

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

November-December 2021

Vol. 35, No. 6

Happy Holidays
From the Officers and Staff of the
Korean War Veterans Association

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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



The *Graybeards* is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. Subscriptions available for \$30.00/year (see address below).

MAILING ADDRESS FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Administrative Assistant, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407. **MAILING ADDRESS TO SUBMIT MATERIAL:** *Graybeards* Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141.

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From the President

Jeffrey J. Brodeur, M.A./C.A.G.S.

**KWVA Members!
Happy Veterans Day
and Happy Holidays!**

A lot has been accomplished. The KWVA National Membership meeting was a huge success. We had a quorum at our National Membership Meeting. Wounded Warrior Project CEO and KWVA Member LTG Mike Linnington was an outstanding guest speaker at our banquet. Senator Marco Rubio sent a great welcoming message to the members.

KWVA donated \$5,000 to KWVA Member Aves Thompson and the 2nd ID Association DC Memorial. Aves presented a short film on the 2nd ID Memorial refurbishment project. KWVA Graybeards Editor Art Sharp took questions on the Graybeards. DPAA POW/MIA Director Kelly McKeague gave a briefing on our POW/MIA present situation. We raised almost \$76,000 on our national fundraiser and National 2nd VP Tom McHugh and Mike Linnington announced the winners. KWVA National Director Rocky Harder was recognized as KWVA Member of the Year.

Almost \$1500.00 in KWVA PX items were bought by KWVA members. The purchase of these items helps get the KWVA brand into public sphere. Beautiful KWVA Department of Florida Challenge Coins and KWVA National Meeting pins were given to the members. Thanks to KWVA Treasurer Joe Harman, Tom McHugh's fundraiser, and cuts at HQS made by me and Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer, our finances are solid and we have over \$1,000,000 dollars in the KWVA Treasury for the first time in the history of the KWVA.

I attended a briefing in the Miami area on a new anticommunist bill Florida state reps were introducing to the Florida school system so the students will learn the evils of communism. I informed the representatives that our Korean War veterans were the first to fight Communism on a massive scale and over 1.5 million UN troops and South Koreans were killed by Communists in the Korean War. I was also able to meet

Thanks to KWVA Treasurer Joe Harman, Tom McHugh's fundraiser, and cuts at HQS made by me and Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer, our finances are solid and we have over \$1,000,000 dollars in the KWVA Treasury for the first time in the history of the KWVA.

Felix Rodriguez, who participated in the Invasion of the Bay of Pigs and served in Vietnam with MACV SOG.

I and National Secretary Trieber presented U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) a plaque for his support of the Korean War Veterans Association. Senator Rubio was the only politician to send a representative to all our events and ceremonies in Florida.

Several KWVA officers represented the KWVA on Veterans Day in Washington D.C. We participated in ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. I, along with KWVA Treasurer Joe Harman and National Secretary Harold Trieber placed the KWVA wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. KWVA 1st Vice President Al McCarthy, KWVA 2nd Vice President Tom McHugh, KWVA National Director Rocky Harder, and KWVA Member Steve McHugh participated in the ceremonies at the Amphitheater.

Prior to the ceremony at the Amphitheater, I represented KWVA at the White House and discussed veterans issues with the Marine Corps League Commandant Johnny Baker, MOPH Commander Jim McCormick, Jewish War Veterans Commander Alan Paley, and MOH recipient Brian Thacker before meeting the president.

KWVA Members went to Bethesda and linked up with the Walter Reed Society and made two donations to the Society on behalf of the American Legion Post # 405 Raynham, Massachusetts and the KWVA. We also went up to the 7th Floor TBI Ward and passed out KWVA Challenge coins and patches to the patients and staff. They were very happy because few people come up to visit.

KWVA PIO Fred Lash represented the KWVA at the Korean War National Memorial. The members can be proud that their National officers represented the

KWVA honorably and professionally for Veterans Day Ceremonies in Washington D.C.

I attended the USMC MOH Duane Dewey funeral at Bushnell, FL National Cemetery. Duane was one of the last living MOH recipients of the Korean War. Hershey Myamura is the last MOH recipient remaining (See story on page 76.).

KWVA elections are approaching. All who are running for office needed to have their resumes in by December 15.

I and Secretary Trieber participated in the Wreaths Across America (WAA) Dog Tag Remembrance Program in Columbia Falls, Maine. My administration started this program with Wreaths Across America last year. We have our own tree area with a new KWVA sign recently erected. We thanked Founders Morrill and Karen Worcester and presented WAA a plaque and donation of \$1000.00 for letting us honor our Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans. You can go to the Wreaths Across America website to participate in the program.

A new Korean Defense Memorial was erected by KWVA Bradenton FL, Chapter #199.

Don't forget to go to our KWVA Facebook page; we just passed the 60,000 like mark. I personally set up the page in December of 2017 with 427 likes. We now have over 60,000. The KWVA Facebook page helped us dramatically during the COVID pandemic when chapters couldn't meet. Go to the page, enjoy and like it. It is updated daily.

Have a Nice Holiday Season, and remember, every member is a recruiter.

Incidentally, we have photos of our various activities on pp. 26-29.

Freedom is not Free

*KWVA National President
Jeffrey J. Brodeur*

COVER: OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and nothing quite announces the coming of the holiday season like festive decorations.

From topping the Christmas tree to hanging vibrant lights around the house, these simple traditions make people feel more at home. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kristina Overton, 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs / Published December 10, 2012)



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Now you can Order and Pay Online at kwva.us
You can also order by phone at 217-345-4414



New! Key fobs \$6.95



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any order



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Shirts M - X L \$32 XXL \$37
Shirts 100% polyester



Decals \$5 ea
3 /\$10

Shipping additional.



From the Secretary

Harold Trieber



Due to all the restrictions caused by the CCP Virus/Pandemic, we had to cancel our 2020 National Membership Meeting. With that said, the tenacity and dedication of our President, Jeff Brodeur, our Board of Directors, and National Headquarters Office Staff contributed to providing a successful 2021 National Membership Meeting at the Holiday Inn Orlando International Airport, October 25-29. Attendees arrived from Alaska, Nevada, Kansas, Ohio, Missouri, Nebraska, Virginia, Texas, Illinois, Massachusetts, and, of course, Florida.

The Board of Directors meeting was held on the 26th at 8:30 a.m. A continental breakfast was provided to the members before the start of the meeting. U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) welcomed the members to Florida via video. A letter of appreciation and congratulations on our 2021 convention from the Korean War Veterans Association of Korea, Chairman Major General Ro Moosik (ret), was provided to all our Board and membership.

Aves Thompson, Chairman of the 2d ID Association Memorial Foundation, provided a short video on the memorial and provisions for the names of the fallen Korean Defense veterans to be placed on the memorial. He is also a KWVA Life Member. He traveled from Alaska to attend the meeting.

Following the BOD meeting, a buffet lunch was provided for all attendees. At 1:30 p.m. we boarded a bus and left for a tour of the Museum of Military History in Kissimmee, Florida. A private tour of the museum was provided by the museum management.

The Membership Meeting was held at 9:00 a.m. on October 27. A continental breakfast was provided before the meeting. The meeting was attended by more than 40 members. Arthur Sharp, editor of the *Graybeards*, was a surprise guest. He spoke about the quality of our submitted stories and reiterated how the *Graybeards* Magazine is the finest veterans and military publication today.

The meeting was highlighted by Director Kelly McKeague, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), who provided an updated report on all the DPAA activities. The 2022 Budget was approved by the membership. The National Fundraiser intake was reported to be just over \$75,000. The winners were announced at the banquet. President Brodeur announced that the Board decided there would be no increase in membership dues at this time. Last, but not least, the 2022 National Membership Meeting will be held in San Antonio, Texas.

Lunch was served buffet style following the meeting. The Hospitality Room was open to all of our members and their guests at various times from October 25 through October 28.

On the evening of the 28th the KWVA held a reception in the lobby of the ballroom. Members and guests were treated to delicious hors d'oeuvres, beef empanadas, chicken kabobs, and mini Cuban sandwiches, along with red and white wine. After the reception members and guests retired to the hotel ballroom to be seated for the banquet. Each member received a KWVA Department of Florida Challenge Coin donated by Department of Florida President Chuck Travers.

President Brodeur announced that the Board decided there would be no increase in membership dues at this time. Last, but not least, the 2022 National Membership Meeting will be held in San Antonio, Texas.

Banquet festivities opened with a welcome to Florida by U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL). 2nd Vice President Tom McHugh presented the Colors and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. The opening prayer was led by Chaplain Paul Kim. The POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony was performed by Bobbie Williams.

President Brodeur presented the Member of the Year Award to Rocky Harder. A Presidential Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Charles Travers. The president presented a check to Aves Thompson for \$5,000 to the 2d ID Memorial Fund.

The keynote speaker was the CEO of the Wounded Warriors Project, Lieutenant/General Mike Linnington. After his speech President Brodeur presented Mike with a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation. As a side note, Mike is now a KWVA Life Member.

Everyone enjoyed a sumptuous dinner. During the dessert course Mike Linnington and Tom McHugh drew the winners of the 2021 Fundraiser.

For more information and over 50 pictures of the 2021 National Membership Meeting, please follow us on our Facebook page (Korean War Veterans Association)

Harold Trieber, National Secretary, 573 NW Montevina Dr., Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986, haroldski302@aol.com

Lucky 2021 Fund Raiser Recipients Announced

Names were drawn at the 2021 Membership Meeting Banquet:

- ★ Patsy J. Scarpata
- ★ Robert L. Fischer
- ★ Neil Sanders
- ★ James R. Taylor
- ★ Dr. Sidney Glassman
- ★ Anton R. Hinrichsen

If you have any questions, please contact the Fund Raiser Chairman or KWVA Membership Office.

Tom McHugh, 2nd Vice President,
Chairman, Fund Raiser Committee



From the Desk of the National Legislative Director

Michele Bretz

The following resolutions and bills from the 117th Congress are being followed and are updated effective Nov. 15. Updates have been italicized:

a. S. 1725: A bill to grant a federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. (NAIV), a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advocating for tribal veterans.

• **Sponsor:** Sen. Mike Rounds (main sponsor) + 16 bi-partisan co-sponsors

• **Latest Action:** Senate - 05/20/2021 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

• **KWVA status:** Two letters of support have been written. Telephonic contact made with 2 NC legislative representatives. Multiple telephonic meetings have occurred. Have requested once bill has passed, to be present at the signing.

b. H.R. 234: Korean American VALOR Act entitles those veterans who served in the armed forces of the ROK in Vietnam 1/9/62 – 5/7/75, or during a time period determined by the VA, and became U.S. citizens after such service to hospital, domiciliary care and medical services through the VA.

• **Sponsor:** Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA-41) + 7 Co-sponsors

• **Status:** House - VA under Armed Forces and National Security Latest Action: 5/4/21 Ordered to be reported by voice vote. CBO estimate completed. Estimated 3,000 eligible with 1,300 to enroll in 2021 at \$13,500 each and after inflation \$87M (2021-2026). Subject to availability of funds.

• **KWVA status:** We support.

c. H.R. 5839: Authorize Medal of Honor for Charles R. Johnson

• **Sponsor:** Rep. Delgado, Antonio (D-NY-19)

• House, Armed Services Committee (11/3/21)

d. H.R. 5909: Authorize Medal of Honor for E. Royce Williams.

• **Sponsor:** Rep. Issa, Darrell E. (R-CA-50)

• **Latest Action:** House, Armed Services Committee (11/5/21)

e. H.Res. 45: Korean American Day supports the goals and ideals of Korean American Day and honors the 118th anniversary of the first Korean immigrants to arrive in the United States.

• **Sponsor:** Rep. Jimmy Gomez (D-CA-34) + 57 Co-sponsors

• **Committees:** House-1/13/21 referred to the House Committee, Oversight and Reform

• **KWVA status:** We support. No change since 5/21.

f. S. Res. 396: Centennial dedication of Tomb of Unknown Soldier passed 9/29/21.

g. S. Res. 267: Designate June 12, 2021 as Women Veterans Appreciation Day passed 10/19/21.

Please feel free to contact me if you need to contact your representative on any of these bills as I have fax and phone numbers. You may also look on line with key words: www.congress.gov.

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. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

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

The Ben Davis story

Retired February 01, 1970

Died July 04, 2002

Benjamin O. Davis Jr. was born in Washington, D.C., in 1912. He graduated from Central High School in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1929, attended Western Reserve University at Cleveland, and later the University of Chicago. He entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., in July 1932 and graduated in June 1936 with a commission as a second lieutenant of infantry.

In June 1937 after a year as commander of an infantry company at Fort Benning, Ga., he entered the Infantry School there and a year later graduated and assumed duties as professor of military science at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala. In May 1941 he entered Advanced Flying School at nearby Tuskegee Army Air Base and received his pilot wings in March 1942.

General Davis transferred to the Army Air Corps in May 1942. As commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron at Tuskegee Army Air Base, he moved with his unit to North Africa in April 1943 and later to Sicily. He returned to the United States in October 1943, assumed command of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich., and returned with the group to Italy two months later.

He returned to the United States in June 1945 to command the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Ky., and later assumed command of the Field. In March 1946 he went to Lockbourne Army Air Base, Ohio, as commander of the base and in July 1947 became commander of the 332nd Fighter Wing there.

In 1949 General Davis went to the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.; and after graduation, he was assigned to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. He served in various capacities with the headquarters until July 1953, when he went to the advanced jet fighter gunnery school at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

In November 1953 he assumed duties as commander of the 51st Fighter-Interceptor Wing, Far East Air Forces, Korea. He served as director of operations and training at Far East Air Forces Headquarters, Tokyo, from 1954 until 1955, when he assumed the position of vice commander, Thirteenth Air Force, with additional duty as commander, Air Task Force 13 (Provisional), Taipei, Formosa.

In April 1957 General Davis arrived at Ramstein, Germany, as chief of staff, Twelfth Air Force, U.S. Air Forces in Europe. When the Twelfth Air Force was transferred to



GENERAL BENJAMIN OLIVER DAVIS JR.

Waco, Texas in December 1957, he assumed new duties as deputy chief of staff for operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Wiesbaden, Germany.

In July 1961 he returned to the United States and Headquarters U.S. Air Force where he served as the director of manpower and organization, Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs and Requirements; and in February 1965 was assigned as assistant deputy chief of staff, programs and requirements. He remained in that position until his assignment as chief of staff for the United Nations Command and U.S. Forces in Korea in April 1965. He assumed command of the Thirteenth Air Force at Clark Air Base in the Republic of the Philippines in August 1967.

General Davis was assigned as deputy commander in chief, U.S. Strike Command, with headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., in August 1968, with additional duty as commander in chief, Middle-East, Southern Asia and Africa.

His military decorations include the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the Philippine Legion of Honor. He was a command pilot.

On Dec. 9, 1998, Benjamin O. Davis Jr. was advanced to general. President Clinton pinned on his four-star insignia.

Effective dates of promotion:

Second Lieutenant	June 12, 1936
First Lieutenant	June 19, 1939
Captain	Oct. 9, 1940 (temporary); June 12, 1946 (permanent)
Major	May 13, 1942 (temporary);
Lieutenant Colonel	May 29, 1942 (temporary); July 2, 1948 (permanent)
Colonel	May 29, 1944 (temporary); July 27, 1950 (permanent)
Brigadier General	Oct. 27, 1954 (temporary); May 16, 1960 (permanent)
Major General	June 30, 1959 (temporary); Jan. 30, 1962 (permanent)
Lieutenant General	April 30, 1965
General	Dec. 9, 1998 (advanced)



Welcome to the “Meddle Ages”©

True diversity comes naturally. It is not forced on a society by subliminal government propaganda aimed at luring people into an imaginary universe created by politicians who have no real concept of what the real world is like—especially in a country where so many newcomers have no desire or inclination to integrate themselves. Those chimerical politicians could have learned that lesson at the 2021 KWVA Membership Meeting.

The attendees included a mish-mash of people convened in one place for a common purpose: to remember a united effort of people from 23 countries (including Japan, which is often discounted by Korean War historians) to save people they never met from a communist form of government. The make-up of those 23 countries itself is indicative of what people can achieve by themselves if they are not forced into a perceived “diverse” entity.

Ethiopia? Colombia? Philippines? India? Sweden? Turkey? Now there is a diverse collection of countries: white, black, Asian, Muslim, Hindu, speaking a cacophony of languages...and nobody forced them into an alliance to save a group of people who did not look like them, did not speak the same language, did not worship the same God...The process that achieves that, ladies and gentlemen, is natural diversity—and it was on display at the meeting.

Attendees included people of different colors and religious and ethnic backgrounds who gathered in that venue in the spirit of camaraderie and to celebrate a job well done despite their differences. They were there because they wanted to be there, not because government propagandists gathered them to film a bogus picture of people getting along famously in an artificial setting.

Real people can see through such illusionary tactics. The only people who experience true diversity are those who live it naturally, rather than through the lenses of producers who are paid to create

It’s as if people get up in the morning and say, “I think I’ll go out and add a Peruvian/Sri Lankan/Hawaiian or a (fill in the blank) and a Martian to my best friend list so I can pretend I’m a practitioner of diversity.”

false impressions of a world that does not exist, never did, and never will.

Look at the barrage of ads on TV nowadays, for example. Married couples are all multi-racial. Every group pictured at a social event has a mixture of people from different ethnic backgrounds...One of these, one of those....Best friends are characterized by miscegenation. As the comedian Jerry Seinfeld said, in a slightly different concept, “Not that there’s anything wrong with that.” But...

It’s as if people get up in the morning and say, “I think I’ll go out and add a Peruvian/Sri Lankan/Hawaiian or a (fill in the blank) and a Martian to my best friend list so I can pretend I’m a practitioner of diversity.” Life doesn’t work that way.

Most of us in the real world attract friends and spouses based on mutual attraction and shared interests, regardless of ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. Why can’t idealists understand that? The people at the membership meeting understood it.

Let’s face it: the world social engineers are trying to create isn’t working. It is dysfunctional and self-defeating. They cannot interject people into a contrived situation and expect them to embrace one another simply because some idealists say they should. Yet, they keep trying. History is replete with stories of idealism’s many failures in that respect.

Remember New Harmony? Shaker Village? Arden Village? Jonestown? The list goes on. They and their ilk have all shared one common outcome: failure. The founders of those communities, Robert Owens, Ann Lee, Frank Stephens, and Jim Joneses respectively and other idealists of the world may have had good intentions

but they did not succeed in their goals of creating Utopias. They simply joined a long list of fellow idealists who thought they could succeed where others gave failed—and that list includes today’s social engineers.

While Owens, Lee, and their counterparts have been banished to the dustbins of history, where they will soon be joined by history itself if political “visionaries” have their way, realists are creating true diversity through a version of Charles Darwin’s “natural selection” process. Why can’t social engineers recognize that realists’ approach to diversity is the only one that has a chance to succeed and let it develop as it is intended to: naturally? Never happen: social engineer live perpetually in their own historical time, the “Meddle Ages,” and think they know what is best for the rest of us. How’s that working for them?

Perhaps we should invite a group of those “Meddle Agers” to the next KWVA membership meeting and let them see how true diversity works in a natural setting. They might learn that social engineering to create diversity is about as effective as attempts by government officials to alleviate climate change by passing laws that cows must wear diapers while riding tricycles when the temperature exceeds or falls below 37° Fahrenheit or Centigrade during monsoons. Ain’t going to work.

See you in San Antonio, Texas in 2022. Let’s hope social engineers show up so they can learn a valuable lesson from our Korean War fraternity: freedom may not be free, but diversity is—as long as it is achieved naturally. Maybe that should be a TV ad.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

■ Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Orlando International Airport.

■ Meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Brodeur at 8:30 AM.

■ Salute to the Flag and Pledge Allegiance was led by the Membership.

■ Opening Prayer was said by Chaplain Paul K. Kim.

■ Rules of Decorum were accepted by attendees.

■ President Brodeur issued the Oath of Office to two of the three newly elected Board of Directors, Tim Whitmore and Rocky Harder. Richard Daucunas was not present due to illness of his wife.

■ U.S. Senator Marco Rubio welcomed the Board Members to Florida with an inspiring video.

■ Roll Call of KWVA Directors and Staff was conducted by First Vice President Albert McCarthy.

■ All Directors and staff were present and accounted for.

■ A Declaration of a Quorum was achieved.

■ The following Directors attended via Zoom: Eddie Bell, Doug Voss, Richard Daucunas, and Narce Caliva (Resolutions Committee Chairman).

■ Aves Thompson, Chairman of the 2d Indianhead Division Assoc. Memorial Foundation, presented a short video on the 21D Memorial in Washington DC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- President Brodeur will present the 21D with a \$5,000 Check to Aves Thompson at the Membership Banquet.
- He also noted that the KWVA will be well represented in Washington on Veterans Day.
- Fred Lash will represent the KWVA at the Wall of Remembrance.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Treasurer Harman reported that our assets as of June 30, 2021 had increased by 15.9% since June 30, 2020.
- The Federal Form 990 was approved by the Board of Directors on May 20, 2021.
- The Financial Statement for the year ended December 31, 2020 was audited by Franklin & Vaughn, LLC. They rendered an "Unqualified" opinion dated February 25, 2021. The Board approved for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
- The Board approved Travel Reimbursements for the Meeting.
- The Budget for 2022 was approved by the Board of Directors, and needs to be voted on by the Membership at the 2021 Annual Membership Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

- Vice President, Al McCarthy, reported on the Current State of Recruitment, Recruitment Responsibilities, and New Recruitment Initiatives that contained 22 bullet points to help increase the Membership.
- These initiatives include recruiting for inactive chapter members, notices in various media, being involved in Honor Flight Network, inexpensive ad ideas through magazines, newspapers,

and publications, and suggestions on how to create a QR Code on different

types of media.

FUNDRAISING REPORT:

- Director Tom McHugh noted that overall, the fundraiser has been very good this year. To date, we exceeded the goal of \$70,000.
- It was stated that an effort should be made by our members and board members to refrain from calling it a "raffle." It should be referred to as a "Fundraiser."

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT:

- Director Michele Bretz discussed the following bills in detail.
 - S.1725: to grant a federal charter to the "National American Indian, Inc."
 - H.R. 234: Korean American Valor Act.
 - H.R. 45 "Korean American Day"

NATIONAL VETERANS/POW/MIA REPORT

- Director, Rocky Harder presented a detailed report of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Korean War Personnel Accounting as of September 28, 2021.
- Korean War Statistics:
 - Total personal unaccounted-for (7,554). Of those, the DPAA estimates approximately 5,200 still remain in North Korea, and the U.S. has not had access to recover those remains from North Korea since 2005.

-On July 27, 2018 the Korean People's Army of the DPRK turned over 55 boxes of remains to UN officials. As of September 21, 2021, 77 missing personnel have been identified.

-Total remains identified and accounted for, 1982-present (602).

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Director Rocky Harder announced that the new KWVA FY2022 Budget was effective on July 1, 2021 and will end on June 30, 2022. The KWVA's FY2022 budget was approved by the Board of Directors (BOD) on May 20, 2021, in Boston MA at the KWVA's Board of Directors Meeting. It is available for viewing at www.kwva.us

NATIONAL VAVS COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Director Eddie Bell. No report at this time, due to Covid-19 for the past year.

TELL AMERICA AND SCHOLARSHIP REPORT:

- Director John McWaters declared that there were 10 winners in the scholarship program. All have been notified.
- All checks deposited with Financial Officer at each Institution. They will be recognized in the next issue of the *Graybeards*.
- There were 64 applicants this past year.
- The Board has approved an increase in the budget to accommodate 15 awards for next year.
- After robust debate, the Board of Directors approved an increase in the Tell America budget to a total of \$5,000 for new innovative programs that will increase our visibility of Tell America programs in the school systems.

KOREAN DEFENSE VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:

- Director Tom McHugh said that there are no additional memorials being planned since the May 2021 Board meeting.
- He emphasized that all costs of the memorials are raised and spent by the individual chapters and/or memorial sponsors. At no time have national funds been used to support these memorials.

ELECTION COMMITTEE:

- Director Tom Cacy stated that preparations are well under way for the upcoming elections for three Directors, President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President.
- Call for Elections and Requirements were sent out to *The Graybeards*.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE:

- Director Narce Caliva revealed that at this time there are no agenda items regarding resolutions to offer for consideration at the Board Meeting.

Humor in Korea

Mystery of a Mirror

By Therese Park

Long ago, in a small farming village near Seoul, a newlywed lived with the bridegroom's widowed mother. One evening, realizing that farming would never give him enough to support his aging mother and bride, the bridegroom told his bride he'd leave the next morning for Seoul to look for a well-paying job. The bride burst into tears.

Surprised, he asked why she was crying.

"You'll be gone at least two weeks," she replied. "How can I live with your ever-demanding mother without you? She thinks I'm her maid and cook. Who knows when she'd ask me to carry her around, too?"

Knowing his mother, he said, "I'll bring you a gift from Seoul. Would it help?"

She stopped crying.

"What shall I bring for you?"

Turning to the sky, she said, "See that half-moon? I want you to bring me a comb in the shape of that half-moon. That'd cheer me up."

"No problem."

In Seoul, he was busy, going from one place to another, inquiring about who was hiring and interviewing here and there. On his last day two weeks later, he remembered his promise to his bride but he couldn't remember what she wanted, except that she turned toward the dark sky and looked at the moon.

He, too, stood by the window, and sure enough, a bright full moon was looking down at him as if saying, "I'm what she wanted." The next morning, before hitting the homebound road, he stopped at a gift shop and told the shop owner he wanted to purchase a gift for his young wife. "Something that looks like a full moon."

"This is what every woman wants," the shop owner said in an all-knowing manner, laying before him a flat square box. "It's

OLD BUSINESS

- Legacy Membership: Requirements were discussed and the major stumbling block is voting privileges. All requirements will be taken up at the next Board Meeting.
- Chapter and Association Matching Subsidy: \$200 not to exceed \$400 per Chapter
- Annual meeting stipend was approved for the next Annual Membership Meeting to be considered.
- Increase Membership Annual Dues. The Board of Directors decided NOT to raise the annual dues.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Board of Directors voted to hold the 2022 National Membership Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

BENEDICTION: Chaplain Paul Kim

FINAL SALUTE TO THE FLAG, President Jeffrey Brodeur

MOTION TO ADJOURN: 11:50, Harold Trieber, KWVA National Secretary

called a mirror. Every woman needs this to make themselves pretty. Do you want to see it?"

"No. I trust you!"

At home, opening the box and peering into it, his bride screamed. "Who, who's this pretty young thing staring at me?"

Before he could say anything, his mother snatched the mirror from his daughter-in-law and looked into it. "A pretty young thing? This woman is old, full of wrinkles and ugly aging spots on her face! Why is she here, son?"

He was perplexed. He had just returned from a long trip and was tired. And the gift he brought for his wife was creating only trauma for both women. Anger rising, he pulled the mirror away from his mother's hand, dropped it on the floor, and it crashed.

The women looked at one another. Turning to him, his bride accused, "You're hiding something from me, aren't you?"

"Yes, you are!" his mother agreed. "I deserve to know who this old woman is to you! I am your mother, no one else."

He thought, "They're allies now.... My gift that turned into pieces wasn't a waste after all."

He couldn't help but smile.

NOTE: Therese Park, a regular contributor to our magazine, is the author of "A Gift of the Emperor," "When a Rooster Crows at Night," "The Northern Wind," & "Returned and Reborn?" Reach her at <http://www.theresepark.com>

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.

The story of Jerry and Mike

By Carrie Jo Ward

I am very proud of my father and the story that came from his experience in Korea. When my father passed away I became the keeper of all the letters, pictures, and gifts that had been sent to him. I also became concerned that his story would not be told beyond our family and friends. I believe this story is one of love, friendship, and will serve as evidence that not all stories that come from war are of battle and conflict.

Dad formed a friendship with a young man in Korea that created a bond of friendship between their respective families that lasted for years. It was created within a conflict by two people who found each other during a time of great loneliness for each of them. That is not surprising. My father was a loving man who formed long-lasting bonds throughout his life.

He and my mother were married on 3/17/57. They were together over 60 years before they passed. Mom passed 11/11/2017. Dad followed on 12/14/2017—only four weeks after. I truly believe my father died of a broken heart because he was not willing to live without her.

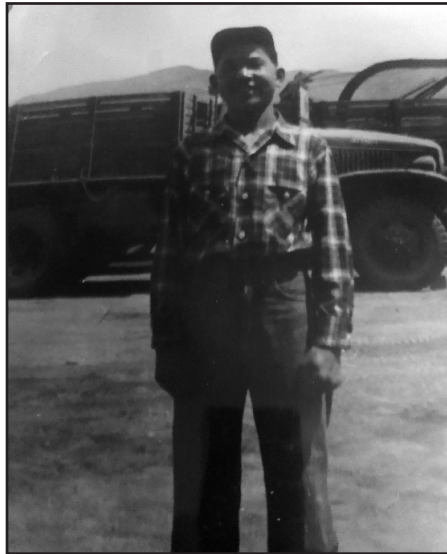
Incidentally, I owe a great deal of thanks to KWVA Membership Administrative Assistant Sheila Fritts. She helped get me in contact with the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, MO, which has agreed to accept all the items, pictures, and letters I have for display in the museum.

Carrie Jo Ward, 928 E. Megan Lane Webb City, MO, 64870, 417-392-9825, cjohil99@Hotmail.com

In March 1952 my dad, Jerry Edward Hill, was sent to the lines 25 miles south of Seoul, Korea. Later he was transferred to the 607th ACW Squadron. He was 21 years old at the time. It was there that he met a faithful and lifetime friend, Sang-Woo Suh. Dad gave him the name “Mike.” Mike was 15 years old and worked in the Airmans Club.

They hit it off and became fast friends. They spent all their time together, sharing Jerry’s packages from home. Mike was the head of his household, looking after and providing for his mother and the rest of his family, as he did not have a father figure. Mike was unable to attend school, but he desperately wanted to.

During that time Jerry taught Mike to speak and write English and took him to church. Mike promised Jerry that he would return to school as soon as he could. It was



“Mike” at attention in Korea



Jerry Hill in Korea

then that Jerry wrote home, sent \$50, and asked his parents to buy American clothes for Mike.

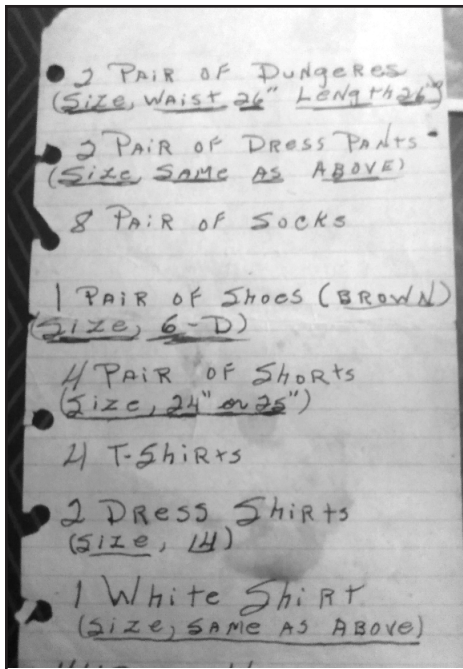
Jerry and Mike had picked out what he wanted from a mail order catalog, clipped the photos, and sent them along. Mrs. Hill was able to find everything requested, shirts, slacks, shoes, and socks. She packed it, putting candy and bubble gum, a comb, and a pocket knife in his shoes for a surprise! When the package arrived on 7-17-53, Mike let out a squeal. It was a great day!



Sang Woo-Suh, aka “Mike,” and Jerry Hill (R) in Korea



Jerry Hill in uniform



List of clothes ordered for "Mike"



Sang Woo-Suh, aka "Mike," and family

It was not long before Jerry learned that he would be going home soon. Not wanting to leave Mike he inquired about bringing Mike back with him, but there was not enough time for all the paperwork and

arrangements to be completed.

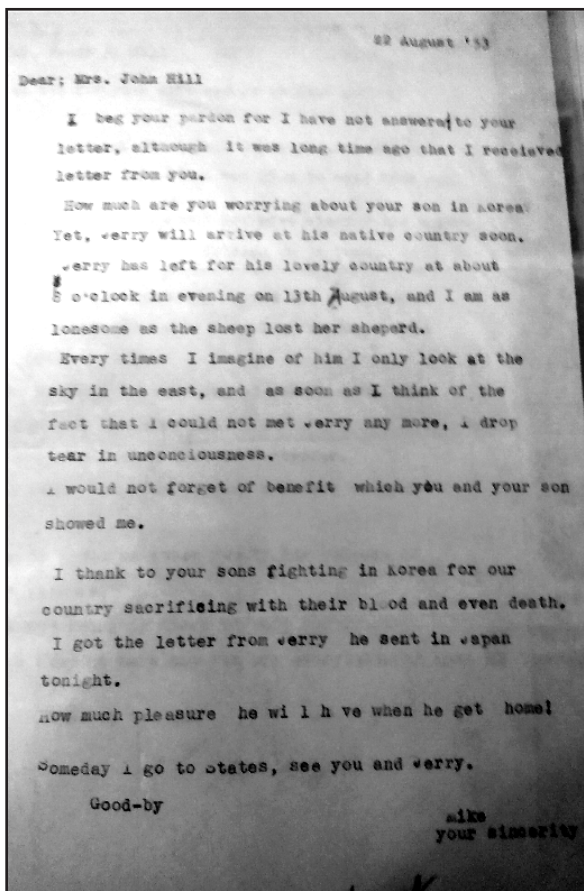
The day came for Jerry to leave. All he could do was worry about Mike. Mike later said "I am as lonesome as the sheep that lost the shepherd! Every time I imagine him I look to the east and shed a tear in unconsciousness."

Jerry left Mike on 8-15-53. He gave Mike an additional \$10 to do with as he pleased. Mike used that money to get himself back into school, and in September of 1953 he was there. He promised Jerry that he would study hard.

Many letters were sent back and forth in the coming years as Mike kept his promise of staying in school and studying hard. They referred to each other as "brothers" and Mike called my grandparents Mom and Dad. Jerry said he has just become "part of our family." And, he visited Missouri several times, once with his daughter.

Mike never missed a birthday, holiday, or anniversary. He usually sent gifts of Korean money, trinkets etc. Once he sent my mother and grandmother handmade authentic Korean wedding gowns, which I am donating to the museum.

Boy, did Mike keep his promise of finish-



Letter sent from Mike to Jerry Hill's mother



Jerry, Erma, Carrie, and Scott Hill

ing school. In February of 1963 he graduated from Hong Kong University with a BFA Major in Architectural Planning. Then, in February of 1968 he graduated from the College of Fine Arts at Hong Kong University with an MA Major of Architectural Design.

Among the many prestigious positions Mike held over the years he became the Professor of Architectural Design at the College and Applied Arts at Kook Min University in Seoul. The list of well-known buildings he designed is very large, as we list the awards he won for his work.

We, Jerry's children, share his story with you with great respect for both of these men for their devotion to each other and for finding a lifetime of friendship and love for two families in the midst of terrible circumstances. Their story is proof that good things can come from bad if you just look for them.

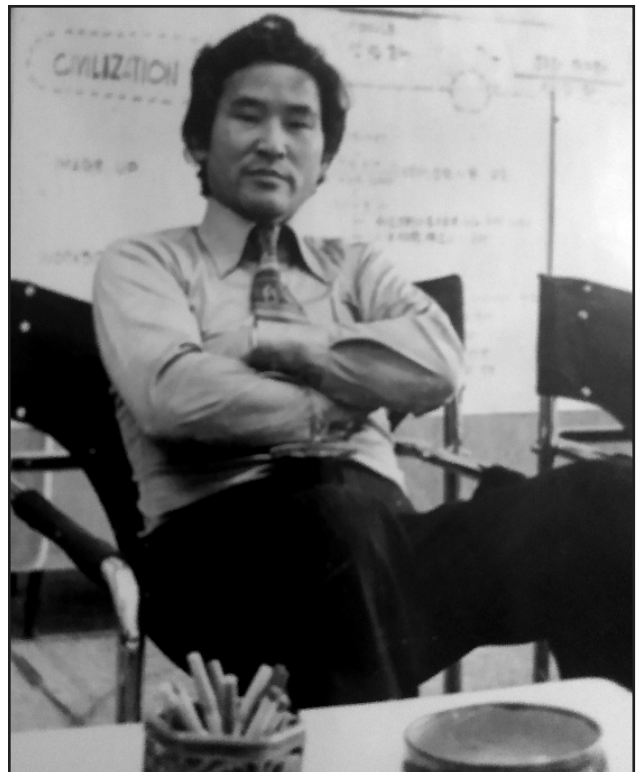
Sadly, Jerry passed away on December 14, 2017, never having applied for or collecting any type of VA compensation. He believed that serving his country was his duty as a citizen and a small price to pay to find a friend like Mike. Unfortunately, we do

Professor Sang Woo Suh at work

not know if Mike is still living. We searched at the time of Dad's death but could not find anything.

I have also contacted his wife, his daughter, and son to no avail. I even emailed people at Kook-Min University and got no answers. I felt that someone in his family should be notified of the museum donation and display of the story, but have had no luck. If you know of any other method I could use please let me know.

Putting this story together, along with the donation for the museum, has provided me with many thoughts, smiles, and tears. My dad never thought he had done anything more in Korea than any other person would! He was very humble.



I know today he smiles!! At least he and Mike are together again in spirit!

Submit Your DNA to Identify a KIA/MIA

Whenever our government classifies a member of the military as Missing in Action (MIA) or Killed in Action (KIA) the family is notified. However, it may be years or decades before recovery of any remains is achieved, if ever.

In 1991 the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL), a division of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System, was established as the only Department of Defense (DOD) forensic DNA testing laboratory for the identification of human remains.

Advances in science now makes it possible to identify human remains through the analysis of DNA. To assist AFDIL in the identification process families can submit their own DNA for matching with currently recovered remains, or the DNA will be stored in government labs specially designed to preserve it for future recoveries.

Each military department maintains a Service Casualty Office. The Department of State does the same for civilians. The

officials in these offices serve as primary liaisons for families concerning personnel recovery and accounting. Full-time knowledgeable civilians who have worked this issue for many years, help answer family members' questions. Military officials also assist and help explain the methods used to account for families' missing loved ones. Each office dedicates the following addresses and telephone numbers for family use:

U.S. Air Force

HQ AFPC/DPFCM
550 C Street West
JBAS-Randolph, TX 78150-4716
Tel: 1-(800) 531-4716

U.S. Army

Department of the Army
Attn Past Conflicts AHRC-PDC-R
1600 Spearhead Div. Ave. Dept. 450
Fort Knox, KY 40122-5405
Tel: 1 (800) 892-2490

U.S. Marine Corps

Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps
Manpower and Reserve Affairs (MFPC)

Personal and Family Readiness Division
2008 Elliot Road
Quantico, VA 22134-5103
Tel: 1 (800) 847-1597

U.S. Navy

Navy Personnel Command Casualty Assistance Division (PERS-13)
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055-0000
Tel: 1 (800) 443-9208

State Department

U.S. Department of State CA/OCS/ACS/EAP
SA-17, 10th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20522-1707
Tel: 1 (202) 485-6106

Please contact the address below if you wish to provide information about an American missing in action from any conflict, or have an inquiry about MIAs:

Public Affairs Office

Washington, D.C.
2300 Defense Pentagon
Attn: External Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20301-2300

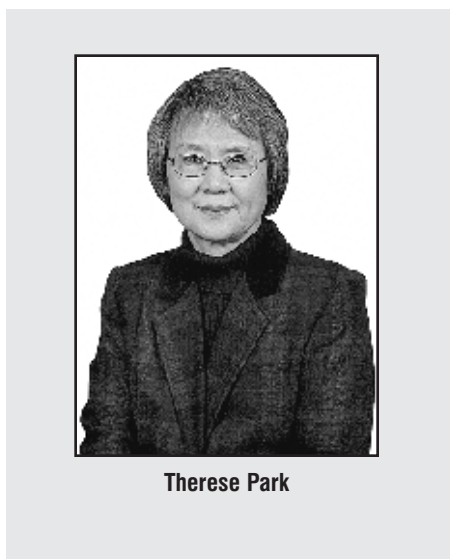
If you're going to Kansas City...

By *Therese Park*

Johnson County Community College (JCCC) in Overland Park, KS, with more than 20,000 enrollments each year, created a new scholarship page with the caption: "Honoring Korean War Veterans/Helping Student Veterans." Five musicians, including myself, will give a benefit concert with the same title: "Honoring Korean Veterans/Helping Student Veterans" on February 26, 2022 at 3 p.m. at Polsky Theater on the campus. All proceeds from the concert will help Student Veterans achieve their academic goals. (Access the page at <https://www.ccc.edu/about/foundation/giving/student-veterans.html>)

I came up with the idea of a benefit concert after learning of a local Korean lady who set up a \$10,000 scholarship Endowment Fund at the college unanimously. She was deeply touched by the news that the members of the local KWV Association have been grantors of a "Pay it Forward Student Veteran Scholarship" at the college.

I don't know anything about the grantor of the endowment fund, but does it matter? We the "saved" by the American troops seven decades ago each have unique and unforgettable memories of our youth when we were on the verge of losing our country, homes, and identities when North Korea attacked the South with Russian tanks, Russian ammunition,



and Russian-trained troops.

I was nine years old. Our town of Pusan was immediately promoted to "Temporary Capital of the Republic of Korea." We lost our two-story school building to the South Korean military that needed a shelter/makeshift hospital for 6,000 injured soldiers being transported to our town from the battlefield.

The face of war we saw the day the military trucks and ambulances brought the soldiers onto our school assembly ground and unloaded them was terrifying. We had been cleaning our classrooms when suddenly a loud commotion erupted outside and a whistle-blowing soldier ran into the room and told us to

leave immediately. Our teacher said, "Children, don't forget what the communists did to our soldiers you see. And those men could be your fathers or uncles or brothers..." I never forgot what I saw and heard that day.

Who says the Korean War is the "Forgotten War?" I never forgot the keynote speaker, a retired U.S. Army General, who expressed these words to the veterans a few years ago during the Veterans Day celebration at the local KW Veterans Memorial: "I have admiration for all Korean War veterans who fought in what was first known as the Korean 'conflict' then changed to a war... Your strength and resilience set the new standards for today's U.S. military. South Korea is an amazing country today."

The endowment fund "Honoring Korean War Veterans/Helping Student Veterans" by a local Korean, man or a woman, is timely, so is the concert for the same purposes. And the veterans of the recent wars returning home and pursuing their goals at JCCC deserve our respects and good wishes as much as the Korean War veterans.

NOTE: Therese Park, a regular contributor to our magazine, is the author of "A Gift of the Emperor," "When a Rooster Crows at Night," "The Northern Wind," & "Returned and Reborn?" Reach her at <http://www.theresepark.com>

A Tree to Honor Your Vet

We've all heard about the great things Wreaths Across America does to honor veterans, but did you know you can contact them and they will create a dog tag with your veteran's name on it and place it on one of the thousands of trees they grow and nurture? That tree becomes your vet's tree and as the tree grows toward Heaven, so does the memory of your vet.

Every three years the tip of the tree is harvested and used



to form a wreath that goes to Arlington or another cemetery where it is placed on the grave of a fellow vet each Christmas. On average, each tree lasts thirty years.

Find out the details of the Wreaths Across America – Remembrance Tree Program by going online to:

www.wreathacrossamerica.org/remembrance-tree-program

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.

Reflections on Some Facets of the Korean War:

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War. In July 1950 troops of the Communist North Korean 6th Division occupied my hometown of Kunsan, 100 miles south from Inchon. In October soldiers of the U.S. 25th Division arrived after North Korean soldiers had left. We were free from Communist occupation.

I am so grateful to have lived as a free youth, a free man, and a free grandfather, thanks to President Harry S. Truman and Americans in uniform who fought Communists in the Korean War. I have the luxury of pondering what it would be like living in a Communist-ruled world; I have read and learned about those countries. I came across statistics which would show a facet of life.

The Exorbitant Price of Lenin's Utopia

Brian Crozier wrote in his book *The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Empire*: "Lenin's Communist Party, brought to power by his 'October Revolution,' believed itself entitled, in the name of history, not only to perpetuate its power by terror, but to extend it to all other countries in the world." He cited the human cost of Leninism and its foreign variants in terms of death based on the findings of six researchers who are authors of books on themes related to Communism.

The number of deaths is as follows: China: 65 million; Soviet Union: 20 million; Cambodia: 2 million; North Korea: 2 million; Africa: 1.7 million; Afghanistan: 1.5 million; Vietnam: 1 million; Eastern Europe: 1 million and Latin America: 150,000. [The numbers related to Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America reflect combined sums of the numbers applicable to several countries in them.]

The numbers illustrate a vivid example why the people living in free countries feel good and happy. The outcome of the Korean War reminds "happy" people of the profound statement "Freedom is not free."

The Korean War was a pivotal duel between the U.S.-led United Nations forces-the ROK forces included-and Communist nations with the above records.

ROK Gen. Paik Sun Yup demonstrated his leadership in the war; he became the ROK's first four-star general. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, Commanding General, Eighth U.S. Army 1950-1951 and CINC, United Nations Command, 1950-1952, and Gen. James A. Van Fleet, Commanding General, Eighth U.S. Army 1951-1953, wrote the Foreword for Gen. Paik's *Memoir: From Pusan to Panmunjom*. They stated, "He was the finest operational commander in the Republic of Korea."

In his memoir, Paik wrote about the tactics that Communist guerillas applied in recruiting innocent young men by promising high positions in their local community when the Republic of Korea lost the war; many left their families to join the guerillas in the mountains; Communist leaders directed the new guerillas to punish "reactionary elements" in their former villages—sometimes killing them. Villagers harbored hatred toward the young men, who lost their places to return.

Three Ways of Counting Age: One Physical Age; Two Freedom Ages

In 1944 I was born without freedom in Korea: my physical age is 76. I have two freedom ages: one is 75 years old counting from 1945, the year when Imperial Japan surrendered unconditionally to U.S.-led Allies-end of World War II; Korea under Japanese rule for 40 years (1905-1945) was liberated. The other age is 70, counting from 1950, the year when U.S. forces came to defend freedom of the ROK people. Confused? Perhaps. Korea's modern time history is complicated.

Have you heard VA, PENSIERO [Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves] in Giuseppe Verdi's opera *Nabucco*? The chorus touches my heart, as I can relate the longing of the Jews for returning home from Babylonia as a free people to that of my

ancestors under Japanese rule. When I read the lyrics or hear the sound track of the move "Born Free" I feel my spirit soaring.

American Leadership: Supporting the People without Freedom

President Franklin Roosevelt delivered his State of the Union speech on January 6, 1941. One month earlier, France had fallen to Nazi German forces and Great Britain was under Nazi air attacks. The military collapse of Great Britain was imminent. He wanted to assist America's allies through the Lend-Lease program.

Roosevelt stated: "Let us say to the democracies: 'We Americans are vitally concerned in your defense of freedom. We are putting forth our energies, our resources, and our organizing powers to give you the strength to regain and maintain a free world. We shall send you in ever increasing numbers, ships, planes, tanks and guns. That is our purpose and our pledge...'"

Roosevelt looked forward to seeing the world founded upon four essential human freedoms: freedom of speech and expression; freedom of worship; freedom from want; and freedom from fear. He exhorted free countries to cooperate and to work together in a friendly, civilized society.

Roosevelt identified the United States with freedom and defined its responsibility: supporting the people with no freedom. He showed the world American leadership in the Crucible.

American Leadership Challenged by Imperial Japan

On December 7, 1941, eleven months after Roosevelt's State of the Union speech, American leadership was challenged by Imperial Japan, a part of the Axis powers with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy; Japan launched a surprise aerial attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii; and attacked Malaysia, Hong Kong, Guam, the Philippine, Wake Island and Midway Island.

On December 8, the United States declared war on Japan.

Japanese forces were attacking in many

By Byong Moon Kim, Ph.D.
Honorary lifetime member of Korean War Veterans Association-Honorary and lifetime member of The Chosin Few

Saving the Freedom of 20 Million Koreans

parts of China and Eastern Asia and ready to take on Australia. Japan looked invincible. Syngman Rhee, a Korean in exile in America, was not surprised at Japan's surprise attacks. He had warned that Japan would attack America; he wrote about Japan in his book, *Japan Inside Out*. During the WWII he became Korea's best known political leader overseas; he had led a movement of reforms with other leaders educated in Baejae Academy, established by the American missionary H. Appenzeller in 1885.

Rhee attended George Washington University, Harvard University, and Princeton University, where he earned his Ph.D. degree in Political Science. Rhee became Korea's first president in the Republic of Korea (South Korea), established in 1948.

The declaration of war on Japan was the whisper of hope for the Koreans, who had suffered for 36 years under Japanese rule. Koreans in America were excited to see the possibility of the end of the war: their sons and daughters joined the military in order to fight the Japanese. For example, the sons and the daughter of Ahn Chang-Ho, Korean independence activist and one of the early leaders of the Korean-American immigrant community in the United States, were among them.

Ahn Chang-Ho's sons Philson and Philip served as privates. Susan, a Navy ensign, was a gunnery officer training Navy pilots in aerial combat, radar tactics and instrument flying. (Susan was the first female gunnery officer in the United States Navy, eventually rising to the rank of Lieutenant and working for both Naval Intelligence and the fledgling National Security Agency.) Ahn Chang-Ho devoted his life to the cause of Korean independence; he was arrested in Shanghai, China and died in Japanese captivity in 1938.

The Nationalist Chinese government welcomed the participation of the U.S. in fighting Japan; it received an enormous amount of weapons and materials through the Lend-Lease program. The Americans fighting the Communist Chinese in Korea were surprised to see that the Chinese had so many U.S.-made weapons; the

Communists took the weapons from the Nationalists when the former defeated the latter.

America: The "Great arsenal of Democracy"

I am writing the following for younger generations who do not know much about the history of the United States as the great arsenal of democracy; the U.S. led the fighting against Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and Imperial Japan. Tracing the movement of American forces is limited to major battles in the Pacific Ocean.

Americans in uniform fought all over in the vast Pacific-the Southwest, Northwest and North. Americans heard the names of strange places including Guadalcanal (Henderson Field; first offensive by the U.S.), Tulagi, Savo, Bougainville...The airplane carrying Japan's Fleet Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, the architect of the attacks on Pearl Harbor, was shot down here and the admiral died.

Other names included New Britain (Rabaul, the major Japanese staging post), New Guinea, Tarawa Atoll, Saipan, Guam, Tinian (B-29 bombers took off from here with atomic bombs in August 1945), and Peleliu. Marine Corps General Oliver P. Smith fought here; he later commanded the First Marine Division that landed at Inchon and subsequently liberated Seoul; he led the Chosin Few campaign, the epic battle between the Marines and the Chinese. More names of note? Leyte, Luzon, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa.

Americans also read about many naval battles, such as Coral Sea, Guadalcanal, Savo, Midway, Leyte Surigao Strait, Samar, Leyte Gulf and Okinawa. In the Battle of the Coral Sea in April-May 1942, the U.S. Navy lost the oiler Neosho, the destroyer Sims, and the 33,000-ton aircraft carrier Lexington, which was abandoned

after a fire caused by exploding gasoline vapor.

The Japanese Navy lost the 12,000-ton aircraft carrier Shoho and a few smaller vessels. Japan had won a tactical victory, but the U.S. won a strategic victory: it thwarted the Japanese objective: the capture of Port Moresby in New Guinea, near Australia. The action in the Coral Sea, to a large degree, offset the crushing news of the surrender of Corregidor.

Japan's Admiral Takijiro Ohnishi, commander of the 1st Air Fleet, conceived special air attack unit, Kamikaze ("Divine Wind") in the summer of 1944; the concept of a force of suicide pilots the depersonalization of individual was to sink all U.S. ships, preferably aircraft carriers; pilots were instructed in a new technique called tai-atari (ramming attack); navigation or marksmanship and weaponry were not emphasized; nearly 2,500 Kamikaze pilots were to die.

The Kamikaze pilots approaching the ship to crash on it terrified sailors; Kamikaze planes came down on the ships operating in the Battles of the Leyte Gulf and Okinawa; destroyers screening aircraft carriers were hit hard. President Truman received a daily report on the Okinawa operations.

Bombardment of Japan began: the bombers took off from Iwo Jima, Marianas; planes from Task Forces 38 and 58; B-29 bombers from India also participated; these bombers flew over Korea.

On August 6, 1945 three B-29 bombers took off from Tinian Island; One B-29, named Enola Gay and piloted by Col. Paul Tibbets, dropped an atomic bomb over Hiroshima; a second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki a few days later. On August 14 [August 15 in Japan and Korea] Japan surrendered.

The declaration of war on Japan was the whisper of hope for the Koreans, who had suffered for 36 years under Japanese rule. Koreans in America were excited to see the possibility of the end of the war: their sons and daughters joined the military in order to fight the Japanese.

What President Roosevelt stated on December 8, 1941 became a reality. He said, “We will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make it very certain that this form of treachery shall never again endanger us.” Later, Japan accepted the new Constitution suggested by the U.S. V-J Day arrived.

General Douglas MacArthur became military governor of occupied Japan. On September 2, 1945, on the deck of USS Missouri, the Japanese delegation signed the Instrument of Surrender. MacArthur’s words at the ceremony were without rancor or vengeance. He paid tribute to the “fighting spirit” of America’s warriors. At that moment, 500 B-29s and other Allied warplanes roared over the “Mighty Mo.”

As part of the surrender Korea was liberated. It was free for the first time in forty years. The joy did not last long. Soviet troops were already in Korea with Kim II Sung, a major in the Soviet Army. The U.S. forces nearest to Korea were on Okinawa, 600 miles away.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial: A Hallowed Place of Freedom

On July 27, 1995 Korean War veterans dedicated the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. They presented it to the world as a powerful symbol of freedom with an ever-true message “Freedom is not free.”

I would call the monument a hollowed place of freedom. I salute the Korean War Memorial Board members and the veterans for their devotion to dedicate the memorial immemorial: a people living in freedom would come and to be reassured of the preciousness of freedom; a people with aspiration for freedom would come to be inspired; and people, generation after generation, would see what’s involved in fighting for another’s freedom.

The memorial, to me, invokes a powerful message of love, 36,754 Americans died to save the freedom of 20 million people of the Republic of Korea—the people were very poor and hungry. They fertilized their fields with night soil—the smell overwhelmed the foreign service members upon arrival. The Koreans’ per capita income was only \$56. They earned less than \$5 a month; they were in agony and fury wondering why their fellow Koreans

from the North were attacking them with tanks and airplanes.

The Americans, total strangers, came to defend the people at risk of losing their country. And the Americans made enormous sacrifices—SOME GAVE ALL. ALL GAVE SOME. The sacrifices reminded me of a Bible verse: “Greater love has no one than this: that he lay down his life for his friends” [John 15:13].

I sincerely hope that the people would consider the Korean War Veterans Memorial a hallowed place of freedom. Who would be these people? I suppose that the people who were involved directly or indirectly—in the efforts to save freedom of the people of the Republic of Korea.

I believe that the following people have pondered the meaning of freedom: Americans in uniform in combat and support forces in the Korean War; families of the fallen and the veterans; other Americans who supported service members to help the Koreans for humanitarian causes during and after the war; those who helped orphans and orphanages; those who adopted orphaned children.

I also believe that Korea Defense veterans have internalized the meaning of freedom while serving in Korea since the Armistice was signed on July 27, 1953. And the Koreans who suffered in the war—20 million of them—and their descendants.

Why do I call the memorial a hallowed place?

I have three reasons: First, what I saw, felt, and experienced there led me to believe that. Second, I felt that the memorial seemed to task us—those who cherish freedom—with a mission, which is to preserve freedom as a way to honor us. The mission is very clear in relation to the statement: “Freedom is not free.” Third, Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument nearby reinforce the importance of advancing the mission.

Stand at the memorial at night and see the scene: the lights from the Lincoln Memorial cast a glow on the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

Seeing is believing

I tensed up when I saw the faces of the statues of the troopers wearing ponchos on patrol—the 19 troopers included an Army squad leader, a Marine assistant gunner,

and an Air Force observer. I also saw the faces of the support forces and their equipment: nurses and M.A.S.H. units, trucks and tanks; they are etched on the granite wall. All the scenes helped me understand the scale and scope of the war.

Years later, my wife and I had the honor of meeting Col. William Weber, USA (Ret), whose statue is standing there; in 2017 we invited Col. Weber to speak at the Kim Family’s 14th Annual Appreciation Day Picnic and Program in Honor of President Harry S. Truman and Korean War Service Members; the time we had with Col. and Mrs. Weber is unforgettable.

Mission of Future Generations

The circular Pool of Remembrance seemed to invoke peace achieved through the sacrifices of all—SOME GAVE ALL. ALL GAVE SOME; the ever-true statement—FREEDOM IS NOT FREE—is etched on the mural wall; its image in the water—a little shaky—is visible on a serene day. The statement, visible in two ways, seemed to tell us that when the water is disturbed—when peace is shattered—freedom is shaky. The free and brave people must prepare to defend freedom at all times, generation after generation.

The Gettysburg Address of Abraham Lincoln would inspire the people who would like to advance the legacy of the Korean War service members; their sacrifices contributed to dedicating the firm foundation on which hard-working Koreans have built the country high and wide; they have succeeded in developing the dirt-poor country into a prosperous one. (More on the Gettysburg Address later.)

As I looked at the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument from the Korean War Veterans Memorial I reflected on the outcome of the Korean War. As I saw the 19 statues I imagined how Lincoln’s leadership and ideals on freedom and Washington’s leadership and wisdom would reinforce the vital importance of freedom, independence and democracy that the ROK people have achieved. The Korean War Veterans Memorial—quite symbolic and wondrous—might lead visitors to conjure up the images of those two American great leaders in the Crucible.

Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are familiar to the Koreans. The author of the 1919

I also believe that Korea Defense veterans have internalized the meaning of freedom while serving in Korea since the Armistice was signed on July 27, 1953. And the Koreans who suffered in the war—20 million of them—and their descendants.

Declaration of Korean Independence, Choi Nam Sun, studied Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence in the drafting stage; he knew the facts: the British colonized America. So did the Japanese colonize Korea; Americans had aspirations for independence. So did the Koreans.

I believe that Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and Washington's Farewell Address have given hopes to many people around the world aspiring for freedom and democracy. When my two daughters attended elementary school I asked them to memorize the Farewell Address because freedom and democracy defined in it meant so much to me.

The wisdom of Washington can be applied in many ways: One paragraph relates to international relations: "Observe good faith and justice towards all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all. Religion and morality enjoin this conduct; and can it be that good policy does not equally enjoin it? It will be worthy of a free, enlightened, and, at no distant period, a great nation to give to mankind the magnanimous and too novel example of a people always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence."

Washington also spoke about military preparedness: "As a very important source of strength and security, cherish public credit. One method of preserving it is to use it as sparingly as possible, avoiding occasions of expense by cultivating peace, but remembering also that timely disbursements to prepare for danger frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it."

The Gettysburg Address and the Fate of the Republic of Korea

I read Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in my middle school English textbook. Every word and every phrase were inspiring. Free Koreans have cherished the supreme importance of the last sentence of the address: "that government of the peo-

ple, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Birth, Death and Rebirth of the Republic of Korea

William Safire, an author and a former New York Times columnist, made this comment on the Gettysburg Address: "The speech can be read as a poem based on the metaphor of birth, death and rebirth-with its subtle evocation of the resurrection of Jesus-and focused on the theme of the nation's rededication to the principle of freedom."

Birth

In 1945 Korea was liberated from the yoke of Imperial Japan: Japan surrendered unconditionally to the U.S.-led Allies. The U.S. and the Soviet Union decided to administer military administration in Korea for three years (1945-1948): the U.S. on the southern part below the 38th parallel and the Soviet Union on the northern part above it. The U.S. and the Soviet Union failed to agree to establish a unified Korean government, so two Koreas emerged on August 15, 1948: in the U.S. zone, the Republic of Korea (South Korea) with Syngman Rhee as its president; in the Soviet Union zone, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) with Kim II Sung as its leader was set up.

Death

On June 25, 1950 Communist North Korean forces invaded South Korea; the Soviet equipped and trained North Korean troops and even prepared an operational attack plan; Red China supported Kim II Sung's invasion plan.

Communist North Korean forces overwhelmed the ROK military on the ground, in the air, and at sea. The Soviet-made T-34 tanks terrified the ROK soldiers, who did not have anti-tank rockets. ROK airmen did not have fighters or bombers; and

ROK sailors could not stop the landings of regular troops and guerillas on the east coast. On June 28 Seoul fell; on July 3 Inchon fell; on July 20 Taejon fell.

Within a month the Communist troops occupied 95 percent of South Korea. Pusan, the second largest city on the southeastern coast, was the invader's final objective. The ROK was in a corner. Its fate seemed to be sealed.

Rebirth

President Truman received an urgent message for assistance from ROK President Syngman Rhee. The Security Council of the United Nations recommended that member nations furnish such assistance to the Republic of Korea as may be necessary to repel the armed attack and to restore international peace and security in the area. Truman committed U.S. forces to Korea at the United Nations' recommendation.

The North Koreans kept pushing the ROK and U.S. forces; the invaders were closing in on Pusan. Gen. Walton Walker, commanding general of the U.S. Eighth Army, issued the "stand or die" order; there would be no American Dunkirk in Korea. He established the Pusan Perimeter.

Only 25 miles from Pusan, in the Chindong-ni area, Lt. Col. Robert Taplett's 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Provisional Marine Brigade fought the North Korean 6th Division, August 6-9; the Marines repulsed the Communists, eliminating one threat on the southwestern front in the Pusan Perimeter. The dying patient ROK was being resuscitated.

Now, Kim II Sung, deeply frustrated, ordered his forces to take Taegu on the tip of the Pusan Perimeter by August 15. To defend Taegu, the third largest city, the ROK 1st Division reinforced by the U.S. 27th Infantry, repulsed the attacks of three North Korean Divisions: the 3rd, 13th and 15th. The division commander, Col. Paik Sun Yup, in a battle, stopped retreating hungry and exhausted soldiers. He entreated them by saying, "The only place left for us to go is into the ocean. If we run now, Korea is done for ... I shall be at the front. If I turn back, shoot me." Paik ran toward Hill 328. Soldiers, moved by the commander's words and acts, followed him; they retook the hill.

Many battles were waged along the Pusan Perimeter. Some major battles were at Chindong-ni, 1st and 2nd Naktong Bulge, Pohang, Tabudong, and Yongchon. On September 15, the U.S. 1st Marine Division with one ROK Marine regiment landed at Inchon successfully; the U.S. Army 7th Infantry Division also landed. Heavy fighting continued in the streets of Seoul. The successful landing operations behind the enemy line led to the collapse of the North Korean supply lines supporting the troops fighting UN forces along the perimeter.

On September 28 Gen. Douglas MacArthur returned Seoul to President Syngman Rhee at the ceremony re-establishing the ROK government. President Rhee found it hard to find words to express his joy: "How can I ever explain to you my undying gratitude and that of the Korean people?"

From October 1950 until an Armistice was signed on July 27, UN forces fought the Chinese and the North Koreans in major battles such as the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir, Chipyeong-ni, Gloucester Hill, Heartbreak Ridge, the

Imjin River, Unsan, and Wonju.

The land from the East Sea to the West Sea is 155 miles long. Major battles along this line were named as follows: {From west) Nevada Cities, The Hook, Big & Little Horn, Old Baldy, Pork Chop Hill, T-Bone, White Horse Hill, Jackson Heights, Triangle Hill, Jane Russell Hill, Lightening Hill, Capital Hill, Heartbreak Ridge, Punchbowl, Bloody Ridge, J Ridge, and Anchor Hill. The Republic of Korea was reborn.

...to be continued

Declassification is a long process

A large number of military operations are classified, sometimes for good reasons. Declassifying them can be a daunting task. Consider this cryptic message from John J. Baker.

Waiting for DAWN

It took eight hours for the crew at Tachikawa Air Base Tokyo to load two million dollars' worth of electronic equipment for five mountain-top relay stations in South Korea. The top-secret order was identified as Tokyo APO500.

The cargo was met at Pusan Air Strip, 2 July 1950, 2200 hours by Col. Callahan, 8th Army Signal Offices. He signed off for the equipment. We headed for the Pusan Railroad Station, where we boarded two flat railroad cars. Then we headed for a place called Taejon.

It started to rain. How nice.

Baker waited sixty years for the U.S. Army to declassify the orders for the operation. Here is the notification:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Requested by Mr. John J. Baker 1980, 267 Hibbing Circle, Marina Vista Park, Marina CA 93933

Declassification

Document Control – AR380-5 50 YRS

Item #148 Secret Issued SCAPFEC HQ's 7/1/50

Tokyo APO500 is hereby Declassified April 2010

Read the original order issued by SCAPFEC. (Is that shorthand for Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers Far east Command? What a lofty title!) Who can break that code, i.e., MCKIG, SFUHY, NPPAX, XMOQG...?

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

Chapter gone, Memorial not forgotten

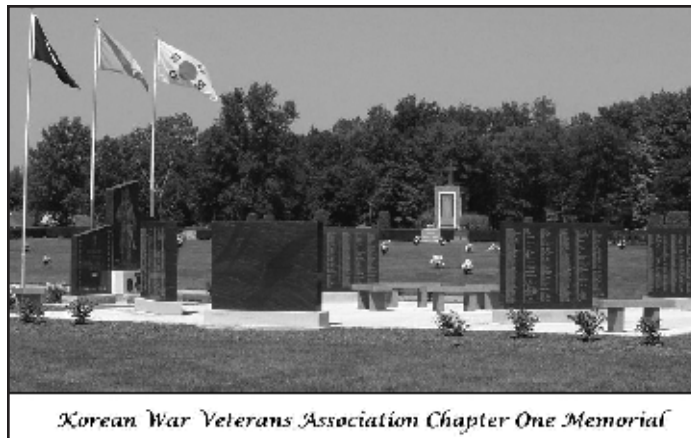
Concordia Cemetery Gardens, 5300 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, Indiana is the permanent home for the Korean War Veterans Association Memorial. The United States of America and the Country of South Korea fly daily over this memorial.

The memorial was designed and built by Korean War veterans from the former Fort Wayne, Indiana chapter. It includes six polished marble panels on both sides, with the engraved names of Korea War and Korea Defense Veterans of Northeast Indiana.

The Korean War Veterans Association is dedicated to all Allen County, Fort Wayne, and Indiana Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps veterans who served in combat against the North Korean Communist Peoples military, the Chinese Communist military, and the Russian advisors during the Korean War from June 25, 1950, until the signing of the Korean War Armistice (not a peace treaty) in the Demilitarized Zone, Panmunjom, Korea, on July 27, 1953, by North Korea, Communist China, and the Russian delegation, and by South Korea and the United Nations delegation.

The memorial also honors all Allen County, Fort Wayne, and Indiana Korea Defense Veterans who have served in the defense of South Korea from Communist North Korea, Communist China, and the Russian Advisors since July 27, 1953, to today, thereby ensuring that the July 27, 1953 Armistice remains in effect so the South Korean government and people can live in peace.

John Dennis Hannigan, Korea Defense Veteran, SPS, HQ 321st USASABN / I CORPS 1957-58, 5523 Sable Ct., Fort Wayne, IN 46835



A Word from the National Chaplain...

Dr. Paul Kim, National Chaplain



The Honor of Military Service

*Dr. Paul Kim, Pastor Emeritus
National Chaplain, KWVA
Marsh Post 442 Chaplain, Cambridge,
MA*

As a teen growing up in Korea, one of my dreams was to move to America. At the time, it was not easy to receive a visa from the U.S. Embassy in Korea. It was next to impossible to meet all the legal requirements for immigration unless you received an invitation from a family member living in the U.S. But surely God had a plan for my life in America. In May 1967, the legal process for my family's immigration was finally approved! After three long years of waiting, it was a miracle of God's grace.

One of the main reasons I wanted to go to America was because I had a strong desire to serve in the U.S. Army. Whenever I saw American soldiers stationed in Korea carry out their duties to defend our small nation, I felt a burden to pay back even just a tiny portion of the great national debt we owed to the U.S. I thought it would be such an honor for me to acknowledge my gratitude to my newly adopted country by enlisting in its armed services. So within three months after arriving in Hilo, Hawaii to join my mother and my older sister, I volunteered for the U.S. Army in September 1967. My heart swelled with pride as I fulfilled this worthy life goal.

My decision to enlist was during the Vietnam War era. While many young people were traveling out of the country to dodge the draft, I rejoiced that I could be in America and join the army. So, at 19 years of age, I began this new journey of life not knowing what my future would hold.

As I reflect on my four months of BCT/AIT and two years of active duty in 1967-69 stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, I can see how God provided so many blessings, far beyond my imagination. It was an opportunity to grow and mature as a human being, to learn about American culture, the English language, military life, and even earn my U.S. citi-



LEFT: Chaplain Paul Kim on Washington Mall

BELOW: Day of departure to America, 1967 - Kimpo Airport, Seoul

zenship. After two years of active duty, I was discharged so that I could attend college and obtain two seminary degrees under the GI Bill. During those days, tuition was free for seminary students of the Southern Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program.

In 1986, seventeen years after my discharge from active duty, I felt God's calling to serve as an Army Reserve Chaplain. At the time I was the founding pastor of a growing collegiate church in Berkeley, California. But despite the busyness of ministry, I knew helping our troops through pastoral care and counseling was another worthy "duty" that God was calling me to. I served in this capacity for nearly a decade, and since then God has opened the doors for me to advance the Gospel through the military chaplaincy.

Now, as the national chaplain of the Korean War Veterans Association, I'm so grateful to have served my country for the cause of defending freedom and upholding the Constitution of the United States. Our freedom is given by God; no government should take away from We the People. The Bible says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage (Psalm 33:12)."

America's Christian heritage began

with a small band of Separatists known as the Pilgrims when they established Plymouth Colony in 1620. They came to this new land looking for the freedom to worship God in a way that was denied to them in England. We know the story well—how they suffered much in that first winter, yet they never lost hope that God would honor their faith. We are indebted to these Founding Fathers and Mothers of faith.

As Plymouth Colony's governor William Bradford (1590-1657) wrote: "All great and honorable actions are accompanied with great difficulties, and both must be enterprised and overcome with answerable courage." These were honorable soldiers of Christ, fighting the spiritual battle, and equipped with the weapons of faith, hope, and love.

The Bible says, "Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him (2 Timothy 2:3-4)." Our God is a mighty conqueror, warrior, and King on the lookout for faithful soldiers.

It is the sacrifice of our veterans that have made our nation strong and honorable. All veterans live by the code: "Honor, Duty, Country."

I pray that each one of us can also add faith, hope, love, and Christ. As we continue to serve our veterans, their families, and our communities, may we all carry the banner of faith by serving the greatest commander—Jesus Christ—who is the victor over Satan, sin, and death. God is seeking honorable soldiers of Christ to serve His Kingdom.

The Bible says, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you (Matthew 6:33)." Live each day for Jesus, who is the coming King who will establish His Kingdom of peace and justice for eternity. Maranatha!



Korean veteran part of first all-women's Honor Flight

Miljan Akin participated in the first all-women Honor Flight from Chicago, called "Operation Herstory." The flight took place on October 6, 2021.

She thoroughly enjoyed this day of honor and excitement.

Reach Miljan Akin at 8228 S. Indiana Ave., Chicago, IL 60619



Miljan Akin on day of "Operation Herstory"



Miljan Akin (C) set for take-off on "Operation Herstory"



A group salute from participants in "Operation Herstory"

ight from Chicago



Honor Flight Chicago and Operation HerStory

Honor Flight Chicago's Mission: We honor our senior war veterans with an all-expense paid, one-of-a-kind journey to Washington, D.C. We thank them for their service, their sacrifice, and we Welcome Them Home. We inspire future generations of Americans to realize the power of gratitude and respect. *And in the process, we change lives.*

**To date we have honored 6,325 WWII, 2,082 Korean War
and 640 Vietnam War veterans!**

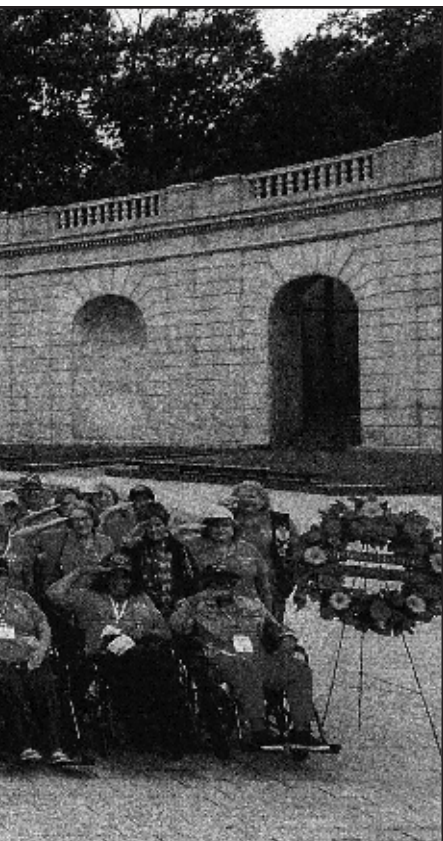
Oct. 6, 2021 • Operation HerStory Flight Statistics – Our 98th Flight!

- 93 WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans honored today
- 2 WWII Veterans honored today with an average age of 102
- 7 Korean War Veterans honored today with an average age of 89
- 84 Vietnam War Veterans honored today with an average age of 75
- 9 Flight Crew – Flight leader, Bus Captains, and Photographers
- 13 Medical Guardians – Doctors and nurses who pay their own way to ensure safe travels
- 32 Family Guardians, dedicated volunteers and Operation HerStory guests
- 106 Guardians who join us in Washington D.C. to ensure a 1:1 veteran to Guardian ratio
- 225+ Orange-shirted volunteers who contribute over 1,500 hours to ensure a successful flight

With lots of love and respect!

Honor Flight Chicago, 9701 W Higgins Road, Suite 310, Rosemont, IL 60018-4717
773-227-VETS (8387) | www.honorflightchicago.org

Facts and figures about "Operation HerStory"



Miljan Akin at center of Honor Flight

Norb Carter receives his high school diploma

By Jerry Zeamer

"Empowered by God's Word, Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School educates, encourages, and equips God's people for life and for eternity."

Korean War veteran Norbert Carter, of West Bend, Wisconsin, has served as a guest speaker in Jerry Zeamer's Cold War history class at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School, located in Jackson, Wisconsin, for the past fifteen years. Mr. Carter, who is the president of Chapter 111, CPL Richard A. Bell, shares his experience serving in the infantry on Porkchop Hill, T-Bone Hill and Old Baldy. He conveys the extreme conditions of constant enemy fire around them, enduring nights in a fox hole, and the emotions of missing loved ones back home.

Mr. Carter was already married to Lucy, his bride of seventy-three years, when he left Wisconsin to serve in the Korean War. His only communication with Lucy and other loved ones was through hand-written letters. For current students who can instantly communicate with loved ones and friends through social media, the thought of a hand-written letter taking thirty days to arrive from home seems unbelievable.

Mr. Carter also shares personal stories from Korea, like joining his brother's engineering unit part way through his tour of duty in Korea, building bridges under the duress of enemy fire, and losing close friends from his combat unit. He shares that the memories of fighting in Korea still haunt him in nightmares that occur on a regular basis. His message has a profound impact on Mr. Zeamer's Cold War students.

Over the past fifteen years, over 600 KML students have had the privilege of hearing Mr. Carter's testimony of sacrifices made



Ch. 111 president Norb Carter displays his honorary diploma with Cold War instructor Jerry Zeamer (L) and President Jamie Luehring (R)

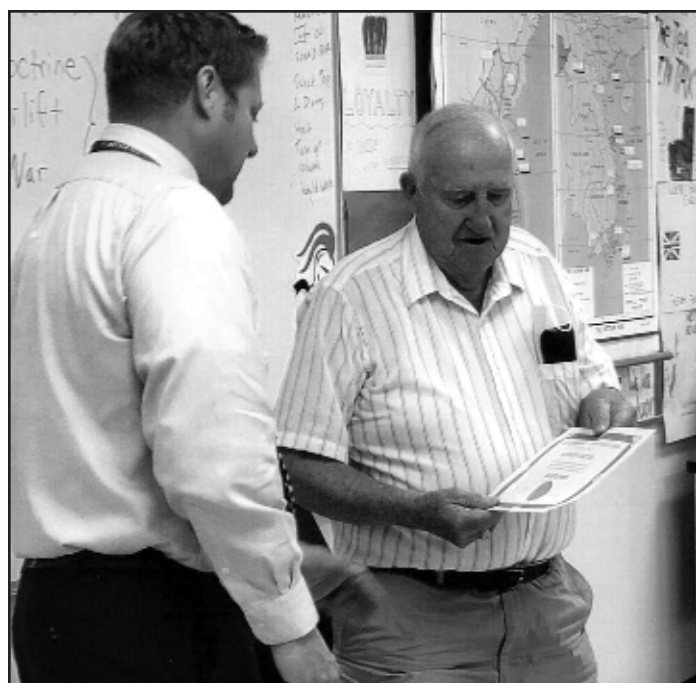
to preserve the amazing freedoms enjoyed by every American citizen. In debriefing sessions the following day, students express their gratitude for the personal sacrifice that Mr. Carter and his fellow veterans have made throughout our country's rich history.

In Norbert Carter's most recent speaking engagement at KML on September 7, 2021, he mentioned that he had been coming to KML for the past fifteen years, yet he had never received his high school diploma. We felt it was only fitting and appropriate to present Norbert Carter with an honorary diploma from Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School.

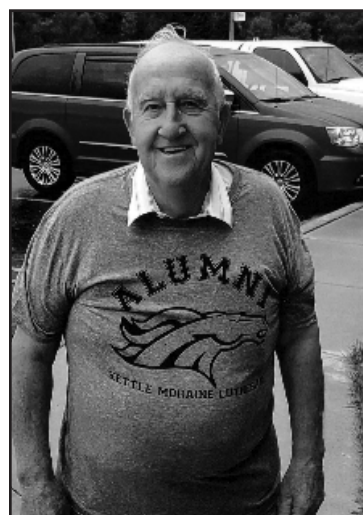
The students and faculty at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School are forever grateful for Norbert Carter's continued service of educating the next generation of American citizens on the importance of defending our freedom and individual rights.

He does an amazing job connecting with today's teenagers and conveying to them just how fragile and precious their freedoms are still today. He brings along the latest copy of *The Graybeards* whenever he visits.

Jerry Zeamer is a history teacher at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School. Contact him in care of the school at 3399 Division Rd., Jackson, WI 58037



Norb Carter receives his honorary diploma from Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School President Jamie Luehring (L)



Reach Norbert Carter at
5546 Highway M, West
Bend, WI 53095, 262-675-
6641, Cell: 262-305-8598,
norbert.carter@gmail.com

Norb Carter models his new Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Alumni t-shirt

Chapter 272 takes a ‘Field Trip’

By George B. Graham Jr.

Our chapter Treasurer, Chuck Lindstrom, at our September meeting asked the members if they would like to schedule an outing. The discussion was one of excitement as Chuck spoke of his connection with the Poplar Grove Airport, and the Curtiss JN-4D “Jenny” Project.

Chuck made the arrangements for us to have a private showing of the “Poplar Grove Vintage Wings & Wheels Museum,” followed by a private showing of the completed “Jenny.” We were greeted by Trudy Konopka, Events Coordinator for the Museum, and Paul Wallem. Paul is a professional pilot and one of a number of individuals who came up with the notion to build a museum, and then get it done. Mr. Paul Wallem spoke to us for 15 to 20 minutes, sharing his experiences with “Making it all happen.” What a great story.



Ch. 72 members at the Poplar Grove Vintage Wings & Wheels Museum

As Paul finished his presentation, he invited us to take the next 45 minutes to stroll through the museum and then meet him at the “Jenny Project” hanger. He went on to say, Mr. Wally Falardeau, one of the lead builders, would be meeting us at the hangar to tell us the story of “Building the Jenny.”

For several minutes we all walked around this beautiful plane, with mouths agape, with 100s of questions running through our minds. We were in the presence of “One of a kind Airplane,” built from the ground up by a group of skilled craftsmen. Many in our group, very knowledgeable of planes, were expressing “wows” and asking “how did you make that?”



“Jenny”

“Jenny’s” cockpit



Jenny “struts” itself

The overall beauty of the workmanship had me stepping back and trying to take in the whole scene.

You see, the project officially began in the fall of 2016, gathering prints, making jigs and fixtures, and laying out the manufacturing schedule. Here we are, in total awe, October 27, 2021, 5

years, 20,000 man hours, and \$100,000 later. Mr. Wallem and Mr. Falardeau are quick to remind us this project was completed because of the 20,000 volunteer man hours and the collaboration between the museum’s restoration team and EAA Chapter 1414.

The “Jenny” is authentic to the original blueprints and design. Mr. Falardeau told us this is the only “Jenny” built from scratch. “Jenny” has passed all tests and is licensed to fly. She will be flying, hopefully, within the next few weeks.

The original Jenny was designed by Glenn Curtiss for the American World War I effort and built in various locations around the United States. The Jenny was the first mass-produced plane in American history, manufacturing 7,500 units. The Jenny was the mainstay of the young U.S. Air Mail service.

George B. Graham Jr. is a Lifetime Associate Member of KWVA Chapter 272.



“Jenny” was framed

KWVA ACTIVITIES IN PHOTOS

As President Brodeur noted in his column association members engaged in a wide range of activities over the past couple months. Here they are illustrated for our readers.



Wounded Warrior
Cpl Vincent
Mannion-Brodeur,
Wounded Warrior
Project CEO Mike
Linnington (Guest
Speaker at KWVA
National Meeting),
U.S. Navy veteran
Maura Brodeur,
KWVA President
Jeffrey Brodeur,
WWP Field
Director Jonathan
Pruden



Wreaths Across America
KWVA Dog Tag
Remembrance Program,
with Father Emil
Kapaun's dog tags



KWVA Graybeards
Magazine Editor Art
Sharp



KWVA HQS, Tom Fritts,
Membership Secretary
Sheila Fritts, and
Webmaster Jim
Dopplehammer staff
KWVA PX at KWVA
National Meeting



KWVA Member of the Year,
National Director Rocky Harder

Chosin Reservoir veteran
and two-time Purple Heart
recipient Ray Miller with
Iraq War Purple Heart
Recipient Cpl Vincent
Mannion-Brodeur





KWVA Asst. Secretary Bobbie Williams conducts POW/MIA Ceremony at KWVA National Meeting

KWVA Plaque and donation presented to Wreaths Across America Founders Morrill and Karen Worcester



KWVA National Director Rocky Harder, KWVA National President Jeff Brodeur, DPAA POW/MIA Director Kelly McKeague, KWVA National Secretary Harold Trieber, 2nd ID Assn Memorial Foundation Director and KWVA Member Aves Thompson



KWVA National President Jeffrey Brodeur with Marine Corps League National Commandant Johnny Baker and Jewish War Veterans National Commander Alan Paley at White House on Veterans Day



Three Chosin Reservoir survivors present at KWVA National Meeting



KWVA National officers present KWVA Challenge Coins and patches to wounded warriors and staff on the 7th floor TBI Ward at Walter Reed at Bethesda.



KWVA Wreaths Across America Dog Tag Remembrance Section



KWVA National officers present KWVA and American Legion donations to Walter Reed Society at Bethesda

MORE ➤



KWVA National Board of Directors at KWVA National Meeting in Orlando



WWP CEO LTG. Mike Linnington guest speaker at KWVA National Meeting



KWVA National officers, Secretary Harold Trieber, President Jeffrey Brodeur, and Treasurer Joe Harman lay Wreath at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



KWVA National Officers at KWVA Box at Arlington National Cemetery, KWVA National President Jeffrey Brodeur, KWVA National 2nd Vice President Tom McHugh, KWVA National 1st Vice President Al McCarthy, KWVA National Secretary Harold Trieber, KWVA National Director Rocky Harder, KWVA National Treasurer Joe Harman, Major General Chrystal, KWVA Member Steve McHugh



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



KWVA National officers Secretary Harold Trieber, President Jeffrey Brodeur, and Treasurer Joe Harman lay wreath at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



KWVA Florida members Jack Clarke, KWVA Bradenton Chapter # 199; Ron Carbaugh, KWVA Gainesville Chapter # 267; KWVA National President Jeff Brodeur; Don Sherry, KWVA Gainesville Chapter # 267; Terry Willis, KWVA Bradenton Chapter # 199; Past Florida Department Commander Charlie First



President Jeff Brodeur presents check to 2ID Association President Aves Thompson



KWVA National officers place KWVA wreath at Arlington National Cemetery on Veterans Day 2021

Battle of the Bands

The Marine Band they weren't. But the "musicians" of Weapons/1/1st Marines at the Chosin rivaled any of history's great musical moments in terms of brass -as in audacious, not melodious.

Lt. William Masterpool, so the legend goes and grows, equipped his very fine ragtag, not ragtime, Marching and Fighting Music Appreciation Society with toy banjos, saxophones and other miniature instruments he had his father send over.

His bandsmen never quite mastered the kinds of sounds that stir men's souls. But they tried, Lord they tried, which delighted their buddies and really didn't disturb the peace and quiet of the war that much.

Then came their moment of triumph.

As the Chinese signaled their attack with bugles, trumpets, whistles and whatever, Masterpool's musicians, not to be outdone, rallied behind their instruments and-a-one-and-a-two-and-a-three answered with a defiant, "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

Holiday Stories

Happy Holidays In Korea

Charles Hertz sent us these remembrances of Christmas and Thanksgiving from 68 years ago. Contact him at 13 Broadwing Drive, Denver, PA 17517.



NOTE: Again, thank you for the response to our request for holiday stories. Let's hope we all enjoy the holidays as much as our editorial staff enjoyed the response.



Thanksgiving Day Menu	
Fresh Fruit	Giblet Gravy
Assorted Nuts	Cranberry Sauce
Candy	Snowflake Potatoes
Relish Tray	Buttered Peas and Carrots
Shrimp Cocktail	Hot Rolls
Roast Young Tom Turkey	Butter
Poultry Dressing	Pumpkin Pie
Coffee and Tea	Fruit Cake

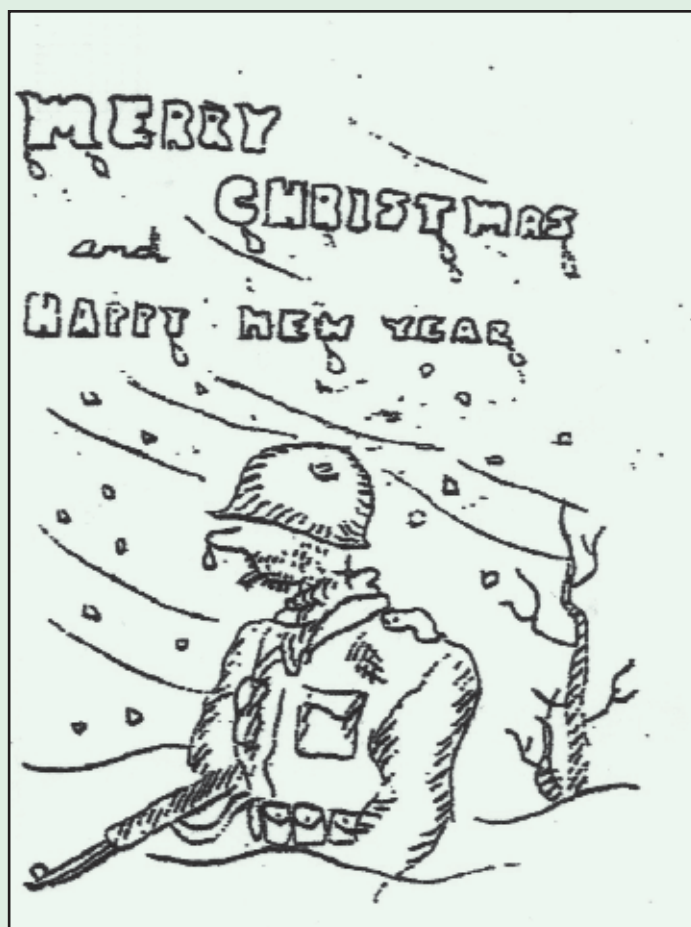
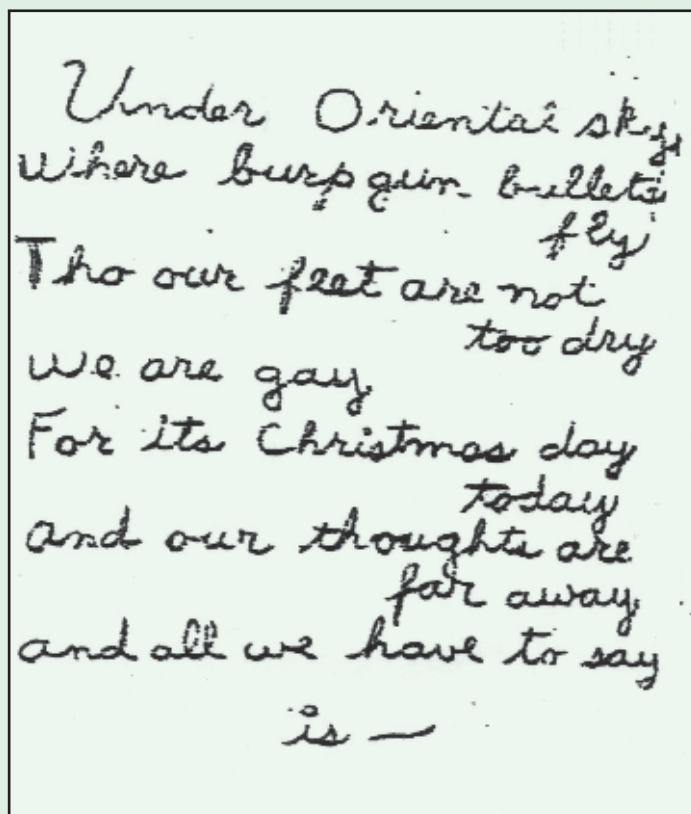
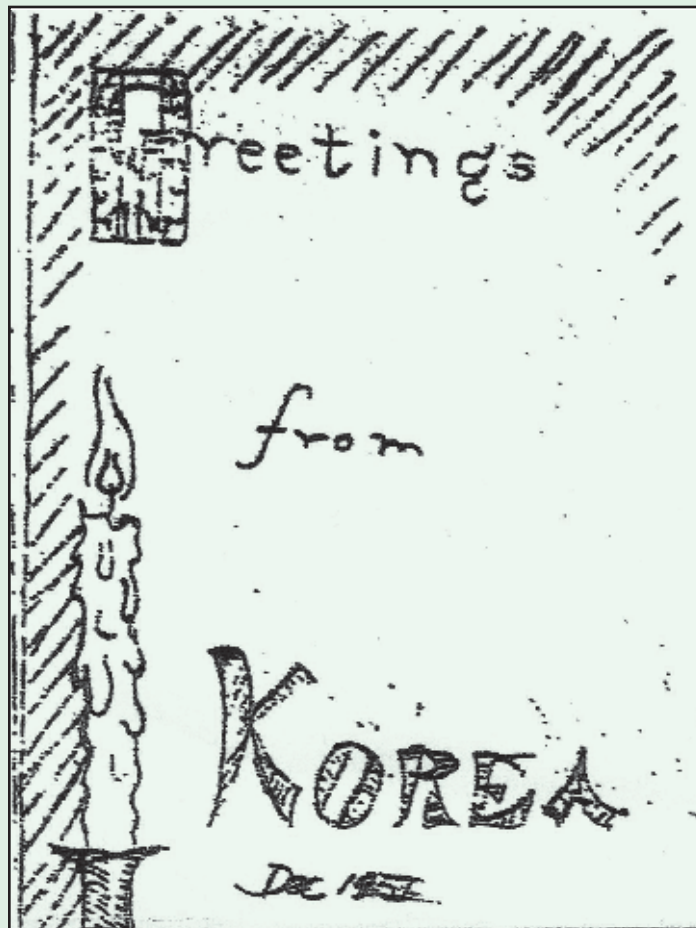


Greetings from 9th Inf., 2d ID

This Christmas 2021 marks the 70th anniversary of this historical Christmas card that was created by a staff member in the Public Information Office of the 9th Infantry, Regt. 2nd Infantry Division, in Korea in December, 1951. I was in the 9th Regt. and was one of the few lucky soldiers to get one to send home to my family.

Years ago I mentioned having this Christmas card in an article and the curator of the 2nd Inf. Division Museum in Korea, wrote me asking for a copy. I sent it to him to be displayed in the museum with other artifacts of the Korean War.

Adam R. Garza, 1772 River Run Dr.,
Marysville, CA 95901, 530-300-5357



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 5 doz. @ \$15 plus \$7.90 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$55 plus \$14.35 S/H.
- ☐ Orders for 21 to 100 doz. @ \$2.75/doz. plus \$19.95 S/H
- ☐ Order for 400 doz. or more @ \$2.25/doz. plus Shipping

Write or call:

Sheila Fritts, PO Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407
Phone: 217-345-4414
Email: membership@kwva.us
Make Checks payable to: KWVA

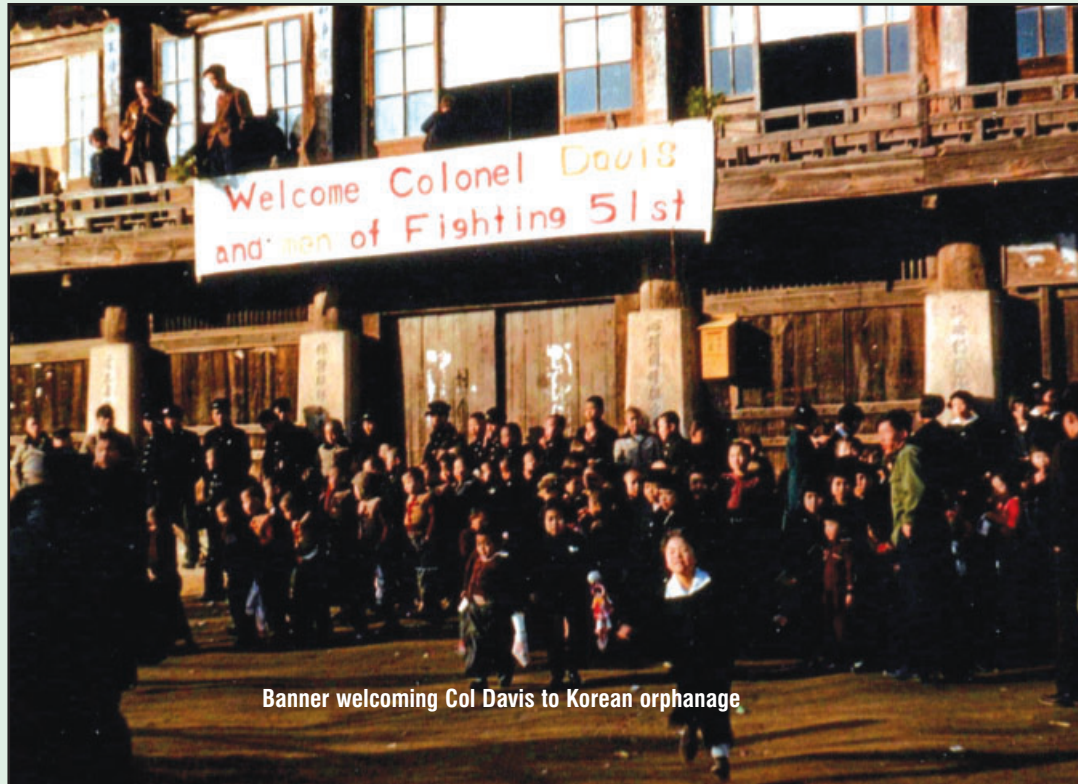


CHRISTMAS DAY 1953 – SUWON, KOREA

An announcement was broadcast over the base PA system inviting anyone interested to attend a Christmas party at an orphanage near our base to present bicycles to the children. After finishing a great dinner, several of us jumped into the back of a truck. When we arrived at the orphanage many of the children greeted us. Most of them had never seen a real bicycle before, and they could not wait to try riding them.

There was a banner hanging on a building welcoming Col. Ben Davis of the “Fighting 51st.” I did not know his story until several years later when computers became readily available. (See Davis’s bio on p. 9.) He was promoted to General and became the first Black General in the U.S. Air Force.

*Jay Kool, 2665 Cedargrove Rd.
Jenison, MI 49428*



Banner welcoming Col Davis to Korean orphanage



Bicycles lined up awaiting Korean children on Christmas Day 1953



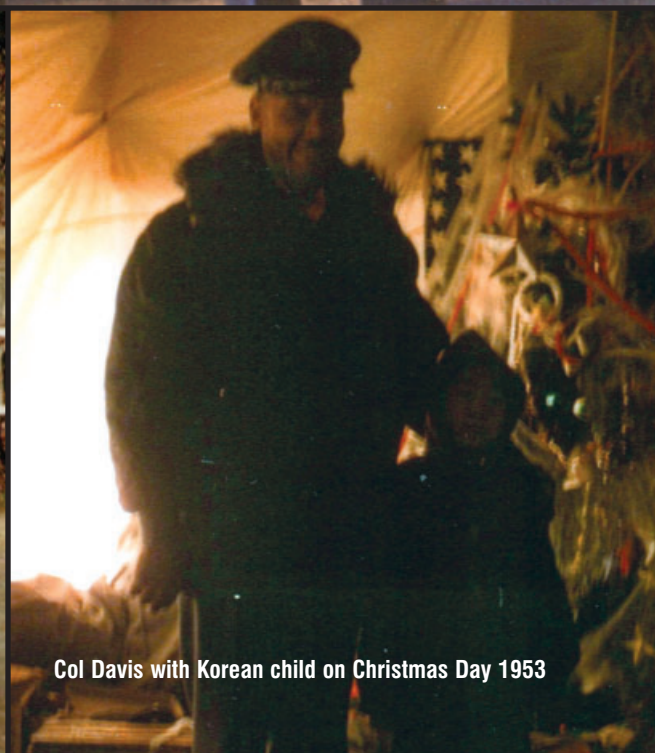
Santa Claus gives bicycles to Korean children



Col Ben Davis (Front, R) at Korean orphanage



bicycle lessons to Korean children



Col Davis with Korean child on Christmas Day 1953

Chapter & Department News

12 PAUL DILL #2 [DE]

During our monthly meeting on October 14, 2021 “Man of the Hour” Ray Firmani, WWII veteran, received a plaque from Commander Mike Schroeder to commemorate his honorary membership in our chapter. We also had a cake for him after the luncheon to mark his recent 100th birthday. 1st LT Firmani shared some details about the book “Against All Odds,” which shares tales of his wartime service. (Photo credits: Charles Young)

*Charles D Young, 1002 Sandburg Pl.,
Newark, DE 19702, (H) 302-365-9390, (M) 302-981-0576,
Youngwoodcreech@Comcast.net*



Ray Firmani, WWII veteran, receives his plaque from Commander Mike Schroeder to commemorate his honorary membership into Ch. 12. (Inset) Charles Baldwin, Chairman of Delaware Commission of Veteran Affairs, Ret. 1st Lt Ray Firmani, WW2 B17 pilot who flew 25 bombing missions over Germany, Frank Vavala, retired Adjutant General of Delaware National Guard, Chapter 12 Commander and Commissioner of Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs Mick Schroeder (L-R) at October 14, 2021 meeting.

58 MONROE COUNTY [NY]

We celebrated the July 27th Armistice with members of the Korean community at our War Memorial in White Haven Memorial Park, Pittsford, NY.

Roger Hill, 21 Mapleton Dr., North Chili NY 14514



Members of Ch. 58 and Korean Community celebrate July 27th armistice

74 KWVA OF WPA - GEN MATTHEW B. RIDGWAY [PA]

After missing our annual memorial service in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions, we were pleased to resume this meaningful gathering of veterans, families, and friends from Pittsburgh's Korean community. Highlights of the service were awarding a college scholarship to Yuri Jung and dedicating a plaque honoring the late Edward Stevens, founder of KWVA Chapter 74. It was a wonderful feeling being back during the service.

*Chuck Marwood, 3994 Tuxey Ave.,
Pittsburgh, PA 15227, 412-881-8620*



Clockwise from left: President Jack Rosenberger and Treasurer Chuck Marwood of Ch. 74 presenting a \$500 check to Yuri Jung, winner of our scholarship. Miran Surh is presenting her with flowers; Ch. 74 President Jack



Rosenberger and Treasurer Chuck Marwood present scholarship winner Yuri Jung with a \$500 check; Jim Stevens, son of the late Ed Stevens, founder of Ch. 74, awaits the unveiling of the memorial plaque as Chuck

Marwood reads a tribute to Ed Stevens.



Ch. 74's Color Guard at July 27th ceremony

93 GREATER KNOXVILLE AREA [TN]

On August 11, 2021, three officials of LG Electronics, a South Korean factory located in Clarksville, Tennessee, came to Knoxville to present us a check for \$5,000 in gratitude of our service in Korea during the Korean War. The officials were President Antony Jung, Strategic Planning Manager Ted Myers, and Business Administration Team Manager Insik Lee.

The nearby photos were provided compliments of Curtis Einsberger, a patriotic friend of Member Leroy Rogers.

*Earl R. Ratledge, President, 3533 Raines Ln.,
Knoxville, TN 37920, 865-573-1025, ComposerR@aol.com*



President Antony Jung of LG Electronics (C) presents check to Ch. 93 members. President Ratledge is on far left



President Jung holds Korean War sign as Ch. 93 members look on



Officials of LG Electronics and members of Ch. 93 at check presentation

99 TALL CORN [IA]

We met July 10, 2021 meeting at Sally's Restaurant in Springville, Iowa. We shared great food and conversation. Vern Fischels of Cedar Falls, Iowa received a Quilt of Valor at the VFW Post 8884 in Vinton, Iowa. It is a new post and there was a great turn out.

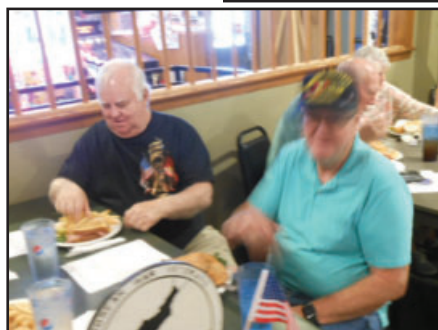
*James Koenighain, Secretary/Treasurer,
319-929-3059, jkskoenighain@q.com*



Members of Ch. 99 enjoy meal at meeting



Ch. 99 share memories at meeting



Chow time for Ch. 99 attendees



Group from Ch. 99 at recent meeting



Fischels of Ch. 99 displays Quilt of Valor

121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

Korean War Veterans Honored

Two chapter members received recognition plaques during a ceremony conducted by the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) on Purple Heart Day. Combat veterans Marvin Morris, of Goshen, OH, and Russ Carlson, of Cincinnati, OH, fought at the Chosin Reservoir during the Korean War.

Both veterans were wounded during the battle which raged from November 25, 1950 to December 13, 1950. Marine Corps veteran Carlson, a member of the 1st Marine Division, and Army veteran Morris, assigned to the 7th Infantry Division, fought in sub-zero weather, blinding snow-covered mountains, and along wind swept cliffs during the two-week battle.



Marvin Morris (L) and Russ Carlson of Ch. 121

They had advanced 78 miles north from the port of Hungnam through the T'aebaek Mountains to the Chosin Reservoir, a man-made lake. The difficult advance was along a single, unpaved road surrounded by steep towering cliffs.

At the Reservoir, the 30,000 United States, Republic of Korea and British soldiers were suddenly encircled by over 120,000 Chinese soldiers. The Chinese primary mission was to wipe out all the American and UN Forces.

The 31st Regimental Combat Team, of the 7th Infantry Division, was located on the eastern shore of the Chosin Reservoir. Of 2,500 soldiers at the start of the battle, fewer than 1,000 survived the intense combat.

The 1st Marine Division was positioned on the western shore of the reservoir, and after several days of hand-to-hand combat, they were ordered to retreat to the port of Hungnam.

The Chinese Army occupied the high ground all along the way and severely hampered the retreat. The United States and the United Nations Forces suffered over 10,400 combat casualties and over 7,400 non-combat casualties. The Chinese 9th Army, which initially consisted of 12 divisions, sustained over 48,000 total casualties in the battle.

The Marines and Soldiers who survived the battle are known in the annals of history as the "Chosin Few." The emblem adopted by the "Chosin Few" is a North Star Burst with the letters "C" and "F" superimposed.

According to the late Cecil Dozier, a former member of the Korean War Veterans Association Greater Cincinnati Chapter

#121, the "Chosin Few" emblem represents "when they saw the bright North Star in the sky at night, they then knew that the next day they were going to have Air Force and Marine Fighter Support and they were going to survive."

Article written by John Plahovinsak and submitted by Joe Rettig, 9490 Lansford Dr., Blue Ash, OH 45242, 513-891-7244, jrettig@cinci.rr.com

142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

On September 6, 2021, Golden Gears Car Club President Jay Henley presented a check to our chapter. Accepting the check for Chapter 142 were Commander Becker and Chip Chipley.

Each year Golden Gears Car Club has supported local veterans groups, including us, Shangri-La Detachment U.S. Marine Corps Frederick Chapter 118, and Vietnam Veterans of America. In past years, Golden Gears has raised funds by hosting Car Shows and Bingo. This year, the club raised funds with Bingo for Vets at the Frederick Elks Lodge.

Bingo for Vets was very successful and Commander Becker was floored with a donation of \$2,790!

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



Chip Chipley and Commander Fred Becker of Ch. 142 accepting a check from Golden Gears Car Club President Jay Henley.

172 HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

We have been honored to have several outstanding speakers at our recent meetings. In September Marv Koch and Vern Preston shared their experiences as members of the United States Navy's submarine fleet. They spoke of tracking hostile submarines and observing enemy ports.

They were also permitted to discuss certain stories they were prohibited from sharing during their last presentation to the members.

At our October meeting we had the pleasure of

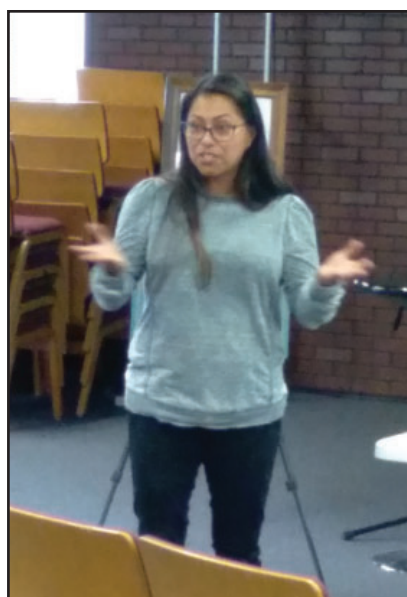


Marv Koch addresses Ch. 172 members

Guest speaker Vern Preston
at Ch. 172 meeting

listening to United States Marine Corps veteran Carolina Flores. She spoke about why she wanted to join the Marines, her duties and experiences, and obstacles she faced and overcame to be a member of the "Few and the Proud!"

Larry Monday, Secretary, 419-387-7532, mondayL9@aol.com



Carolina Flores speaks at Ch. 172 meeting



Carolina Flores and Chapter member and Marine Gene Kelsey of Ch. 172



Carolina Flores and the "boys" at Ch. 172 meeting: Front Row (L-R): H.W. Enderle, Bob Zellers, Carolina Flores, Cliff Peterson, and Mark Metzger; Back row (L-R) Gene Kelsey, Ken Wynkoop, Jim Roberts, Rollie Bible, and Cliff Biddinger

251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We elected new officers: Commander Gorman Wolfe; Sgt.-at-Arms Bob Hubbard; Finance Officer Ralph Gaunt; Board Member/Historian Richard Haney; Board Member George Burrows; Judge Advocate Sandy Schwan; Board Member Richard Suchodolski. All officers will serve a two-year term.



New officers of Ch. 251: Commander Gorman Wolfe; Sgt.-at-Arms Bob Hubbard; Finance Officer Ralph Gaunt; Board Member/Historian Richard Haney; Board Member George Burrows; Judge Advocate Sandy Schwan; Board Member Richard Suchodolski (L-R)



Pete Van Haaren, Jack Leaman, and Eugene Feinauer of Ch. 251 (L-R) at fundraiser at Pat's Food Store in Freeland, MI

We held our 2021 Fall Fundraiser on Nov. 5 & 6 at three different locations. Several members participated.

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



Bill Theisen (L) and Sandy Schwan of Ch. 251 raise funds at Walmart, Brockway, Saginaw, MI



KWVA members with RI Governor Dan McKee (3rd from right)

Tom Keller (L) and Sandy Schwan of Ch. 251 participate in fundraiser at Walmart, Bay Rd., Saginaw, MI



National 1stVP Al McCarthy, Betty Benoit, Robert Jaworski, and Margaret Walsh (L-R) at funeral parlor

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

Welcome home, 1st Lt. Anthony R. Mazzulla, who was laid to rest alongside his brother and parents on October 16th 2021. (See the story and photos on pp. 44.)

Mazzulla was listed as MIA in 1950 near the Chosin Reservoir. In July of 2018, 55 boxes of remains were turned over to the U.S. from North Korea. Nearly 2 years later Mazzulla's remains were positively identified and his niece Lois Marandola was given the news.

Two members of our chapter, Jr. Vice Robert Jaworski and me, were at the airport on Tuesday, October 12, to greet the remains of Lt. Mazzulla and travel along with the procession to the funeral parlor. On Saturday the 16th Senior Vice Dick Mende, Robert Jaworski, and I attended the funeral and church services. The burial followed.



KWVA members line up near hearse carrying remains of 1st Lt. Mazzulla



Deputy Consul Lee Hyunwood presents Ambassador for Peace Medal and citation to Lois Marandola



Sr. Vice Dick Mende and Jr. Vice Bob Jaworski of Ch. 258, Al McCarthy, and Mazzulla family members at service

Governor Dan McKee and the Lt. Governor Sabina Matos of Rhode Island attended, as did many military personnel.

Lee Hyunwood, the Korean Deputy Consul General from Boston, presented the Ambassador for Freedom Medal and accompanying citation. Albert McCarthy, the National First Vice President, presented a KWVA challenge coin, and Betty Benoit, on behalf of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, presented a challenge coin from Chapter 299 to Lois Marandola, niece of Lt. Mazzulla.



Flag folding at Mazzulla service



Flag is presented to Mazzulla family at grave site

NOTE: Margaret Walsh provided many more photos of the entire event, from arrival to burial. Many are duplicates or near duplicates of those included with the story on pp. 44. We cannot publish them all due to space considerations.

*Margaret Walsh, Secretary/Photographer
311 Hardig Rd., B205, Warwick, RI 02886*

272 GREATER ROCKFORD [IL]

Members spent a morning at the Poplar Grove Vintage Wings & Wheels Museum.

Our Treasurer, Chuck Lindstrom, has a contact at the museum

and the air field. We were blessed with being able to have a special time set aside for us to visit the museum, followed by visiting the “Jenny” hangar.

This “Jenny” we were allowed to see and photograph was built by hand from the ground up. This is the only time a “Jenny” has been made in this manner. The plane is one magnificent piece of work. (See the story on p. 25.)

*George B. Graham Jr.
Lifetime Associate Member, gbg1948@aol.com*

301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

Richard Johnson, Jr., who resides in Aiken, SC, is 92 years old. He was unable to travel to Greenville to participate in our September 1, 2021 press conference announcing that we exceeded the \$200,000 fund-raising goal established for South Carolina for the Wall of Remembrance in Washington, D. C. As of September 9, 2021 Foothills had raised \$208,738.68. Richard alone raised almost \$7,000 for the Wall.

*Lewis R. Vaughn
623 Ashley Commons Ct.,
Greer, SC 29651, 864-848-0368,
lvaughn1146@gmail.com*



Richard Johnson, Jr., of Ch. 301, who raised \$7,000 for the Wall of Remembrance

313 SHENANDOAH [VA]

Shenandoah County Fair tribute honors Veterans, Red Cross volunteers

On Sept.2, 2021 members attended a Veterans Tribute Day program at the Shenandoah County, VA, Fairgrounds.

Paul Bombardier, pbombard@kive.com



Ron Wenger, Doug Hall, Jerry Beydler, Lew Ewing, Narce Caliva, Jack Keep, Marshall DeHaven and Rob Shirley of Ch. 313 (L-R) in front of information display

314 WESTERN CAROLINA/GEN FRANK BLAZEY [NC]

We have been active during the last couple of months, even though we are a small chapter. During Labor Day, we helped raise money to update our local Korean War Monument and to bring awareness to about all of the events before, during, and after the Korean War.



Don Stucker of Ch. 314 at the Applefestival booth on 5 September 2021

Member Don Stucker of Ch. 314 made this sign to show the original monument and showing what the monument will look like after we raise the funds.



Mike McCarthy, author, and many of the Korean War veterans who were in the book at Ch. 314's October meeting at VFW Post 4309



For our October meeting we invited author Mike McCarthy and several other Korean War veterans to be available for signing their stories in the book, "The Forgotten War Remembered." Proceeds from the book will help to support raising funds for our local memorial in Hendersonville, NC and our local museum in Brevard, NC.

On Veterans Day, several of our members participated at Brevard, NC during their service in honor of Korean War veterans and a second book signing was done.



Don and Faith Stucker represent Ch. 314 at the Applefestival booth on 5 September 2021 by talking to everyone about our fundraising



Bill Lack and Charles Holden of Ch. 314 signing the book at the Veterans History Museum of the Carolinas after the ceremony

Steve Zaley contacted me about being a guest speaker for our holiday party. He said that he has been contacted to have his book, "They are only gone if they are forgotten," made into either a movie or series about the 505 CBTM, 82nd Airborne during WWII.

Michele Bretz, 61 Windy Park Way, Candler, NC 28715, 826-989-8286, paintneedle@aol.com

319 LAWTON [OK]

We made a donation to support the Welcome Center at the Lawton Fort Sill Airport to provide refreshments to military personnel arriving and departing as they wait for their flights.

Marilyn Janosko, janoskom@hotmail.com



Members of Ch. 19 at the Lawton-Ft. Sill Airport Welcome Center

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.

320 NEW HAMPSHIRE [NH]

Commander Robert Desmond proudly wears a Quilt of Valor that was presented to him on September 28, 20121.

*Richard Zoerb, 72
Hawkstead Hollow
Nashua, NH 03063*



Commander Robert Desmond of Ch. 320 wears Quilt of Valor

323 PO2 TAYLOR MORRIS [IA]

We were honored recently with an appreciation luncheon by the Korean Consulate of Chicago and the Korean American Community of Des Moines, Iowa at the Gold Star Museum in Camp Dodge, Iowa. Consul Kim Namjin and Cultural Coordinator Heeju Han represented the Korean Consulate of Chicago.

Consul Kim spoke at the event and the veterans were each presented with a gift bag. The event was organized by Christina Kim, who was assisted by volunteers from the Korean community in preparing the Korean food that was served to veterans and family members.

Colonel Edwards from the Iowa Army National Guard spoke about the various deployments that the Guard has endured over the past few years. The event was well attended and received by all who were there.

Ed Pagliai, President, Eddee@mediacombb.net



Ch. 323 members and volunteers from the Korean-American community



Kim Namjin, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago, speaks to Ch. 323 audience



Members of Ch. 323 who attended recent luncheon



Attendees enjoying their meal at Ch. 323's event



Heeju Han, Kim Namjin, Ed Pagliai, and Christina Kim (L-R) at Ch. 323 meeting

327 GEN JOHN H MICHAELIS [PA]

Finally! Finally! After 15 months we had an in-person membership meeting on July 14, 2021 at twelve noon at Woodcrest Villa, our normal meeting place. This has all come about because of the lifting of many of the COVID 19 restrictions.

We weren't completely dormant. We had two Board Meetings via Zoom technology in January and March of 2021. In June the Board of Directors held an in-person planning meeting and voted to resume our regular membership meetings on July 14, 2021. With the start of this meeting the Central Pennsylvania Korean Association graciously offered a "Korean Food and Performance Event" to thank us Korean War veterans for our service to South Korea.

Looking back on the year 2020 there were a few activities that we took part in during this time of lock-down. The South Korean government donated 500,000 N95 masks to our national organization, which resulted in our share being 10,000 masks to be distributed to veterans and senior citizens across Pennsylvania. Our Executive Board distributed the masks to the 31 nursing homes here in Lancaster County, PA.

Also in April of 2021 a small group of volunteers hand delivered (because of COVID restrictions) POSCO Plaques to chapter members. These plaques were donated by the POSCO Steel Co., headquartered in South Korea, to be presented to Korean War veterans in remembrance of the 70th anniversary (1950) of the North Korean invasion of South Korea.

Harrisburg, PA proudly participates in the Wreaths of America Program honoring deceased veterans. Wreaths purchased will be laid on the graves at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA.

Carl B. Witwer, Secretary, carjeawit@dejazzd.com

HAWAII

On September 22, 2021, the honorable Moon Jae-in, President of South Korea, participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl to honor Korean War veterans. The ceremony was attended by military and civilian dignitaries, including members of KWVA Hawaii Chapter 1.

Stan Fuji, stan_fujii@hotmail.com



Hawaii veterans gather at Punchbowl



Hawaiians await start of Punchbowl ceremony



South Korean naval officer greets Hawaiians at Punchbowl



Dignitaries and Hawaiian Korean War veterans assembled at Punchbowl



Color Guard on steps at Punchbowl



Korean Defense Attaché Captain Oh holding wreath

Korean Defense Attaché
Captain Oh ready to place
wreath



Punchbowl wreath at center
stage

President Moon
kneels before
wreath at
Punchbowl



Admiral Aquilino and
President Moon salute
as "Taps" is played



Hawaiian veterans and President Moon exchange salutes



President Moon thanks Hawaii veteran at Punchbowl cemetery



Veterans and President Moon exchange greetings at Punchbowl

President Moon prepares to
greet Hawaii veterans at
Punchbowl



Johnston soldier, MIA for nearly 70 years, returns

'He was MIA but now he is found'

By RORY SCHULER

The telegram arrived on Jan. 8, 1951.

U.S. Army First Lt. Anthony R.

Mazzulla went Missing In Action more than a month earlier, on Dec. 2, 1950.

His mother had already lost one son. Losing a second would be enough to break some parents.

But not Jennie Mazzulla.

"She was a strong lady," said her niece, Lois Marandola. "You have to be."

Jennie Mazzulla never gave up hope that her son would one day return home.

"I think every parent hopes," Marandola said in the dining room of her Johnston home. "I'm just glad that on Saturday I can put him to rest with his family, which is very important to me."

Three years after he was lost in battle, Anthony Mazzulla was declared dead, though he was never found nor forgotten.

Seven decades later, the Johnston soldier is finally no longer missing. His remains have been handed over by the North Korean regime, identified through DNA comparisons and returned to the Ocean State. On Saturday he will be laid to rest in the soil of his family plot.

An American Airlines plane carrying his remains landed at T.F. Green International Airport in Warwick Tuesday afternoon. His flag-covered coffin was welcomed with honors, and transported to Nardolillo Funeral Home in Cranston via



U.S. Army First Lt. Anthony R. Mazzulla
(PHOTO COURTESY U.S. ARMY)

motorcade.

In near-silence, a Rhode Island Army National Guard honor guard carried him through the door, past his surviving relatives, all born after he disappeared.

"Oh my ... it was just a very emotional day," Marandola said Wednesday. "It was sad to know that my grandparents never knew that their son would be coming home. But it was great, that after 70 years he finally came back."

Regret to Inform

His mother never stopped watching for uniformed U.S. Army messengers bearing grim news that Anthony's body had been found.

Jennie Mazzulla led a crusade to renumber the homes on Johnston's streets in consecutive order, so the soldiers, should they ever come calling, would easily find her Pezzullo Street home.

And she won that battle, Marandola said. Her grandmother's home, House No. 45, changed to No. 25.

But the soldiers never came calling with closure.

"She was worried they'd never be able to find her," Marandola recalled. "I just remember that my grandmother was very sad. But she would talk about him often."

More than 20 years ago, a series of "Veterans' Biographies" was prepared and bound in a booklet commemorating Johnston's War Memorial Park and titled "Let Our Future Remember Our Past."

Anthony Mazzulla's profile in the book described him as "a son and a friend who paid the ultimate price for this country."

"This courageous man was loved by all of his family," according to the booklet. "He was described as a respectful, modest, quiet, man who valued family. In his youth he was athletic and played baseball. He also played softball for the Army League."

Anthony Mazzulla, described by his surviving niece as "intelligent" and "reserved," also served during World War II.

She never met the man. But she listened when loved ones shared stories from his life before he was declared MIA.

Mazzulla had already earned the Good Conduct Medal, a Campaign Ribbon and the Victory Medal for his service in Europe fighting the Nazis.



WITH HONORS: An American Airlines plane carrying the remains of U.S. Army First Lt. Anthony R. Mazzulla landed at T.F. Green International Airport in Warwick Tuesday afternoon. His flag-covered coffin was welcomed with honors, and transported to Nardolillo Funeral Home in Cranston via motorcade. In near-silence, a Rhode Island Army National Guard honor guard carried him through the door, past his surviving relatives, all born after he disappeared. (SUN RISE PHOTO BY RORY SCHULER)

home to Rhode Island

Officer training

Born in The Bronx, New York, on Nov. 13, 1924, Anthony Mazzulla moved to Johnston, Rhode Island, with his family in 1938.

He attended the Thornton School and graduated from LaSalle Academy in Providence on June 12, 1942.

Mazzulla studied at Providence College for little more than a year before he was drafted into the Army to fight in World War II.

After an honorable discharge, he went back to school for a short time, but ultimately decided to re-enlist, rejoining the Army as a career soldier. He signed up for the Army Airborne Division, but his mother didn't approve.

To please her, he entered Officers Candidate School, and trained to become an officer.

"Obviously, he didn't know there would be another war so soon," Marandola said as she picked up a sepia-toned snapshot of her uncle. "Oh my God he looks like my father there."

The brothers were nine years apart.

In 1949, Mazzulla studied radio communications and telecommunications at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, was promoted to Lieutenant and eventually shipped out to Japan.

"Approximately around the time of Thanksgiving in 1950, he went to Korea and saw action at the Chosin Reservoir," according to the Memorial Park booklet veterans profile. "This battle was the most savage in modern warfare."

He was but one soul among the

approximately 15,000 allied troops sent to cross the 38th Parallel.

The Battle

Mazzulla was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, according to the U.S. Army. His Division ultimately fought with a group of infantry, artillery and tank units comprising the 31st RCT, a group that would eventually come to be known as Task Force Faith.

The United States government searched for Anthony Mazzulla after he disappeared during battle near the Chosin Reservoir.

American soldiers and Marines faced overwhelming resistance, fighting near the Korea/China border. Some historians estimate Chinese troops outnumbered Americans 10 to 1. Temperatures dipped far below freezing, ceasing machinery and chilling our foreign fighters to the bone, frostbite claiming their extremities.

Marine planes eventually swarmed the atmosphere, dropping napalm, rockets, fragmentation and 500-lb bombs on the Chinese.

When Mazzulla's division finally found safe grounds, he was no longer within the ranks.

The U.S. Army interviewed fellow combatants. They investigated thousands of soldiers who were lost or taken prisoner during the Korean War.

"Ultimately, the extreme casualties sustained by the 31st RCT (Regimental Combat Team 31) left few survivors at all," according to a U.S. Army-compiled "Historical Report: 1st Lt. Anthony R. MAZULLA,"

specifically detailing leads in the search for the

lost Johnston soldier, then 26. "In the case of 1st Lt. Mazzulla, no statement exists that can account for the circumstances of his death, but given his reported date of loss, it can be reasonably assumed that he died during the withdrawal to Hagaru-ri. Because (Mazzulla) could not be accounted for by his unit at the end of the battle, the U.S. Army reported him MIA as of 2 December 1950 near the Chosin Reservoir, D.P.R.K. (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), and notified his family via telegram on 8 January 1951."

In September, Marandola received a 4-hour briefing from Michael Mee, Chief of Identifications with U.S. Army Human Resources Command, based out of Fort Knox, Kentucky.

For 12 years, Mee has served with the Army's Casualty & Mortuary Affairs Operations Center (CMAOC) and Past Conflict Repatriations Branch (PCRB). His LinkedIn profile features a telling quote: "Until They All Come Home."

Mee took the time to go into excruciating details of the battle, and informed Marandola of the lengths the U.S. government traveled in its attempts to identify her uncle.

Found Legacy

"Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered," according to the U.S. Army. "He was 26 years old."

The remains ultimately identified as Mazzulla's were turned over to the United States by North Korea in 2018.

"On July 27, 2018, following the summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un in June 2018, North Korea turned over 55 boxes, purported to contain the remains of American service members killed during the Korean War," according to the DPAA. "The remains arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii on Aug. 1, 2018, and were subsequently



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accessioned into the DPAA laboratory for identification.”

Nearly two years later, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced Mazzulla’s positive identification after using circumstantial and anthropological evidence, as well as mitochondrial DNA and Y chromosome analysis, on May 28, 2020.

Marandola was shocked when she finally learned of the positive identification.

“It’s always on your mind,” she said. “But you say there’s no way this is ever going to happen.”

Albert H. McCarthy, National First Vice President of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), stood aside Paul K. Kim, the group’s National Chaplain, outside Nardolillo Funeral Home, awaiting Mazzulla’s return home.

“He was MIA but now he is found,” McCarthy said, unfurling a black and white POW/MIA banner. “We put this up for all those still to be found — more than 7,400 from the Korea War.”

He had a message for the families of soldiers still included among the names on the conflict’s MIA list.

“If you have a relative who died in the war but has not been found, you can request a DNA kit,” McCarthy said. He urged family members of the missing to reach out to their local Veterans Service Officer for a kit, to aid in identification of the many still unidentified remains.

“Mazzulla’s name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with the others who are still missing from the Korea War,” according to a U.S. Army press release. “A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.”

McCarthy wants Americans to realize the Korean War “is not over yet.”

“We have U.S. troops still stationed there, ready to fight, if the North attacks again,” McCarthy said to remind his fellow Americans.

Kim, born and raised in South Korea, moved to the United States in 1967, became a citizen, joined the U.S. Army and became a chaplain.

“I want to contribute a little on behalf of my native land,” Kim said. “These men

U.S. Army First Lt. Anthony R. Mazzulla’s name can be found at Johnston’s War Memorial Park on a stone marker remembering the town’s soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice. (SUN RISE PHOTO BY RORY SCHULER)



SUPER SALUTE: Johnston officials like Fire Chief Peter Lamb, former Police Chief Richard S. Tamburini, state Sen. Frank Lombardo and late Parks and Recreation Director Dan Mazzulla, helped honor the town’s lost military heroes at a 2019 Memorial Day ceremony. One of those heroes was U.S. Army First Lt. Anthony R. Mazzulla, who had been MIA since 1950. (SUN RISE FILE PHOTO)



POW/MIA: Albert H. McCarthy, National First Vice President of the Korea War Veterans Association (KWVA), stood aside Paul K. Kim, the group’s National Chaplain, outside Nardolillo Funeral Home, awaiting Mazzulla’s return home. (SUN RISE PHOTO BY RORY SCHULER)





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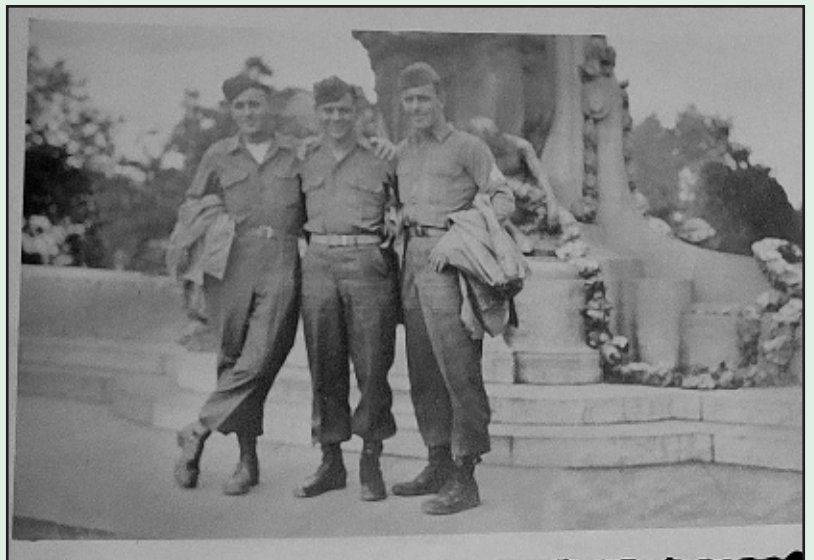
VETERAN BIKERS: The Rhode Island chapter of the Patriot Guard accompanied the hearse carrying Mazzulla from the airport to the funeral home. (SUN RISE PHOTO BY RORY SCHULER)



ALWAYS REMEMBERED: Anthony Mazzulla's niece Lois Marandola was born after he went missing in 1950. She is now his closest living relative, and has been the U.S. Army's point of contact since his remains were identified. In her Johnston home, she has collected many of his papers and photos. Here she holds a commemorative plaque for his service during the Korean War. (SUN RISE PHOTO BY RORY SCHULER)

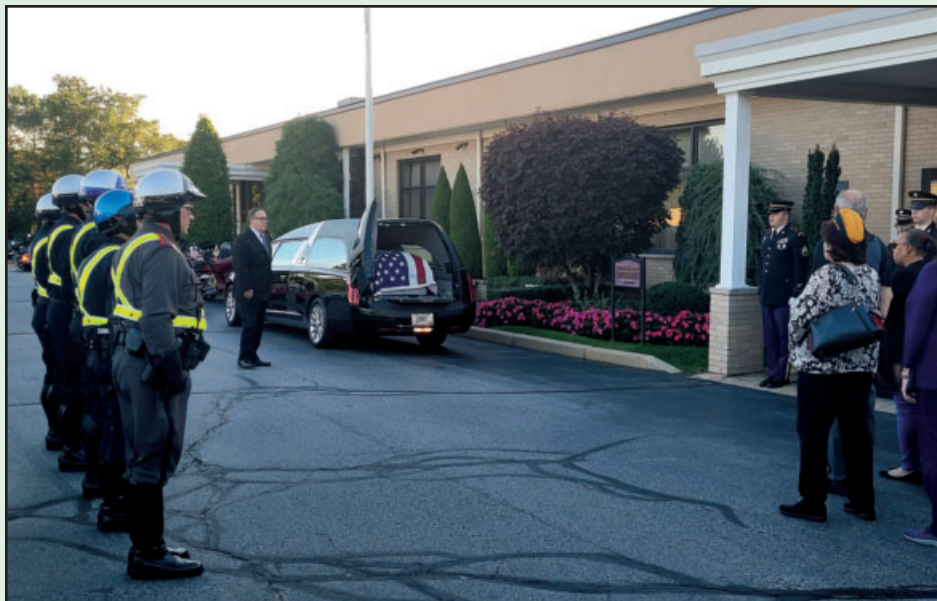


PORTRAIT OF A LOST SIBLING: Anthony Mazzulla's younger brother Louis drew this portrait of his missing big brother. (SUN RISE PHOTO BY RORY SCHULER)



EUROPEAN THEATER: Anthony Mazzulla (center) posed with two fellow American soldiers while on route to Paris during his time serving during World War II. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

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WITH HONORS: Anthony Mazzulla's flag-covered coffin was welcomed with honors, and transported to Nardolillo Funeral Home in Cranston via motorcade. In near-silence, a Rhode Island Army National Guard honor guard carried him through the door, past his surviving relatives, all born after he disappeared. (SUN RISE PHOTO BY RORY SCHULER)

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are really heroes, for what they've done for our country, and for Korea."

Many who have fought in the ongoing conflicts on the Korean Peninsula are still eligible for medals, and the South Korean government will pay for some families of veterans to visit the country, and even arranges tours of battle sites in the south, McCarthy explained. He urged surviving relatives to contact veterans services for details, and take both governments up on their offers.

The Rhode Island chapter of the Patriot Guard accompanied the hearse carrying Mazzulla from the airport to the funeral home.

Led by Mike "Gizmo" Dalmazzi, Rhode Island Assistant State Captain and Vets Cemetery Location Leader, this wasn't the veteran biker club's first motorcade, and it surely won't be the last.

"It's just the right thing to do," Dalmazzi said, moments before the red and white stripes of the flag covering Mazzulla's casket were no longer visible to those remaining outside. "He was a family friend of my dad's. It's pretty

miraculous, though it's a shame it took so long. I'm glad he was found."

One Last Goodbye

A memorial service will be held at the funeral home at 8 a.m. Saturday, followed by a service for the former St. Rocco's altar boy at the church on Atwood Avenue.

He will be buried with his parents, Jennie and Louis G. Mazzulla, and his brother Daniel E. Mazzulla Sr., Lois Marandola's father, at 10 a.m. in Cranston's St. Ann Cemetery.

Jennie Mazzulla lived to see her 93rd birthday, but outlived four sons and her husband. Unfortunately, the family matriarch died before the mystery of her son's disappearance in combat was solved.

She was given a posthumous Purple Heart for her son's bravery, and a plaque from U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"His death had a tragic impact on his family's life," according to the Memorial Park profile. "His mother carried the pain of her eldest son's death with her throughout her life. His

nephew, Michael Mazzulla, (Lois Marandola's brother) will not stop his search for information about his gallant uncle, Anthony Ralph Mazzulla."

Michael Mazzulla, now 61, stood on the tarmac Tuesday. He finally had answers, and a bit of ancestral closure.

Jennie Mazzulla wrote a short passage for the Memorial Park booklet. She approached the situation with steadfast realism.

"This is the history of how my son Lt. Anthony Mazzulla lost his life at Chosin," she wrote. "Some will forget, but a mother will never forget."

For many friends, family, and fellow Americans, this week has been dedicated to remembering Anthony Mazzulla and his ultimate sacrifice.

NOTE: *This story appeared in the Johnston [RI] Sun Rise on October 15, 2021. It was brought to our attention by Chaplain Paul Kim, who secured permission to reprint it here. The link to the story is <https://johnstonsunrise.net/stories/johnston-soldier-mia-for-nearly-70-years-returns-home-to-rhode-island,168146?>*

Humor in Korea



This is one of a continuing series. It can only continue if members contribute their stories. Please send your "Humor in Korea" submissions to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City, FL 33573. We can all use a laugh once in a while, just as the troops in Korea did.

The joke's on Doakes

This is an excerpt from a letter I wrote to my mother from a bunker on Pork Chop Hill. It's been kicking around for about sixty years. At the time it seemed hilarious. At least the guys in Item Co. got a kick out of it.

June 24, 1953

Well, this time I really am at a loss for material. About the only thing worth relating is the confusion a sample address caused a simple but courageous soul. Most companies post on their bulletin boards envelopes bearing the correct addressing form to be followed by the men when writing home. Naturally, the names and addresses used on these samples are fictitious usually something like Pvt Joe Doakes RA12345678, etc.

Item Company uses Cpl. Blue Buffalo (Blue Buffalo means 17th Regt, 3rd Battalion) for its model envelope. As you've probably guessed, this simple lad copied the sample word for word, failing to substitute his own name for the imaginary one. So, in a few days a letter freshly arrived from the U.S. was posted on the bulletin board beneath a sign asking "Who is corporal Blue Buffalo?"

Not until the kid was back from hospital and waiting to be awarded the Bronze Star (for helping wounded KSC's while wounded himself) did he see the envelope and claim his letter. He straightened his girlfriend out on the matter, but his sister still uses "Corporal Blue Buffalo" beneath the fellow's right name and serial number.

Henry Tisdall, 307 Demong Dr., Syracuse, NY 13214

ROK Special Warfare Center Commander



Group at the Army's Airborne and Special Operations Museum (ASOM) in Fayetteville, NC

Lieutenant General So is the senior special operations officer in the ROK Army.

sans of the unit and their American trainers.

We were joined at the ceremony by Mr. Tad Davis (COL, retired), former Director (Assistant Secretary), Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations at the U.S. Department of State of Overseas and a former Fort Bragg Garrison Commander; and COL, retired Mike Davino, former President of the 2nd Infantry Division Association.

Lieutenant General So is the senior special operations officer in the ROK Army. He is highly interested in ROK Army special operations history, which acknowledges the Korean partisans of the Korean War as the progenitors of the ROK Army's special operations forces. He has instructed his staff to locate and contact all living partisan veterans in South Korea, arranging visits by special operations soldiers to personally express their respect and thanks to these aging warriors. His command has assumed responsibility for the annual commemorative ceremony conducted at the Korean partisans' monument on Kyodungdo Island, eager to honor their forbearers.

Executive Director of the ASOM Foundation, Renee Lane, placed U.S. and Korean flags at the memorial stone for the ceremony, which began with introductions and welcome comments by Monika Stoy. The special guest for the ceremony was Major Joe Johnson, U.S. Army, retired, who had served with Army Unit 8240 as a Special

By Monika Stoy

While on a visit to Fort Bragg, NC to meet with the commander and staff of the U.S. Army Special Warfare Center, Lieutenant General So, Young Min, ROK Army, participated in a wreath ceremony at the Army Unit 8240, Korean Partisans, memorial stone in

front of the U.S. Army's Airborne and Special Operations Museum (ASOM) in Fayetteville, NC. The ceremony was arranged by Captain Monika Stoy (U.S. Army, ret) who donated and dedicated the memorial stone in June 2012 and who has been active in gaining further recognition for both the Korean parti-



Ceremony participants after ASOM ceremony

Honors Army Unit 8240 Korean Partisans



Attendees at ASOM event with Museum Director Jim Bartlinski



LTG So greets Mrs. Haesook Choi

Forces advisor and trainer, having graduated with the first class from Special Forces training at Fort Bragg in 1953.

Major Johnson was accompanied by his son, David. LTG So greeted Major Johnson warmly and through his interpreter, ROK Army Major Jay Lee, expressed his sincere gratitude for Johnson's work with the partisans. The national anthems were played, and Monika and Tim Stoy conducted a dual language POW-MIA ceremony remembering the POW-MIAs of both nations.



LTG So speaking with Major Joe Johnson

The ceremony concluded with the placing of a wreath at the memorial stone by Monika Stoy, LTG So, and Joe Johnson.

After the ceremony the group adjourned to a conference room in the museum where they celebrated Major

Johnson's recent 92nd birthday and LTG So presented gifts to Major Johnson – a beautifully decorated folding fan, a commemorative plaque, a ceramic Korean Special Operations Forces beret, and a photo of the ROK



LTG So hugs Major Joe Johnson, with David Johnson at right

Korean partisan commander Kyungjin Choi, in 1951 while he was serving with AU 8240. She didn't know when or if he would return from his missions and he never told her what his activities were. She only heard about his actions after the war.

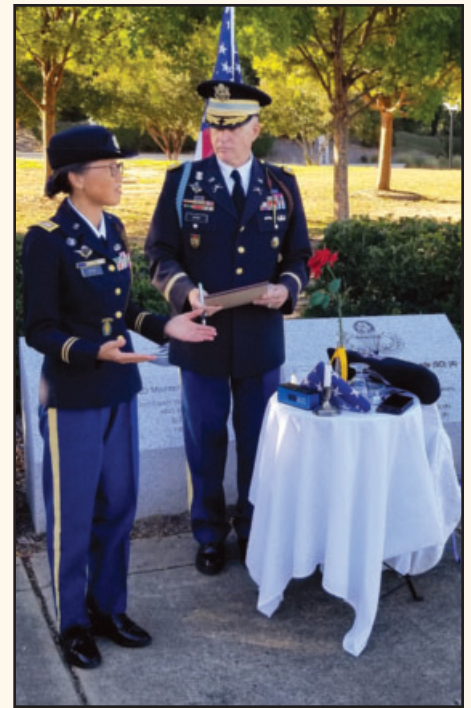
Museum Director Jim Bartlinski then escorted the general with his entourage through the museum. The museum has an exhibit on U.S. Army Special Forces in Korea and their work with the partisans which it plans to expand and update in the coming year.

Monika Stoy has provided the SWC with a young photo of Joe Johnson photo-shopped into it. LTG So also presented a commemorative plaque to Monika Stoy for her efforts in coordinating the visit and on behalf of Army Unit 8240 both in Korea and in the United States.

LTG So also enjoyed speaking with Monika's 90-year-old mother, Mrs. Haesook Choi, who met and married

the museum with photos from her father's service with the partisans which will be used in the updated exhibit. For LTG So's visit she had a banner with the pictures and her father's story produced which she gifted to the museum.

LTG So was deeply impressed with the museum and he expressed his gratitude to Jim Bartlinski at the end of his visit for hosting him and his entourage.



The Stoy family conduct POW-MIA ceremony at ASOM ceremony

LTG So thanked Monika Stoy for her efforts and asked for her continued assistance to his staff in recognizing and honoring both Korean partisan veterans and their U.S. advisors.

We received outstanding support from the ASOM and Foundation staffs who went above and beyond to make this historic event a great success. We are deeply grateful to Major Joe Johnson and his son David for participating, and to LTG So and his staff for honoring the veterans of Army Unit 8240 in this manner.

Jim Bartlinski expressed his desire to make this ceremony and a historical seminar on the same day an annual event with the intent to bring more attention to this important period in both U.S. and ROK Special Operations forces history and LTG So said this is a good idea. The Stoy family have agreed to conduct the ceremony annually on a date to be coordinated with the museum, ROK Special Warfare Command, and the ROK LNO at SOCOM at Fort McDill, FL. The event will be open to the public.

Capt. Monika Stoy (L), Mrs. Choi (C) and LtCol Tim Stoy (U.S. Army ret) at the AU 8240 Memorial Stone



Veterans Day Wreath Laying

Fred Lash represented the KWVA at the wreath laying ceremony on Veterans' Day. He sent us a few photos of the event taken by his Korean friend Silvia Patton. Thanks to Fred and Silvia for their service on a day dedicated to veterans' service.

Silvia added her best wishes:

Happy Veterans Day!! To all of those that have served our nation and all of those serving today to make our country strong and safe.

Thank you for your service and sacrifices.

Best, Silvia



1st Lt. Thomas F. Redgate interred



The remains of U.S. Army 1st Lt. Thomas F. Redgate were interred in the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, Massachusetts on September 17, 2021 following a Requiem Mass at St. Ignatius of Loyola Church in Chestnut Hill.

Redgate, a native of Brighton, Massachusetts, was a member of Battery A, 48th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 11, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. But, they were included in the 55 boxes of remains that North Korea returned to the U.S. in 2018 after a summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

Redgate, a WWII veteran, enlisted as a private in the Enlisted Reserve Corps and was called to active duty in April 1944. He

was an airplane and engine mechanic until his honorable discharge in November 1945. He reenlisted in 1948.

His casketed remains arrived in Boston on September 14. A U.S. Army Casualty Operations team placed the casket in a hearse which was accompanied by a motorcade on a ride through his old neighborhoods. The motorcade, which was led by members of the Massachusetts State Police, included members of the Boston Police and Rolling Thunder. Large crowds lined roads and greeted the motorcade as it passed places so familiar to Redgate in his youth.

Members of the Boston University ROTC and the Massachusetts Military Honor Guard stood guard beside his casket during his wake on September 16. All in all it was a fitting tribute to a soldier who sacrificed his life for other people's freedom.

Remembering Thomas F. Redgate

"I'm not giving up hope," said Mrs. Agnes Redgate of 1638 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, mother of 1st Lt. Thomas J. Redgate. "The Army legally has to presume him dead." Her last word of him came after Thanksgiving of 1950, when he warned her not to expect any letters for awhile "because we're going out." He was listed as missing that Dec. 11.

BOSTON COLLEGE STUDENT

Lt. Redgate, a World War II veteran and a Reservist who expected to become a PX officer when he returned to duty, was 24. He attended Boston College for two years.

Boston, MA, Herald, Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1954, p. 5



My Trip to the Chosin Reservoir in 2005

PART II

Continued from the September-October 2021 issue of *The Graybeards*

We drove through a KPA military base area which did not appear to have much activity going on. I could see an obstacle course and a couple towers as we passed through it. We drove for about an hour on this road through some villages. We stopped for a short rest break. There was about a foot of snow on the ground at this point.

A couple of the drivers had a snowball fight. I took some pictures of the event. The few local people we passed by on the road looked at us riding in rear seat of these SUVs as if we had arrived from another planet.

The precarious journey continued in a westerly direction along this treacherous country road until we approached the east side of the Chosin Reservoir. At this point, we started going down in elevation. As we went downhill, the snow lessened, and the temperature rose above freezing. The snow then began to mix with some rain.

We arrived at a road and stream intersection, turned right, and began to travel northward. I spotted a railroad track running parallel to the road and we passed a train with a few cars moving slowly along the railroad. I was amazed that this railroad had been operable since the Korean War. This seemed to me to be the narrow-gauge railway that I had seen in a picture in the book I had been reading, *East of Chosin*.

I located some of the terrain features that were mentioned and shown in a few of the pictures in the book. There seemed to be little change in the way the area looked now compared to what it looked like in 1950. I imagined what it must have been like back in December 1950 during the battle with the Chinese streaming down from the surrounding hills, the incredible cold and wind blowing, and the battle for survival was raging on this ground.

After about 40 minutes of moving northward along this road, we arrived at the JFA Base Camp on the east side of the

We still have a lot of work to do, because there are still over 5,000 U.S. servicemen buried somewhere in North Korea who need to come home to the United States of America.

reservoir. The weather had improved somewhat, but it was still cold and wet. The Chosin base camp had only light snow. In the middle of the day the temperature had risen above freezing. The visibility had also improved. The Base Camp sign said it was the Chang-jin Base camp, which is the Korean name for the region around the Chosin reservoir.

The base camp was surrounded by a barbed wire fence with a gate and armed guards. We could see the reservoir in the distance.

The reservoir was an amazing sight to behold. I felt fortunate to have the experience of seeing it with my own eyes. The camp was a cleared cantonment composed of a large parking lot which had two tent camps on opposite sides. Each section of the camp had living and working areas. One side belonged to the U.S. JFA team of 13 persons and the other side belonged to the KPA detachment, which was larger than the U.S. contingent.

Both the KPA camp section and the U.S. camp section were within the camp perimeter. The KPA had many more than 13 members of their team. Armed KPA guards surrounded the camp, supposedly to protect our team members from the local population. While I was there, I don't remember seeing any local people near the base camp.

We spent most of the day talking to the members of the U.S. team to learn about how the JFA was progressing and what sort of issues they were experiencing from their perspective. The U.S. side had white colored commercial looking winterized tents with heaters and wooden floors that comprised a work area and living quarters. It also had an electric generator, an exercise tent area, a latrine, and a shower facility with a water tank and heater that was built by a JFA engineering team during the

construction part of the JFA in early April.

The KPA side was mostly dark green/brown general-purpose (GP) tents the U.S. had provided to the KPA. While we were at the camp, the KPA took us on a guided tour of the KPA living area because they wanted us to see the conditions their troops were living in compared to the conditions the U.S. team was living in.

The KPA side of the base camp was carefully staged to show that their troops slept on cots with unheated tents with dirt floors. I don't remember seeing any KPA troops in the living tent. The KPA tent did not look like anyone lived there. It looked like it was set up for an inspection. There was no personal gear lying around and everything looked uniform on every cot.

The KPA said they wanted the U.S. side to pay more money so they could improve the living conditions for their troops in the field. The reality was that the agreed upon arrangement already provided plenty of money that the KPA could have used to improve the living conditions of their troops in the field if they chose to use it for that purpose. The mutually signed and agreed upon JFA arrangement provided all the details about how the camp would be constructed and operated.

Our command visit took place during the first of several planned JFA sessions that were scheduled to take place from April to October 2005. Unfortunately, the first JFA turned out to be the only JFA that was conducted in 2005 because the arrangement was suspended by the U.S. side in May 2005. In fact, this first JFA was also the last JFA conducted in North Korea up to the present date.

In the afternoon, our DPRK hosts decided that the weather was too questionable to stay overnight at the Chosin base camp and that we would be leaving later in

the afternoon to head back to Hungnam. The new plan was to stay overnight at the Hungnam coastal location where we had started our journey earlier that day. As I recall, the weather was a little better on the return trip. We returned to Hungnam essentially by the same route we took on our way to the Chosin Reservoir earlier that morning.

The last part of our trip started in Hungnam on April 21 and ended when we arrived back in Pyongyang late in the day. We traveled from Hungnam to Hamhung and then to Wonsan before returning to the west coast of North Korea on the Pyongyang-Wonsan Expressway. At lunchtime, we exited the expressway with our KPA escorts and stopped at a local water fall and park, where we took some pictures. The park was peaceful, and the waterfall and scenery were beautiful. Then our hosts took us to an isolated restaurant for lunch.

I ordered a bowl of chicken and rice soup, and to my surprise, it was edible. By then, I was half starved to death, which might account for why it tasted so good. When lunch was over, we got back on the Pyongyang-Wonsan Expressway and continued our trip to Pyongyang. The rest of the trip was uneventful until we arrived near Pyongyang.

Upon our arrival at the hotel in Pyongyang, we were invited by Ambassador Paul Beijer to attend dinner at the Swedish Embassy. We were taken to the Yanggakdo International Hotel on Yanggak Island. From our hotel sitting on an island in the middle of the Taedon River, which ran through Pyongyang, we could see the USS Pueblo docked along the river, which the North Koreans use as a propaganda site and tool when foreign visitors come to Pyongyang.

It's a sad reminder of the incident and the torture its crew went through after they were captured by the North Korean Navy off the North Korean coastline during a routine intelligence collection mission.

The hotel featured a couple giant fish tanks in the lobby. Right before we arrived there, somebody apparently hit a golf ball from outside the hotel that went in the front door, hit the glass of one of the fish tanks, and exploded it just before we arrived. The offending golfer is probably still in prison for that remarkable accomplishment. Also, this hotel featured a doorman who was a Kim Jong Il look alike. I'm not making this up.

That night we had a great dinner at Ambassador Beijer's residence at the Swedish Embassy Compound in Pyongyang. We had an interesting discussion about his role as the Swedish Ambassador to the DPRK in the U.S. personnel accounting mission and we talked about our experiences during our visit.

During our dinner, we enjoyed some fresh vegetables that were grown in the Swedish Embassy Garden in Pyongyang. It was a very pleasant evening. The following day Ambassador Beijer was present at the Pyongyang airport to help see us off on our return trip from Pyongyang to Beijing, China.

As a result of my experience on this trip, I got to appreciate and get a better understanding of the key role that Ambassador Beijer played in helping us accomplish our mission of bringing home our servicemen from the Korean War. We still have a lot of work to do, because there are still over 5,000 U.S. servicemen buried somewhere in North Korea who need to come home to the United States of America.

In closing, I emphasize that the value of my trip to North Korea was enhanced by two of my traveling companions. The first is Ash Ormes, who was also a DPMO/DPAA employee at the time. His job was managing our DPMO Research and Analysis Directorate. In addition to his position at DPMO, while serving on active duty in the Republic of Korea, Ash Ormes was the Secretary of the United Nations Command-Military Armistice Commission for a period and had other assignments serving in the ROK on previous tours of duty.

The second is Johnie Webb. In April 2005, Johnie was serving as a senior staff member of JPAC (Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command) and was responsible for external affairs and family relations/support for many years. Johnie is a retired U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel. Before joining JPAC, he served with the Army's Central Identification Laboratory. Johnie has more trips to North Korea than anyone else I know in the personnel accounting community and participated in many talks with DPRK officials during his career.

Today, Johnie is still serving at DPAA in Hawaii in the external relations and family support roles. I could not have picked better travel companions for this trip, although I must admit that I had nothing to do with choosing who traveled with me on this adventure. This was my only trip to the Hermit Kingdom. One thing is certain: it was a memorable experience which I will never forget.

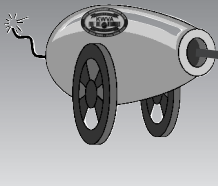
*BRUCE R. (Rocky) HARDER, KWVA
National Director & POW/MIA
Coordinator, 540-659-0252,
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Don't forget you can shop online at the PX

All honorably discharged veterans can shop online through the Army & Air Force Exchange Service. Shoppers can save significant amounts of money doing so, since there is no state sales tax and shipping on purchases over \$49 is free.

The Exchange's commitment to veterans includes veteran shoppers—in 2017, the Department of Defense concurred with extending a lifelong online military Exchange shopping benefit to all honorably discharged veterans. Veterans can visit ShopMyExchange.com/vets to learn more.

All you need is a DD-214 to get registered and get shopping.



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.

Anyone remember F. B. Jorden?

My friend Alan Pick from Lincolnshire, England remembers exchanging caps and befriending an American serviceman named F. B. Jorden while serving in the Philippines in 1964. Alan kept Mr. Jorden's cap with a number inside which is J59313. He would like to return his cap to the man or his family if possible.

Alan has asked me to help him since my friend in England does not use a computer. Returning this cap is very important to Mr. Pick and I appreciate any help in this matter.

Marlene Bandfield, 80 Prior Ct., Oradell, NJ, 07649,
201-265-2762, cbandi@aol.com

Afghanistan not our longest war

After listening to the Afghan surrender senate hearings and the Washington generals (ALL OF WHOM WERE BORN AFTER THE KOREA CEASE FIRE), they ALL stick to their claim that this 20-year Afghan war is the longest in U.S. history. Obviously, they've forgotten Korea, the war that still lives up to being forgotten.

The last time I checked, a Korea War cease fire was agreed to on 27 July, 1953, and our defense troops still are engaged in defending South Korea at the DMZ. WHERE AM I WRONG IN MY OBSERVATION?

If not wrong, how can we advise these generals, our elected politicians, the media, and the world, that the "Forgotten War," in which over 2 million military and civilians on both sides perished during the never officially ended war, continues after 71 years since 25 June, 1950?

That's even though no known war casualties have been reported since the July 27, 1953 cease fire???

Any thoughts or comments?

Richard Kwiecienski, Ch. 192, Citrus County [FL],
rkwiecie@tampabay.rr.com

NOTE: There is an interesting report on the Korean War at https://www.historyguy.com/korean_war_casualties_and_statistics.htm. It contains statistics, notes about Russian participations, countries' participations in previous wars, etc. It does not, however, mention anything about the U.S. involvement in South Korea after July 27, 1953.

A note to Afghanistan veterans...

from a WWII/Korean War vet [enlisted sailor 7-1-43 to 12-31-

45, officer 7-1-51 to 6-31-53]: you DID NOT fight in vain, lose buddies in vain, lose blood and body parts in vain. As I did, you went where and when you were ordered, did what you were ordered to do, which was to facilitate a well-thought-out plan to return the Kabul government to some sort of stability after years of Russian/Taliban messing around.

Yes, grieve for the 2,000 boys who didn't come home – I'm still grieving for Ed Heron, Stan Larson, Otto Terrebossy, Stan Jurgalonis, and many other friends who left home with me but never came home – but don't ever think that your service or of those 2,000 boys was in vain.

Looked at from a different angle: you carried out orders from your country, doing what its leaders in foreign policy considered very clearly right at the time. Don't even think, much less ask, "Was it right?" You can't do that. You don't do that with personal decisions. Don't do it now with state decisions. Whether they look right or wrong now is irrelevant.

Granted that it's easier for me to say this because we beat the Japanese and Axis in WWII and kept the South Koreans from joining North Korea in what is now a totally failed communist state. But the principle remains the same: be proud that you served your country in what now appears to be a failed attempt to save a whole population from a harsh, cruel, regressive Muslim rule.

Birney Dibble, jbirneydibble5@aol.com

Thanks from the Songs

Thanking you for giving space in The Graybeards' limited pages for Richard Song (aka Curlee). I appreciate it, as does his family. They said it was an honor for their father. They'll treasure the magazine and it'll be a family heirloom. (See the article "Noted actor/Chosin veteran guarding gates of Heaven," pp. 30-31, 9/10/21.)

Joe Wong

Picture anomalies

A couple observations about the Sept/Oct issue of *The Graybeards*:

Page 25 Wall of Remembrance - I'm sure that our Korean partners are far too polite to point out that, according to the showing of the American flag in the bottom left-hand picture, the Korean flag is upside down! This is not a 'rare' mistake that we Americans make in this respect!

Then, on page 29, under ‘Outpost International’ really so! The picture of Mrs. Val Ortiz shows a ‘spitting image’ shot of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom!?

I’m glad to see that Florida is yet again well represented in the chapter pages!

Peter Palmer, Ch. 159, palmersp@gte.com

Printed in...

Humor?

For years I have had a huge book, 11x14x3,” weighing about 15 or so pounds. The title is *U.S. Army: A Complete History*, 744 pp. copyright 2004. The book, complete with photos and illustrations, was published by the Army Historical Foundation. That’s the U.S. Army. And where was it published? China.

George L. Parks, 61 Corman Ct., Decatur, IL 62521

I agree with MacArthur

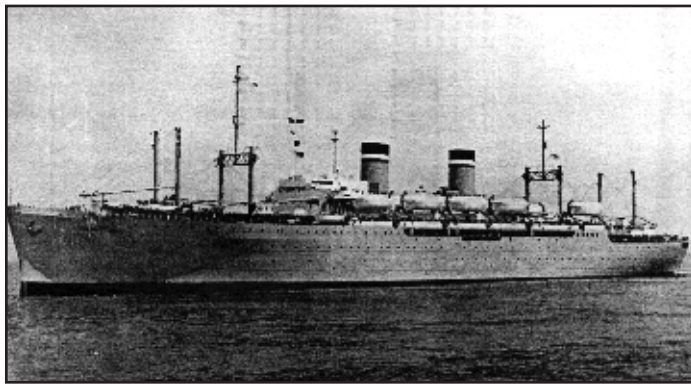
Congratulations for the greatest issue ever! From the new bright cover art to all the content...just superb!

I would share General MacArthur’s disgust with the proposed “play for a tie” concept. It goes counter to all American ideals of promoting excellence to a “let’s all just feel good” loser mantra. Yuck!

David Valley, dvalleyx@gmail.com

More life with Gaffey

This is a follow-up to Bill Mutart’s story about travel on the troopship USNS Hugh J. Gaffey in the July-August Graybeards. (See “Operation Seasickness, p. 68.) I, too, spent time on this ship in March-April 1951, 28 days to be exact, from New Orleans to Japan.



General Hugh J. Gaffey

Gaffey was a large ship reconfigured to carry dependents, plus about 1,400 troops. Guess where we low-ranking troops slept. Yup, down below in bunks stacked four high. KP for some of us started while we were still sailing down the Mississippi River, and finally ended a couple weeks later. Same ship, same compartment, and same duty as Bill Mutart.

We made stops at Rodman Navy Base at the west end of the Panama Canal for a three-hour beer break at the base, and an overnight in San Francisco a week later—confined to the ship.

Then it was off to Otaru, Japan and off KP because some



Left, Chet Harvey in a “chipper” mood. On right, Vern Jenkins, Bob Anspaugh, and Mike Peela (L-R) aboard USNS Gaffey



newer troops took over our compartment. About half way out we crossed the International Date Line and most of us were initiated into the “Domain of the Golden Dragon,” a hijinks affair.

Three or four days later four of us were assigned (we actually volunteered) to the ship’s crew to chip paint up on the bridge. The crew were all non-military, so when they took coffee breaks we did too. This was a very welcome two-day diversion.

Then, days later, it was off the good old U.S.N.S. General Hugh J. Gaffey (finally) on April 28, 1951, for an eight-month stay at Camp Crawford, just outside of Sapporo, Japan.

Chester M. (Chet) Harvey, (Cpl. 45th Infantry Div.),
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9178, 520-531-1844

Thank you, Therese Park

I am responding to the letter published in the September/October issue of THE GRAYBEARDS written by Therese Park titled “Second Korean War,” p. 58. The article is correct in stating that much of the activity began with President Johnson’s visit in November, 1966 when he landed at Kimpo. At the time I was assigned to Detachment 5 of the 1503 Air Transport Group at K-11 and witnessed firsthand the response of both the military and the local population. This certainly did not sit well with North Korea’s leader Kim Il-Sung, as mentioned in the article.

Fast forward to 1968 and the capture of the USS Pueblo. I was once again stationed in South Korea. This time it was with Detachment 55 of the 7th APS at Osan Air Base (K-55). (In between I spent a year with the 437th MAW out of Charleston, SC). Given that Vietnam was in full swing, military units were spread thin and eventually our detachment received an influx of very welcome manpower from the ANG at McGuire AFB New Jersey.

Initially many of the Reserve and ANG troops were housed in a ‘tent city’ that sprouted on the ball field behind the gymnasium. That was fine as long as it was warm, but as fall and winter approached sturdier living quarters were needed. Modular units

were brought in and set up to replace the tents. All were grateful.

Ms. Park's story would seem to end with the return of the Pueblo crew on December 23, in 1968, but the real story doesn't end there. Shortly afterward those Reserve and Guard units were deactivated and personnel returned to their homes in the states. On April 15, 1969, two MIG fighters from North Korea shot down an unarmed US Navy EC-121M of Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron One (VQ-1) some 90 nautical miles off the East coast of North Korea in the Sea of Japan. All 31 crew were killed in the attack.

It must be noted that two Soviet destroyers out of Vladivostok aided in the search for survivors in a rare show of help during the cold war. To date no real reason has ever been given for the attack. Newly elected President Richard Nixon took no action against the North Korean leadership.

As Ms. Park stated in closing, "The past doesn't return, but we learn from the past to gauge our future."

Paul J. Chmielewski, 100 Salnaritan Way, Apt 232
Crossville, Tennessee 38558

Confusion re Anthony Sobieski's "1,127 Days of Death"

A couple readers noted confusion regarding the publication schedule of Anthony Sobieski's four-part chronology of those killed during the Korean War, i.e., "1,127 Days of Death." Here is the publication schedule:

- Part I – January/February 2020, pp. 66-70
- Part II – July August 2020, pp. 10 & 67-70
- Part III – September-October 2020, pp. 12 & 69-72
- Part IV – November-December 2020, pp. 11 & 68-71

Just as a reminder, when reading this article please keep in mind that these numbers were only U.S. deaths during the war. UN and ROK deaths were not included as part of this series.

No Place to Go

While I was stationed in Inchon, Korea, making my military deliveries to many units, and going through deserted war-torn villages, many times there would be a child such as the one pictured nearby standing at the side of a dusty, sometimes muddy, road. (I traveled with a hidden camera under my coat, which enabled me to take photos of villages and country people.)

The child would be standing alone, half naked, with nowhere to go. Homeless, no family, no friends; just wanting someone to stop and take them to the orphanage. They were just looking for love. After seventy years I still cannot forget the looks on these children's faces.

It made me realize how fortunate we are here in the United States to have people with compassion to care for us. This scene is one that I experienced many times in my 11-month, 15-day deployment. It's been 68 years since I left Inchon, but I still carry visions of those children standing along the dusty roads. However, before the Americans left the docks of Inchon on our way home, the South Korean government, with help from our military, were building orphanages and shelter to save these homeless children. They finally had shelter and food.

It's been nearly 70 years since July 27, 1953, when the agreement was signed to end the war. Today, South Korea has been reborn, thanks to the United States and their allies. The South Korean people are hard-working and industrial people. They are very appreciative of what we did for their country.

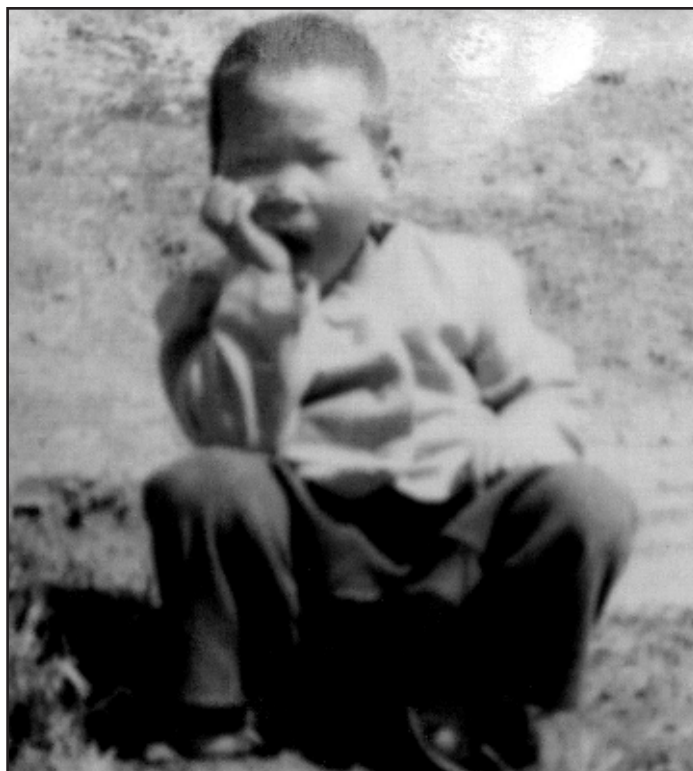
Was it worth it? YES! And to show their appreciation, veterans and their families are welcome to come and tour Korea. They will lodge and feed you and take you on tours-all free of charge. (Your only expense is your plane fare.)

After 70 years, South Korea has become one of the leading industrial countries in the world. They have technologies in making airplanes, cars, ships, communications, roads and high-rise buildings. They went from "rubble" to "power-house."

We hope and pray that South Korea will continue to prosper without fear from the north. We were honored to serve and be a part of South Korea's success.

I would encourage all veterans to join the KWVA. Come to our next meeting, meet your comrades, and join our interesting conversation! (Mr. Brubaker is a member of Ch. 327, GEN John H. Michaelis, Lancaster, PA.)

*Henry A. Brubaker, Town Square North, Manheim, PA 17545,
717-875-1994*



A child along Henry Brubaker's route

Some Recollections From Aboard LST 802

By Don Payne

In the winter, spring, and summer of 1952, I was in the amphibious forces on board the landing ship, LST 802. The ship was going up and down both coasts of Korea (in the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan) delivering supplies to UN troops near the front lines, carrying ROK guerrillas behind enemy lines, or bringing refugees back down to South Korea. There were many harrowing experiences during the time I was aboard.

Once we pulled into the beach just behind the front lines to drop off supplies for frontline troops on the east coast. As was our usual practice, we dropped our stern anchor as we went in so that we could pull the ship off the beach when we needed to get underway again. A storm came up while we were dropping off the supplies and we had to get to sea as quickly as possible after the supplies were off-loaded. In our haste to get underway, we started hauling in the stern anchor as soon as the bow ramp was up, but before the bow doors were closed.

Unfortunately, there was a large stone breakwater about a hundred yards or so south of us and, as soon as we cleared the beach, we swung on the stern anchor chain and the wind blew the ship's bow into the breakwater. The collision damaged the bow doors so much that we couldn't get them closed. We had to ride out the severe storm in the extremely turbulent Sea of Japan with the bow doors open.

We would head into the wind until we took on so much water that we had to either come about or sink. We would come about and go with the wind, still pumping water



LST 802

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out, until we were in danger of crashing onto the shore behind enemy lines. Then, reversing the procedure by heading into the wind and back out to sea, taking on water again. Every time we came about in those high seas we were in grave danger of being capsized while the wind was at our sides and the ship was sideways in the troughs and rolling at steep angles. We kept doing this until the high winds subsided. With a flat bottom and limited maneuverability, the LSTs gave a violent ride in rough weather.

On another trip to drop off supplies, some other crew members and I were ashore talking with one of the

soldiers. (As I recall, they were with the 7th Division's 32nd Infantry Regiment.) One of my shipmates asked him how far we were from the front lines and the soldier said something like, "The front lines are about a mile north. Do you want me to take you there to see it?" A couple of the sailors were eager to go. The soldier turned to me and said, "You don't want to go because you've already spent too much time on the front lines, haven't you?"

I asked, "How'd you know that?" And, he replied, "You went ashore with us on the way from Inchon to Seoul, fixing radio-transmitters." That had happened more than a year-and-a-half earlier, and he still recognized me and remembered.

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714/469-9768, DonPayne@aol.com



Membership is Our Strength

It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you paid to become eligible to join



Memories of Korean War Combat

PART III

By Jack Orth

Everyone aboard the hospital ship *USS Repose* treated us all like kings! The ship was clean as a whistle, and the care was as good as I've ever had in any hospital. A few days later the ship left for Japan with a full load of troops on board. I truly had mixed emotions, and could only think of the Marines I served with. Are they OK?" I wondered. I almost wished I was back on line with them. They were like brothers to me, but one thing is for sure ... I'll never forget any of them!

USS Repose was close to Japan when they received the word that a cease-fire had been declared in Korea on 27 July 1953. There, of course, was some cheering from around the ship, but not anywhere near what you'd think it would be. It was over quickly, and many of us had thoughts of our own to dwell on. Mine were complicated at the time, and never did reach the point of the sheer joy I thought it would.

Why the war stays with me

I thought of Bill Royer and many other Marines who were killed in action, and the many who were wounded badly. Right then and there I learned that there is never a cease-fire or the end of the war for any combat veterans. It stays with you all your life, and I'm sure it does for family members of military men and women all over the world. For me, very nearly every day right up to the present I think of the Korean War.

There are little things that cause that for me. The weather, whatever it is, can ring a bell for me about a certain time in Korea on line. Any loud noises ... fireworks aren't my favorite ... and when watching the nightly news there is always something that starts me thinking of those long-ago days.

I know for sure I'm not "The Lone Ranger" when it comes to this, as many veterans have told me they are in the same boat. It's not necessarily a bad boat to travel init just reminds you how lucky you are ... how many great Marines you served with ... and the many not as lucky to survive.

On to Japan

The naval hospital in Yokosuka, Japan was huge, and we were treated just as well as we were on the *Repose*. I met a few Boston guys there, and would stay in touch with them in the years to come. One of the nicest surprises of my life was when a nurse came into our ward and said I had a phone call! How could I have a phone call in Japan? I just never gave it a thought.

When I picked up the phone, I heard coins being dropped into the coin box. It was one of my very best friends ever...Jim Emmert! We talked for at least ten minutes, and I shall never forget that call. I still see Jim, and we both get a huge kick of once again talking about that long-ago phone call!

One fine day the stitches were removed. I was issued Marine Corps clothing, and off I went to Kyoto, Japan by train! Camp Fisher was my last stop in Japan, but I had to wait a month or so to go back to the states. My job was to greet the Marines coming in from Korea for five days of R&R and give them a little pitch on what not to do in Kyoto. That, of course, was like talking to completely deaf Marines! They were there for one thing... wine, women, and song... and I just went through the motions, and told them to have fun!!

R&R was an ongoing thing, even after the cease-fire. In checking the roster of an incoming group, there was the name of Albert J. Gardetto, the Marine I served with for two years before we both went our separate ways in Korea. It was old home week for us...well, at least for a few hours. Off we went to The Hotel Happy for many beers and lots of laughter. That night, of course, Al and other Marines swept a Japanese girl off her feet, and off they went for a few days to live the life of Reilly!

I told Al to call me from Logan Airport in Boston when he got back from Korea and I'd pick him up. He arrived in February of 1954! The plan worked out like clockwork! Soon after he went back to Korea after R&R, I flew on a military plane to Hickam Field in Hawaii. The next day it was off to San Francisco, and Treasure Island in the Bay. I was there for a couple weeks, and after all the red tape was taken care of, I was discharged from the Marine Corps.

A strange stay at Treasure Island

My stay at Treasure Island (TI) was strange. I never left the base, and never spent time in the great city of San Francisco, at least not until many years later. I got out of the sack each day at TI, looked out the windows toward Alcatraz, and felt sorry for those who were in there. What they wouldn't give to be going back to the east coast by plane, like I was.

Each night I'd spend my time at The Slop Chute on the base, get tanked up, and think about where I had been and where I was going. A Navy Corpsman told me to take more time with the doctors there. He felt I had what years later would be called "Post Traumatic Stress Disorder," which was known in the Korean War as "Nervous Condition." Serious concussions and heavy combat can lead to that.

Being so anxious to get home, I gave it no thought. I signed all the discharge papers that would send me out the gate at Treasure Island! In later years I found I had made a big mistake, as I had major headaches and other problems.

The benefits of my time in the Corps

Being in the Marine Corps has helped me on many occasions. It's very true that Marines stick together. Two wonderful business positions in my life were made possible by former Marines who hired me on the spot!

You know when we're young, many times we don't thank the people in our lives who help us move up the ladder of life. For instance, there are a few who I must salute for doing a great deal for me in my three-year stay in the Marine Corps.

Lt. Peter Kimball ... When Al Gardetto and I were in the S-2 section with the 6th Marines, the Lieutenant let us know right up front he would run us all into the ground and make us into a small unit with the work ethic of the Marine Raiders of WWII. He did just that, but at the time we didn't realize how important his training was to us. It surely put us in a position of strength in whatever we did in the Marine Corps and civilian life. In later years he became a very close friend. I'll

never forget him.

“Gunny Sgt.” Bill Parks ... He retired as a Sgt. Major, but is always “The Gunny” to me. I’ve always felt he saved my life in Korea, so no wonder I salute him often! There is also an Army General that I never met who I must salute today—and forever more!

A few days before I was hit and went to the hospital ship, the Chinese overran the Berlin outposts. Hundreds of Chinese troops swarmed all over the small group of Marines manning the outposts and drove them off both outposts. A decision was made for Marines to jump off and leave our trench lines at 0700 to retake East Berlin.

We couldn’t believe what we were told ... to cross wide-open ground in broad daylight was a sure ticket to join a long list on the KIA list! It was suicide! In later years I spoke to the Gunny about it. He said it was the first time he would have been involved in an operation that had no chance of being successful. In other words it was suicide, and at the time we all knew it!

Less than a half an hour before we were to leave the trench line, word came that the operation was canceled! The Commanding Officer of I Corps, General Bruce C. Clarke, noted that, “The outposts in front of the MLR had gradually lost their value, in my opinion, because between the MLR and the outposts the minefields, tactical wire, etc. had made their reinforcement and counterattacks very costly. Plus, holding poor real estate for sentimental reasons is a poor excuse for undue casualties.”

That U.S. Army General saved our lives. There is no doubt about it!

Back to the future again

Please bear with me again as I jump ahead twenty-five years or so. We live in Plymouth, Massachusetts. I was having trouble sleeping one night, so I flicked on the TV. By chance I saw the movie, “Gallipoli” on the screen. It was an incredibly realistic movie that took place in the middle of the Second Boer War (1899-1902).

Troops were in a long trench ready to climb out and charge a huge hill in the distance. All the men knew it was suicide to do this in broad daylight. The operation had been canceled by the powers-to-be back off line. The only method of getting the message up to the trench line was by a company run-

ner, who took off at high port to bring the message. He was killed on the way!

The entire group of charging troops was wiped out ... every one of them!

I was in shock! I sat on the couch crying for a number of minutes when thinking back to our time in Korea. The same thing would have happened to us! So, we all salute General Clarke often ... he kept us alive!

Anyone who has been involved close up in a war hates, more than most people, the thought of all the wars around the world. Will the day ever come when there are no wars or uprisings? I hope so. But I don’t think that will happen during my lifetime. I’ve been there though, and sure feel for anyone who is there now!

Beautiful Beaufort by the sea...

When I retired from the publishing business in 1998, my wife Sally and I decided to leave the snow and ice, and we moved to Beaufort, South Carolina. It was a decision from out of the blue ... Sally’s sister, Betsi, and her husband, Rob, owned a house in Beaufort that had been rented to a Marine Major. He had been transferred from the Beaufort Air Station to North Carolina. Jokingly, Betsi suggested that we move and rent their house! We did ... we sold our house and condo in Plymouth, and away we went. We were there for four great years, and then moved to Florida to be closer to our daughter, Wendy.

It so happens that Parris Island is about a twenty-minute drive from our house in Beaufort, and I hadn’t been on that base since 1951! The changes were unreal to me. The Quonset huts we lived in for three months were gone...all the wooden barracks were gone...and now all the new buildings were air conditioned. The whole island had changed! It hit me then that I truly had been in “The Old Corps,” since I’m 84 years old now!

Over the next four years I met dozens of retired Marines who had come to roost near P.I. One of them was retired Sgt. Maj. Jeff Nadeau, who was the Sgt. Major of Parris Island when he retired after 31 years of service. He asked if I had ever played the P.I. golf course. I was shocked, to say the least, and knew he had to be kidding.

In my mind the last place in the world there would be a golf course was Parris

Island. But, there it was, and it had been there since the late 1940s! Over the years hundreds of thousands of “boots” went through P.I. ... we sure never saw the golf course!

So, I actually played golf at Parris Island, the island where, during my first week or two of boot camp, I thought I might die! Then, they closed the old course for a year and rebuilt it into a spectacular golf course surrounded by marsh land. Jeff was putting together a crew of guys to be “marshals” and “starters” on the first tee of the course. One day a week got us free golf and great times with all the guys. It was a wonderful life in Beaufort!

Most every person in America remembers where they were when the horrible attack at The World Trade Center brought down the Twin Towers. It was September 11, 2001. I was out on the P.I. golf course that day, as a marshal. I came in from the 9th hole to get a drink to take back on the course. The club house was packed with Marines and civilians. Nobody was talking, just standing in shock as to what was happening.

I had worked in NYC for a number of years, and thought for sure that at least 25,000 people would die in those buildings. We stood frozen for a long time, and suddenly both towers were gone. It was like a movie ... and, oh, how everyone wished it was! The world changed drastically that day, and the recovery is still ongoing. The Pentagon in Washington and the horrible plane crash in Pennsylvania added more misery to that day...never to be forgotten.

Before my wife, Sally, and I moved to Jacksonville, Florida, we spent time visiting The Beaufort National Cemetery. It was established in 1863. Therefore, it has thousands of Civil War veterans buried there. The setting is something everyone should see ... 14,000 white headstones are surrounded by huge trees, and the grounds are absolutely pristine.

The second or third time we visited we stood in front of the grave of General Edward A. Pollock, United States Marine Corps ... born in 1899 ... died in 1982. The General served in WWII in the Pacific and was a highly decorated Marine, and when I was in Korea, he was the Commander of the First Marine Division. I shall never forget when he came on board USS Repose Hospital Ship before it went to Japan

loaded down with Marines. I was one of them.

The cease-fire ended only a few days after the ship left, but of course nobody knew that. The General had served his time as Commander, and was heading back to the states. He and his staff of about five Marines came into the wards so the General could wish us well. Close by where I was, a young Marine was sitting up in bed, and General Pollock stopped to see him. The Marine had a large patch over one eye and his right arm was in a cast. I'll never forget what came about!

I believe General Pollock wanted to cheer the young Jarhead up with a real positive comment: "We'll have you back on line in no time, Marine!" came out in a loud voice.

The Marine smiled and replied, "In a pig's ass you will, General! I've lost an eye and damn near an arm! I'm going home!"

Silence hung over the ward for a few seconds. The General's staff was frozen in their tracks, and so were the Marines in the ward. All of a sudden General Pollock showed his true colors. He yelled louder than before, "You're all Marine, son! You're all Marine, and I wish you a great life!"

Then, the General broke up with laughter ... and we all followed suit!

Perhaps it was a small thing, but not to me. The General had a sense of humor, and actually loved what the Marine said. You could tell he was one of the troops, not just a General! Marines take care of each other, and everyone in the ward had a feeling of pride. I stood in the cemetery with a smile on my face, and saluted the General!

I can't say enough about the many men I met in the Marine Corps, from all walks of life, which I shall never forget. For me, it was the best thing I ever did for myself. In twelve weeks at Parris Island I grew up

real fast, and even more so in the next couple of years of Marine duty. It was like the degree from college, which I never received. One year of college was all I could handle, and I didn't do well at it.

However, I've been extremely lucky in life ... wonderful parents and two sisters in the same category. I've been married for 61 years. We have four children, three grandchildren, and one great grandchild ... and great memories of all those years. The many friends I've met along the way are a huge bonus for me, and who can ask for more than that!

All of us have a few regrets we had to get over I'm sure ... but, I think for me that the big regret is that our country and other countries are still at war. Those who served in combat are probably in that same boat I am. It makes no sense at all!

Take good care...

Jack Orth-2016

You Are Not Forgotten - Sept. 17, 2021

By Carl J. Asszony

September 17th is national POW/MIA Day. It is the day we honor those military personnel who have been prisoners of war and those missing in action. It is a day that illustrates the stark reality of the sacrifices that our brave men and women, and their families, have endured in defense of this country.

Most of the places that held American prisoners of war are now gone. In recent times there have been no prisoners of war reported. It is believed that Bowe Bergdahl was the last one. But, his is a unique case. He deserted his post and was captured by the Taliban and held captive for five years. He was released in exchange for the four terrorist that were confined in Guantanamo Bay prison. These four terrorist are now among the leadership in the Afghanistan government controlled by the Taliban.

But, not having recent prisoners of war should not change our obligation to remember and pay tribute to those who suffered beatings, starvation, rape, and torture. Thousands died while in captivity. Many who came home would require years of mental and physical rehabilitation.

For the families of those missing in action there has never been closure. But, there has always been hope. There are estimated to be

Most of the places that held American prisoners of war are now gone. In recent times there have been no prisoners of war reported.

over 80,000 American service members missing in action. Approximately 40,000 are deep sea losses.

To bring some closure to families of those missing in action, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) works tirelessly to find and identify the remains of those unaccounted from past wars and locations around the world. Sifting through remains from recovery sites and going through records and DNA results, the forensic anthropologists, archeologists and forensic dentist, spend months and years to accomplish their mission.

"It's about bringing more people home" says Admiral Jon C. Kreitz, Deputy Director of DPAA. Through their efforts the remains of more than 1,800 Americans have been identified and returned to their home towns for their final rest.

The words written across that black POW/MIA flag – You Are Not Forgotten – have real meaning to the families who suf-

fered for years awaiting the fate of their loved ones held in a prisoner of war camp, or those who endured the anxiety of never knowing the fate of loved ones listed as missing in action.

But what of the future? As time passes will the men and women who sacrificed so much on the altar of freedom be forgotten? The older generation is fading away; the military is less than 1% of the population and declining, and the younger generation has little sense of history or an understanding of the sacrifice and pain it took to keep this country free and enduring. Then take into account the millions of immigrants, both legal and illegal, who have no link to American history and those who just don't care.

However, as long as there are those who understand that freedom is not free, who appreciate the sacrifice of the men and women in the military who give so much, and those who remember that "all gave some and some gave all" – then the POW/MIA's will not be forgotten.

Reach Carl J. Asszony, a member of KWVA Chapter #148, Monroe Township, NJ, 08831, at njveteran30@gmail.com.

Former Muskogee VA volunteer & Korean Veteran soaring high

September 9, 2021

In 1958, 17 year-old Tom Cotton, now a member of Ch. 177 – Eastern Oklahoma, deployed to Korea with the U.S. Army's 13th Engineering Combat Battalion. The battalion's primary mission was finding mines left over from the Korean War and destroying them.

Cotton only had one major thing left on his bucket list - jumping out of an airplane, something he was afraid to do at 17 years-old.

"When we got them marked, we'd put TNT charges on them and set them off," said Cotton, who volunteered at the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center from 2007 to 2020.

While disposing of mines is very dangerous work, Cotton ironically said another Army job scared him more.

"When I went into the service, I wanted to be a paratrooper," said Cotton, who has also been a patient at the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center since 2002. "But I didn't have the guts."

Now 80 years old, Cotton has set his mind to tackling goals he was either afraid of or simply never got around to accomplishing.

Cotton and his wife of 50 years, Caroline, have traveled across the U.S. in recent years. Cotton never made studying his bible a priority, but he is now. He also bought a guitar last year and has been teaching himself to strike a chord.

Cotton only had one major thing left on his bucket list - jumping out of an airplane, something he was afraid to do at 17 years-old.

All it took was a push (not literally) from a fellow veteran, Marcus Webb, who became friends with Cotton while he was working at the main information desk as a VA volunteer.



Korean veteran Tom Cotton skydives above Muskogee-Davis Regional Airport on Sept. 4, 2001

"I used to stop and talk to him when he worked as a volunteer," said Webb, Executive Assistant the Medical Center Director. "But he stopped volunteering due to COVID-19. Since then, I would try and catch him as he came in for appointments."

"A few months ago, he said 'I want to go skydiving.' I told him that if his wife and his doctors said it was okay, that I would go with him."

To say that Caroline wasn't fully on board with the plan is putting it mildly. But she didn't stand in the way of her husband's goal.

"I was kind of leery of it," she said. "But he's always wanted to do it. It was up to him. I just kept my fingers crossed and praying."

On Sept. 4, Cotton and Webb boarded a Cessna 180 aircraft at Muskogee-Davis Regional Airport and did tandem jumps at 10,000 feet with professional skydivers.

"When you jump out of an airplane at 10,000 feet, everything goes pretty fast,"

said Cotton. "When the shoot pops at 5,000 feet, you have a chance to look around."

"Somehow I worked up enough courage to do it."

Webb said it is inspiring to see a Korean veteran still living life to its fullest.

"Seeing someone at his age living life and doing things he wants to do, I think that's something to be said to us younger veterans," said Webb. "He's not just talking about it, but actually getting out there and living life."

Now that Cotton's bucket list is complete, what's next?

"I'm going to have to replace it," said Cotton. "It was the bottom of the bucket list."

Thanks to Mary Downing, Secretary of Ch. 177, for submitting this story and to Nate Schaeffer, Office of Communications, Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System, for granting permission to reprint it.

Battle Mountain

By Rob Lofthouse

Operating in defense of Masan, the 25th Infantry Division placed its 24th Infantry and 5th Infantry Regiments on Sobuk-san to defend the two peaks, P'il-bong and Hill 665, which later would become known as Battle Mountain. This action involved the struggle between United Nations Command (UN) and North Korean forces early in the war, from August 15 to September 19, 1950 and became one of several large engagements fought simultaneously during the Battle of Pusan Perimeter.

The battle ended in a victory for the UN after large numbers of United States Army (US) and Republic of Korea Army (ROK) troops were able to prevent a Korean People's Army (KPA) division from capturing the mountain area. What followed was a month-long struggle with the KPA 6th Division, in which Battle Mountain changed hands twenty times.

During the deadlock, neither side was able to secure a definitive victory in capturing the mountaintop, but the US forces succeeded in their mission of preventing the KPA from advancing beyond Battle Mountain, paving the way for the KPA's eventual defeat and withdrawal. Later, and in conjunction with General MacArthur's surprise landing of X Corps at Inchon on September 15, 1950, the United Nations forces in the Pusan Perimeter went on the offensive.

In the 25th Division sector, strong enemy resistance on the mountain peaks of Subok-san delayed undertaking the offensive until September 19, when the mountain peaks and ridges had been cleared by the 24th Infantry Regiment in the face of weakening but stubborn enemy resistance. The cost of these battles became quite high, with officers and enlisted men falling to incapacitating combat wounds, resulting in death for some.

Army Lieutenant Gordon Lippman arrived in early September to assume his role as a Company A platoon leader in the face of this horror, replacing his predecessor in the midst of these skirmishes. Lieutenant Lippman brought with him ample combat experience, almost 300 days fighting against the German Wehrmacht in Italy, Operation Dragoon in southern France, and along the Soy-Hotton Road in Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge.

Once these Korean mountains were in friendly hands, the 25th Division went on the offensive again, including an attack to the west on two lines of advance with motorized task forces which involved primarily the 24th Infantry Regiment. The 24th was an all-Black unit, led by white officers, and Gordon was assigned to become one of those officers in the heat of a running gun battle. Gordon became familiar with his men, and they with him, while under some fierce enemy fire.

Starting on September 27, and moving rapidly, that task force brushed aside North Korean delaying actions, rapidly seizing several Korean towns, and in the process managed to liberate close to 100 American prisoners of war. By September 30, the 24th Infantry had reached and liberated the west coast port city

of Kunsan. On October 29, 1950, almost two months after he was assigned to the 24th, Gordon was promoted to Able Company commanding officer (CO).

Able Company was temporarily assigned the role of acting military governor of the city of Kunsan, which meant that Able effectively controlled the activities of the civilian population in that area. First Lieutenant Lyle Rishell had been promoted to company executive officer (XO) under Lt. Lippman.

In Rishell's book, *With a Black Platoon in Combat*, written more than a decade later, Rishell says of Lippman: "He was a fine officer, a strong leader, and we got along great right from the outset. I admired him tremendously, and the days I served under him were some of the best of my career. He was a hard, no-nonsense officer, but he was fair and an inspiration for all of us in that place."

In October, after linking up with X Corps, the Eighth Army had crossed the 38th Parallel into North Korea while the 25th Infantry Division remained in South Korea. The 24th Infantry Regiment and other elements of the 25th Division were given the mission of eliminating surviving fragments of North Korean units south and east of the city of Taejon. These stragglers had been bypassed by American forces and were threatening the American supply lines.

By early November, the 25th had successfully accomplished its mission of securing and stabilizing the area around Taejon and was moved north to Kaesong in the continuing mission of eliminating pockets of bypassed enemy units along the 38th Parallel.

Rishell offers a glimpse into the unit's day - "We awoke with the sound of rain beating against the broken windows. What a hellish day for a move! The poor weather did not generate much enthusiasm, but we crawled from our mountain bags, pulled on our dirty clothes and boots, and went over to the mess tent for breakfast, gulping down a breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, bread, jam, and coffee.

"Lt. Lippman went over the day's details. The compound, which normally was hard and dry, had become a quagmire of gluey, soft clay. It caked on the boots to form lead weights, a miserable mess. Our orders were to move on the arrival of transportation, but the only vehicles coming available were three quarter-ton trucks. We were still on the Main Supply Route (MSR), which meant that two platoons still on guard duty had to remain behind until transport could be arranged for them to follow. The 24th had been assigned to protect that route but new orders meant they would give up that protection detail.

"The rest of us packed our gear, rolled up blankets and sleeping bags, and waited for transportation to the trains. On arrival at So-Jongni after dark, we spent the night in bivouac and then most of the next day waiting for transport to our next stop. We then loaded onto rail cars for the train ride up north.

"These were very unwelcoming box cars which we squeezed in to. It became apparent there was no plan to send us into reserve

Once these Korean mountains were in friendly hands, the 25th Division went on the offensive again, including an attack to the west on two lines of advance with motorized task forces which involved primarily the 24th Infantry Regiment. The 24th was an all-Black unit, led by white officers, and Gordon was assigned to become one of those officers in the heat of a running gun battle.

or back to Japan, which brought a solemn uneasiness over the men. The NCOs oriented their men in preparation for fighting as soon as we would dismount.

“The loading and waiting had not done much for the men’s morale, but fortunately the day warmed a bit, and we began to get more comfortable. Along the way we saw hordes of refugees carry everything they owned on their backs, climbing on board the flat cars. The train moved on, and went through Suwon and then Seoul after dark. By daybreak, we reached Ilsan, north of Seoul near the 38th Parallel.”

Task Force Lippman, composed of Company A with attachments from the I&R platoon, one section each of heavy mortars, 81mm mortars, machine guns, and 75mm recoilless rifles, proceeded to the town of Yonchon above the 38th Parallel and then secured the town against any invaders attempting to seize it.

The composition of Task Force Lippman and order of march into what became known as the Iron Triangle was 1st Platoon in the lead, with the 3rd Platoon, ROK Platoon, and 2nd Platoon following. The Command Group teams would follow fourth. The 4.2mm, 81mm mortar teams would bring up the rear. At 0530, the task force was to enter the town. At 0545, all unit commands checked radios. As soon as possible they were to notify Lt. Costello by message when the town was reasonably secure.

Many firefights ensued, lives were lost, and trucks destroyed in an enemy ambush. The fighting was only getting more intense, and Japan became a distant memory. Company A had launched a coordinated attack on Yonchon with elements of the 17th ROK Regiment and 800 South Korean policemen. Striking in the early morning after a preliminary thirty-minute mortar barrage, this force captured the town in less than three hours. Thirteen North Korean soldiers were captured. Later in the day the I&R Platoon was ambushed. The enemy knocked out the lead and rear vehicles of the convoy and set several on fire.

Members of the American patrol leapt from their vehicles to defend themselves; the enemy charged and inflicted heavy casualties. It was not the first ambush to hit the troops, and it would not be the last. North Koreans continued to use this form of attack frequently in the days ahead, and UN forces took heavy casualties as they continued with their mission.

The Americans were north of the 38th Parallel, moving deep into enemy territory on November 19 near Anju. Taking the offensive, the 25th Division quickly ran into stiff resistance and was thrown onto the defensive as massive Chinese Communist forces attacked and penetrated the 8th Army right flank. This opened up the 25th Division’s right, which was held by the 24th

Infantry Regiment.

Taking heavy casualties as the Chinese hit the right flank of the 2nd Battalion, and with Chinese troops moving to their rear, the 24th Infantry, along with the rest of the 25th Division, began a series of delaying actions while backpedaling down the peninsula. Of the many men throughout the 25th Infantry Division to distinguish themselves in these battles, Lt. Lippman is only one. For his leadership under fire, a first Silver Star was awarded.

The unit reached Kaesong on December 8 and then moved south of the Imjin River by December 14. Continuing Chinese pressure forced the 8th Army to withdraw further south to the 37th Parallel near Osan by January 3, 1951. On January 25, the 25th Division found itself in a United Nations counteroffensive reaching the Han River twenty-five days later. On March 7, the 24th Infantry Regiment conducted a well-executed assault crossing of the Han as other elements of the 25th Division drove north to inflict heavy casualties on Communist forces.

The unit reached and held a line just south of the city of Chorwon by the end of March. After crossing the Hantan River on April 11, the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry attacked a steep ridgeline defended by heavily dug-in Chinese forces at about 0430. The Americans took the initiative to attack without the normal preparatory artillery barrage that would have signaled imminent assault. By using this approach, the 24th surprised the Chinese and found them very disorganized, but the entrenched enemy was able to repulse the attack.

At the higher levels of command and control during this period, a dramatic change in leadership took place. On this same day, half a world away in Washington DC, following a series of public utterances that revealed sharp differences over national policy and military strategy, President Truman took a bold step by relieving General Douglas MacArthur of all his commands, replacing him with General Ridgway and dispatching Lieutenant General James A. Van Fleet posthaste to take command of the 8th Army and attached forces.

Van Fleet arrived and assumed command three days later, on April 14. With the opinionated and defiant MacArthur out of the way, President Truman was free to pursue a less aggressive military strategy that resulted in the stalemate we see now seventy years later. Once again, political expediency triumphed over military strategy, resulting in greater loss of life and less-than-ideal results.

Six months later, and in conjunction with the US Army decision to end segregation, the 24th Infantry Regiment was inactivated, effective October 1, 1951, at Chipo-ri, after six Korean

War campaigns and eighty-five years of continuous service in the United States Army. These brave soldiers were then dispersed to and absorbed in other units.

While in Korea, the 24th Infantry Regiment racked up an impressive record. Between 1950 and 1951, these gallant men earned 2 Medals of Honor (MOH), 23 Distinguished Service Crosses (DSC), 261 Silver Stars (SS), 537 Bronze Stars (BS) and 4,887 Purple Hearts (PH) for bravery in the face of a daunting, fanatical, and determined enemy force.

Later on in 1952, the two sides agreed to an armistice, and the Korean stand-off continues to this day at the 38th Parallel, where it all began. They fought, absorbed wounds and too many died for a stalemate. Was it worth it? Is it over? Keep their memories alive!

About the Author:

Robert E. Lofthouse is a Marine Corps veteran who has managed projects as an IT professional for four decades, both nationally and internationally, while serving the business planning and

delivery needs of enterprise IT projects for the nonprofit, commercial business, and government sectors. His initial professional writing experience covers more than fifty years of sports articles published in local and regional media from Pennsylvania to Kansas and Missouri. *Honor Through Sacrifice*, published by Köehler Books, is his first publication in book form, prompted by his love of history and keen desire to extend the legacy of its subject, Gordon Joseph Lippman. Rob and Gordon were first cousins, so this story is personal. You can find the book on his website at www.holdtheline.press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble.



Prayers will be answered

From an address by Frederick Borowiec

I was born, raised and received most of my education in Chicopee, Massachusetts. In 1948, I joined the United States Marine Corps. It was three years after World War 2 ended; and that was supposed to be the war that was to end all wars. Not to be....

It now seems that every generation has to be involved in some kind of war...World War #1, World War #2, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and now Iraq. Tragic and sad that so many people have to be hurt and die because countries can't get along.

I share with you a campaign I participated in that was so inspirational and miraculous that a logo-pendant was designed as a lasting remembrance. Many words have been written about fighting and bravery in wars, but not much has been said about what it felt like to be there.

My war was the Korean war...in particular, the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea...located in a mile-high mountainous terrain near the Manchurian border, about 78 miles from the seaport of Hungnam, with one narrow and harrowing road to go up and return on...and no guard rails.

The First Marine Division was engaged in the Chosin Reservoir area fighting and pursuing the North Koreans. Having so much success that General MacArthur said we'd be home by Christmas. It was

The 1st Marine Division now was surrounded and isolated by ten Chinese infantry divisions, whose orders were to annihilate us to the last man.

November 1950 and winter was starting to set in. The wintry, frigid cold winds from the Manchuria came in with a fury and did it ever get cold!

I pray that I never am that cold again!!!!

The snow was heavy and thick, making it difficult to see. The winds cut into your face and the severe cold bit into our bodies like a knife. On or about November 27, 1950, the Chinese entered the war in support of North Korea...

The 1st Marine Division now was surrounded and isolated by ten Chinese infantry divisions, whose orders were to annihilate us to the last man. Our orders now were to regroup, withdraw to the seaport of Hungnam, board ships there, and return to South Korea.

Progress was slow and casualties reduced our fighting units. It was a scary time, especially at night when we had no air support. With 3/4 of our epic journey behind us, the weather took a turn for the worse.

It was one early evening that the freezing cold winds intensified with heavy snows. We knew that if the skies didn't clear by morning, there would be no air support and the Chinese would intensify their attack, as they did not want us to

reach our destination. Needless to say, our situation did not look good. A lot of the Marines, myself included, started to pray and hope for the best.

A few hours later that night, I heard someone shout, "Doesn't that look like a star shining through the overcast clouds and snow?"

I looked up, and sure enough there was this one star shining like a beacon through the clouds. "WOW!!!" I said to myself. I was amazed and felt that it was a spiritual sign that the storm would pass and we would have weather in the morning clear enough for air support.

Shortly thereafter, the snow stopped, the clouds started to dissipate, and slowly more stars began to appear. Our prayers were answered. We got so hyped-up, we started singing the Marine Corps Hymn.

With God on our side, we knew that the enemy could not stop us from reaching our destination... and they didn't!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you for your attention. Please pray for peace in the world. Take it from me: prayers are answered.

Frederick Borowiec, (Corporal at that time), 30 Fairview Village Ct., Chicopee, MA 01020, 413-592-6838

Mastering The Art of World Class Table Tennis

This article is from the September 2021 issue of VFW Magazine. Senior Writer Ismael Rodriguez Jr. gives permission for the article to be reprinted in The Graybeards.



Retired Army Master Sgt. Lindsey Lloyd conducts his life the way a renowned table tennis player should — with fluidity, anticipation and otherworldly precision. Far from slowing down at 71 years old, the Louisiana native, born to a French-Creole mother in 1950, continues to chase an elusive perfection teased by the sport he first discovered while in the military. Like most ambitions in Lloyd's life, he has relied on steady growth and a fortifying longevity to battle being a late bloomer in table tennis.

"I used to think it was a sissy game at first, but then I saw people playing it at a high level and was instantly captivated," said Lloyd, a member of Sam Johnson Chapter 270 in Richardson, Texas. "It's really a sport that takes a minute to learn and a lifetime to master."

Lloyd, a KWVA lifetime member since 2013, picked up his first "ping pong" paddle at the seasoned age of 29, while stationed in Mannheim, Germany, as a battalion reenlistment noncommissioned officer in 1979. Although he had a lawn tennis background playing in several state tournaments during high school, the transition to table tennis required a reset of body mechanics and grip. "It's the same muscles used in a different way, smaller playing field but faster," said Lloyd, who

did one tour in Korea and four in Germany during his 24 years of service. "I was holding the paddle in a very unorthodox way for a while."

Following a decade of consistent practice, games and tutelage from table tennis masters he befriended, Lloyd began making his way into some of the premiere table tennis teams in both the military and the German club level. By 1989, he was named co-captain of the Army's European Mobile Table Tennis Exhibition Team, winning the singles silver medal at the Europe Table Tennis Championships in Ansbach, Germany.

"I played on many teams between 1988 and 1995 in Germany," Lloyd recalled. "I was beginning to win on the military side and then on the German side. I was actually the first black American to win a trophy in table tennis



Retired Army Master Sgt. Lindsey Lloyd, 71, practices table tennis at the Grapevine Ping Pong Club in Grapevine, Texas, on June 13, 2021

in Germany in 1989."

Among the military accolades, Lloyd amassed several gold and silver medals in both singles and doubles competitions at the German Vereinsmeisterschaften (Club Championships) by 1991.

When Lloyd retired from the Army in 1995, he and his wife, Betty, moved to Allen, Texas, where he continued playing in senior divisions at the age of 60. He has qualified and competed on four separate occasions for the Huntsman World Senior Games in St. George, Utah, and Texas State Senior Games in San Antonio. Lloyd also has won five gold and silver medals, respectively, along with two bronze medals in men's doubles, mixed doubles and singles.

"The success really comes from my commitment to the sport," Lloyd said. "I have spent more than 40 years studying the mechanics and academics of table tennis." Lloyd finds other ways to stimulate the mind as well. He is currently enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, where he is a PhD candidate in higher education leadership.

Lloyd also created Lone Star Table Tennis Training in Allen, Texas, a non-profit geared toward bestowing his knowledge of the sport to the younger generations. "I created LSTT to help youth gain confidence, leadership skills and a sense of responsibility through the competitive play, independence, stamina, coordination, focus and problem-solving of table tennis," Lloyd said. "The benefit of this sport unfortunately escapes most non-serious and many serious players. I personally believe it to be the ultimate weapon for good fitness, health and age deterrent."

Lloyd participated in his fifth Huntsman World Senior Games this past October. He partnered with a teammate to compete in the men's "Senior Power" doubles beginning on Oct. 4.

The F-82

FQ-383, a twin-engine night fighter, shot down the first enemy aircraft of the Korean War on June 27, 1950. It was not uncommon for the F-82 to be engulfed in ground fire. On one occasion the aircraft was hit by a .50 caliber slug that lodged under the pilot in the cockpit, earning it a reputation as a "lucky plane."

The F-82 carried six 50-caliber machine guns and ten High Velocity Air Rockets (HVAR).

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



F82-1 (FQ-383)

Floyd Courtade- Sergeant First Class

U.S. Navy/U.S. Army - Interviewed by Sun Kim

In 1944, Floyd joined the navy for two years. He returned home to New Orleans but could not find a job, so on April 1946, he joined the army. After boot camp he was sent to Berlin, Germany with the 17th Military Intelligence Detachment to monitor the Russians.

Floyd recalls, "...the Major arrived at headquarters, stating it looks like we will be involved in a war.

I asked where. He said, "Korea."

"Where is Korea located?" I wanted to know.

"I don't know," he replied.

"So we got the map out. I never thought that I would become so involved in this very short period of time."

The Korean War broke out on June 25, 1950, and in the latter part of September Floyd was ordered to leave Germany to rotate to Fort Dix in New Jersey.

He was informed that all leaves were cancelled and ordered to report to his new duty station, the 289th MP Company, located at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Upon arrival, troopers were loading equipment on flat cars. I asked what was happening and they said "We're going overseas."

I said, "You're going, not me; I have not been home in over three years."

They gave him a three-day pass see his family, then to return to base to be sent to Korea.



Floyd Courtade

After three days at home Floyd went to San Francisco, where he boarded a Liberty ship.

"We departed around the middle of October and arrived in Korea on the third day of November 1950, in Inchon," he said. "We were sent north and joined the 2nd Infantry Division."

Floyd says, "Frost bite was the worst, brought on by the cold weather. The first winter of the Korean War we suffered from frozen rations, icy terrain, jammed weapons, and shortage of cold weather gear. We wrapped towels around our heads to protect our ears and doubled or tripled layers of clothing. We lost good soldiers with the loss of fingers, toes, and ears, as we waited for the cold weather gear."

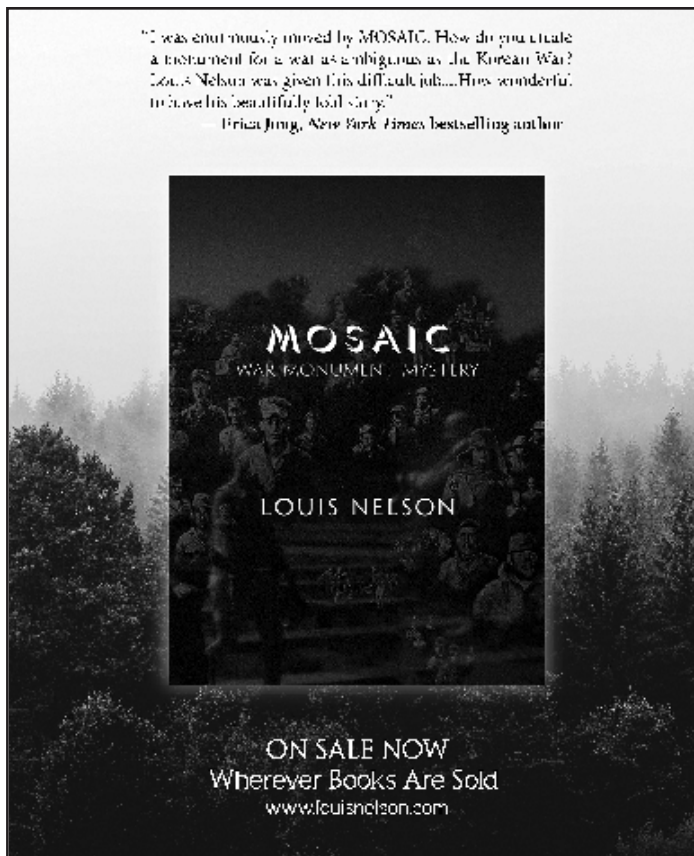
He and his company were stationed in Uijeong-bu, a city south of the 38th Parallel. From there they were moved to Pyongyang, North Korea. There was fighting by the time Floyd arrived in November, 1950. Then the Chinese joined the battle and U.S. troops were forced to retreat. They were unprepared for the thousands of Chinese who were loudly blowing bugles.

The army retreated to Seoul, South Korea. Their job was to guard the Han River Bridge as South Korean civilians were leaving Seoul southbound to escape the communists. The troops were to leave open a lane in the bridge so people could pass while the army moved military equipment. Sometimes they had to order refugees to move out of the way, in order to get jeeps and equipment across the Han River.

It was a very bad situation, and many local Koreans suffered. The people had no water and many of them were sick with dysentery. This happened in November 1950. The 289th guarded the crossing until January 4, 1951, when it was destroyed to keep the Chinese Communist Forces from advancing.

Floyd remembers seeing a little boy crying in one corner of the bridge. Even now, after 70 years, that image of the boy haunts him. "Why didn't I snatch him and bring him to safety?" he asks.

His group then went to Kimpo air base, located on the western



Floyd remembers seeing a little boy crying in one corner of the bridge. Even now, after 70 years, that image of the boy haunts him. “Why didn’t I snatch him and bring him to safety?” he asks.

edge of Seoul. Kimpoo became an important base for American and UN forces. Here Floyd’s company stayed for four to five days to recuperate. Then his group was sent to Suwon, a city south of Seoul.

Floyd was moved to Koje-Do prison camp, the largest one for communist POWs, both North Korean and Chinese. There were over 170,000 prisoners, and U.S. and UN troops had to guard and oversee this operation. Koje-do prison was located on a 150-square-mile island 20 miles off the southeastern coast of South Korea.

With so many prisoners, it was impossible to tell who was there. So the U.S. decided to fingerprint each prisoner. Prisoners rebelled at this task and in the course of controlling them, 30 inmates were killed. Fighting was rampant between prisoners and guards.

Beginning in March 1952, the prisoners went on a hunger strike and there was a riot. The commanding officer, General Dodd, went into the camps to negotiate but was captured by the prisoners. The American forces could not find the general, since there were many barracks, and the general was moved from one barrack to another to keep his location secret.

The prisoners put on a mock trial with General Dodd and later released him. Meanwhile, his replacement was General Colson, who could only watch as any military action would have risked killing General Dodd. In the end both generals were reduced in rank to colonel—an embarrassing event in the prison camp.

Floyd stayed in this POW camp for 11 months, then was sent home to the USA in March 1952.

After the Korean War

Floyd says, “I was to be separated from the military, and my intention was to leave and return to school. [But] President Harry Truman extended everyone’s service for an additional year. After a furlough of 30 days I was assigned to Fort Jackson to serve the remaining time.

“After a couple of months, I received orders for assignment in France. I could have gone to personnel and had the order revoked because I had less than one year remaining, but I did not, and I went to France. There I met my sweetheart of 64 years. So, I have to thank the President of the United States for my happiness all of those years, for if he had not extended my service I would not have made the journey to France, and met my wife.”

Floyd’s wife Myriam was born in a small city in France, Pompei. After one year of military duty, Floyd wanted to stay in France to be with Myriam, so he enlisted for three more years. They were married there and returned to the States in 1955. Married for 64 years, she passed away in 2016.

Floyd was a military instructor at a Woodlawn High School in Shreveport, Louisiana, for 25 years.

Guarding the Front Gate

By Robert Casbeer

Thirty-nine days before the Korean War Armistice on July 27, 1953, Sigmund Rhee, President of South Korea, turned a large number of North Korean and Chinese prisoners loose behind the lines during the night. Our Company, on receiving the news the next morning, went on full alert.

Being an Ordinance Company in Seoul, our rifles were stored in the Company supply room. Everyone rushed the supply room door to get his weapon. I arrived just late enough to watch the guys pile up at the supply room half-door. The first two guys turned around with their weapons and could not move because of the guys pushing and shoving to get their weapon. The two guys with their weapons blocked the doorway. It was not a pleasant sight.

About that time, two large sergeants 1st class arrived, shouting for the troops to line up. The guys either did not hear them or thought they could line up after they got their rifles. The two sergeants approached the first guy they came to, grabbed his arms from behind, and threw him on his back, doing the same with the next guys, etc.

I did not see any more and never did get a rifle because another sergeant got me and a brand new Pfc. and took the two of us to a large, brick, burned-out barracks used by the Japanese when they occupied Korea for about 40 years. Inside was an eight-foot square platform constructed at the 2nd floor level with a wooden ladder going up to it.

We went up the ladder and there was a 30 caliber machine gun with a full container of ammunition. The sergeant said that the PFC and I were in charge of guarding the front gate, located a few yards away. I immediately told the sergeant I had never received any instruction or ever fired a machine gun. Neither had the PFC.

The sergeant said that was okay, as someone would come to help if needed. He left us there. It was a long 4 or 5 hours until we were relieved, fully expecting a frontal attack on the front gate at any minute. There was absolutely no danger at any time, but we did not know that.

The Korean War could have possibly ended after the first year when both sides were lined up along the 38th parallel. North Korea and the Chinese expected the UN to return all prisoners. Not all North Korean and Chinese prisoners wanted to return and it was against the Geneva Convention for the United Nations to force them to return. So President Rhee sorted out a large number of troops that did not want to return north and freed them.

Most of them went directly into the South Korean army or were absorbed into the civilian population. There was never any violation of good behavior. The UN could then return all prisoners and the armistice occurred 39 days later.

Robert B. Casbeer, 8th Army/59th Ord GP/30th Ord H M Bn/568 Ord H M Co., 3027 Lakefield Rd., York, PA 17402

MIAs ID'd

The remains of the following Chosin veterans have been identified recently:

Army Cpl. Marvin D. Actkinson, 18, was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

Army Cpl. Robert C. Agard, Jr., 19, of Buffalo, New York, was a member of 2nd Platoon, 24th Reconnaissance Company, 24th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on July 19 while conducting a night recon patrol with his unit near Taejon, South Korea. He was never found, nor were any remains recovered that could be identified as Agard. He was declared non-recoverable in January 1956.

Army Sgt. Howard R. Belden, 19, was a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 1, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

Army Cpl. Pete Conley, 19, of Chapmanville, West Virginia, was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 12, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Conley will be buried in Pecks Hill, West Virginia. The date has yet to be determined.

Army Pfc. Louis N. Crosby, 18, of Orangeburg, South Carolina, was a member of Company A, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 1, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Crosby will be buried Aug. 18, 2021, in his hometown.

Army Sgt. Stanley L. DeWitt, 18, of Royal City, Indiana, was accounted for June 5, 2020. In late 1950, DeWitt was a member of Medical Detachment, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 6, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

Army Pfc. Don D. Dowler, Jr., 18, was accounted for Sept. 23, 2021. In late 1950, Dowler was a member of Company D, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

Marine Pfc. Henry E. Ellis, 22, of Roanoke, Virginia, was a member of Headquarters Company, 1st Service Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He was killed in action on Nov. 30, 1950, while defending the convoy of which he was a member near Koto-ri, North Korea. Ellis was buried Aug. 23, 2021, in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Army Pvt. Donald A. Fabrize, 17, of Cayuga, New York, was accounted for Sept. 21, 2020. He was a member of Company B, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. He was reported

killed in action on July 16, 1950 during battle defending, then withdrawing from, positions along the Kum River in South Korea. His remains could not be immediately located or recovered. The Army deemed Fabrize non-recoverable on Jan. 16, 1956.

Army Cpl. Kenneth R. Foreman, 19, of Mount Orab, Ohio, was a member of Company A, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

Army Cpl. Charles E. Lee, 18, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was accounted for June 14, 2021. In July 1950, Lee was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on July 20 after his unit was forced to retreat from the vicinity of Taejon, South Korea. He was never found, nor were any remains recovered that could be identified as Lee. He was declared non-recoverable in January 1956.

Army 1st Lt. Anthony R. Mazzulla, 26, of the Bronx, New York, was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, after a fighting withdrawal near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

Army 1st Lt. Thomas J. Redgate, 24, of Brighton, Massachusetts, was a member of Battery A, 48th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 11, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered.

Army Cpl. Walter A. Smead, 24, was a member of Battery A, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 6, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Interment services are pending.

Army Pfc. Michaux Turbeville, 31, of Dillon, South Carolina, was a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 1, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

To see the most up-to-date statistics on DPAA recovery efforts for those unaccounted for from the Korean War, go to the Korean War fact sheet on the DPAA website at:

<https://www.dpaa.mil/Resources/Fact-Sheets/Article-View/Article/569610/progress-on-korean-war-personnel-accounting/>

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil, or find us on social media at www.facebook.com/dodpaa or <https://www.linkedin.com/company/defense-pow-mia-accounting-agency>.

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

PO 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 - \$25.00 | MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00
Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages 35 and Under: \$600

Ages 36 - 50: \$450

Ages 51 - 65: \$300

Ages 66 - 79: \$150

Ages 80 & up: \$75

Please Check One: ☐ New Member

☐ Renewal Member # _____

Please Check One:	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member (<input type="checkbox"/> KATUSA?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Life Member (<input type="checkbox"/> KATUSA?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Medal Of Honor
<input type="checkbox"/> Ex-POW			<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Star Spouse/Parent	

(Please Print)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Apartment or Unit #(if any) _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Year of Birth _____

Email _____

Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # _____

-All applicants for Regular Membership please provide the following information-

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Division _____

Regiment _____

Battalion _____

Company _____

Other _____

Service Branch

☐ Army

☐ Air Force

☐ Navy

☐ Marines

☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service:

WithIN Korea were: (See criteria below)

From: _____ To: _____

Without Korea were: (See criteria below)

From: _____ To: _____

How did you hear about the KWVA? ☐ KWVA member, ☐ Internet, ☐ Google, ☐ KWVA Website, ☐ Facebook, ☐ Email, ☐ Magazine, ☐ Newspaper, ☐ YouTube, ☐ Twitter, ☐ Other: _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me 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: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA - Mail to: KWVA Membership Office - PO Box 407 - Charleston, IL 61920-0407.

(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX

Expiration Date ____/____/____ V-Code _____ Signature _____

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

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

Check Only One Category

- ☐ **KATUSA:** I served in the Korean War as a member of the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army Forces. I have since relocated to the United States and became a United States Citizen on: Month ____ Day ____ Year _____. (Verification will be required)
- ☐ **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 during the Korean 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.

"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 ____

Check HERE If GIFT Membership

- ☐ **GIFT Membership:** I certify, under penalty of law, that to the best of my knowledge, ALL of the information I have provided about the Applicant is true and correct. I have included the required payment with this application.

Signature: _____ Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Adopted 3/13/2019, R3 Approved 10/27/2020

[KWVA Membership Application Form Page 2]



Membership is Our Strength

It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you paid to become eligible to join



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

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

A. Regular Members.

1. **Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, is eligible for membership if:
 - a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or
 - b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955, or
 - c. Said service was as a member of the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army (KATUSA) any time September 3, 1945 to Present, who has relocated to and become a citizen of the United States of America.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any person qualifying to be a Regular Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person qualifying to be a Regular Member and was 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.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular Membership; and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

C. 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 NATIONAL 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.us

The Graybeards Submission Guidelines

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.

Editor's Office Hours

Bear in mind that the editor is not a full-time employee of the KWVA. He maintains approximate office hours. They are 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday.

Photo Captions

Whenever possible, please identify the subjects in photos you submit. We realize that is not always possible, especially in group photos. But, when you can, identify them, use designations such as (R-L), (L-R), (Standing, L-R), (Seated, L-R), etc. And, please write subjects' names as legibly as possible. We can usually figure out who the KWVA members are, but we cannot guess at non-members' identities.

Photo Limits

From time to time we have to limit the number of photos we include with Chapter or Tell America news. We receive a lot of submissions in both categories, and we have a limited number of pages. So, in the interest of fairness, we try to spread the coverage.

MOH Recipient Duane Dewey Goes to Guard Gates

Duane Edgar Dewey passed away at Clyde E Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home in St. Augustine, Florida on October 11, 2021. Duane, the second to last living MOH recipient from the Korean War, was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan to Ernest and Mabel (Dorman) Dewey, on November 16, 1931. Duane served on the front lines of the Korean War with Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA.

On April 16, 1952, Corporal Dewey, although wounded by an enemy grenade, smothered another exploding grenade with his own body to save the life of a corpsman and the other Marines around him. For that action he received the Medal of Honor, the U.S. military's highest decoration for valor, on April 6, 1952. After separating from the Marines, Duane worked at Everett Piano Company in South Haven for a few years prior to attending Michigan Veteran's Vocational School at Pine Lake, MI. There he learned to repair office machines, and after completion, he opened his own business, South Haven Office Machines. He also drove school buses for South Haven Public Schools for several years.

Duane greatly enjoyed hunting, fishing and playing cards. He enjoyed getting together with his veteran buddies, especially if they were involved in any type of fund-raising event for the AMVETS, American Legion, or VFW. He also enjoyed traveling to attend E-2-5 annual reunions, Congressional Medal of Honor Society annual meetings, and to Medal of Honor Host City Gainesville, Texas to attend annual celebrations for Medal of Honor recipients.

Duane was a member of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, the Korean War Veterans Association of Gainesville FL, Navy League of the United States, 1st Marine Division Association, F. & A. M. Lodge #370 of Luther MI, South Haven Moose Lodge #697, past Commander and Life member of VFW Post #667 of South Haven, life member of the American Legion Post #49 of South Haven, and a life member and past Chaplain of the Duane E Dewey AMVETS Post #1988 of Baldwin, MI.

Duane was buried at the Bushnell, FL, VA National Cemetery on November 16, 2021. KWVA National President Jeffrey Brodeur and KWVA Gainesville, FL, Ch. 267 members attended the ceremony.

Duane Dewey in later years



Duane Dewey's MOH displayed at his funeral

His citation reads:



**U.S. Marine
Duane Dewey**

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a gunner in a machine-gun platoon of Company E, in action against enemy aggressor forces. When an enemy grenade landed close to his position while he and his assistant gunner were receiving medical attention for their wounds during a fierce night attack by numerically superior hostile forces, Cpl. Dewey, although suffering intense pain, immediately pulled the corpsman to the ground and, shouting a warning to the other Marines around him, bravely smothered the deadly missile with his body, personally absorbing the full force of the explosion to save his comrades from possible injury or death. His indomitable courage, outstanding initiative, and valiant efforts in behalf of others in the face of almost certain death reflect the highest credit upon Cpl. Dewey and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.



Folded flag for Duane Dewey



Marine presents flag at Duane Dewey's funeral



On April 16, 1952, Corporal Dewey, although wounded by an enemy grenade, smothered another exploding grenade with his own body to save the life of a corps-man and the other Marines around him.



Attendees honor Duane Dewey at his funeral



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

WILLIAM A. POGUE

ARIZONA

LUMIR P. HOUSER
HAROLD C. HUSTON
SHELBY R. RAMA

CALIFORNIA

KENNETH FLOYD BURRIS
MICHAEL J. 'MIKE' GLAZZY
GEORGE B. POOCHIGIAN
RAUL RAMIREZ
RICHARD L. SUNG

FLORIDA

JAMES D. CROUCH
DUANE E. DEWEY
ROBERT J. ESTES
JOHN A. HEATH
HAROLD N. LATEN
ROBERT H. LEON
RAYMOND L. MICHAEL JR.
SAVERIO 'SAM' MIELE
ERNEST W. ROUGHTON
THOMAS J. RUFFO
STEPHEN J. SZAPOR

GEORGIA

CLINTON L. HOWELL
ARISTIDES G. POULOS

HAWAII

JOHN S. CARROLL
DAVID K. KAUHAHAHA
HARRY M. TAKANE

ILLINOIS

ROBERT P. FISHER
HARLAN E. JACOBSON
EUGENE H. KUECHLE
KENNETH STICKA

MAINE

JAMES T. BAIR
FLOYD L. BELMAIN

MARYLAND

CONRAD E. BEARD
GENE E. TOMS

MASSACHUSETTS

JAMES P. MCINERNEY
ERNEST C. SOFIS
ANTHONY J. SOUSA SR.

MINNESOTA

KENNETH M. HENNEN

MISSOURI

VON G. HIX

NEVADA

BASILIO MACALINO

NEW HAMPSHIRE

ROBERT G. OBERG
GEORGE E. REASOR

NEW JERSEY

ROBERT D. HINKLE
RALPH M. LANZA
LOUIS G. MANGIERI

NEW MEXICO

WALLACE D. HENDERSON

NEW YORK

JAMES A. BRANT
JOHN P. CAFFREY
ROBERT J. COLWELL JR.
PETER W. CUTHBERT
STAN GOLDWASSER
RICHARD C. GRAD
JOHN D. 'JACK' HEALY
CHAUNCEY HUESTIS
RICHARD A. HUNZIKER
JERRY F. KEOHANE
JACK E. LEE
JACK LEFF
ARNOLD T. SAVARESE

OHIO

SAM BETOUNES
RICHARD L. BROKA
EVERETT E. 'BILL' CLINGER
WALTER L. FELVER
JAMES R. ILLER
PHILLIP H. KAUFFMAN
EARL T. 'TUTT' LAMBERT
CHRIS A. LIAEFF
JOSEPH W. RUTHERFORD
EUGENE T. WEBER

PENNSYLVANIA

WILLIAM J. BALTOZER
ALBERT A. FOWLER

SOUTH CAROLINA

JOSEPH B. COCKE
CLARENCE E. COMPTON JR.
ARTHUR L. GREER
DEAN HOWELL
PAUL P. KARNS
BARBARA R. WOOTEN

TEXAS

WALTER N. BEENE
JOSEPH G. HALPIN JR.
MARTHON B. HOGAN
WADE L. JAMES
BEN L. SCHRANIL

VIRGINIA

ALBERT A. DEBNAR
JOHN J. KRONENBERGER
JOSEPH PEREZ

WASHINGTON

WILLIAM G. HOFMANN
WALLY J. WAINWRIGHT
DONALD N. YINGLING

WEST VIRGINIA

CHARLES C. SCOTT

WISCONSIN

DALBERT H. FLETCHER

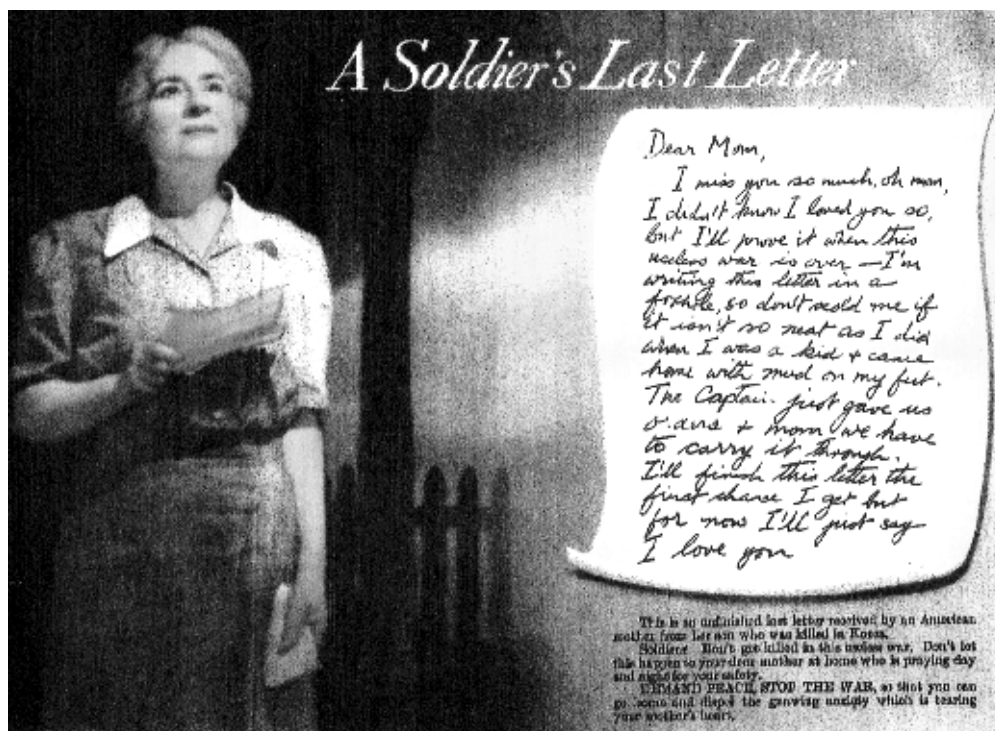
WYOMING

MARTIN C. COSAT

More propaganda

While reading the article about propaganda in the September/October issue, p. 68, I was reminded that I have the leaflet pictured nearby that was dropped on my unit while I was serving with the 7th Inf. Div. Ordnance Co. B in 1953.

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The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____ Year of Birth _____

Member # _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Primary Unit of service during Korean War _____

Submitted by _____

Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: **Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

Photos Submitted for Publication in The Graybeards

Whenever possible, please identify the subjects in photos you submit. We realize that is not always possible, especially in group photos. But, when you can, identify them, use designations such as (R-L), (L-R), (Standing, L-R), (Seated, L-R), etc.

And, please write subjects' names as legibly as possible. We can usually figure out who the KWVA members are, but we cannot guess at non-members' identities.



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OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and nothing quite announces the coming of the holiday season like festive decorations. The Holiday Shop, Flower Market features the decorations needed to add for Christmas cheer. The selection includes affordable Christmas trees in different sizes, as well as wreaths, ribbons, snowmen, candles, bells, ornaments, lights and more. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kristina Overton, 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs/Published December 10, 2012)