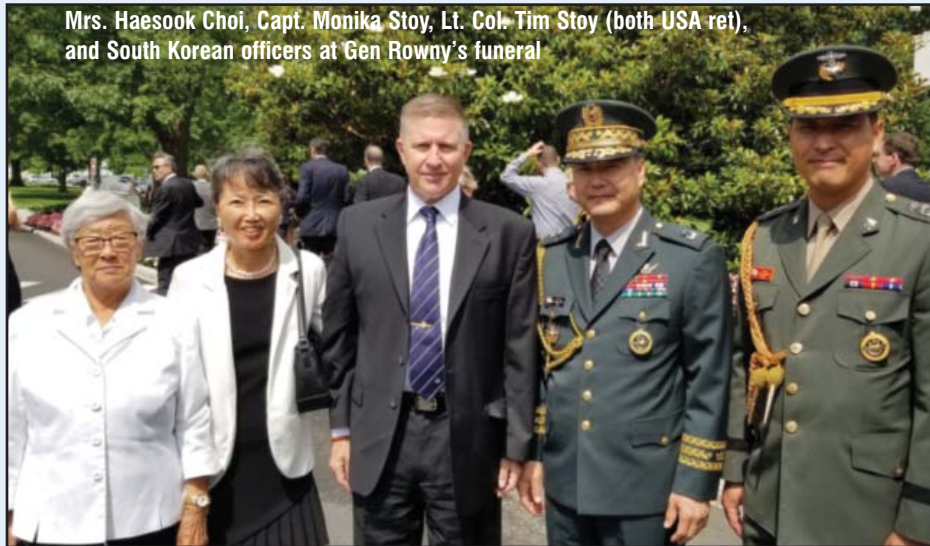
Mike did not have a photo of Henry. However, on a recent visit to an animal shelter, Mike saw a rabbit that reminded him of Henry and took the photo on page 9.

*Stan Fujii, Publicity Director, Ch. 20,
stan_fujii@hotmail.com*

Edward L. Rowny buried

Edward Leon Rowny, who passed away on December 17, 2017, was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on June 13, 2018. He was a U.S. Army officer in Korea. Rowny was a military advisor to five U.S. presidents and a negotiator on the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty

Here are a few photos of his funeral and burial provided by Tim and Monika Story, long-time friends of the general and his wife.



Mrs. Haesook Choi, Capt. Monika Stoy, Lt. Col. Tim Stoy (both USA ret), and South Korean officers at Gen Rowny's funeral



The funeral procession for Gen. Rowny



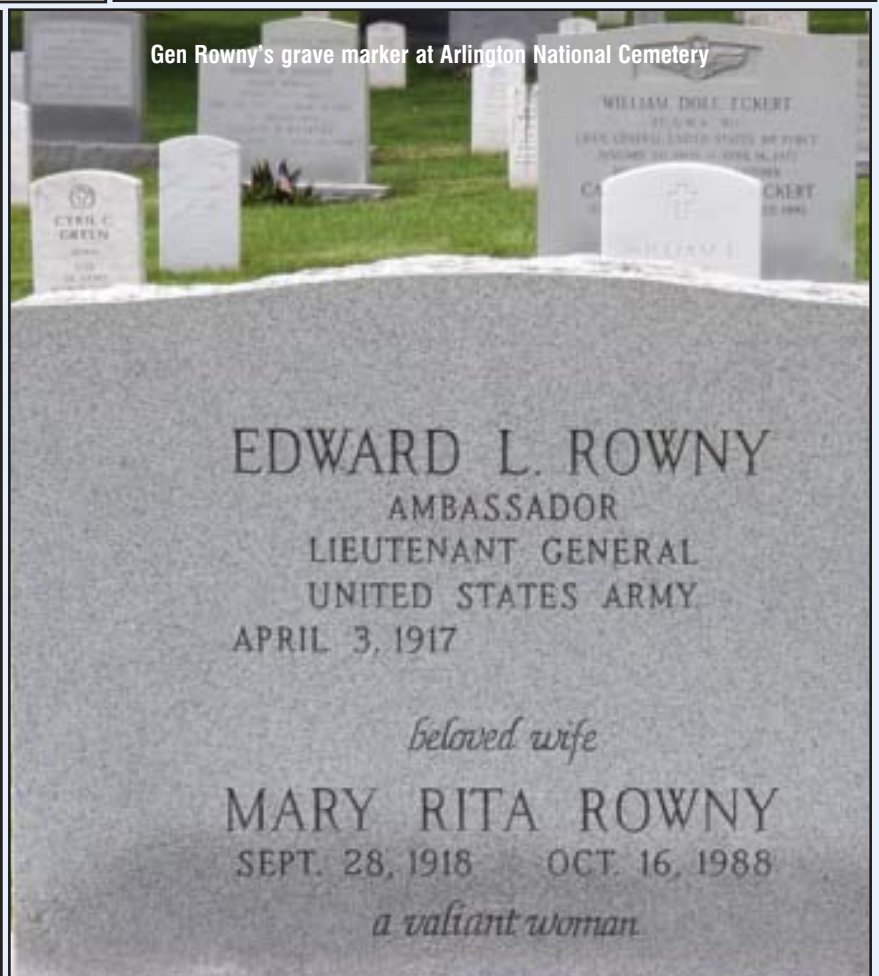
The flag folding ceremony at Gen. Rowny's grave



Tim Stoy, Monika Stoy, Mrs. Haesook Choi, Michelle Goshi, and Al Goshi (L-R) raise final toast to their long-time friend Gen. Rowny



Presenting the flag to Gen Rowny's family



Gen Rowny's grave marker at Arlington National Cemetery

Chapter & Department News

Featured Chapter

111 CPL. RICHARD A. BELL [WI]

We presented a check for \$500 to the Honor Flight Association. We have donated more than \$5,000 in total over the years.

James A. Maersch, James A., 1829 Park Ave.,
West Bend, WI 53090, 262-338-0991



Commander Norb Carter of Ch. 111 (C) and Treasurer Gerald Jung (L) present check to Honor Flight Association representative

9 DUTCH NELSEN [CO]

We commemorated Korean War Armistice Day on a clear, sunny day in Memorial Park in Colorado Springs. In addition to Armistice Day, it was the 22nd anniversary of the dedication of the chapter's monument and the 30th anniversary of our founding as "The Colorado Chapter" in 1988.

Major General Mason Whitney was the honored speaker. Distinguished American and Korean guests from Denver and Colorado Springs—including city and county officials—participated. Musical accompaniment before and after the event, including American and Korean national anthems, was provided by Fort Carson's Fourth Infantry Division Band.

Color guard honors were provided by the Widefield High



Veterans and guests at Ch. 9 ceremony

Widefield [CO] High School Naval Junior
ROTC Color Guard at Ch. 9 commemoration



School Naval Junior ROTC program under the command of MAJ (USMC, Retired) Mark Davis. Over 100 members of the local veteran, Air Force Academy, and Korean community attended. Afterward, a light lunch—provided by the Korean American Association of Colorado Springs—was provided.

Mike Thomason, Secretary, (719) 214-6121,
coloradoveteran@hotmail.com



Placing of the wreaths at Ch. 9 event

13 BILL CARR CHAPTER 1 [DE]

On 9/11, Walt Koopman, our Programs Director, set up his personal Korean War artifacts display at the Georgetown Cheer Center, in Sussex County, Delaware. Walt's extensive and well-maintained collection held the attention of hundreds of children from local schools, as well as many senior adults that visit the center for the daily beneficial programs and meals.

Jack McGinley, 302-945-0698, jomcgini@aol.com



Walt Koopman and Paul Lardizzone, Delaware Commissioner of Veterans Affairs (CVA) representing the DAV



Walter Koopman's personal collection of Korean memorabilia



The 5 Phases of the Korean War

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Two events of note happened in our chapter the last two months.



Three of the ladies who helped prepare the meal for the Ch. 19 August meeting

On 27 July we attended the impressive annual Wreath Laying Ceremony presented by the American Korean Friendship Society of Atlanta. The ceremony was held at the Korean Community Center in Norcross, GA. We were pleased to have the KWW chapters of Gainesville and Rome, GA. in attendance with us.

This annual event has grown from an initial presentation of three wreaths to nine this year. A Korean Army reserve color guard presented and retired the flags of both the United States and the Republic of Korea



Officer Merberg addresses Ch. 19 members



Sunny Park emcees Ch. 19 memorial ceremony

Speakers included G. Larry Ellis (R), past Chairman AKFS, B.G. Reginald Neal of the Georgia National Guard, Mr. Yong-Jun Kim, Consul General, The Republic of Korea, and LG/Rev. Billy J. Brown of the Rome, GA. chapter. The keynote address was by Mr. Gary Black, Commissioner GA. Department of Agriculture. Afterwards we were treated to a wonderful catered lunch.

Our August chapter meeting was held on 7 August at the Korean Community Center Norcross, GA. This was the first time we held our meeting at the Center. The Georgia chapter of Korean Intermarriage Women's Association—Georgia

(KIWAG)—prepared a wonderful lunch. It was so elegant you could call it a dinner.

Our speaker was Officer Merbeg of the John's Creek, GA, police department who spoke to us about the growing menace of drug crimes and addictions in our area. He also spoke about scams and con games especially directed towards elderly and how to detect these clever ruses, which are presented mostly by telephone but also in the internet.



A replica of the Korean War Memorial Monument on stage for Ch. 19's July 27th ceremony



The Color Guard at Ch. 19's July 27th observance

We especially want to thank Mrs. Yong McClanahan, president of the KIWAG, and her chapter for the lunch and look forward to continuing this relationship with her group.

Urban G. Rump, Secretary/Treasurer, 234 Orchards Cir., Woodstock, GA 30188, 678-402-1251, ugrcr@comcast.net

20 HAWAII #1 [HI]

The Korean Consulate General of Honolulu honored us by hosting a luncheon at a popular local restaurant on July 27th to commemorate the end of fighting of the Korean War.

We were honored with a visit by Ms. Hannah Kim, who made her last stop to visit Korean War Memorials of 50 states and 70 cities. Her visit included a tour of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, where she saw the intricate network of staff

attempting to identify the 55 remains of recently repatriated soldiers from North Korea. The identification process also included five unidentified Korean War remains that were disinterred from the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. She also visited the Korean War Memorial at the State Capitol where she placed a floral lei honoring the 456 soldiers from Hawaii who died in the war.



The large crowd from Ch. 20 honored by the Korean Consulate General of Honolulu



Defense attaché CAPT Jungil Kim (C) flanked by KWVA President Herbert Schreiner and Vice President James 'Ace' Kaleohano (L)



Ch. 20 members at lunch to commemorate the July 27th armistice signing



Hannah Kim affixes lapel pins on Hawaii chapter members' shirts



Hannah Kim and Hiroshi Shima in front of a map of Korea at Punchbowl

funds to help defray costs for construction of the Wall of Remembrance as well as funds for her travel expenses. Hannah was graciously accommodated by KWVA member Franklin and Nancy Chang in their home during her four-day visit.

Stan Fujii, Publicity Director, stan_fujii@hotmail.com

30 INDIANA #1 [IN]

On June 25, 2018 we had a wonderful ceremony at our beautiful monument. Hannah Y. Kim, who has been making a three-month journey to visit Korean War Memorials in all 50 states to meet and thank Korean War veterans and remind the public about the grave cost of war, was in attendance. Perhaps she has already visited your monument. What a beautiful person, in and out.

Stan Fujii of Ch. 20 receives pin from Hannah Kim



Tommy Tahara being thanked by Hannah for coordinating her visit and arranging accommodations for her Hawaiian stop



Crowd at Ch. 30 ceremony, with Hannah Y. Kim in middle, says Pledge of Allegiance



Hawaii veterans at breakfast gathering with Hannah Kim

Ken Tashiro, one of our members, composed a song called "We Are The Veterans Of The Korean War" and we all proudly sang it on the hallowed ground. She ended her tour at Punchbowl where she laid a wreath honoring Korean War Veterans who died in the war. Hannah presented each veteran with a lapel pin with an American flag shaped like a heart.

KWVA chapters from Oahu, Maui and Hawaii Island donated



Hannah Y. Kim stands in the middle of the Ch. 30 assemblage

My, how we did enjoy her. Her love and attention to our veterans was amazing and much appreciated. She gave each of us a flower (and a little kiss to the guys) and I can tell you that made their days!!!! She even took the time to have lunch with us, and we got to know and love even better.

Our group has slowed down somewhat, but we still enjoy getting together and, of course, we enjoy our meetings.

We have new officers for 2018-19: Commander Bernard Wisniewski, Sgt.-of-Arms Fred Ireland, Secy.Treasurer Cletus Rumschlag, Trustee Robert Robb, Trustee Carl Fowler, Trustee

Walter Scare, and Judge Advocate Bud Mendenhall.

Our ladies are very active in the chapter's activities. They include Nancy Sink, Mary Fowler, Jean Mendenhall, Mary Anna Roemke, and Marian Wisniewski. We help in every way we can to make it easy for the officers and enjoy doing it.

Mary Anna Roemke, Publicity Director, 5516 Newland Pl., Fort Wayne IN 46835



A fine day for a June 25th observance at the Ch. 30 memorial



New officers of Ch. 30: Bernard Wisniewski, Fred Ireland, Cletus Rumschlag, Robert Robb, Carl Fowler, Walter Scare, and Bud Mendenhall (L-R)



The ladies of Ch. 30: Nancy Sink, Mary Fowler, Jean Mendenhall, Mary Anna Roemke, and Marian Wisniewski (L-R)

54 THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

Hannah Kim joined us at the Korean War Memorial in Atlantic City, NJ on July 19th. We placed a wreath there. (Photos by Bill Bewley)

Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net



Hannah Kim and George Bruzgis at New Jersey memorial



Bill Bewley of Ch. 54 with Hannah Kim



Charlie Koppelman, Commander of Department of New Jersey, speaks at Atlantic City ceremony



Wreath laying ceremony with Hannah Kim at the New Jersey Korean War Memorial

James McConkey, Bob Garland, Treasurer Gene Slavin, and Commander Roger Calkins of Ch. 60 on reviewing stand at Village of Schuylerville parade



105 CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

We held our summer Clambake in August. Eunkyu Lee, Ph.D., of the Korean Association of Central New York, a professor at Syracuse University, was among the attendees. He and his family faithfully attend our events.

Carmen Zeolla, cfzeolla@aol.com



Dr. Eunkyu Lee and (L) and Carmen Zeolla at Ch. 105 clambake

60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

On July 27th, we held a Memorial Service at our monument in Glens Falls, NY. Two of the widows of our vets, Mary Kuezlow and Louise Finan, placed a wreath.

For the past 24 years, the Village of Schuylerville has held a parade to celebrate the "Turning Point" of the Revolutionary War. This year they asked us to be the Grand Marshals. Many of our members were on the reviewing stand;

Carol Waldron, cwaldron36709@aol.com



Members of Ch. 60 gather at their monument for July 27th observance



Mary Kuezlow and Louise Finan place wreath at Ch. 60 monument

106 TREASURE COAST [FL]

Every July 27th member Rod Chapman puts this display up to commemorate the day the Armistice was signed, July 27 1953. Rod has done this for the past fifteen years to remember the Armistice and those who fought in the Korean War. Rod is making sure the Forgotten War will not be forgotten.

Doug Voss, dwv123@aol.com



Rod Chapman of Ch. 106's July 27th display

121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

Members attended a 65th Korean War anniversary event held in Cincinnati sponsored by The Urology Group and General Electric.

William J. (Bill) Doud, 4153 Valerie Ct., Cincinnati, OH 45236, 513-891-7633, wiljoy416@aol.com



Members and guests of Ch. 121 at Cincinnati anniversary event

137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

We participated in a "Laying of the Roses" ceremony on July 29, 2018.

Our new officers for 2018-19 are trustees Paul Malone, Alice Brienik, and Harold Baringer; Commander Bob Bakalik; 1st VP Mike Ekoniak; 2nd VP Ray Ornelas; Secretary Frank Sloat; Chaplain John Klamut; Treasurer Beverly Pariza.

Bob Bakalik, Commander, rbakalik@att.net



Korean War Veterans Memorial Bridge with flags and bronze marker in Struthers, OH, a suburb of Youngstown



The plaque on the Korean War Veterans Memorial Bridge in Struthers, OH



The roses placed at Ch. 137's memorial



Bob Bakalik, Mike Ekoniak, and John Klamut of Ch. 137 (L-R) at Laying of Roses ceremony



Ch. 137's new officers: (1st Row, L-R) Paul Malone, Alice Brienik, and Harold Baringer (2nd Row, L-R) Bob Bakalik, Mike Ekoniak, Ray Ornelas, Frank Sloat, and John Klamut.

141 CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS [MA]

We held a 65th Anniversary armistice ceremony in conjunction with the Town of Barnstable at the Korean War Memorial in Hyannis, MA on July 27, 2018. We had a lot of help from the town, which now owns the memorial located on a choice parcel right on the harbor in Hyannis.

Chapter member Larry Cole was the master of ceremonies. Korean Consul General Kim Yonghyon of Boston delivered the keynote address. He graduated from the Seoul National University in 1989 majoring in international relations, and studied at the Pennsylvania State University (1992-1994).

"The Korean War will not be forgotten," he told chapter members and the general audience. "I am proud to say your blood and sweat has never been in vain. We will continue to work to honor your dedication and sacrifices."



The sun shines brightly on Ch. 141's Korean War monument

Chapter Treasurer Albina Hennessey presented a donation of \$25,000 to Barnstable Treasurer Debra Blanchette for long-term maintenance of the memorial. According to Cole, the fund has grown to \$75,000 for the memorial's perpetual care—at no cost to taxpayers.

Kim Yonghyon, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Boston, who was the guest speaker at Ch. 141's armistice commemoration



After the ceremony Cole noted families carrying coolers as they headed toward the nearby Veterans Park Beach. As they passed they looked over as if wondering what was going on. In an interesting aside, he noted their behavior was a testimony to the name "The Forgotten War." (Photos of the chapter's Korean War Memorial in Hyannis, MA courtesy of <https://foursquare.com/v/cape-and-islands-korean-war-memorial/4c7ed486d51ea1435de1589f>)

142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

Maryland Governor Honors Korean War Veterans

Governor and Mrs. Hogan honored Korean War veterans at a reception and dinner on August 9, 2018 at the Governor's Mansion in Annapolis. Four members attended the event; each received a proclamation certificate.



Korean Ambassador to the United States Honorable Cho Yoon-je, Wendell Murphy, Governor Hogan, Mrs. Hogan, Frederick Becker, Commander Chapter 142, Charles Chipley, and chapter namesake Col. William Weber, USA retired (L-R) at Maryland Governor's dinner

We thank Story Rock, Inc. for the copies of Korea Reborn (Kia Edition). We are very grateful for this lasting commemoration of the sacrifices during the Korean War and the good that has come from these struggles. We are proud of our actions, and proud of the Korean people.

Linda Crilly, Ch. Webmaster,
CID142Webmaster@gmail.com,
 or Glenn Wienhoff, cid142kwva@gmail.com



The proclamation certificate presented to Ch. 142 members at the Maryland Governor's dinner



Ch. 142 members with their copies of Korea Reborn: (Back, L-R) Reg Kephart, Bill Fox, Chip Chipley, Gene Rinehart, Robert Flores (Front, L-R) Fred Becker, Bob Eader, Glenn Wienhoff, Jim Miller, Bob Mount, Tony Malavenda

143 GREATER RICHMOND [VA]

On Sunday, June 24, members gathered at the Richmond Korean Presbyterian Church for their annual Korean War Remembrance service. Members present included: Ned Jones, Graham Nelms, Edgar Poe, Frank Kirks, Jim Chase, John Clatterbaugh, Martin Overholt, and Associate Member Sara (Gibson) Coan. Executive Director of the Virginia War Memorial, Dr. Clay Mountcastle, was also present, and spoke briefly about his time spent stationed in Korea.

Sara Coan spoke about the Korean War Memorial Garden and her



Embroidery on back of shirts presented to Ch. 143 members

visit to South Korea last summer. John Clatterbaugh spoke about his experience while in



Members of Ch. 143 at Richmond, VA Korean War Observance event

country, and Jim Chase thanked the church for all their years of kindness towards the chapter. Chaplain Peter Bahng, from Fort Lee, gave the sermon titled "Fighting the Good Fight."

Following the service, all present, veterans and family and church members, gathered in the gym of the church for their annual luncheon. Kimchi, rice, Korean pancakes, and beef were enjoyed by all, followed by cake and fruit. Each chapter member was presented with an embroidered blue polo shirt.

Many thanks go to Elder Jun Kang and Rev. Youngho Lee for hosting the chapter, the gifts, and the continued kindness they have for our chapter.

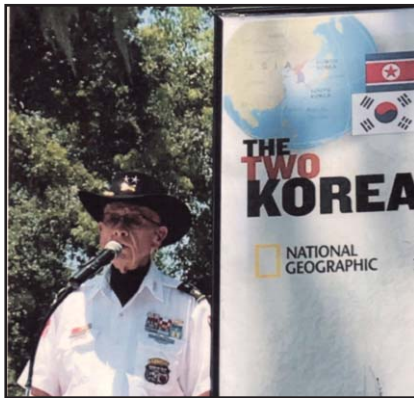
Sara Gibson, sgibson@ccps.us

169 KWVA OF LAKE COUNTY [FL]

We hosted a celebration of the 65th (and final) anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement. Our new president, John McMaster, gave us a brief history of the event. The celebration was held in Veterans Memorial Park, Leesburg, FL, with over 105 attendees.

Mrs. Marion Loghrin Bolton, a professional bagpiper employed at Disney World, played "God Bless America" and all five service songs.

John R McWaters, 352-445-9316,
gjcorbet@comcast.net



John McMaster of Ch. 169 provides history of Korean War armistice



Banner on display at the raised podium area that honors veterans from many U.S. wars. The Veterans Memorial Park has been supported loyally for many years by Ch. 169.

Marion Loghrin Bolton plays bagpipes at Ch. 169 ceremony



170 TAEJON [NJ]

Commander George Bruzgis, also a National Director, led eleven Korean War veterans in the Village of Ridgefield Park's 124th Fourth of July Parade. The village's celebration, which has run every year for 124 years, is considered to be the longest continually running July 4th commemoration in New Jersey, if not the nation.



Past President Brian Welke of Ch. 169 returns the salute of Frank Keaser, who placed the POW/MIA sheath honoring KWVA comrades who have not returned home



Joseph Louis (L) and Kenneth Florio of Ch. 170 carry banner in July 4th Parade



Gene Zender, John Turner, and Frank Keaser (L-R) at Ch. 169's Korean War Monument, which was funded totally by Ch.169. The names of all chapter members who served in the Korean War are displayed.



Marching unit from Ch.170 in 4th of July Parade: Louis Quagliero, George Bruzgis, Alexander Atheras, Henry Ferrarini, Joseph Louis, Kenneth Florio, Walter Amos, Frank Uvenio, and Erwin Burkert (L-R)

At 11:25 a.m. all bands played the national anthem. Five minutes later the "Gooney Bird" Detachment of the U.S. Marine Corps League Detachment fired its signal cannon and the three-mile-long parade began.

Most of our members rode in autos this year due to age. Every one of us is 85 or older. Two members, Joseph Louis and Kenneth Florio, walked the entire route, displaying our banner.

It was a great day to be an Americans and patriots. God bless our country and Korean War veterans.

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



Louis Quagliero, Ch. 170 historian (L), and Alexander Atheras ready to mount up for 4th of July 4th parade



Driver Walter Amos, front seat passenger Frank Uvenio, and back seat passenger Alexander Atheras of Ch. 170 in Ridgfield Park, NJ parade



Henry Ferrarini of Ch. 170 checks road conditions at 4th of July Parade

173 MID-FLORIDA [FL]

We held a ceremony on Casselberry, FL to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. The event included a cake-cutting ceremony.

William Russell, whitehores52@yahoo.com



Charlie First, Dick Derwinis, Bill Russell, Frank Cochern, Chuck Collins, Woody Hines, and John Rallis (L-R) at Ch. 173 cake-cutting ceremony

181 KANSAS #1 [KS]

At a recent monthly business meeting copies of the third edition of "Korea Reborn" were distributed to the membership. The books, which are free to KWVA members, were sponsored by the South Korean government and KIA Motors.

Don Dyer, ddyer@everestkc.net



Members of Ch. 181 display their copies of "Korea Reborn"

192 CITRUS COUNTY [FL]

On July 31, 2018, Dr. Young Youn, Honorary Life Member of our chapter, invited us to his 80th birthday party at Skyview Country Club in Hernando, FL. There were 32 chapter and family members in attendance, hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Youn.

The Korea Reborn Books supplied by the KIA Group were presented to four guests. Dr. Youn was a boy living in Inchon, later becoming a doctor in the ROK Army. He retired from his practice in Virginia, then moved to Citrus County.

Commander Hank Butler, LTC(R), 352 634 1604,
Hankrita32@gmail.com



Dr. Young Youn receives his copy of Korea Reborn at his 80th birthday party from Vice Cmdr. Col Bob Crawford, Secretary John Seaman, and Cmdr. Hank Butler of Ch. 192 (L-R)



Dr. Youn, COL Crawford, Barbara Mills, Chairman of the Welcome Home Veterans committee and coordinator of the Honor Flight, Central, Florida, Citrus County, John Seaman, CW4 (R) USCG, Richard Floyd, Treasurer, CMS (R), US Air Force (L-R) at Dr. Youn's party. All four are committed to CID 192 and all veterans in Citrus County.

202 ORANGE COUNTY [NY]

We have a new president, Jim Scali, who served in Korea from February 1967 to April 1968. The chapter has some 47 members. Our mission is to raise funds for the Korean American Foundations under the tutelage of Dr. Hubert Lee, who supports the orphans of Korea.

Jim Scali, tankerscali@yahoo.com

National KWVA Fund Raiser

Flower Rose of Sharon

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

- ☐ Sample order is 4 doz. @ \$12 plus \$6.35 S/H.
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Write or call: Earl House, 1870 Yakona Rd.,
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950.
Make Checks payable to:
KWVA Maryland Chapter 33



Members of Ch. 202 present at a recent breakfast meeting: (Front, L-R) J. Foster, Jim Scali, N. Scali, Dr. Hubert Lee (Back, L-R) J. Moss, E. Smith, M. Aiello, F. Deutsch (PF Chs)

215 GEN. WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

The Korean American Community in North Texas has continued to express its gratitude for the service of the U.S. military veterans of the Korean War. On July 18th, the Dallas Korean Consular hosted a luncheon for veterans and their guests. Peace Medals were presented to members Walter Beene, Joe Halpin, and Gerald Reynolds.



The display at the July 18th luncheon attended by Ch 215 members

The Consular also provided tickets for 24 members and their guests to attend the Texas Rangers baseball game on August 17th in celebration of Korean American Heritage Night. On August 18th, 19 members attended the banquet of the Korean American Coalition.

Five chapter members attended a meeting of the Federation of Mid-South Korean American Association on September 8th. Five States were represented to honor Korean War veterans.

Dave Moore, Dmoore.kwva215@outlook.com

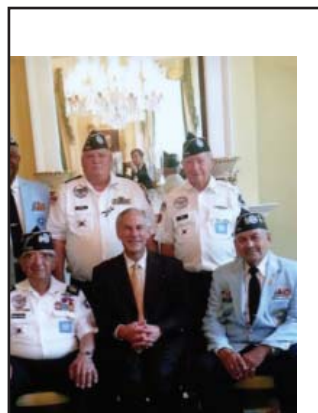


Former KWVA National President William Mac Swain, Consular General Hyong Kil Kim, from the Consular Office of the Republic of Korea in Houston, TX, and Ch 215 President James Sharp (L-R) at the September 8th meeting

222 DON C. FAITH (MOH) [TX]

We continue to be active. Here are many of our active officers and members.

Homer M. Garza, 500 Saunooke St.,
Harker Heights, TX 76548



Roy L. Lytle, Ch. 222 president



Homer M. Garza, past president and current 2nd VP of Ch. 222



Former POW Clifford Petrey of Ch. 222 and Mrs. Petrey



George Belk, Ch. 222 Trustee



Ronald Swift, chaplain for Ch. 222

251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Sara Reisinger and Sara Zestrow were our guest speakers at our August 2018 meeting. They gave a talk on Goat Yoga. They brought two four-month old goats to the meeting to demonstrate the soothing effects the animals have on seniors to improve their bodies and minds.



Sara Reisinger, Commander Richard Haney, and Sara Zestrow (L-R) at Ch. 251's August 2018 meeting



Jack Leaman, Henry Sugden, Dr. Kowalski, and Ken Heck (L-R) at Ch. 251's August meeting.

Classes are held at the Green Apple Barn, Freeland, MI and at various nursing homes. Their oldest student is 103.

Our guest speakers at the August 2018 meeting were Dr. Delores Kowalski and Henry Sugden (KWVA member). Dr. Kowalski is from a nonprofit Special Vision Needs Clinic in Saginaw, MI. Their mission is to help handicapped children and adults with vision related problems. They are supported by the United Way and area Lions and Lioness Clubs and the Ferris State University School of Optometry. Our local Chapter gave a \$1000 donation to support their mission. Dr. Kowalski's presentation was excellent and well received.

Our new commander, Richard Anderson, was installed at the



The group from Ch. 251 that attended the Korean Presbyterian Church event with the church's minister



Richard Anderson, the new president of Ch. 251



Newly elected officers of Ch. 251 installed at the August 2018 meeting

August 2018 meeting, along with our new officers. He will serve our Chapter for the next two years.

Richard Carpenter, 4915 N. River Rd.,
Freeland, MI 48623

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

At the April meeting, Dan Evangelista, who is the head of the Rhode Island Military Organization (RIMO) spoke about the military lounge at TF Green Airport, which the RIMO has set up to give veterans a place to relax while waiting for their flights. The lounge is run by volunteers and stocked by many local businesses and nonprofits.



Dan Evangelista speaks to Ch. 258

June 2nd was an adventure for three members of our chapter, Richard Bartlett, Robert Jaworski and Albert Golato, who visited Washington D.C. through the Rhode Island Fire Chiefs Association Honor Flight. The honor flights, which are run all across the country, are no cost to the veterans and give them an unforgettable day visiting our nation's capital and monuments.

The flight on this particular day was covered by our local



Members of Ch. 258 on Honor Flight

newspaper, the Providence Journal. In the next day's paper there was a beautiful feature article on the front page.

On June 15th Commander Richard Saint Louis and members Angelo Porcelli, Albert Golato, and Robert Jaworski were interviewed by a WPRI Channel 12 reporter Mike Montecalvo for an upcoming segment on Korean War veterans.

The Gloucester town clerk, Jean Fecteau, presided over our installation of officers at our June meeting.

Margaret Walsh, 311 Hardig Rd. #B206,
Warwick, RI 02886



Rhode Island Honor Flight participant and Ch. 258 member Robert Jaworski's paraphernalia for trip



Commander Richard Saint Louis, Angelo Porcelli, Albert Golato, and Robert Jaworski of Ch. 258 at interview



New officers of Ch. 258 take oath of office

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

Members and guests were treated to stories of early U.S. military in World War I by collector and historian Jack Eder, an Air Force veteran and member of World War 2 Round Table, in Indianapolis. He brought some of his collection of early aircraft miniatures used in the 1916-18 battles.



Jack Eder with some of his model plane collection and photographs of both German and American Aces, and Ch 259 Commander Tine Martin



More of the display items shown by Jack Eder to Ch. 259 audience

Covering the famous fliers from Allied and German forces he described their courage defending ground troops and fighting air battles. The primitive planes provided little protection from bullets, cold weather, and high altitude oxygen scarcity. Early fighter planes had been equipped with special gears to sync motor and machine guns to prevent propellers from being shot off.

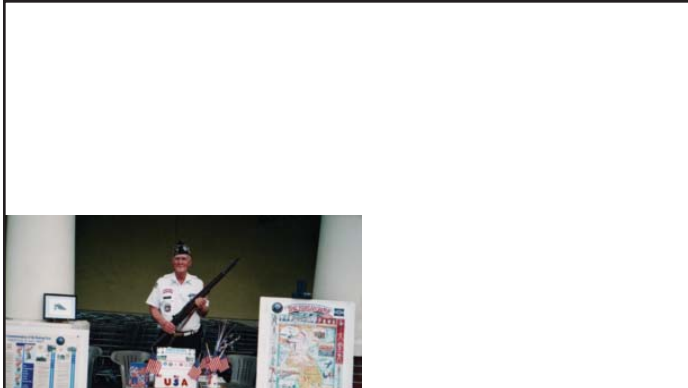
German pilots would sometimes become "Dog Fight" Aces then often be shot down by ground forces. The famous German Pilot, "The Red Baron," was one of those by flying too low to the infantry's rifles. Eddy Rickenbacker became famous as an American helping the French defeat Germany.

John Quinn, saggi32@aol.com

267 GEN. JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

We marched and rode in the annual 4th of July Parade in Micanopy, Florida this year. We have been in this parade for fifteen years. This year we joined two other veterans organizations, the Marine Corp League and the Vietnam Veterans of America, to march together.

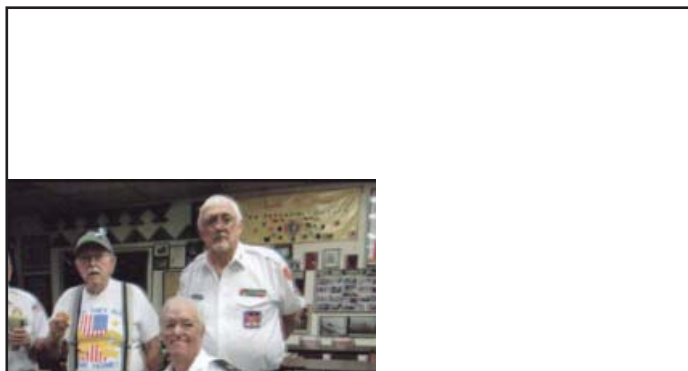
Members and guests who participated included Colonel Jake and Annette Feaster, Bill and Judy Barton, Betty Ann Means, Eddie and Evelyn Thomas, Terry Fitzpatrick, Commander Norm Tankersley, Vice Commander Carl Covey, Ron Carbaugh, Gerald Zagaiski, Vickie Van Buren, and Don Sherry.



Ch. 267 members cooling off after the July 4th parade: Eddie Thomas, Ron Carbaugh, Terry Fitzpatrick, Bill Barton, Gerald Zagaiski, Evelyn Thomas, Don Sherry, Norm Tankersley, and Carl Covey (L-R)



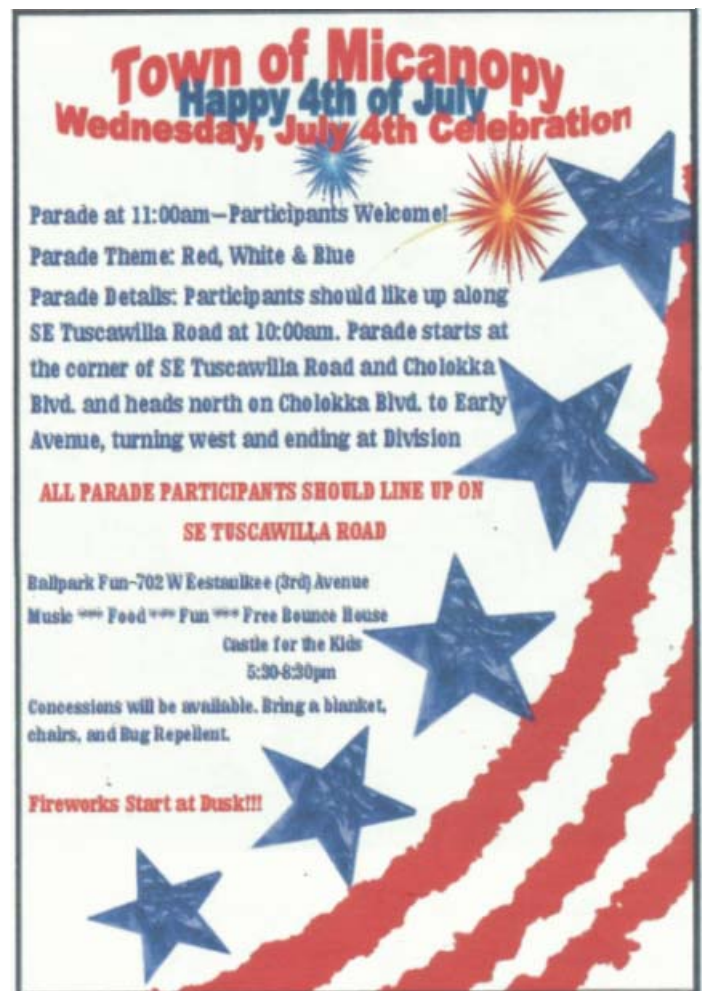
Marine Corps League participants in Micanopy, FL parade, followed by Ch. 267 contingent



Vickie Van Buren (L) and Betty Ann Means hold Ch. 267 banner in advance of Color Guard and truck at Micanopy, FL parade



Color Guard of Ch. 267: Bill Barton, Don Sherry, Gerald Zagaiski, Carl Covey, and Ron Carbaugh (L-R) march at Micanopy



Welcome to the Micanopy, FL 4th of July celebration

We had our banner, a Color Guard, a few marchers, and Colonel Feaster's truck, which was decorated with red, white and blue with several riders on board. Captain Fred Judkins of the Vietnam Veterans of America had his Army Jeep in the parade.

Micanopy hosts a full day of events to celebrate our nation's birthday. There were around 300 folks out to see the parade and the float riders threw candy to the kids again this year. This is a real slice of Americana, with Micanopy being one of the oldest towns in the South. The movie "Doc Hollywood," starring

Michael J. Fox, was filmed here for its old rural historic setting. The military units always lead off the parade and are a real favorite in this patriotic town.

Don Sherry, Adjutant, dpskwva@yahoo.com

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Members attended a special Korean War Veterans Appreciation luncheon at the Coyote Ridge Golf Course in Carrollton, Texas on July 19, 2018. The event was hosted by the Consular Office, Republic of Korea in Dallas, and the Korean Society of Dallas. Members stood for both the American and Korean national anthems.



Ch. 270 Color Guard opens Korean War Veterans Appreciation luncheon, as President J. D. Randolph (far right) looks on

Richard Sanchez and Dale Whitesitt of Ch. 270 receive their Ambassador for Peace Medals



Members of Ch. 215 at Ch. 270 luncheon

Richard Sanchez, Dale Whitesitt, and Homer Garrett received the Ambassador for Peace Medal. This commemorative medal is an expression of appreciation from the Korean government to American service members who served in the Korean War.

Joe Seiling, joeselin.debbie@sbcglobal.net

286 LEE ROY BATY/EAST TEXAS [TX]

On July 19, 2018, members attended the Korean War Veterans Appreciation Luncheon hosted by the Consular Office of the Republic of Korea in Dallas and The Korean Society of Dallas. The luncheon was held at the Coyote Ridge Golf Club, Carrollton, Texas.

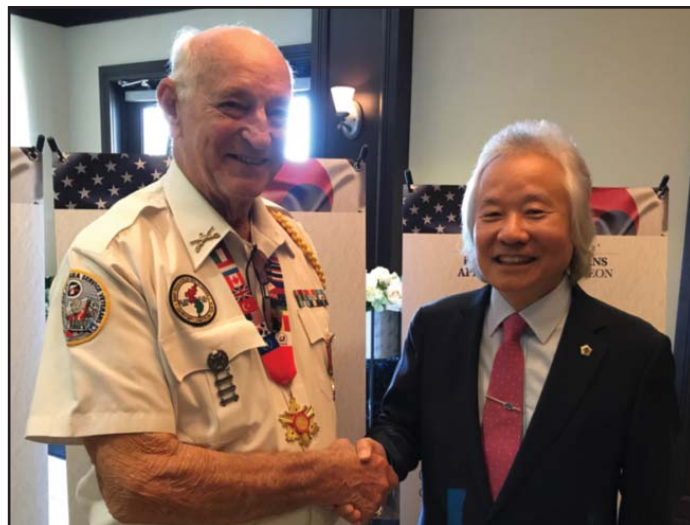
The annual luncheon allows the Korean community to show its appreciation to those who served and fought in the Korean War, to insure that the memory of all those who fought for Korea continues to live, and to let them know that their actions made South Korea what it is today.

During the luncheon, speeches were made, musical entertainment provided, and Korean Peace Medals were presented to five members: Jack Fields, Homer Garrett, Felix Byrd, Leo Glover, and Larry Pattings.

James Warren, jewarren@juno.com



James Warren, Homer Garrett, Thomas Scannicchio, Bob Perry, Jim Foy, and Larry Pattings of Ch. 286 (Standing L-R) with Barbara Scannicchio, Kay Garrett, Margaret Gill & Michael Gill (Sitting L-R) at luncheon



Ch. 286 President Bob Perry (L) with SukChan Yu, President of the Korean Society of Dallas



Bob Perry (L) of Ch. 286 talks with Larry Kinard, former National KWVA President

289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

Our busy season started the last week in March, when we began to present medallions to local JROTC cadets. The last of these presentations, our eleventh, occurred during the second week in May.



Fundraisers from Ch. 289: Arlen Hensley, Charles Penley, Mack Dunford, Yvette and Jim Beutel (L-R)



Standing at Ch. 289 fundraiser: Bob Shelton, Fred Rountree, Fred Himelwright, and Bob Jenkins, Sitting: Gale and Shirley Carpenter (L-R)

On April 4 at 11 a.m., we set up a table at the Veterans Awareness Expo at Northeast State Community College, where we spent several hours talking to students who stopped by our table.

We held our annual fundraiser on May 19, Armed Forces Day, at a local Walmart store.

Some members took part in the Kingsport Memorial Day program; others went to the memorial service at the VA in Johnson City.

We sponsored five students in the Summer Student Program at the VA hospital, where they assisted in the care of the veterans.

We participated in two 4th of July Parades: Kingsport, TN at 10 a.m., with the assistance of four cadets from the JROTC at



4th of July paraders from Ch. 289 at Kingsport, TN: Cadet Caleb Lambert, Bob Jenkins, Cadet Cayden Lambert, Fred Himelwright, Cadet Sara George, Bob Shelton, Fred Rountree and Cadet Ben Shanks (L-R)



Participants from Ch. 289 at the Bristol, TN/VA 4th of July Parade: Bob Shelton, Arlen Hensley and Butch Rhymer [CS1] (L-R) (Fred Rountree is missing from photo)



At the Kingsport, TN Fun Fest Table: Robert Shelton (L) and Bob Jenkins of Ch. 289

Dobbins-Bennett High School, then later in Bristol, TN/VA at 5 p.m. This was followed by our participation in the Kingsport Fun Fest, July 18-21. The chapter set up and manned a table at an event entitled "A Walk-Through History with Your Veterans."

Carol Shelton, cshelton37633@yahoo.com

297 PLATEAU [TN]

After the recent luncheon sponsored by the Legacy Four Foundation Honoring Korean Veterans, at the Red Stone Arsenal in Red Stone, AL, members met with Lt Gen. James Dickinson to discuss today's problems with the Republic of North Korea as they relate to the time they served in the early 1950s.

We held a summer Rose of Sharon event which coincided with visits from state politicians including State of Tennessee Representative Cameron Sexton and U.S. senate candidate Marsha Blackburn, who was running for the seat being vacated by Bob Corker.



Group from Ch. 297 including Carroll Reusch, LtGen. Dickinson, Cmdr. Gene Stone, and Jim Morris at Redstone Arsenal luncheon (L-R)



Cmdr. Gene Stone of Ch. 297 chats with State of Tennessee Representative Cameron Sexton, while Marsha Blackburn (in the background) campaigns

In a ceremony at our August meeting, Dick Malsack presented Andrea VanRekom, wife of deceased member Roger VanRekom, with a posthumous Plaque of Appreciation for Roger's intense attention to the chapter's Scholarship efforts.

We held our annual picnic in August, which gave members and guests a chance to eat well and chat with each other.

We have new officers: Cmdr. Gene Stone, Sr. Vice Cmdr. Jim Morris, and Jr. Vice Cmdr. Emil Zenk.

Dick Malsack, PIO, 931-707-7292,
kaslam2001@yahoo.com



Dick Malsack presents plaque to Andrea VanRekom as Roger's daughter Brandy Clark and granddaughter Tatum Robinson look on



Attendees at Ch. 297's annual picnic in August socialize



Charles McGhee, State of Tennessee Veteran Service Director, swears in Ch. 297's 2018-19 officers, Cmdr. Gene Stone, Sr. Vice Cmdr. Jim Morris, and Jr. Vice Cmdr. Emil Zenk (L-R)

301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

Hannah Kim visits

On June 15, 2018 we hosted a visit by Ms. Hannah Kim to the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Conestee Park, Greenville, SC with a brief ceremony. This was the 26th visit by Ms. Kim on her ambitious three-month journey to visit Korean War memorials in



Mrs. Lisa Yarbor sings the American national anthem at Ch. 301 event



Hannah Kim stands by Greenville, SC memorial



Mrs. Angela Lee sings the Korean national anthem at Greenville, SC gathering

Lew Perry tells the history of the Greenville, SC memorial at Ch. 301 greeting ceremony



all 50 states. She had already visited 24 countries that also took part in the Korean War. And, she visited North Korea.

Hannah's mission has been to honor and remember all those who served in the Korean War and to help bring peace on the Korean Peninsula. Ms. Kim also hopes her visits will raise awareness of the need for building the Wall of Remembrance (WOR), the long overdue addition to the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., which will contain the engraved names of more than 37,000 comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice, i.e., killed in action (KIA), or who suffered as POWs.

To open the ceremony, Chapter President Conrad Nowak called for posting of the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Mrs. Lisa Yarber, a Blue Star mother of an active duty son in the U.S. Marine Corps, sang the American national anthem. Mrs. Angela Lee, a South Korean-born Greenville, SC resident, sang the South Korean national anthem.

Following the opening invocation President Nowak welcomed chapter members, families, and the large crowd of guests, media and local residents. Chapter Past President Lew Perry, Chairman of the Memorial Committee, explained the origin and development of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Greenville, SC and the appointment of the committee in 2010. He thanked both the chapter members for the many hours of fundraising involved and the director of the Greenville County Recreation Dept. for making the location possible.



Lewis Vaughn, KWVA National Director, introduces local officials at Ch. 301 welcome to Hannah Kim



Ch. 301 President Conrad Nowak addresses Greenville, SC audience

Perry expressed special thanks for the location being so easily accessible for their senior members, with no steps and no hills to climb. Fundraising was completed at the end of 2012 and the Memorial was dedicated June 1, 2013. Lew invited the guests to take advantage of the Honors Walkway, which is open to the public, as a permanent place to honor or memorialize a veteran, family member, or friend.

Lewis Vaughn, chapter member and KWVA National Director, introduced the local officials who took part in the program.

- On behalf of Greenville Mayor Knox White, city councilman George Fletcher read and presented a resolution to Hannah welcoming her to the city and proclaiming June 15, 2018 “Hannah Y Kim Day” in the city.

- Greenville County Councilman Mike Barnes presented Hannah with a resolution from Greenville County.

- South Carolina State Senator Tom Corbin presented a South Carolina state flag to Hannah. The flag had flown over the State House in Columbia, SC.

- South Carolina State Representative Mike Burns presented Hannah with an American flag and a framed resolution from the State of South Carolina.

- Representatives of South Carolina U.S. Senators Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott read comments from each in their absence.

- Vaughn introduced Hannah Kim with a brief background about her mission.

Hannah was born and raised in Los Angeles CA, the daughter of South Korean parents. On her own she decided to go to Washington, D.C. where, as a graduate student, she established “Remember 727,” an organization dedicated to honoring all veterans of the so-called “Forgotten War.” Hannah lobbied Congress to enact legislation signed by President Obama in 2009 that established July 27th as a National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day. She subsequently worked for Congressman Charles B. Rangel, a decorated Korean War veteran, as communications director and later as his chief of staff. When Congressman Rangel retired in 2017, Hannah embarked on her epic three-month journey to visit the Korean War Memorials in all 50 states and around the world.

Hannah addressed the crowd in her jovial manner, explaining first her green dress in honor of Greenville, SC. In her comments Hannah told the veterans that if they hadn’t fought in the Korean War 70 years ago she wouldn’t even be here. For that reason she calls all the Korean War veterans her “Grandpas.” She then hugged and kissed every veteran there and gave each a small heart-shaped pin to show her personal appreciation.

Hannah, facing the semicircle of veterans in front of the Memorial, said “On behalf of all grateful Koreans I say with a very humble heart, I love you and thank you.” In a Korean tradition Hannah then knelt to the pavement with head bowed again saying “Thank you, I love you.”

Our Wall of Remembrance committee is actively raising funds. The initial goal was to raise \$20,000 dollars to cover the cost of engraving the names of those from Greenville County, SC. When that goal was reached the committee extended its



Hannah Kim thanks Korean War veteran and Ch. 301 member



Korean women display traditional clothing at Ch. 301 get-together

RIGHT: Hannah Kim bows in Traditional Thank You ceremony at Greenville, SC



Audience members at Ch. 301 ceremony



effort to assist other chapters across South Carolina with a goal of \$200,000. Donations may be sent to KWVA Foothills Chapter #301, P.O. Box 6903, Greenville, SC 29606, ear marked WALL OF REMEMBRANCE.

The Patriot Guard Riders, Greenville Chapter, stood a flag line around the Memorial during the ceremony.

Ms. Sara Yoon, Director of the Korean Cultural Center, Greenville SC, and friend of Chapter 301, was a gracious volunteer host, housing Hannah Kim in her home overnight and providing lunch for chapter members and guests after the ceremony.

The closing invocation was delivered by Chaplain Capers Sullivan. Following the retiring of the Colors, Hannah stayed for numerous interviews and photos. (All pictures by Jeromegraphy)

Lew Perry, (864) 363-6558 or
(864) 574-5569, lewperry@aol.com

313 SHENANDOAH VALLEY [VA]

We welcomed Hannah Y. Kim, a Korean-American, to the Winchester, VA area on July 24, 2018, where she met with Winchester area veterans. Ms. Kim, a Korean-American, has made it her mission to honor, thank, and remember Korean War veterans in the United States. The below article, by Brian Brehm, was published in the Winchester Star on July 25, 2018; the Star has granted permission for full reprint.

Korean-American Visits Winchester, VA to Campaign for Veterans and Peace

When U.S. service men and women returned home from the Korean War, their sacrifices were largely overlooked because there was no definitive victory and many people considered it to be a small, insignificant conflict.

Hannah Y Kim disagrees. The 35-year-old Korean-American said she and every other South Korean would be living dramatically different lives if not for the 21 member countries of the United Nations that stepped up to challenge communist North Korea's June 25, 1950, invasion of its democratic neighbor to the south.



Hannah Y. Kim bows at Winchester, VA memorial

"If you didn't fight in Korea almost 70 years ago, I wouldn't be here," Kim told a group of Winchester-area veterans Tuesday morning. "Neither would the Korean-Americans joining us here today, or the 2 million Koreans thriving across America, or the 50 million South Koreans enjoying the freedom North Koreans can

hopefully get a taste of. It's all thanks to you."

A total of 1.8 million Americans fought in Korea, comprising about 90 percent of the United Nations' total peacekeeping force. Nearly 34,000 of them, including 62 from the Northern Shenandoah Valley, lost their lives.



The wreath placed at the Winchester, VA memorial



Hannah Y. Kim kisses a Ch. 301 "Grandpa"

Kim, a former chief of staff for former Rep. Charles B. Rangel, D-N.Y., has made it her mission to honor, thank and remember Korean War veterans in the United States. In 2009, she created and spearheaded passage of a federal measure recognizing July 27 as National Korean War Armistice Day.

She also founded Remember727, a nonprofit organization that advocates for lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula and the addition of a Wall of Remembrance to the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The proposed wall is envisioned as a glass panel etched with the names of United States and United Nations troops who were killed or are still missing in Korea.

To raise awareness about the Wall of Remembrance, Kim embarked on a three-month national tour to visit Korean War memorials in 70 cities and all 50 states. Her journey began April 14 in Santa Paula, Calif., and is scheduled to officially end Friday

in Washington, but she still plans to visit memorials in Puerto Rico and Hawaii before returning home to Los Angeles.

Kim was in Winchester on Tuesday morning to place a wreath at the Korean War Memorial in Jim Barnett Park.

Just as the ceremony began, steady rain started to fall on the 50 or so people in attendance, including about 10 natives of South Korea.

"Thank you so much for being here despite the inclement weather," Kim said.

As the rain picked up in intensity, Kim cut off her remarks and placed a red, white and blue wreath in front of the granite memorial. At that moment, the rain ended and a hint of sunlight shone through the clouds.

When she returned to the podium, Kim said she wants the entire world to know about the war that saved her homeland.

"In my history class, I got one paragraph on the Korean War," she said. "World War II, Vietnam we studied for a month. But Korea was not even a day."

Kim said Korean War veterans deserve much more attention than they've been given because they made it possible for South Korea to flourish.

"From the ashes of war, it became the 11th largest economy in the world," she said. "That was thanks to you."

Last year, Kim spent four months visiting veterans in 24 countries that were involved in the war, including North Korean allies Russia and China.

"Every single veteran from either side, every country, they all said ... they wish for one Korea. They wish for peace," Kim said.

Technically, the Korean War never ended. An armistice was signed July 27, 1953, but there was no peace treaty.

Earlier this year, South Korean President Moon Jae-in and his North Korean counterpart, Kim Jong Un, vowed to bring a formal end to the war within the next few months.

"I'm very optimistic about the current peace process," Kim said. "Maybe the 200 Virginians still unaccounted for [from the Korean War] will come home to rest."

Kim refers to all Korean War veterans who fought for the United Nations as "grandpa" to show her respect for how they saved her nation.

"I'm here as your granddaughter to say, 'Thank you so much, grandpas, for your sacrifices,'" she said.

Nineteen Korean War veterans attended Tuesday morning, and Kim presented each with a heart-shaped pin, a hug and a kiss on the cheek.

She asked the audience to applaud for each man individually — Grandpa Dick, Grandpa Gary, Grandpa Marshall, Grandpa Ray, Grandpa John and so on.

"You're a nice lady," one of the grandpas said.

Kim then gave the men a moving and profound display of gratitude "on behalf of all Koreans" by kneeling in front of them and bowing her head, paying no mind to the puddles of rainwater on the brick pavement.

Korean War veteran Ray E. Ewing, commander of the Winchester-based Shenandoah Valley Chapter 313 of the Korean

War Veterans Association, said it's wonderful to see his brothers and sisters in arms finally receiving long-overdue accolades.

"It's not the forgotten war that it was at one time, and I'm very grateful for that," Ewing said.

Kim said her work on behalf of veterans, peace in the Koreas and the Wall of Remembrance will not end Friday, but she declined to say what comes next.

"That's a surprise," she said, "but it is to be continued."

David Clark, 1st Vice Commander,
declark193@gmail.com

ALABAMA

Local Korean War veterans attended the 13th annual Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Luncheon on July 27th at Redstone Arsenal. The guest speaker was LtGen James H. Dickinson, Commander U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

James G. Taylor, 195 Lake View Dr.,
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661



Richard Ricks, James Taylor, LtGen Dickinson, and John Green (L-R) at Redstone Arsenal luncheon

Honey wagons, reporters, and COs just don't mix

Stars & Stripes reporter Bob Black was en route to an assignment in Seoul when his driver pulled close to a vehicle heading in the same direction. That vehicle was clearly marked with the insignia of the 3d Infantry Division commander.

The commander's driver just nudged a honey wagon as he passed it on the narrow road. Black could hear the commander chewing out his driver in loud, less-than-polite terms, even though there was no damage done and the honey wagon remained upright.

Black ordered his driver to turn around immediately. There was no way he wanted the CO to know there was a reporter nearby who might record the incident. The players in the incident were not a good mix—especially with a honey wagon involved.

Korean War Veterans Association Inc

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3/\$10

60th Annv Coins

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Plus S & H

Not shown actual size



Back



Front



Back



Front

Where were you on July 27th?

July 27th

What a difference a day makes. Look at Lt. John (Ken) Leithman the day before the July 27, 1953 armistice signing and the day after. As he said, a “big difference.”



Before

After

Lt. John (Ken) Leithman in Korea

Celebrating July 27th twice

By Gene C. Richards

I arrived in Korea on 18 October 1952, when our troopship docked at Pusan. By the 25th, I had landed in “C” Battery, 57th FA Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. I was assigned as a Forward Observer (FO). After only one night in the firing battery, my FO team jeep driver, John Gambino, drove us up to the MLR (Main Line of Resistance), where the 7th ID was defending terrain in the Triangle Hill area.

I spent the next couple months as an artillery FO with a rifle company, Love Co., of the 31st Infantry Regiment. Then I got lucky and was transferred to the Division Air Section to perform duty as an artillery air observer, flying combat missions in the Cessna L-19 “Birdog.”

I flew my first mission on 11 December 1952. By early July of 1953 I had logged 219 missions, earned the Air Medal and 4 BOLC’s, and enough points—36—to rotate home! My orders to rotate to 7th Division rear came in on the morning of July 7th, routing me to the 8th Army Replacement Depot at Yong Dong Po (between Seoul and Incheon).

But, about this time the Chinese started that big offensive along the central front and the Pork Chop Hill area, where our 7th ID was located. So, all orders that had been issued to troops to rotate home were temporarily suspended.

After about 10 days at 7th ID rear, I received orders to proceed to the Replacement Depot near Inchon, arriving there around July 19th or 20th. The troop ship I would likely be boarding for my voyage back to the states was still at sea, inbound for the Port of Incheon. With an expected wait of several days, I checked with the Air Transportation office at the Replacement Depot to see if I could possibly be routed back through Camp Drake, Japan, rather than the

troop ship directly from Incheon back to the states.

I told the young WOJG in charge of the Air Transportation office that I had a twin brother in the Air Force who was stationed at a satellite base of the big Tachikawa AFB (only about ten miles from Camp Drake), and that he would not be rotating home for about another year. I had a brief visit with him about nine months previously when passing through Drake on my way to Korea.

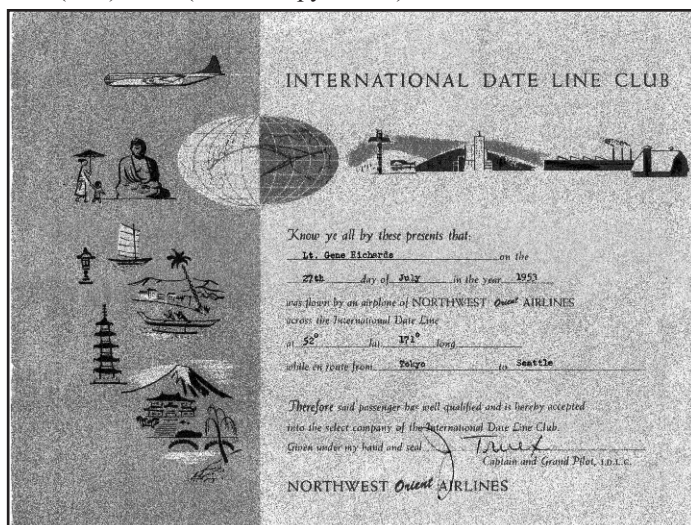
The young WOJG looked at me briefly, as if to ask if he was supposed to believe this wild story I had just blurted out. Then he said, “Lieutenant, I’m not promising you anything, but I’m putting you down on this long list.”

Lo and behold, the very next day my name appeared on Special Orders as an Air Courier to Camp Drake, Japan. So, on 24 July 1953, just three days before the cease fire, I boarded a C-47 transport plane and flew to Camp Drake. During the three days I was there, I had a short visit with twin-brother Jack. Then orders came down assigning me as an Air Courier to Ft Lewis, Washington. This was July 27, 1953. We had just received word of the cease fire taking effect in Korea! But wait! This story can’t end here, as I was destined to live through this day twice!

Late that evening I boarded a chartered Northwest Orient Airlines DC-4 at Tokyo International Airport, which would involve a long, three-leg flight through Shimya AFB (Aleutian Islands), Anchorage, Alaska, and finally to McCord Air Force Base, Washington, adjacent to Ft Lewis. A short time after departing Tokyo, we passed midnight on the clock, and it was now July 28th.

A few hours later, before we reached Shimya Air Force Base, we crossed the International Date Line. Suddenly, it was July 27th again! We had literally flown back into yesterday! So all these 65+ years since, I’ve been telling folks that I lived through July 27, 1953 twice! And, I have a certificate to prove it!

Northwest Orient Airlines issued every passenger aboard that flight a certificate making us members of the International Date Line (IDL) Club. (See the copy below.) The certificate states the lat-



Gene Richards' certificate

itude and longitude of the point where we crossed the IDL, and is dated July 27, 1953

How many people got to enjoy the cease fire day twice?

Gene C Richards, 4328 Booth Calloway Rd., North
Richland Hills, TX 76180, 817-845-9409
(cell), ocsgene@sbcglobal.net

Last ship out

Near the end of July 1953 I prepared to travel south to Pusan as I had earned 39 points in order to rotate. I served as a medic with the 1st Bn of the 5th Regimental Combat Team.

I boarded the *USNS General Meigs* (I chose to go home by ship instead of flying, which was offered). It was a great day as I boarded the ship and was assigned to a nine-person stateroom with sheets. (I never slept on sheets during my time in Korea). In the mess hall, we found tablecloths and a printed menu. Wow, this was luxury!

The day we boarded ship was July 23rd. There were rumors the war was ending and there was concern that “our” ship might not sail due to the need to transport POWs. We felt guilty, but did very much want to be on our way home to San Francisco. However, we departed Pusan and enjoyed a marvelous trip home. (I could be wrong, but I think the next “drop” did not occur until late September, so we were the last ship out when the war ended.)

Killed, not maimed, or—the dud

By Lou Horyza

In January 1953 our Tank Platoon, 279th Inf. Regt., 45th Div., was at a location in the entrance to what was known as Massacre Valley because, prior to our arrival, a full platoon of tanks, 17 tanks, made a thrust down the valley and was wiped out. None of the tanks or their occupants—five men per tank—were ever retrieved.

We were spread out across this valley looking up at Sandbag Castle and Heartbreak Ridge. Normally we never left the confines of our bunker to get to our camouflaged tank during daylight. Our tank was in a firing position about 60 feet in front of our bunker and right out in the open. We only pulled guard duty after dark, when the Chinese who were on a hill looking right down at our position could not see us to fire on us in the open.

For some reason, this particular day I had to get to the tank to get something. I don’t remember what, but it was very important that I retrieve that item. As I started across the opening ground and was about halfway between the tank and our bunker, I heard an enemy artillery piece fire. As I heard the shell heading in my direction I listened very carefully. At first I thought it was going to pass over. But, when the whistling stopped I knew it was coming right down at me.

To the right of the tank was another bunker. I made a sliding dive down the entrance path and through the canvas door and into the bunker. Then I realized I was in the ammunition bunker full of grenades, tank ammunition, machine gun bullets and such. I thought—“Boy, if it hits here I am really going to disappear.”

I looked upward and said to God, “If it’s my time, then kill me. But I don’t want to be maimed.”

Then I started chuckling to myself, because when we were kids and read all the Mike Hammer pocket novels the author would write,” He burst into the room and with his Tommy gun killed 15

So, that was a day to be remembered—July 23rd!!

Bill Kramer, 50 Mounds Rd, #214
San Mateo, CA 94402

Firing a bottle rocket 65 years ago

I arrived in Inchon, Korea October 1952. We loaded onto 6 x 6’s and headed for the MLR. The next day we were located in the Panmunjom Corridor on the left flank of the 1st Marine Division, Able Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (A/1/5). It happened to be a no fire zone. However, we made numerous patrols into the DMZ at night, of course, for many months.

Then we went into Corps reserve and went on a practice landing on the west coast of Korea. At one point, we made a daylight raid on a hill called Ungock, February 3rd, and had a high number of casualties.

Later that year, we rejoined Able Company (A/1/5) and returned to the same place in which we started.

On July 27, 1953, every company on line fired a bottle rocket to signal the signing of the truce that ended the war. (I take issue with those who call it a “conflict.”)

I was fortunate to be picked to fire that rocket.

Dr. Phil Kerz, 851 Beech Tree Rd.,
Charleston, IL 61920

crooks and maimed 10.” We used to laugh about that when discussing the book, and wondered what maimed meant. Whatever it was, we told each other, “We never wanted to be maimed.” Then we would laugh. All that came back to me in a nanosecond.

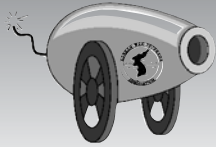
Then I heard a “thunk” sound. Just that: a thunk. I looked through the pass-through window of the bunker and saw this artillery round sitting there in a little depression. At first I thought that the Chinese must have put the fuse on delay, as that was one of my tactics to fool the enemy. After waiting a minute or so, I realized it was a dud, so I left the bunker, went to the tank, and got what I had started out for. Then I casually walked back to our living bunker, thinking the enemy must believe I am invincible and wouldn’t shoot again.

I must have been right, because they did not fire another artillery round that day. But they did spray our position with machine gun fire. By this time I was safe behind sandbags in the entrance to our bunker—and far from maimed.

Lou Horyza, 667 Escuela Pl.,
Milpitas, CA, 408-263-8779, loupegh@aol.com



Dud on ground



Feedback/Return Fire

This section of The Graybeards is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141; E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (813) 614-1326. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

Three, not four, Essex Class carriers

I bring to your attention to an error in the most recent edition of *The Graybeards*. On page 62, in the caption for photo of USS *Boxer*, you state "After the Korean War, the Navy turned over four Essex class carriers to the Marine Corps: *Boxer*, *Essex*, *Princeton* and *Iwo Jima*."

There was NO Essex Class carrier named *Iwo Jima*. There were three Essex Class carriers named after WWII battles, *Leyte* (CV-32), *Tarawa* (CV-40) and *Philippine Sea* (CV-47). *Shangri La* (CV-38) was named after the launching of Jimmy Doolittle's raid on Tokyo in 1942. *USS Essex* (CV-9) was never converted to an LPH. She remained an operational carrier for her entire career.

With that said, I commend you and your staff for the work that you do in preparing and distributing the "Graybeards," without a doubt, the best Veteran's Organization Magazine in print today. Many thanks for your efforts. Look forward to my copy every other month with great anticipation. Keep up the good work!!

CWO-2 John E. Printy, USN Ret., wileyoldfox@comcast.net

There were no 280s in Korea during the war

I wish you would quit printing speculative sightings of the 280mm gun. The guns were not in Korea during the 1950-53 period with the shooting war going on. These guns were made to shoot 280mm rounds 20 miles away, not at bayonet range.

In January 1958 I went to Korea and was assigned to a 280 battalion. These guns had arrived recently from Okinawa with a skeleton force to teach how to shoot and transport the guns. I had to learn how to compute the range and direction of the gun.

Two guns, including "Atomic Annie," were assigned to Munsani (A battery). My battery was at Camp Santa Barbara; C Battery was at Uijonbu. We fired many HE rounds into the firing range at the bend of the Injim River during my thirteen-month tour.

Sometime during that year a calibration team arrived to check the MV. When the first round was fired through the rings, the MV was too much for them to register. So I computed the fall of shot calibration for all six guns.

Charles Sommer was correct in the reinforcement of bridges, but not for 280s in 1952/53.

I left Korea in February 1959. I heard later that the guns had to leave Korea because of some treaty. "Atomic Annie" was at the artillery museum at Fort Sill, OK.

Dudley A. Middleton, 3109 Old Farm House Rd.
North Ft. Myers, FL 33917

Re Atomic Cannons, Nuclear Weapons, and a Mystery of the Korean War...

Comments continue to flow in regarding the book. It is amazing how many people recall experiences with and about the atomic cannon, "Atomic Annie," supposedly deployed to Korea—or not—and the role of nuclear weapons in the Korean War.

Hey, maybe I will write a sequel. In the meantime, you can order your copy of the fast-selling book for \$22, which includes a signed copy of the book, shipping and handling, and the all-important \$2 contribution to the Wall of Remembrance Fund. (To date we have raised \$222.00 for the fund.)

To get your copy, send your order to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, sun City Center, FL 33573.

240s: very impressive

A battery (2 guns) of 240mms set up and fired across the road from our CP. Very impressive!

John Hankel, 13713 W. 78th St., Lenexa, KS 66216

Closure at last

We are of the few who were in that "far way country" and remember that momentous "cease fire day" when our 21 +/- minds experienced mixed feelings of relief and sadness while wondering what would come next in our bloody trenches, where we saw so many of our buddies lost or maimed.

At that time, I only felt anger and wanted revenge against our ruthless enemy. Now, at 86, my mature mind remembers many of the actions as if it were only weeks ago. The 65 years since living an active family life has changed my mind to thinking of the "the good things of life for now and hoping for peace in the future."

After going on a 7-day trip back to Korea in 2000 and seeing how my last bitter memories of 47 years prior of destruction, desolation, and hopeless refugees had changed, and seeing a rejuvenated nation with thriving civilians, I found my closure at last!

It is ironic that today (July 27, 2018) the remains of 55 MIA Americans were released by the North Koreans to be returned in honor for their long air trip home to USA, where they can be laid at rest with their family members.

May our few remaining years find peace!

Wayne Pelkey (F180 45th Inf. Div.), wppelkey@charter.net

MIA Remains from North Korea – Another Perspective

Re: Captain Fred Brinson Rountree, Missing Jan. 14, 1951, Near Pyongyang, North Korea

I appreciate that North Korea has seen fit to return some of our Korea War MIAs. I really appreciated the ceremony in Hawaii and the words from Vice President Pence. He and our military men and women showed tremendous respect and devotion as the remains were delivered to American soil. It was an emotional experience for us.

Though it is a long and tedious process, I hope that some of these remains will be identified and returned to their families. I am not optimistic that my father's remains will ever be recovered and identified. We don't have DNA from the maternal side of the family, from grandmother, mother, or sister that would make identity conclusive.

My father, Fred Brinson Rountree, went missing over North Korea on January 14, 1951 when his B26B bomber was damaged by ground fire and he bailed out of the burning aircraft. He was last seen by farmers who reported that someone with his description was being led away by Chinese troops with hands tied behind his back.



Fred B. Rountree Sr. (pilot), Lt. Don Thomas (navigator), Sgt. Bernard Mitchell (gunner) (L-R)

My mother had hopes that something might be learned about her husband's fate. Sixty five years ago, in 1953, she hoped that my father would be among those who crossed the 'Freedom Bridge' between North and South Korea's DMZ during the prisoner exchange after the cease fire. It was not to be.

When I received my Army orders in 1969 to report for duty in South Korea, my mother asked me to look into the black market to see if I could find my father's West Point (USMA) ring. She still wanted something of his to hold. We still have not recovered his ring.

I think that one of the saddest things for the families of the missing is that the wives never had a wedding anniversary to celebrate. The children never drew a Happy Father's day card and never got to see them blow out the candles on a birthday cake, or

open a Christmas present. Our last Christmas together was just three weeks before my father went missing. The film of that Christmas shows us filled with joy and delight.

I don't know how long my father survived after capture, or where he ended up; in China, Russia or North Korea. But I know his thoughts were always on his beautiful wife and his little boys. I know he prayed that someday he would be reunited with his family.



**Fred B. Rountree Jr.,
Fred B. Rountree Sr.,
Dorothy Rountree,
Jimmy Rountree**

The story of the Korean War and the MIAs will fade in the news and in the minds of the readers. For us, it will live on from one generation to the next as we wait, against all hope, for our father so that he can be interred in our family's cemetery. A head stone having his birth date and MIA date awaits a final inscription 'returned'.

*Fred B. Rountree Jr., 575 Boring Chapel Rd., Unit 28,
Johnson City, TN 37615, FRountree@aol.com*

An Engineer Spare Parts Supply Specialist at CBR School

I read the letter from Bill Mutant in the May-June issue of The Graybeards, pp. 65-66, asking if anyone remembers Eta Jima base in Japan. (Eta Jima is a small island in the Inland Sea off the Inland coast east of Kure.) I also was sent to CBR School there in March 1954 for the 2-week course. I came by the troopship Gen. M.C. Meigs to Tokyo Bay and spent a few days at Camp Drake before taking a troop train to Kure on the Inland Sea, 10 miles from Hiroshima.



An overview of Eta Jima

What we were not told was that Kure had been a principal port and shipyard, but we did know that Eta Jima had been the

Imperial Naval Academy and had been returned to the Japan Self-Defense Force. Most of the men on that troop train went on to Sasebo and then Korea and most of the men at the school were then sent to Korea and perhaps other bases to take their advanced training to their new units.

After finishing the 2 week course I was sent back to the Tokyo-Yokohama area to be assigned to the Yokohama Engineer Depot, for which I had just been schooled at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia as an Engineer Spare Parts Supply Specialist.

I remember the chlorine gas chamber, the radiation exposure, and decontamination mustard oil (gas) from a cannon. Anyone else remember Eta Jima? I am attaching an aerial photo of the base I purchased in the PX there (see page 59).

Paul Spohn, Shawnee, KS, Cpl., USA 1953-1955, paulspohn33@gmail.com, Ch. 181, Overland Park, KS

Where are the C Co., 5th Cav. Rgmt., 1st Cav. vets now?

I was stationed at Camp McGill in Japan in 1950 when the hated North Koreans attacked South Korea. I was in C Co., 5th Cav. Rgmt., 1st Cav. at the time.

Around July 6, 1950 my outfit was alerted to go to Korea. My CO received orders to send all the WWII veterans to the 24th Inf. Div. in southern Japan. There were some privates and corporals among them. I am trying to find out what happened to all those buddies of mine. Were they all wiped out?

Some of them were Sgt. Kerry Kendal Downs, Sgt. DeSinatels, Sgt. Cook, Sgt. Mudd, Sgt. Shultz, Pvts. Morgan, McCune, Maui, Martinez, and Meehan, and others whose names I cannot recall. (Some of the names may be misspelled.)



USS Cavalier (APA-37) making smoke as she follows USS Titania (AKA-13), as U.S. Forces prepare to land at Pohang South Korea, 18 July 1950. LIFE Magazine Archives - Carl Mydans Photographer, shared by Peter DeForest. Used for educational and non-commercial purpose.

The rest of the company left on July 13, 1950 aboard *USS Cavalier* (APA-37), under the command of Captain Selman Stewart Bowling, 2 July 1949 - 24 July 1950, USN (USNA 1927), who reached the rank of RADM. We had undergone amphibious landing training about four months earlier. We made the landing on July 18th at Po Hung Dong, north of Pusan.

Even though I am 88 years old I still wonder what happened

to my friends from Charley Company.

Rudy Garcia, 6319 Hunter St., Ventura, CA 93003, 805-289-9268

Memories

Wakkanai, Hokkaido Japan-The Northern Tip

By Walter Redden

Wakkanai, located on the northern tip of the island of Hokkaido, is a windy city (not Chicago) and an important port for fishing boats bringing in rich catches of shellfish, sea urchins, and scallops. It is a place where tons of plankton is harvested from the ocean.

Plankton is a free-floating organism, mostly plants, that drifts in the ocean. The word "plankton" comes from the Greek word meaning "drifter" or "wanderer." When taken from the ocean, the plants are about the same size as a medium-sized water hose. The plankton is spread on top of the houses to dry. Once dried, it is then cut into small pieces, seasoned with salt and then eaten as if it were a potato chip. I admit this product tasted good!

The Wakkanai lighthouse, located on Cape Nashappu, is the tallest on Hokkaido. The Russian island of Sakhalin, a few miles north of Wakkanai, can be seen on a clear day. From November to March, Wakkanai is akin to a Siberian outpost, and heavy winter wear from head to foot is an absolute necessity. The snow collects and piles up to 5 feet. It is very difficult to remove such a huge pile of snow.

Very near the mess hall was a small mountain. My buddy from upper state New York enjoyed skiing the slopes.

*Walter Redden, 7521 Old Canton Rd. Apt. E6
Madison, MS 39110, 601-707-7046*

Korean vets, family, friends

Barre, VT was featured on page 77 of the July-August 2018 "The Graybeards." Although Barre is a small city of 7,500, it is a patriotic community that has a veterans parade with a good turnout of veterans and spectators each year on Memorial Day (May) and again on Veterans Day (November 11th).

I encourage you to participate in your local recognition of veterans, especially your own Korean War veterans, as we are near the end of our "living veterans era." Then we will only be a history memory!

God Bless & Peace,

*Wayne Pelkey (Infantryman, Fox 180, 45th Div.),
wppelkey@charter.net*

Emancipation and integration

I believe you put a couple of questions out to us in *The Graybeards*. The first question was "Was Korea Necessary?" Japan had occupied and enslaved Korea since 1905. They had made the Koreans change their names to Japanese names and speak only the Japanese language. It was disgraceful and cruel.

When World War II broke out Japan treated them like eunuchs and forced them to do whatever was dangerous or life threatening, or they just worked them to death. One of the outcomes of WWII was that Japan's hold on Korea broken.

COME ALONG AND SEE

What Some Young Men Did in '48, '49, '50, '51, '52

By

Dan Rasmussen Jr.



As a result of the Korean War, South Korea became the successful, powerful country that it is today. The people who made it that way worked hard, e.g., by studying 7 hours a day, 7 days a week for years.

The second question was regarding integration in the armed forces. Forever, it seems, the white soldiers and the black soldiers in our country were separated. In 1948 the order came out that we were no longer going to keep them separated. The Korean War provided the first test on integration in war time.

Here we are, sitting on the 38th parallel in war-torn Korea, when our Fox Company was told we are getting two Black soldiers! Our third platoon got one of them!!!! We had access to South Korean Soldiers, so someone made the decision that we would put a "South Korean Soldier" in a front bunker with the second black man! It didn't work out.

Dan Rasmussen, Jr., 323 Fuller St.,
Richland, WA 99354, 509-943-3369

Note: Mr. Rasmussen talked about the result of the South Korean with a Black Soldier experiment in his book, Come Along and See, on pp. 123-125. It didn't work out. The book is available through amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and through the author.

A strange voice speaks

The following is a true account of what happened to me. It's on "The Square."

I was captured on February 13, 1951. After about three months I wound up in Kangdong Camp # 8 in North Korea. I had been there for a month, and I was sitting around with three other POWs. The building we were in was made of wood and I was told that the Japanese had built it and the others in the camp when they occupied Korea before the Korean War. Suddenly, from another part of the building I heard someone say "Hey, Cortez."

I answered, "Yeah."

Then the voice, which was loud and very clear, said "Todd is the hospital."

I responded "Okay, thanks."

A little later I walked about 100 yards where the so-called hospital was. I stood by the doorway and saw GIs lying on both sides of the room. I started walking in, looking only to the left side. The fourth person in was my "brother" Todd.

I looked down at him and said, "Hey, Todd."

He answered, "Hey, Cortez."

I asked him how he was doing. He showed me his hips, on which there were huge bruises that looked like holes. I imagine they came from lying on the mats. We talked for a while, then I left.

In the middle of September the POWs who were weak were put on ox-pulled carts. We were being turned over to the Chinese. After traveling on a small boat on the Yalu River we arrived in Camp 3 North. In the middle of spring in 1952 we were separated. I, and many others, were taken to Camp 3 South.

I didn't see my "brother" Todd for fifteen years, until we met again at Fort Hood, TX, where we renewed our lost friendship. A few years later we met at a Korean Ex-POW reunion and I asked him if we actually knew each other when we first met in Camp #8. He said no.

At other reunions I would ask him again and the answer was the same. Once I asked, "Well, how did we know each other?" Even when that person told me that Todd was in the hospital I didn't question who he was. In my mind I knew who he was.

Years later I was talking about Todd at home. I told my wife that I still didn't know how we knew each other. What she said next was, "God brought you together."

I kept quiet for a few seconds thinking of what she had just said. Then I said that that was the only plausible answer to my question. I never had the chance to tell my brother Todd that because he had passed a few days before the answer was revealed to me.

I wonder if any other GIs had encounters like I did.

Oscar Cortez, ocortez552@gmail.com

And now for the rest of the story...

Oscar Cortez' story needed a bit of clarification. Here is Part II:

I started calling Todd my brother because of the way we met and what we went through as prisoners-of-war. Prior to that episode in the hospital we had never met personally. Yet, we

somehow knew each other. (To me it was a divine meeting).

After I and many others were transferred to another location I lost track of him. We each went our different ways as we remained in the Army. I went back to Korea in 1964 and then to Vietnam in 1965-66. It was when I returned from Nam that we met once more. To me that was very significant, because we didn't know each other and we had never met before, but in my mind and in his we knew each other. It was and still is a very mysterious meeting.

My wife was right when she said that "GOD" brought us together. If anyone has another explanation I would love to hear it. I sure can't explain it. Even my parish priest couldn't come up with a different explanation. We loved each other like "brothers", and I still consider Todd my BROTHER, even though he is in heaven.

How can it not be significant when we didn't know each other but we did know each other in our minds? I am sure that the readers will also be mystified as to how we met.

Faternally, Oscar Cortez

Opinion Column on US-NK Nuclear Negotiations and Need to Formally End Korean War

Thanks for printing my story, "Where were you on July 27th," in the July/August 2018 issue, p. 57. I'm a little surprised that nobody, not even a local KWVA member, has contacted me with comments.

Recently I heard Professor Sam Hoff, of Delaware State University fame, speak at our current events class at the University of Delaware's Osher Institute of Lifelong Learning in Wilmington. He distributed a handout which I thought you would treasure and like to include in your next issue.

I asked the professor for an e-mail copy and he promptly sent it. He is as anxious as I am to have you print it.

Ben Raphael, benraphael@msn.com

Here is the piece written by Dr. Hoff. It serves as a grim reminder of the effects of the Korean War as well as great intro to its history.

Memo For Trump-Kim Summit: End The War

By Dr. Samuel B. Hoff

The June 12th summit meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un in Singapore was ostensibly held to discuss how and when the latter nation will abandon its nuclear weapons advancement. But before that issue is resolved, a more basic, sequential step must occur: formally ending the Korean War by replacing the tenuous armistice with a declaration of peace.

The open fighting part of the Korean conflict ended on July 27, 1953, with a truce which drew a cease-fire line at the 38th parallel and permitted exchange of prisoners of war. However, neither a formal peace agreement nor Korean unification was seriously considered at the 1954 Geneva Conference.

The three years of military conflict on the Korean peninsula had a devastating impact on all nations involved: The United States suffered a total of more than 58,000 deaths in Korea, of which 33,000 were direct combat casualties. Along with South

Korean and UN troops, there were a total of 200,000 troops killed and over 500,000 wounded. China and North Korea lost a total of 750,000 troops, with a like number injured. It is estimated that there were in excess of 2.5 million civilians killed or wounded in the war.

The division in Korea—not unlike that in Vietnam—gave an opportunity for Cold War antagonists to take sides, with the United States supporting South Korea and China and Russia backing North Korea. From 1948 until the present, the Kim family has ruled North Korea, with Kim Il Sung ruling until 1994, son Kim Jong Il serving until 2011, and Kim Jong Un from 2011 until now.

Over this period, there have been repeated claims of human rights abuses, with millions of people either killed in purges or locked away in prison camps. Further, North Korea has experienced multiple instances of famine, likewise impacting millions of residents. Other charges against North Korea include kidnapping or murdering personnel in other nations, periodically attacking South Korean forces and development of nuclear weapons.

Despite U.S. attempts to prevent North Korea from acquiring nuclear capability, the aforementioned country did so in 2006. Since that time, North Korea has both expanded the number of nuclear warheads and gained the ability to deliver them with ballistic missiles. The nuclear tests which North Korea ran in 2017 coincided with several factors, including the election of new leaders of America and South Korea, the U.S. proposal to place the THAAD anti-missile system in South Korea, China's increasing international role, and the augmentation of sanctions against North Korea's regime.

Whether North Korea will decide to divest itself of nuclear weapons is an open question. Granted, the regime has made a number of recent positive moves toward reconciliation, including meeting multiple times with U.S. and South Korean officials and pledging deconstruction of one nuclear facility. But in order to take the step of abandoning its nuclear program, North Korea will probably demand a number of things in return, starting with removal of all economic sanctions and an assurance of non-aggression by the U.S. Should unification between North and South be considered in the future, so would asking U.S. troops to leave the peninsula.

What is apparent now is that there is an opportunity, an opening, for North and South Korea to officially end the conflict which left millions dead and helped to define the Cold War era for decades. There exists trust and communication where neither could be found before. Though there may be few areas of agreement, there is greater understanding of positions and priorities. So it's great that President Trump and Kim Jong Un will continue discussing nuclear weapons policy, but first things first: conclude the conflict. Even for a president without a sense of history, that would be a huge step in creating more comity between the principals and ultimately in achieving global tranquility.

NOTE: Dr. Samuel B. Hoff is George Washington Distinguished Professor of History and Political Science and Law Studies Director at Delaware State University. A previous recipient of a military history fellowship from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Dr. Hoff teaches and publishes extensively on foreign, military, and national security issues.

SS Marine Devil was afloat in 1947

This letter is long overdue. Anyone who had an issue with the VA or anything else concerning the ship *SS Marine Devil* and was denied a claim should be aware that the vessel was in service in 1947, transporting troops to Korea. The government has denied that the ship was in service at that time, but I have the story behind it.

I have positive proof: a ship newspaper. I was aboard the ship.

James A. Dengel, 260 W. 260th St.,
Bronx, NY 10471, 718-884-7064



Two views of SS Marine Devil (Source: <http://www.danielsww2.com/page37.html>)

NOTE: The U.S. Army ship *SS Marine Devil* was a C4 class transport ship, utilized to return soldiers, sailors and airmen from overseas duty back to the United States during and after WWII. Allegedly it was decommissioned in 1946. According to one source the ship was operated by the United Fruit Company (Source: <https://www.trailblazersww2.org/pdf/marinedevil.pdf>)



It was quarantined in San Francisco in April 1946 after returning from Korea. The reason was a smallpox epidemic, which stranded 2,506 men aboard for a week. (*Kenosha [WI] Evening News*, April 1, 1946, p.18.)

A pole full of ears

Without a lot of detail, I was able to travel to the Turkish area on a "Material Exchange" mission. That was for alcoholic beverages, etc., that we had to trade.

I entered one of the Turks' odd-shaped tents and noticed the center pole had long strings of mushrooms hanging on it. I asked where they got them. The Turks explained that they were North Korean and Chinese ears.

Those Turks were tough. No wonder they sustained the highest percentage of casualties among the allied forces in the Korean War. Enough said.

Albert De Luna, 690 S. Beverwyck Rd.
Parsippany, NJ 07054

The Turks

I was assigned to Anti-Tank Co., 5th Marine Regt. We were told quite a bit about the Turks. Their religion was Muslim. They had a belief that if they died in combat they would go to the seventh level of heaven and would get seven virgin wives. They were not paid by the month, but by the kill.

To prove a kill they needed an ear from an enemy. So, they would enter enemy trenches with only a knife. That proved to be a problem. The UN people realized that the Turks could not tell a North Korean ear from a South Korean ear, which led to the loss of many South Koreans. So the Turks were sent home.

My second cousin was in the Navy, serving on the ship that transported them back to Turkey. He told me the sailors would not go down into the hole (sleeping quarters) of the Turks because it stunk so badly. Some of the ears had not been cured properly.

(Sgt) G. F. Wagoner, *Koreas*, 2/52-3/53,
P.O. Box 76, Deep Run, NC 28525

EDITOR'S NOTE: In 1953, when I was a young lad of 12, one of my brothers-in-law, who served with the 7th Marines in Korea, returned home and told me startling stories about Turkish soldiers in Korea. Then, after I swore never to join the Marine Corps due partly to his stories, I arrived at Parris Island in 1958.

All of my DIs professed to be Korean War veterans and, in rare moments of candor, praised the Turks with whom they had come in contact and pointed to them as models of modern-day warriors who we could emulate. But, did the Turks really cut off their enemies' ears? Or was that a myth?

Turkish participation

The Turkish Brigade (code name North Star, Turkish: Şimal Yıldızı or Kutup Yıldızı), was a Turkish Army Infantry Brigade that served with the United Nations Command during the Korean War between 1950 and 1953. Attached to the U.S. 25th Infantry Division, the Turkish Brigade fought in several actions and was awarded Unit Citations from Korea and the United States after fighting in the Kunuri Battle.

The Turkish Brigade developed a reputation for its fighting ability, stubborn defense, commitment to mission, and bravery.

Losses

Overall losses for the Turkish Brigade in Korea was 721 killed in action, 2,111 wounded and 168 missing. Among the losses is the lone Turkish pilot, Muzaffer Erdönmez, who piloted a US B-26 and was shot down over Wonch Ang-ni while bombing the railroad tracks. A total of 14,936 men served in the brigade between 1950–1953, with about 5,455 soldiers in Korea at any one time.

The United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan, South Korea is the burial place for 462 of those casualties. Two memorials to the Turkish soldiers are at the cemetery. (Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish_Brigade)

“Certain Turkish patrols always reported high body counts when they returned from patrols. Headquarters always scoffed at the high numbers, much higher in fact than any other unit, until the Turks decided to bring the enemies’ bodies back and dump them at headquarters for the body count.” (<http://www.historynet.com/korean-war-1st-turkish-brigades-baptism-of-fire.htm>)

Some is right, some is wrong

I don’t think Warren MacDonald’s critical remarks about the Marines at the Chosin Reservoir should go unchallenged. I understand that he’s trying to set right what he regards as an injustice to his friend but his dislike (jealousy?) of the Marine Corps is all too apparent.

He claims that Ed Stamford deserved the MOH, “but the Marines would not allow it.” Nonsense! No Marine or Marines, even a general, would have the authority to block or modify an award, even if they wanted to, which I believe very strongly that none of them would.

MacDonald’s next paragraph admits this when he explains the red tape involved, citing the apparent infighting between the Marine Air Wing, Dept. of the Army, and Dept. of the Navy. He says that “the award system could not handle the proposal of Marine Air Wing via Marine and Army Departments,” ending up with “Hq X Corps” giving Stamford a Silver Star, later elevated to a DSC. He doesn’t say who pushed for the DSC, but I would guess it was the Marines!

MacDonald’s claim that General Smith “refused to release” his Marines to help Task Force Faith is totally false. Smith was under orders from General MacArthur to retreat westward with his right flank protected by Task Force Faith (named for C. O. Colonel Faith) and his left flank by another unit of the 7th ID. There was no way he could disregard those orders by returning eastward, back across the Reservoir.

MacDonald’s ridicule of the Navy chaplain is warranted, but he doesn’t tell the whole story. At the time it was widely believed by not only the Marines but by other Army units that the 7th ID men did bug out, but it was soon realized that they had fought to the death, and their resistance probably prevented the Marines from being attacked and overrun. In fact, Task Force Faith was later awarded a Presidential Citation for their heroic actions. Col. Faith was awarded the MOH, unfortunately posthumously because he was killed in that action.

A critical remark of my own: I can’t believe a real “Marine’s Marine” would elect to attend Army reunions and shun Marine reunions!

(For nine months in 1952-53 I worked alongside Korean doctor Dr. Yung Kak Lee in the forward Marine/Navy tent hospital, Easy Medical Company of the 1st MarDiv. He was a battalion surgeon in Task Force Faith at the Reservoir and knew the colonel well. He told me his story, which was published in the May/June ‘04 issue of this magazine.)

Birney Dibble, M. D., W 4290 Jene Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54701, jbirneydibble5@gmail.com



Recon Missions

Who pulled Norm Stacey out of that “6X?”

Norman Stacey wants to find the man who dragged him from the rice paddy after a grenade was thrown into the 6X he was in, killing everyone else. “I want to shake his hand,” Stacey said. He assumes that the unknown individual was in the same unit, which deployed out of Ft. Jackson, SC.

The only details we have to go on are these:

Norman Hayden Stacey, U.S. Army,
24th Division, Company E.

He was shot twice in chest on Sept 4, 1950 in South Korea.

Contact Norman Stacey, c/o Steven Maloney, 415
South Woodland Dr., Marietta, GA 30064

Anyone remember the 194th CEB?

Donald Hollister is looking for anyone left from his unit. He was in the 194th Combat Engineers (Bridge Builders) Battalion out of Oakridge, TN. They were re-activated in 1950 and sent to Fort Lewis, Washington for training, where they were brought up to full strength with reservists from the western United States, then shipped to Korea in 1951.

They landed in Pyongsong, North Korea and ended up at the

38th parallel by the end of 1951. He was the supply sergeant for that battalion. Contact Donald Hollister at dands22@yahoo.com if you have any information for him.

Who served with Chuck Allee?

Army veteran Chuck Allee, from East Moline, Illinois, was awarded a quilt by Karen Smith Weber, from Cascade, Iowa, who represents the Quilts of Valor Foundation. QOV, composed of over 9,000 members from across the United States, has awarded over 195,000 quilts to veterans of WWII and Korea.

Allee, who served in Korea from July 1950 to December 1951, would like to hear from men he served with at cjallee1@yahoo.com.



Chuck Allee receives his Quilt of Valor

VICTORY from page 13

advanced. After an hour of fighting a message came, informing officers that neither of the ROK regiments had been able to advance and that they should halt all their attempt to advance, but take a defense position along the road.

The 1st Battalion and C Company took the left side of the road with two tanks on the road and two in a stream bed, including the tank Jones was in. The battle ended with UN troops' victory as the Bowling Alley fell into the UN troops' hands.

For this achievement, C Company received the first honors, including the Korean Presidential Unit Citation for its heroic stand against enemy armor in the valley north of Taegu.

On September 2nd that year, the 7th infantry moved to Pusan to participate in an amphibious invasion called "Inchon Landing," with the 27th Regiment. "Inchon Landing" was one of the most successful military amphibious operations in modern military history. It mobilized 25,000 tons of supplies, 6,600 vehicles, 260 vessels, and 74,000 U.N. troops.

Not having enough time to rest after the Battle of Pusan Perimeter, the 73rd Tank Battalion boarded landing-ship tanks (LSTs) in Pusan on September 7th. The sea was so choppy that motion sickness was common among the troops.

As the morning of September 15th wore on, enemy resistance weakened, and in mid-afternoon, orders came to abandon the LSTs and board a smaller landing craft to land on the port, and they blasted enemy equipment and its defenders along the shoreline. By the evening of the third day, they also recaptured the Kimp'o airfield with its 6,000-foot runway. The UN suffered fewer than 300 casualties, but the enemy lost ten times more.

The 73rd Tank Battalion received awards and decorations from the Commanding General of the 7th Division. Soon the company embarked on the journey to Riwon, a North Korean town on the northeast coast, and then to Hungnam farther north. It was now November, and the 7th Infantry and the 1st Marine Division not only found themselves in 40 degree below freezing weather, but also facing six divisions of Chinese troops.

The 73rd Tank Battalion had no choice but to evacuate from its impending "death chamber." Vehicles and equipment were loaded onto ships heading back to Pusan. This operation was called "Christmas Evacuation in 1950."

In six months, the 73rd Tank Battalion had participated in the



A U.S. tank in Korea

first three major campaigns of the Korean War.

In February 1951, C Company received the first M-46 Patton tanks, and toward the end of the month, the

73rd battalion was completely equipped in preparation for its next operation. (Author's note: On April 11th, 1951, General Douglas MacArthur was removed from his seat as the Supreme Commander of the Far East due to his miscalculation of the Chinese involvement into the war, and the peace talks between the Chinese and the U.N. began that summer.)

Jones says, "They say that the Korean War was the Forgotten War, but to all who fought in it, the war was the Forgotten Victory. Our mission from the start was to stop the advancement of communists into the free world and we did it."

Therese Park, a freelance writer in Overland Park, KS, is the author of three novels based on Korea's modern history. www.theresepark.com

(The photos accompanying this article are from the internet in the public domain.)

Korean War Documentaries available on youtube

There are some worthwhile documentaries available on youtube.com that discuss various actions in the Korean War. If you have a few hours free and want to learn more about the war and its implications, check them out via the links included.

Our Time in Hell: The Korean War;

www.youtube.com

On 25 June 1950, the North Korean army invaded South Korea, violating a truce struck at the end of World War II, and starting a conflict that would bring the U.S ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPWIOQ0W2CM>

...

An Engrossing Biography of Chesty Puller: An Enduring Icon ...

www.youtube.com

Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller (June 26, 1898 – October 11, 1971) was a United States Marine Corps lieutenant general who fought guerrillas in Haiti and Nicaragua...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDDUOZDYic8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVPPC4_ZMG4



Refugees at Hungnam

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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 _____

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Website: 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." Korea Defense Veterans (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to go when Korean War Veterans are not available.

Expanded Eligibility

1. For the 65th anniversaries (2015-19) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2011 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)
2. Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.
3. Korea Defense Veterans who served in Korea during these periods (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to return on a space available basis TBD by the MPVA and the ROK criteria.

Benefits & Schedule

1. 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.
2. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want a single hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing.
3. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and National Cemetery.

Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Korea.

Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, ROK check into Seoul Hotel.

Day 3 - Tribute Ceremony at the "Korean National Cemetery", visit to the Korean War Memorial.

Day 4 - Visit Panmunjom, DMZ, Joint Security Area, Camp Bonifas & wreath laying.

Day 5 - Ceremony for Korean War Veterans & Display/Show.

Day 6 - Visit tour of "Korean Folk Village" and shopping opportunity. Banquet hosted by MPVA and KVA.

Day 7 - Depart Korea or begin post-tour extensions.

Sundry Tour Requirements

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. Medical and Evacuation 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. Roundtrip transportation costs to Korea are not included and will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The participants must purchase roundtrip airfare, the ROK government will subsidize air costs (approximately 50% Veterans and 30% Companions.) The refunded airfare reimbursement will be calculated by the ROK after all the revisits. The reimbursement will be sent in a lump sum to be distributed by MHT for the entire year's groups.
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 nonrefundable service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance, tour leaders and administration costs.
8. The initial \$50 per person registration fee that is required for postage, printing, phone charges, file maintenance and personnel staffing to manage the Korea Revisit Programs is not refundable. The remainder of the nonrefundable Service Fee (\$400) will not be charged until the participant has selected his Korea Revisit (KR) dates on the KR Preference Sheet that will be mailed in March-April as part of the KR Handbook.

Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____ Year of Birth _____

Member # _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

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Primary Unit of service during Korean War _____

Submitted by _____

Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: **Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

**Visit the Korean War
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**All Chapter and/or Department news
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Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net**



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Sweet words: "You can do the repair tomorrow"

I was with the 319th FIS at K-13, just outside of Suwon, approximately twenty miles south of Seoul. Two of us were replacing a heat exchanger on an F94B. The process meant a lot of things had to be done.

First, it had to be chocked in place. Then, all the air intakes had to be closed and the 40mm beneath the pilot's seat had to be safety pinned by the ordinance people. Finally, a "cherry picker" had to remove the canopy.

The exchanger was located beneath the radar pilot's seat in the rear cockpit. That seat and the cockpit floor had to be removed. All that had to be done on a very hot day, with the temperature above 100 degrees. We placed a tarp above us to provide some relief.

At about 11 a.m. the line chief came by and told us the war was over. He added that we should put aside our tools and join the celebration. "We can do the repair tomorrow," he said.

We were two happy airmen, believe me.

Roland P. Walsh, 592 Gillia Pl., Spring Creek, NV 89815

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE Assigned Membership Number: _____

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00
MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00

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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

Division ☐ Army
Regiment ☐ Air Force
Battalion ☐ Navy
Company ☐ Marines
Other ☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service:

WithIN Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

WithOUT Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership" 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.

- Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, is eligible for membership if:
a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or
b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
- Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
- Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

B. Associate Members.

- Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
- Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular Membership; and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

C. 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.

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.

E. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

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.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/26/2009, R5 Approved 7/26/2013

How many medals were awarded to the ‘Heroes of Hagaru-ri and Koto-ri?’

By Tom Moore

On November 29, 1950 twelve C-119s, aka Flying Boxcars, from the 314th Troop Carrier Group (TCG) began delivering supplies to the surrounded U.S. Tenth Corps in the Chosin Reservoir area of northeast North Korea. A procession of over 25,000 U.S. Army, U.S. Marines, UN troops, and civilians, with over 1,500 vehicles, took over 38 hours to maneuver their way down the approximate eleven-mile mountain path, in snow, ice, and sub-zero weather, from Hagaru-ri to Koto-ri. They reached a dead end, five miles south of Koto-ri, near the Changjin Power Plant No. 1.

The Chinese enemy had destroyed a bridge traversing a 1,500-foot gorge in the Funchilin Pass. There was no way around the gap. Major Alford Wilder, a U.S. Army engineer, suggested using U.S. Air Force C-119 cargo aircraft to air drop sections of M-2 Treadway Bridges near the chasm’s edge. Then engineers would assemble the sections of bridge. It was an ambitious idea.

A big problem was to be able to keep the aircraft under control, because the aircraft’s weight would shift very dramatically when the bridge section was unloaded in the air. The drop was to be made possible by the C-119 pilots of the 314 TCG and the skilled parachute riggers of the 8081st Quartermaster Company (QMs).

A test was set up, and an M-2 Treadway Bridge section was dropped into friendly territory south of Hungnam. The aircraft was kept stable. The test air drop used six 24-foot personnel parachutes to float the section. The chutes entangled and the bridge section was destroyed in the uncontrolled fall. On December 7, 1950, G-5 48-foot cargo parachutes, rigged fore and aft on each bridge section, were used with success.

The bridge sections were new to the para-QMs. They had polka-dotted the sky with everything from food rations

The earth needed to fill the crib was too hard (frozen) for digging operations. The only answer was to fill the crib with the frozen bodies of Chinese.

to ammunition, jeeps, trucks, trailers, 105mm howitzers, 90 mm anti-tank guns, rocket launchers, AA gun mounts, medical supplies, and gasoline and water, but nothing like the bridge sections. Chutes then cost anywhere from \$25.00 to \$2,000 (G-5s), and standard supply containers cost around \$150.00. They were not expendable.

After an air detail, the para-QMs parachuted a recovery platoon of around sixty men into the drop zone. Chutes, containers, special drop kits and other aerial delivery paraphernalia were collected, regardless of condition, and shipped back to the unit’s maintenance section.

The USAF 314th TCG got eight C-119s, each big enough to carry one of the mammoth M-2 Treadway Bridge sections. No one had ever dropped a bridge this large from the skies before. These Treadway Bridge sections had to be dropped in a 300-foot wide target zone.

The 314th TCG, commanded by Colonel Richard W. Henderson, USAF, was ordered on December 7, 1950 to load eight of its aircraft with one section of an M-2 Treadway Bridge and bridge plywood planking. The aircraft decreased altitude to 800 feet in the Korean mountain terrain target zone, an unmarked drop zone. One bridge section was destroyed on impact, and one bridge section fell into enemy hands. (Wonder what they did with it?) Six of the bridge sections landed intact on the drop zone.

Needing only four bridge sections to complete the Treadway Bridge, the UN troops on the ground were in business. For their actions during the campaign, the 21st TCS and the 314th TCG were awarded the Distinguished Unit

Citation, the first such combat award awarded to any U.S. Air Force units in the Korean War. One of the historic C-119 Flying Boxcar aircraft that took part in the M-2 Treadway Bridge air-drop in December 1950, #48-0352, is on display at the AMC Museum at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

The world media played up the “Bridge at Koto-ri.” They overdramatized it, and gave the impression that the bridge had been air dropped in one piece, precisely into the gap. Of course that was far from the truth.

First, the bridge sections were too short. U.S. Marine engineers 1st Lt. Dave Peppin and 1st Lt. Ozzie Vom Orde learned of a stock of bridging timbers found by a patrol near the power plant. They saw a ledge on the south side of the gap, about eight feet below the surface of the road, and about ten feet in length. With labor from Chinese POWs, the timbers were stacked in alternating layers to form an open crib on the ledge. The crib would be filled in to form a solid base for the short bridge sections.

The earth needed to fill the crib was too hard (frozen) for digging operations. The only answer was to fill the crib with the frozen bodies of Chinese. The U.S. Army bridging truck was put in place, and 1st. Lt. Charles Ward, the U.S. Army bridge master, oversaw the placement of the two massive beams.

LTC Jack Partridge, CO of the 1st Engineer Battalion, oversaw the operation. The first vehicles across the M-2 Treadway Bridge belonged to the engineers, who would have to rebuild any damaged bridges farther down the road and fill blown holes in the roadway with snow, since the frozen earth could

Please turn to **MEDALS** on page 72

A sad day in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

By Tom Moore

Luzerne County, located in north-eastern Pennsylvania's Wyoming Valley, lost many of its men—before they ever left the United States. That was the first September 11th disaster to impact the county. The second, and better known one, occurred 51 years later.

A little geography and history are in order. The county's seat is Wilkes-Barre. Nearby communities include Hazleton, Kingston, Nanticoke, and Pittston. The county was named after Chevalier de la Luzerne, an 18th century French soldier, who was by no means the last European to immigrate there.

In the 19th and 20th centuries Luzerne County was an active anthracite coal mining region that drew a large labor force from European immigrants. In the early 21st century many factories and coal mines were closed. Luzerne County became an area of population loss and urban decay, what is called today the "Rust Belt" and "Flyover Country."

On the south lawn of the county courthouse sits a Korean War Memorial that tells the story about how hard the Korean War hit this typical nation-loving county. Alphabetically the names of KIAs range from Cpl. Michael Astary Jr., K Company, 3d Battalion, 32d Infantry Regiment, KIA, June 5, 1951, from Swoyersville to Cpl. John Peter Wyda, Med. Company, 9th. Infantry Regiment, KIA, Dec. 1, 1950, from Wilkes-Barre. They are the anchor names for 170 men from Luzerne County who were killed in the Korean War.

Tragically, 33 of these men were killed



USS Luzerne County (LST-902) beached at Vung Tau, Vietnam, summer 1969. Photo by Steven Eldred SN USN, USS Hickman County (LST-825)

in a single incident on September 11, 1950. (Yes, September 11th again). The losses devastated the county. Collaterally, they affected many other county residents' lives as well...mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, teachers, businesspeople...on and on.

The sad turn of events began when the 28th Infantry Division of the Pennsylvania National Guard was federalized. The division included the men of the 109th Field Artillery Battalion (FAB). They dutifully boarded U.S. Army Troop Train #4 and headed for Camp Atterbury, Indiana. Many of them never arrived.

The train experienced mechanical problems en route to Indiana. Troop Train #4 paused at Coshocton, Ohio, when its brakes went into emergency stop mode. The troops of Battery "B" of the 109th FAB waited patiently in the last two coaches. Unbeknownst to them, the Pennsylvania Railroad's passenger train, the "Spirit of St. Louis," was following on the same train track. Inexplicably, it ran

fast through two stop signals shortly before daybreak and ripped into the rear of the stalled troop train, killing 33 Luzerne County soldiers and injuring 67 others.

On September 14, 1950, a special train with the 33 bodies arrived at Wilkes-Barre. An estimated 200,000 persons paid homage as they lined the streets traversed by the cortege from Lehigh Valley Railroad Station to West Side Armory, the place from which the battalion left for federal training. One thousand National Guardsmen acted as the guard of honor for the bodies.

Church bells tolled and airplanes dropped flowers over the procession route. Each body occupied a weapons carrier. Families met them at the armory. There was no ceremony. The public was barred from the building. The bodies were then taken to their homes on the weapons carriers.

That was one of the saddest days ever in the history of Wyoming Valley, a place that had so many sad days during the Korean War. The Forgotten War was not forgotten in Luzerne County, which gave so many of its sons to the Korean War.

Ironically, there was an LST named for Luzerne County that saw action in the Korean War. LST 902 was commissioned during WWII and deactivated in 1946. It was recommissioned on 18 January 1952 at Astoria, OR under the command of LT William J. Martin, USN. USS Luzerne County participated in the Korean Defense in the summer and fall of 1952 and the Third Korean Winter campaign, 11 to 14 February 1953.

MEDALS from page 71

not be used for fill.

The infantry then filed across the new bridge to take up positions on the heights from where they could hold back Chinese attacks. When about a dozen vehicles had crossed the new bridge, a bulldozer hauling a huge earth-moving pan came out on the bridge at about 1800 hours, in the dark. The weight of the pan broke through the heavy plywood center-board, and the vehicle sank into the crack.

One of the best bulldozer operators in the world, Tech Sergeant Winfred Prosser, was called. He got on the canted vehicle, somehow gingerly inched the bulldozer back to an upright position, and backed it off the new bridge. Then LTC

Partridge stepped in.

He had to remove the center board altogether, and the I-beams had to be readjusted to a width of 136 inches. At that interval the wide Pershing heavy tanks would have about two inches' purchase on either beam and jeeps would have the use of a mere half inch of the metal lips in the inboard edges of the beams. It was going to be a cliff hanger. But, everything worked, and it was on south to Chinhung-ni, and to Hungnam for the troops, where they could be transported to South Korea for some rest and refitting.

American ingenuity had saved the day—and thousands of troops and their equipment.

Korean War Commemorative Ceremony and Luncheon

On June 25, 2018, members of the KWVA, their comrades-in-arms from the Korean Veterans Association of Washington (KVA), and numerous other friends and guests observed the 68th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War on June 25, 1950. The ceremony took place at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Honor guard members from all U.S. military services carried the flags of all nations that participated in the Korean War in support of the United Nations. Keynote speeches were made by His Excellency Cho, Yoon-je, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea (ROK) to the United States, and Paul H. Cunningham, President of the KWVA.

Following the ceremony and the memorial, the KWVA and

KVA members were invited to the residence of the ROK Ambassador in Washington, D.C. for a luncheon hosted by Ambassador and Mrs. Cho.

Attending both the ceremony and luncheon was retired Marine Corps Warrant Officer George V. Lampman, who was a member of the Marine Security Guard Detachment on duty at the Embassy of the United States in Seoul, Korea on June 25, 1950 when North Korean forces invaded South Korea and the war began.

*Major Fred C. Lash, USMC (ret.),
fredanddonnalash1@verizpn.net*

NOTE: Photo credits go to Sylvia Patton, Korean-American Women's Association of the USA



KWVA members seated at luncheon at Ambassador Cho's residence

Paul Cunningham addresses audience at June 25, 1950 observance



Presentation of the wreath to observe June 25, 1950

Ms. Hayang Lee, George Lampman, and Fred Lash (L-R) at Ambassador Cho's luncheon



Guests gathered at Ambassador Cho's residence for June 25, 1950 commemoration



Attendees gather at June 25, 1950 observance at Ambassador Cho's place

The Korean War: A Summary

By Frank D. Praytor

July 27, 2012, marked the 59th anniversary of the armistice ending open hostilities of a costly war that preserved South Korea's freedom and foreclosed communist ambitions to control the entire North Asian Pacific Realm. It has been referred to as "the forgotten war," having occurred as the U.S. was still trying to get over World War II. People were weary of even the thought of yet another war.

Most Americans had only a vague idea where the Korean Peninsula was; fewer knew it had been divided into two separate entities by a compromise agreement. What really has been forgotten is that both South Korea and Japan — yes, Japan — were rescued from the vortex of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin's expansionist vacuum.

At the end of World War II, the USSR quickly moved to occupy northern Japanese territory. In Tokyo, communists agitated openly, intending to take over labor unions, thence the country. The Korean War, specifically the heavy Allied military presence it created, literally hushed them up and the people of Japan were given the opportunity to vote themselves a representative democracy.

Astounding describes the difference between South Korea and North Korea today. Veterans who helped achieve that difference are justifiably proud of their accomplishment. What disturbs them is that history taught in schools rarely, if never, includes "their" war (1950-1953). It may rate a few passages in some textbooks, but little else.

Younger Americans are abjectly ignorant of what media call "the Korean conflict," an alliterative euphemism that tends to position the Korean War as a heated confrontation worthy of little more than a footnote. It is so labeled because the war was not declared by act of Congress, but ordered by President Harry S. Truman. To circumvent the constitutional mandate (Article 1, Section 8) that gives Congress exclusive authority to declare war, he avoided the word "war," calling it a "police action."

Had he waited for Congress to act, the



Frank Praytor standing in front of the "unnamed" photo of him feeding "Misshap" that hangs in the Korean War section of the Marine Museum in Quantico, VA

Veterans who helped achieve that difference are justifiably proud of their accomplishment. What disturbs them is that history taught in schools rarely, if never, includes "their" war (1950-1953). It may rate a few passages in some textbooks, but little else.

entire Korean peninsula could have been lost and Japan would have been next on the list. Circumvention of the Constitution's mandate thus was rationalized, although an ominous precedent, because it was subsequently circumvented by President Johnson (Vietnam) and more recently by President Obama (Libya). Whatever you want to call it, the Korean War remains unresolved today. The North periodically violates terms of the ceasefire agreement to get attention and create mischief. In the process, they kill South Koreans and their allies.

Albuquerque Chapter One of the nationally chartered Korean War Veterans Association is small in number and getting smaller, but it is endeavoring to compensate by being visible. When there is a military themed public event, Korean War vets attend and talk to people.

"To our pleasant surprise," says Korean War veteran Larry Fenimore of Albuquerque, a Purple Heart recipient, "young people reveal curiosity and interest. They study the map we have on dis-

play; they gather up our information pieces and ask questions. Some even express appreciation for our teaching them something they never learned in school.

"We use a map of the Korean peninsula bisected by a line delineating the 38th Parallel that separates South Korea and North Korea," explains Fenimore. His and his colleagues' endeavors impart this account of history:

Korea was occupied by imperialist Japan until World War II ended in 1945. U.S. and Great Britain agreed (unwisely many say with the advantage of hindsight) to split the country in half so that our communist "allies," suddenly our adversaries, would occupy the northern half.

Thick barriers of barbed wire went up and a "demilitarized zone" 2.5 miles wide was created.

Peace was tenuous until June 25, 1950, almost five years after the Big War. The North Korean army swarmed into South Korea in a shock invasion spearheaded by tanks from the Soviet Union. The intent was to "unify" the entire Korean peninsula. They slaughtered defending soldiers, murdered civilians, and took untold numbers of captives.

There were only a few thousand U.S. Army personnel stationed in South Korea at that time. They put up a fight, but the invasion was overwhelming. The Republic of Korea Army, "ROKs" they're called, and their American supporters were driven to the southeastern sector of the peninsula. With reinforcements from northern Japan they formed a semi-circular line of defense. They held off the northern hordes until more reinforcements arrived from Okinawa and the U.S.

The American military had some surprises of its own for the North Koreans. A brigade of Marines landed and captured the port of Inchon on South Korea's west coast. Army infantry joined them to retake the capital city of Seoul in fiercely contested assaults. Before it fell back into Allied hands permanently, Seoul was in contention a total of four times, each encounter compounding horrific destruction.

Pro-democracy members of the United

Nations began to send support in varying degrees of manpower, ranging from token to division-size, British Commonwealth (England, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada) comprising the largest contingent. Turkey and Greece each contributed a brigade of infantry.

The push continued northward, past the 38th Parallel. General Douglas MacArthur, commanding the “police action” from Tokyo, ordered forces to the Chosin Reservoir and the Yalu River bordering China. He intended to rid the peninsula of communism, ignoring, or disbelieving, intelligence reports that Chinese troops already were in North Korea and ready to intervene.

China intervened, massively. It sent thousands of troops into the war on October 10, 1950, with an offensive operation to engage ROK Army units as they reached the Yalu. During the next two weeks more Chinese troops poured into North Korea, overrunning and stopping MacArthur’s strung-out, summer-equipped, under-manned forces. Winter was becoming the coldest in a century, historians said.

South Korean and American forces found themselves surrounded and fighting in every direction. Those who escaped had to fight their way to the east coast port of Hungnam to be hurriedly evacuated.

Beginning in the first quarter of 1951, offensive drives were initiated. North Korean and Chinese forces were pushed northward beyond the 38th Parallel. Both sides dug in, a scenario reminiscent of World War I trench warfare. Land engagements consisted of intense fighting over key hilltop positions and night probes. The sky over North Korea became deadly in daylight as American Saberjets engaged Russian MiGs piloted by Soviet airmen, who were careful not to cross the earthly demarcation line lest they be captured and Soviet Russia’s active involvement exposed.

As the stalemate wore on, Dictator Stalin died and the USSR called for armistice talks. The first of such commenced at Kaesong on July 10, 1951, only to be broken off on August 23rd by the communists as both sides continued to battle for high ground and air dominance. In late October, truce dialogs turned into

negotiations at the new meeting site, Panmunjom. They eventually resulted in two prisoner exchanges, preceding a signed armistice on July 27, 1953.

Net loss of real estate by North Korea: about 1,200 square miles. The cost in American lives was 36,516, not including non-combatants. There were 103,248 Americans wounded and 3,746 captured.

Albuquerque’s Korean War veterans resent it being called a “conflict, and, particularly, “forgotten.” It was a bloody war in every ghastly aspect.

NOTE: COC Subscriber Frank Praytor served two wartime tours in Korea as a U.S. Marine Combat Correspondent. He went to “Guard the gates of Heaven” on January 10, 1918. Frank was a member of chapter NM #82 - Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura (MOH).

He joined the Marine Corps in 1950 and was assigned as a combat correspondent with the 1st Marine Division, reporting on the division’s combat engagements on the Korean peninsula. In 1952, a photo of Frank holding and feeding a tiny kitten lost on a battlefield ran in newspapers around the world.

A tribute in Vermont

There is a small Korean War memorial on Route 7 in Vermont, near Manchester. It was dedicated by the Vermont Veterans of Foreign Wars and its auxiliaries in 2013.

Thanks to Don Fisher for the information and photos. Don is a Korean War veteran from Vermont who was one of the members of the 21st Infantry Regiment (Task Force) Smith. He was honored recently as a guest of Sejong City to attend the annual commemoration of Gamie Hill (Task Force Smith). Don is a Bronze Star and Purple Heart recipient.



Don Fisher stand by the Vermont memorial

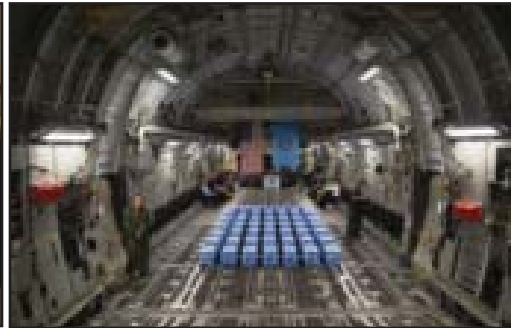


The plaque at the Vermont memorial

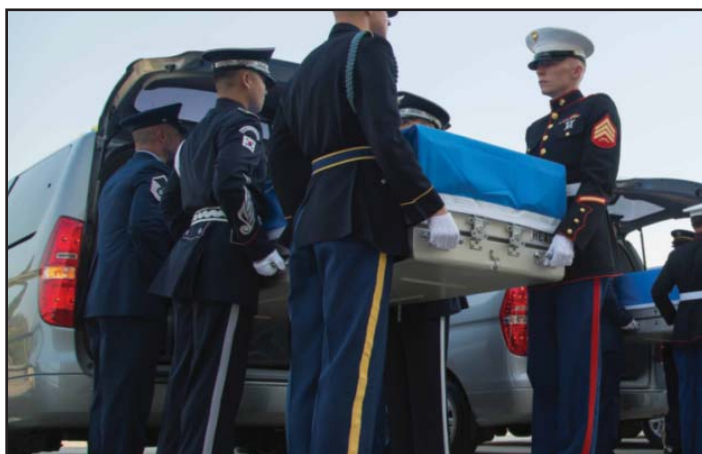
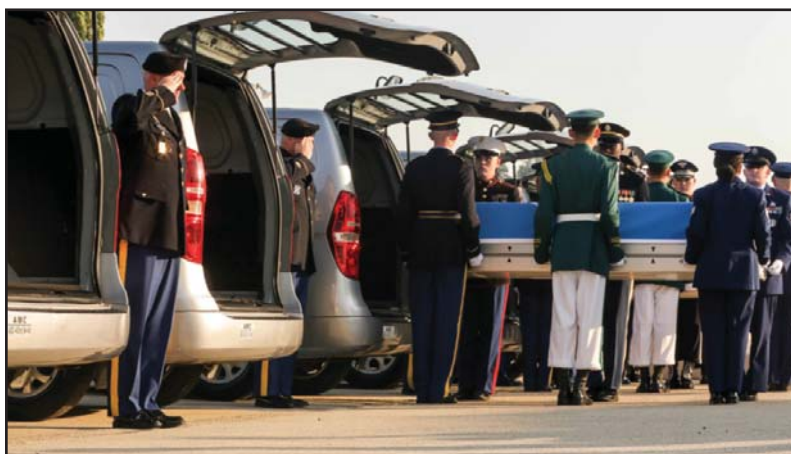
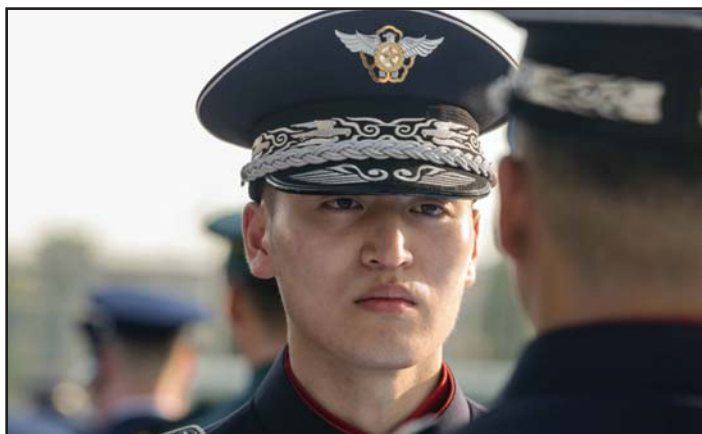


The Korean War stone in Vermont

Korean War remains returned



The recent return of Korean War MIAs' remains was a process replete with military pageantry and honor from start to finish. Here it is in pictures provided by the White House Public Affairs Office





Last Call

All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

ALABAMA

JOHN Q. AMACKER
CLARENCE H. BROWN
COY R. CANNON
DONALD RAY CHAMBLESS
DONALD J. DESSART
DR. GARRETT HAGAN JR.
RALPH C. MORROW
ROBERT L. SMITH

ALASKA

JOHN E. BEASLEY
ROBERT J. 'BOB' WIENHOLD

ARIZONA

JESSE J. GERSTEN
WILLIAM F. PARKER
JOHN A. POWERS
ARTHUR G. SLOANE

ARKANSAS

DONALD L. SCHONLAU

CALIFORNIA

GARY J. COVEY
RAYMOND S. EDINGER
CELSE WEBB GARCIA
RICHARD K. GIRD
WILLIAM J. GRIFFIN JR.
LAWRENCE M. JOHNSON
FERNANDO C. MACHADO
BENNIE M. RODRIGUEZ
LEE RODRIGUEZ JR.
MARK E. SCHMEECKLE
CLARENCE JOHN SWIERSTRA
GERALD W. THOMAS
STUART WALLACE
WILLIAM L. WILSON

COLORADO

ALFRED L. GRIEBLING
BENJAMIN R. LOYE
MILTON A. MARGAN
EDWIN K. PLANTE
WINFRED C. SHIFLETT
BOB TRUITT
STEPHEN A. WAGONER

CONNECTICUT

VITTORIO D. FERRARA
AUREL J. HAITSCH JR.
HOWARD R. KLUMPP
JOSEPH E. PALADINO

DELAWARE

CLARENCE A. SCHWATKA JR.

FLORIDA

HARRY N. AIZENSTAT
CHARLES N. BLODGETT
JOHN L. CAMARA

CARLO R. CECCORULLI
GEORGETTE H. CHIVINGTON
JANET CLARKE
ROBERT W. CLEMENT
EDWARD J. COHEN
JOHN R. CRANE
CHARLES A. EASTEP
RAYMOND H. GREBASCH
LARRY H. JACKSON
WARREN KIDD SR.
ABRAHAM LATMAN
NICHOLAS LYSY
FRANKLIN B. MAYER
LONNIE F. MASTER
LONNIE F. PINKSTON JR.
EUGENE RITZO
RICHARD R. ROEHR
FRANCIS E. SABOL
GEORGE W. STARKS
ARNOLD TREPEL
PEMBERTON B. WALL
HILTON C. WOOLARD

GEORGIA

WILLIAM L. HALL
HENRY L. WARREN

ILLINOIS

ALBERT W. BECK
RUSSELL BUECHLER
DONALD J. DONAR
CHARLES E. FOSTER
JULIUS M. GRANDA
HAROLD E. HECKMAN
HENRY B. JOHNSON JR.
HUGH S. JONES
JAMES T. LOGAN
RALPH B. LUECHTEFELD
EDWARD N. MUSSER
WILLIAM S. PITLIK
DELMER H. POWELL SR.
FREDERICK A. RICHMOND
ARTHUR O. ROCK
FRANKLIN M. SARVER JR.
HARLAN E. SMITH
JAMES A. STONE
JOHN R. TRACEY

INDIANA

WILLIS C. COLBURN
LOWELL M. TURNER
HARRY J. WADDING

IOWA

ROGER L. MARTIN

KANSAS

PERFETTO 'PETE' GOMEZ

LOUISIANA

GUS E. FRANCIS
CHARLES F. SUTTON

MAINE

RICHARD P. BOODY
MARILYN RADICE

MARYLAND

LOUIS A. ALBERTI
WILLIAM D. ANDERSON
ROBERT E. CAUDILL
WALTER L. CLINE
EDWARD M. HAGY
RALPH HOLWECK
WILLIAM G. IWANICKI
WILLIAM R. KLIPP
WILLIAM K. KONZE
EDWARD K. RICE
JOSEPH F. SENG
CHARLES W. WOLFORD

MASSACHUSETTS

CHARLES ASSIMAKOPOULOS
LOUIS J. BARTNICKI
FRANK H. BLOOD JR.
NORMAN O. BOUTILIER
HAROLD L. BROWN
DONALD BUCKLEY
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Terror at Little Gibraltar

I was assigned to 2d Inf. Div., 9th Inf. Regt., 3rd Bn., and HQ/S-1. MSgt. Marion Chambliss was instrumental in getting me reassigned to Hdqs. Co. Supply. He had been an ROTC instructor at Ohio State University. When he found out that I had attended OSU, he couldn't do enough for me.

I was serving in Hdqs. Supply when Little Gibraltar (Hill 355), which took place between August and November 1952. (See the story nearby.) I believe the figure the next day was that Love Co. had suffered 80% casualties. A unit of Hdqs. Co. was assembled to help plug the hole. I was in that unit, which was led by MSgt Shelta.

One of my main jobs was going around to the line companies and picking up the morning reports every day. The front was stationary when I arrived in Korea. At this time we were in the Iron Triangle. King Co. held very low terrain; the Chinese held very high terrain.

There was a flat plain in front of King Co. that we had to traverse every day, and the Chinese had us zeroed in perfectly. They could kill anything that moved, and they frequently did. It was called "Dead Man's Alley."

We did this every day, coming and going. I shared a jeep with the battalion mail clerk, Corporal McGucken, who was in charge (I was a private at the time) and the jeep driver. I don't recall what month it was, but we came up over the rise into "Dead Man's Alley." We had quite a shock.

Every inch was covered with white phosphorus explosions. In case you don't know, a little piece of white phosphorus will burn all the way through you. That's what the Chinese were using.

Corporal McGucken and I sat there for a while, stunned. We knew this could happen at any time.

He said, "Glenn, you can walk if you want. This vehicle is not going down here."

Another event stands out in Clegg's memory.

In mid-March a terrible battle raged on the slopes of Little Gibraltar, about 38 miles north of Seoul. The Chinese struck the Division's line at about two a.m. and they were not beaten off until nearly seven hours later.

Wave upon wave of Chinese shock troops hurled themselves against the "Indianheads" using the stacked bodies of their fallen comrades to breach barbed-wire defense.

During the crucial phase of the fight there was hand-to-hand combat right in the division's trench works at one point, where

Wave upon wave of Chinese shock troops hurled themselves against the "Indianheads" using the stacked bodies of their fallen comrades to breach barbed-wire defense.

reinforcement was badly needed, a lieutenant colonel gallantly led a platoon into the fight.

The officer was hit and struggled down a trench toward a bunker. A Chinese threw a grenade and the colonel crumpled, his right leg shattered.

A soldier ran out and dragged him inside the bunker. Then, as the Chinese swarmed down on them, he stood fast at the entrance to the bunker firing a BAR. When he ran out of BAR ammo, someone inside handed him an M-1. For three-and-a-half hours he held the Chinese at bay. Then, when they had withdrawn, he quietly left the scene.

The brave colonel was rushed to the medics, but he kept talking about a colored soldier who had saved his life and said he was the bravest man he had ever seen.

No one knew the identity of his rescuer. But then, 1st Lieutenant Glover B. Triplett, Jr., from Crawford, Mississippi, commanding Item Company, 9th Infantry, remembered something that struck as funny. One of his soldiers, a Private Courtney L. Stanley, had been on guard duty at an emergency aid station just before the Chinese hit. When he rejoined the company after the battle, Triplett asked him, "Well, how did it go?" Stanley replied that he'd "guarded some colonel," but didn't say anything about being in a fight.

Nevertheless Triplett put two and two together and the modest Stanley was faced with the colonel.

"That's the man," the colonel grinned. "I thought we weren't going to find you, son."

The next day General Fry pinned the Silver Star on Private Stanley's shirt and told him, "This is the best I can do, but I am recommending you for the Distinguished Service Cross. You are a real soldier and I am proud of you."

Later, Eighth Army upped the award to DSC.

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