

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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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.
In Honor of Colonel William Weber, Founder of Korean War Memorial Foundation.



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From the President

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

**To our KWVA
Members and officers;**

The KWVA has been very busy. We have been receiving donations, new members and people buying our products on a daily basis. Everyone will be happy at the generosity of our members from our fundraiser. We raised almost \$88,000 thanks to Vice President Tom McHugh and the generous support of our membership.

Some of our funds are used for the KWVA Scholarship Program which will be coordinated by our new KWVA Scholarship Program National Director David Pickett. One scholarship for sure the board agreed on was the Colonel Bill Weber Scholarship. Bill was a friend of the KWVA and founder of our Korean War Memorial.

KWVA Donations have been sent to the Walter Reed Society that supports our wounded warriors at Walter Reed National Medical Center at Bethesda, Wreaths Across America, 2nd Infantry Division Association Memorial Foundation, and DDS4Vets, which recently donated three service dogs to our Marines who were wounded at the Kabul Airport catastrophe. The members should be proud their funds are going to great charities that support our wounded veterans and memorialize our Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans.

I, Warren Wiedhahn, Rocky Harder, and Fred Lash attended a meeting at the Marine Corps National Museum at Quantico with representatives from the Korean War Peace Museum in Busan. They would like Korean War artifacts for the museum in Busan and will pay

The KWVA has been very busy. We have been receiving donations, new members and people buying our products on a daily basis. Everyone will be happy at the generosity of our members from our fundraiser.

the freight for the artifacts. Information is on our Facebook page and at our office.

The KWVA San Antonio National Membership meeting was a complete success. Tom Cacy put together a great program with trips to the USO at Brooke Army Medical Center, a cruise of the Riverwalk, and a tour of the Alamo. The members voted on several items, including a possible reunion with the Chosin Few in D.C. next year.

New officers David Pickett and Fred Lash were sworn in as National Directors. DPAA POW/MIA Director Kelly McKeague briefed the membership and filled in as a guest speaker at our banquet. Houston Korean Consulate General Ahn and his wife Molly were present and addressed the membership.

Elections are coming up. We want members to throw their hats in and run for National office.

Annalie Weber passed recently and joined her husband Bill on the other side. God Bless Bill and Annalie. Their contribution to the legacy of the Korean War will never be forgotten. Bill was always supportive of our Korean Defense Veterans and his friendship was always valued.

We just returned from Veterans Day Ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and the Korean War

Memorial. (See the photo spread on page 5.) I, KWVA National Director Rocky Harder, and KWVA National Secretary Harold Trieber laid the KWVA Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier after the Veterans Day ceremony conducted by VA Secretary Dennis McDonough and Vice President Kamala Harris.

A steady downpour continued into the afternoon, when we were joined by KWVA National Treasurer Joe Harman and his son Philip, who is a Legacy member, to lay the KWVA Wreath at the Korean War Memorial. Several dignitaries made speeches at the Memorial, including the Korean Ambassador Cho Tae-yong. The Korean War Memorial Foundation did an outstanding job on the Wall of Remembrance. I thank all the KWVA members and chapters who donated. Although the crowd was light and the rain was heavy, the KWVA completed its mission to honor our fallen.

We presented a KWVA donation to the Walter Reed Society at Bethesda and a plaque and challenge coins to the 7th floor TBI Ward staff and patients. We linked up with the *Stars and Stripes* and personnel at the Washington Navy Yard Museum to partner up and bring in new members to the KWVA and have members who are U.S. Navy Korean War veterans send artifacts to display in the museum.

Overall, it is been a productive time for the KWVA. I am proud of our Board and members for their continuing dedication to the KWVA.

Freedom is not Free
Jeffrey J. Brodeur,
KWVA National President

Have a Mini-Reunion?

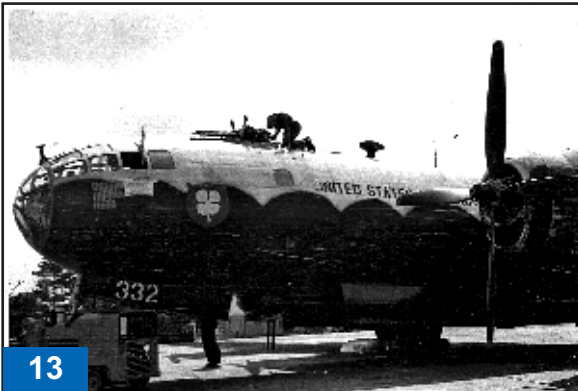
Send your photos and a short write-up to

The Graybeards editor

for publication!

Sharparthur@aol.com

COVER: Pre-decorated Christmas trees in different colors are sold at the Holiday Shop, Flower Market at the Express Bus Terminal in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The market offers a varied selection of holiday decorations. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kristina Overton)



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President's Photo Page

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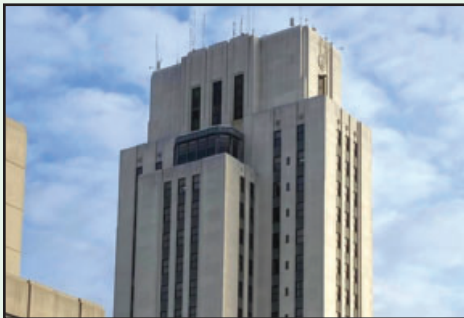
Jeff Brodeur, 3rd from right, and Harold Trieber, far right, present plaque to Walter Reed 7th Floor TEI staff members



Jeff Brodeur and Harold Trieber present check at Bethesda Hospital to Walter Reed security officers, John Pierce and Dan Bullis



Harold Trieber, injured U.S. Navy Petty Officer, and Jeff Brodeur (L-R) at Bethesda



Walter Reed National Medical Center at Bethesda



Rocky Harder, VDNC Asst. Director Michael Taylor, Jeff Brodeur, and Harold Trieber (L-R) staying dry at Veterans Day event



Sentinels walking post at Arlington National Cemetery



Harold Trieber, Rocky Harder, Jeff Brodeur, and Joe Harman (L-R) at Korean War Veterans Memorial



Guard members massed at Arlington National Cemetery ceremony



Joe Harman, Rocky Harder, Jeff Brodeur, and Harold Trieber (L-R) standing by KWVA wreath at Wall of Remembrance



Presenting the Colors at Arlington National Cemetery commemoration



Guests, including Jeff Brodeur, 2nd from right, stand at attention during ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery



Harold Trieber, Jeff Brodeur, and Rocky Harder (L-R) display KWVA wreath at Arlington National Cemetery



From the Secretary

Harold Trieber



A salute to Arnold Fisher

"Don't use the word charity with regard to the military. This is duty." (Arnold Fisher)

Korean War veteran Cpl. Arnold Fisher, who died on September 11, 2022, delivered those words to a Wall Street Journal reporter in a 2006 interview. That Fisher was a Korean War veteran was not well known. He was better known for his work with Fisher House. He, like his uncle Zachary, was a prolific philanthropist. I thought you might like to know a little bit more about Arnold Fisher.

Arnold came about his devotion to the military from his firsthand experiences in the Army. He concentrated his post-Korean War philanthropic efforts on helping active members of the armed forces and veterans and their families. He was particularly interested in the welfare of warfighters who died or were wounded in action.

"We Americans have become less concerned about those who died for us than we are about the menu being planned for the family picnic," he told a Memorial Day audience aboard the museum ship USS Intrepid in New York on 2006. "Even with the nation at war in Iraq and Afghanistan, the picnics still come first. I apologize to you for carrying the burden of this nation's commitment to freedom and liberty alone."¹

That accounts for why he became so involved in veterans' affairs. Here's a partial list. He directed projects like:

- the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund's construction of the Center for the Intrepid, a physical rehabilitation center at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas for military personnel with amputations and severe burns
- the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) on the Navy campus in Bethesda, Maryland, a 72,000-square-foot state-of-the-art research, diagnosis and treatment center for service members diagnosed with traumatic brain injury and psychological health conditions
- ten Intrepid Spirit Centers, NICoE satellites on military bases to assist service members closer to their home bases

"Traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress are invisible wounds that we need to make visible. These men and women raised their right hands and swore allegiance to this country and when they go overseas and come back hurt we are obligated to get them the help they need," he said. "This country's obligation is to help (wounded service members)."²

He preferred to develop these projects on his own by raising funds from private sources. "We don't want government money," Mr. Fisher said. "I can build these things in half the

time at half the cost and twice the quality as the government."³

He wasn't averse to pushing the government to speed up projects.

"He enlisted Gen. Richard Cody, a former vice chief of staff of the Army, to help him slice through Defense Department bureaucracy in building medical facilities. When Pentagon officials quibbled about some of his projects, Mr. Fisher was known to slam his fist on the table and stalk out of the room, but only after vowing that he would never surrender."⁴

In some ways, he shamed the government into acting on veterans' behalves. Arnold raised money to provide larger benefits to survivors of troops killed in action. Then, the U.S. government increased such benefits and he moved on to new causes.

He served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Intrepid Museum Foundation and Vice Chairman of the Fisher House Foundation, which his uncle Zachary established. That is what he is known best for. It is the organization that builds comfort homes at which military and veterans' families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital. Arnold also oversaw the Fisher Brothers Annual Scholarship Fund for military children.

Even though he tried to work behind the scenes, people noticed his good deeds. The Congressional Medal of Honor Society gave him a Patriot Award for his lifelong commitment to philanthropy and service to the military community. He received the 2008 Presidential Citizens Medal from the White House and, in 2005, he became an Honorary Knight of the British Empire for his outstanding contribution to the welfare and well-being of families of British Armed Forces personnel and his leadership in support of closer UK-US Relations.

Even the U.S. Army recognized him for his philanthropy. In 2007 it saluted Arnold by promoting him from corporal, his rank during the Korean War, to honorary sergeant major. When the promotion was announced in 2007, Mr. Fisher quipped, "Where's my back pay?"⁵

He may have been a corporal in Korea but he was a five-star general when it came to serving his fellow veterans and their families after he came home. He served humanity quietly, without asking much in return. That is the mark of a true leader and soldier. He was both.

By the way, did anyone know him in Korea, in what unit he served, etc? We'd like to know.

¹ "Museum head says Memorial Day's meaning lost," Watertown, NY, Daily Times, May 30, 2006, p. 4

² "Invisible wounds made visible," New Bern, NC, Sun Journal, June 14, 2012, p. 5

³ Hagerty, James R., "Arnold Fisher Provided Better Care for Wounded Warriors," Wall Street Journal, Sept. 23, 2022

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

Volunteer Hours for KWVA

By Michele Bretz, National Director (2020-2023)

In fiscal year 2021, over 25,000 volunteers served more than 2.6 million volunteer hours. Individuals and partnering organizations gave over \$101 million in gifts and donations. Value added to the VA - more than \$175 million!

Why would you want to be a VA volunteer? One of the most important benefits of volunteering is the opportunity to explore and fulfill your passions. For many volunteers, that passion is serving veterans or the act of continuing to serve their fellow veterans. For others, their “why” is the chance to explore a new career field. For some, they like feeling like they are investing in an activity that is making a difference in their community.

During the KWVA Board and General Meetings, the question arose of what counts as a volunteer hour and who do we need to report it to. I asked the following question, “Can we count the number of hours that goes into producing a product such as a quilt and is given to a fellow veteran?” The answer was “YES!” Each of those quilts consists of 8 hours to make, 1 hour to deliver and distribute—and we donated 95 this past quarter! That’s a lot of hours!

Announcing New President of Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, Steve Lee

The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation’s (KWVMF) Board of Directors proudly welcomes Colonel Seung Joon “Steve” Lee, U.S. Army (Ret.), as the Foundation’s President. On October 18, 2022, Steve Lee replaced Mr. Jim Fisher, who retired after four decades of service to the United States, our veterans, and the ROK-U.S. Alliance.

“This transition is an important milestone for the Foundation,” said KWVMF Chairman, General John H. Tilelli, Jr., U.S. Army (Ret.). “The Foundation is truly grateful for Jim’s contributions, forethought, and exhaustive efforts during the construction of the Wall of Remembrance and refurbishment of the Korean War Veterans Memorial. His outstanding support in completing the project is a magnificent achievement. The newly renovated Memorial and the Wall of Remembrance will pay tribute to the Veterans, those Killed in Action, and the Families of the fallen. It will remind all that ‘Freedom Is Not Free’.”

General Tilelli continued, “Steve Lee comes to the Foundation with a great depth of experiences and heart for Korea Veterans and the U.S.-ROK Alliance. He has a stellar reputation for teamwork, bringing together people and organizations, and great initiatives and innovation.

Steve has over 25 years of experience with the Alliance and our Veterans, including the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/U.S. Forces Korea,

Joint Staff, Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Korea Defense Veterans Association. We look forward to his leadership and ideas to expand and grow the significance of the Memorial for this and future generations.”

Upon returning to my local VSN, I contacted Vicki Eaton, my point of contact, and explained my situation of donating lap quilts, crocheted blankets, fidget blankets, and bags to our Caregivers Program and to our Oncology Ward. Individuals need to contact their respective Center for Development and Civic Engagement, formerly known as Volunteer Service Department. Identify yourself as a member of KWVA and your chapter number or as an at-large member so that our organization is given credit.

A point of contact for the organization with information needs to be established. Once this is done, instruct all members of this procedure for your location. Each VSN has its own form that must be filled out and processed. Based on our National VAVS representative’s procedures, they will be contacting each registered VA CDCE and collecting the total number of hours completed.

If you can’t personally come in and volunteer but want to help, learn to take your hobby to help a fellow veteran by teaching or donating the finished product and get credit for our organization and your chapter! These hours can only be used for one registered organization!

The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation is a non-profit organization entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

“I am honored beyond words and truly thankful for this opportunity to continue supporting our Veterans, their families, and the vital ROK-U.S. Alliance,” stated Steve Lee. “I am also very thankful for my wife, Grace, and our children (Mariam, Caleb, Lincoln, and Ella) for their love and support.

“General Tilelli and Jim Fisher’s leadership and hard work provided one of the great Memorials in our nation. I am very much looking forward to working with the Foundation

Team and our many donors and supporters ... together we will ensure that the Korean War Veterans Memorial becomes a living center where Americans and Koreans can gather to honor the fallen, uphold the Alliance, and inspire current and future generations.”

The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation is a non-profit organization entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining the Korean War Veterans Memorial. The Memorial commemorates the sacrifices of the 5.8 million Americans who served in the U.S. armed services during the period of the Korean War (1950-1953). The Korean War was one of the hardest fought in our history. The Wall of Remembrance is a new, permanent addition to the Memorial with the names of more than 36,000 American servicemen and over 7,100 members of the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army (KATUSA). For more information, please visit the KWVMF’s website at <https://koreanwarvetsememorial.org/>.

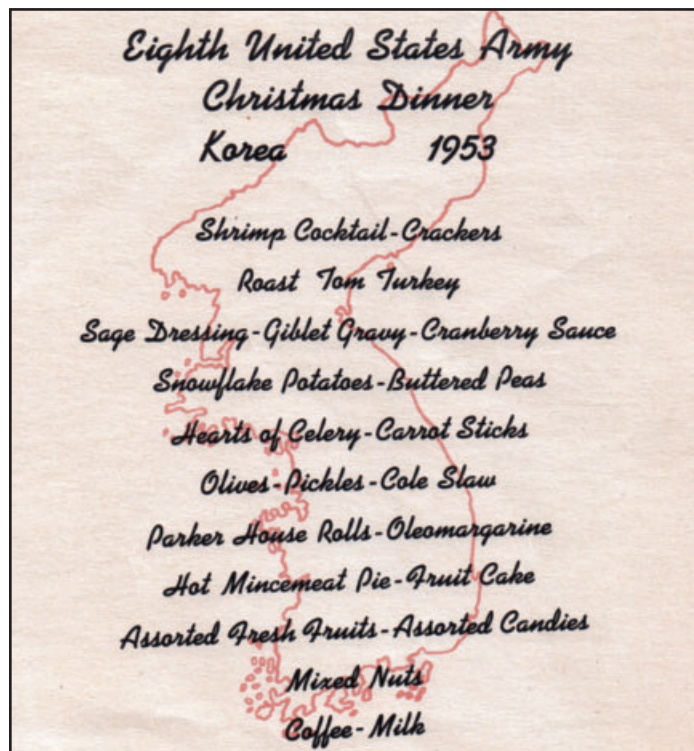
8th Army Christmas Chow

The 8th Army went all out to feed the troops at Christmas time in 1953. Jack Marr, who was on the island of Cheju with KMAG at POW Camp# 3 on Christmas Day that year, remembers it well.

Jack L. Marr, 4708 Wild Turkey Trl., Arlington, TX 76016



Front of 8th Army 1953 Christmas menu



Christmas dinner menu, 1953

Korean War Items wanted for Korean War Museum in Pusan, Korea

Recently several of our officers had a meeting with the Koreans from the United Nations Peace Memorial Hall at Marine Corps Museum. They are looking for artifacts, uniforms, medals etc. from the Korean War.

Many family members call and don't know what to do with their fathers, mothers' uncles' etc., items from the Korean War after they pass. Here's their chance to donate them.

The museum is willing to pay for shipping of the items to Korea. Feel free to contact the museum at www.unpm.or.kr, tekim@unpm.or.kr, or dhpark@unpm.or.kr.

Collecting the Korean War Veterans' Belongings

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the armistice of the Korean War in 2023, we are waiting for veterans' donations or loans of their belongings related to the Korean War. All donated and loaned belongings will be exhibited on a memorial exhibition from 2023.

What belongings are to be donated/loaned?

- The Korean War veterans' belongings. (military supplies, badges, records, etc.)
- Any materials that can show us the Korean War situation.

How to honor the donors/loaners?

- Bestowing a donation/loan certificate, and a certificate of appreciation.
- Listing donors'/loaners' names on an online hall of fame.
- Holding a special exhibition of donated/loaned relics.

How to donate/loan belongings?

- Contact us and counsel the process.
- Visit UNPM or send the items by parcel service (C.O.D.).

Contact Us

Tel : +82-51-901-1406 / 1451
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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.

Gunther, Havlat, Knauss, and Veterans Day

By Joseph Reagan, Director of Military and Veterans Outreach for Wreaths Across America and Afghanistan Veteran.

COLUMBIA FALLS, ME. — October 28, 2022 — The 11th hour has become synonymous with Veterans Day, originally called Armistice day, in recognition of the document signed at the 11th hour, or the 11th day, of the 11th month. In reality, the Armistice ending the war to end all wars was signed around 5 a.m. on November 11th. Over the course of the next 6 hours, nearly 3,000 men would lose their lives in the final hours of a war that had already claimed the lives of 20 million military personnel. The final death of WWI came at 10:59 a.m., one minute before the guns of war would fall silent.

Private Henry Gunther was a German-American drafted in the fall of 1917; most accounts state that his final actions were motivated by Gunther's need to demonstrate that he was "courageous and all-American." A chaplain from Gunther's unit recounted, "As 11 a.m. approached, Gunther suddenly rose with his rifle and ran through thick fog. His men shouted for him to stop. So did the Germans. But Gunther kept running and firing. One machine gun blast later, he was dead. His death was recorded at 10:59 a.m.

In every conflict, inevitably a final service member pays the ultimate sacrifice. In World War II, Private Charlie Havlat, the son of Czech immigrants, in the closing days of the war, found himself liberating his parents' former homeland — word of the cease-fire reached his position minutes after he was killed.

Officially, the U.S. has never declared a final casualty in the Korean War; since the armistice was signed, nearly 100 U.S. Soldiers have been killed in combat on the Korean peninsula.

On April 29, 1975, Charles McMahon and Darwin Judge were two of a small number of Marines tasked with safeguarding the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. They had been deployed for only 11 days when they were killed by a rocket attack.

While we may only celebrate Veterans Day with a few moments of silence each year, we have an opportunity to use those moments to find our own way to serve as part of our commitment to living up to the legacy of our Veterans.

The U.S. would complete the process of withdrawing from Saigon the following day. Staff Sergeant Ryan Knauss was the last of the 2,461 Service Members who died in Afghanistan; he, along with 12 of his comrades, was killed in a suicide attack during the withdrawal from Kabul.

In every war, there is always one that must fill the dignified but dubious role in history as being the last to give the full measure of devotion. Each year on the 11th day of the 11th month as a nation we pause, not only to honor those that have given their lives, but for all those who believed so deeply in American exceptionalism that they were willing to give their lives to defend it.

For most Americans talking about war is conceptual, something learned through history books, news reports, and movies — those that have served do not have that luxury. Not only should we remember that the democratic principles we hold so dear have been defended by generations of Americans whom we honor on Veterans Day, but more importantly we should take inspiration from that sacrifice. Our country, despite all our self-imposed differences, needs to look to our Veterans and see that there are no divisions in a foxhole — there are only those who stand in defense of democracy and those who stand against it.

While we may only celebrate Veterans Day with a few moments of silence each year, we have an opportunity to use those moments to find our own way to serve as part of our commitment to living up to the legacy of our Veterans. When the Armistice was signed in 1918 when the Japanese surrendered, and when the last flights departed Kabul and Saigon — these were not simply endings

— they were new beginnings. We honor those who serve by recommitting ourselves to making the sacrifices necessary to preserve our way of life.

As Adlai Stevenson once stated, "Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime." Let this Veterans Day be a new beginning. Go forth and find a way to serve our nation, our communities, and each other — we owe it to our Veterans.

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Joseph Reagan is the Director of Military and Veterans Outreach for Wreaths Across America. He has over 10 years' experience working with leaders within Government, non-profit, and Fortune 500 companies to develop sustainable strategies supporting National Security, and Veterans Health. He served 8 years on active duty as an officer in the U.S. Army including two tours to Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division. He is a graduate of Norwich University, the oldest private military college in the country.

About Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. The organization's mission — Remember, Honor, Teach — is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in December at Arlington, as well as at thousands of veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

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Introducing the “Inadvertent Hero” Medal[®]

In recent years participation medals have fallen into vogue in the U.S. Show up, you win a medal. Such medals make the recipients feel good, even though they haven't done anything to earn them. The military has shared in the practice as well.

General Almond, for instance, was famous for distributing medals for practically no reason. Service members wear PUC badges even if they didn't contribute to the deeds done by the unit that received the citation. Cold War certificates are available for service members who served between conflicts without a chance to show their mettle in combat. Well, I am proposing a new military award that is based on deeds done but not recognized with a badge, ribbon, certificate, or verbal “Good job.” It's called the “Inadvertent Hero” medal?

It's sort of the reverse of a participation medal. Recipients of those awards participate in something but really don't do anything to earn them. The winners of the Inadvertent Hero medal are the people who participate in something but don't earn any awards. Here's an example from the Hungnam evacuation in December 1950:

Near shore are several large landing craft engaged in a mercy mission. They're loading, packing in friendly Koreans—pathetic refugees, children, shabby bundles.

Flee Communist Revenge.

These people will be taken from the scene of battle, their safety assured—away from the vicious Communists who would pay them off, in torture and, death, for cooperating with our forces. By their removal we also further aid the food situation inside our perimeter, which might grow short.

Near panic accompanies one loading. As a ship fills, the landing ramp raises several feet and people are dumped into the icy waters where they swim around the side and try to scramble aboard.

A few of our sailors drop their pea-coats and jump in to save three

How many soldiers on the front lines who benefited from the air support flown by Army, Navy, and Air Force fighter pilots could name one of those brave aviators or recognize them when they walked down a street?

who are sinking and bring them back to the beach, back to a fair place in the long, nervous line. They are comforted; they fear that there will not be room for all. (“Beachhead struggle goes on amid confusion and death,” Washington D.C. Evening Star, Dec. 22, 1950, p. A-3)

It's a safe bet none of those sailors won any medals for their heroism. They saw people in need, jumped into the cold water, saved their lives, and went back to work. The men were inadvertent heroes. We all know somebody like them.

How many soldiers on the front lines who benefited from the air support flown by Army, Navy, and Air Force fighter pilots could name one of those brave aviators or recognize them when they walked down a street? Probably not one. How about the sailors on the Navy warships that fired countless rounds into enemy positions on the Korean mainland to keep the Chinese and North Koreans at bay? Ditto. Those aviators and sailors did their jobs without ever knowing how much of an effect they were having on the enemy or benefiting the friendly forces. Inadvertent heroes—every one of them—yet unrewarded.

Think of the undermanned Signal Corps radio operators who worked almost alone on barren hilltops somewhere between the enemy and the allies to transmit and receive radio signals. They worked in hostile environments for days on end, never knowing if they were going to be relieved—or attacked. When their relief did show up they were not carrying rewards or forms of recognition. They were just going to do the same thing. It was their job. The benefits they provided were intangible and rewards were not part of their job. Yet, they were all candidates for Inadvertent Hero Medals that would never be authorized.

Remember the Chosin Reservoir and the

story of the Tootsie Roll drop that saved so many Marines and soldiers lives? The Marines needed 60mm mortar rounds they called “Tootsie Rolls.” They radioed an Air Force supply source. The operator who received the call had no idea that “Tootsie Rolls” was code for mortar rounds. So, he ordered actual Tootsie Rolls to be air dropped to the Marines.

The pilot who dropped them had no idea of what was in the payload. He just flew them in at great risk to himself and his crew. The candies did not help the mortarmen fire their weapons, but the Marines found practical uses for them. They provided sustenance and helped patch bullet holes in motor vehicle radiators. The radio operator and pilot inadvertently played a great role in helping the Marines fight their way to Hungnam. They did not know that, the Marines had no idea who they were, and everybody, heroes that they were, just went about doing their jobs. No one—not even General Almond—had medals for them for their participation.

So, it is for warfighters like those that the Inadvertent Hero Medal is intended. There may be a snag in the implementation of such an award though. As the imperious infomercial announcer said, “But wait!” How are we going to identify the people who qualify for it? After all, they were just doing their jobs and no one noticed who they were. The military can't just hand out medals for participation, can it?

Oh well, maybe not. I guess we will just have to settle for something less ostentatious. Tis the season to just say “Thanks” to all the men and women who would otherwise qualify for the mythical Inadvertent Hero Medal, especially our Korean War and Defense veterans. Meanwhile, we will go back to the planning board on establishing the criteria for the Inadvertent Hero Medal and getting it authorized.

Happy holidays—and Thanks.



H. Res. 1459: Acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of veterans of the Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans. 117th Congress (2021-2022)

On October 17, Acree Trivett from House Representative Lois Frankel's (D-FL-21) office contacted me about a resolution concerning our organization. The House of Representatives Veterans Affairs Committee had my information listed with them for our organization. Boy, did I feel important!

After initially reviewing the potential legislation and correcting as I saw fit, I contacted my assistant, Doug Voss, and Jeff Brodeur for confirmation on various aspects of the wording. We wanted the correct numbers to match the verbiage reflecting all veterans who had served during the timeframes, give accurate history, and remind the nation to never forget we are still present preserving democracy in South Korea.

Within one day, we had worked out the verbiage and an email was sent to all of the representatives with a deadline of

11/4/22, 17:00 hours, to sign on to this piece of legislation. By 10/26/22, we had been told that a second representative from the opposite party had signed on and the work really started to get others on board!

Rep. Lois Frankel introduced H. Res. 1459 on 11/10/22. The official title is "Acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of veterans of the Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans." A total of 38 bi-partisan co-sponsors signed on. The Resolution has been referred to House Committee of Veterans Affairs.

Please go to <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/1459> for further updates. Please contact your House Representative to add them to the list and get it passed! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at paintedneedle@aol.com or 828-989-8286. Let's get this passed before we lose more members!

Submit Your DNA to Identify a KIA/MIA

Before she died, my wife and our daughters submitted DNA in the event her brother's remains are ever recovered off Vietnam. I'm thinking that an article in *The Graybeards* may stir others to do the same. To that end I've attached a possible article for your consideration.

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 make 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 DNA 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
JBSA-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, 10 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

Reach Al McCarthy at mccarthy.albert@live.com

Brotherhoods and building a legacy

By George B. Graham

The Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) was created by a group of men feeling the need to come together in “Brotherhood”—a brotherhood of support and understanding about the costs of war. The history of the Korean War was so unfamiliar to so many in the world it had been given the moniker, “The Forgotten War.”

The KWVA was incorporated in the State of New York on June 25, 1985. At that time, the newly founded association stated its two leading purposes were to organize, promote and maintain an association of persons who have seen honorable service during the Korean War and to grant charters to groups of members at large of the Association. Just such a group of men existed in Rockford, Illinois and the surrounding areas.

Discussions, no doubt, with coffee in hand, had to have been taking place, focusing on the desire to become a chapter in the KWVA. The decision was made in 2001 to apply for official recognition as a chapter of the association. The application was approved and a charter was granted, dated December 17, 2001. On that date this group became officially known as Chapter 272.

The first presiding President was Mr. Joe Arbisi. His First Vice was Richard LoPiccolo. Joe and Richard, along with Ronald Harris as Treasurer, Jim Edson as Chaplain, and John Budzynski as Secretary, worked hard and established an organization that would mature into one of state and national honor. The four men mentioned were accompanied by the following men, in the creation of Chapter 272. They were: Louis Suit, Earl Noll, Richard Molander, David Pawlus, Charles Fiduccia Sr., Robert Moulan, Clyde Wells, Charles Reck and Myrl Fisher.

While honoring the goals of the national association, Chapter 272 developed many goals of their own. The members set out from the beginning to honor those who came home, while never forgetting those men and women who did not. Veterans have always been the first to honor the men and women known as Missing in Action.

Knowing those men and women could easily become “ghosts,” one of the goals the chapter set was to build a memorial, a “Place of Honor,” for all. A memorial so substantial, future generations would always have a place to come, sit and rest with their thoughts, or walk around, read the names, and place their hands upon the etched stones of those killed, and those still MIA. A task so daunting men of lesser stature might have thought “We are not up to the task.” Not the men of Chapter 272.

This task became an “all hands on deck” project. In a June 22, 2005 news release, Don Crosty, Chairman of the Memorial Committee, announced: “As of today, Chapter 272 of the KWVA will start an active fund raising campaign to construct a Korean War Memorial for the Greater Rockford area.” The goal was to raise over \$100,000 dollars! These men, with the war now 50+ years behind them, knew this project was going to be a huge undertaking.

In early 2005 President Jack Philbrick spoke to Mrs. Sam

Zammuto about establishing a Women’s Auxiliary. Former President Rich LoPiccolo had made this proposal prior to President Philbrick taking the reins. The women, survivors themselves, were anxious to form “The Auxiliary.” Like the men, they grabbed the “bull by the horns” and started planning pasta dinners, bake sales, and rummage sales.

The events were well advertised and well attended. Due to the seemingly inexhaustible energy of the Women’s Auxiliary, the financial goal did not seem as insurmountable.

Headline in Chapter 272 Newsletter, March 2006: **“Fund Raising Committee Formed & Working!”**

Mr. Stanley Mattson accepted the Chairmanship of the committee. Stanley immediately appointed Dr. Herbert Jackson, Joseph Arbisi, Rich LoPiccolo and Don Myrland to his committee. Within two weeks of work they had compiled lists with over 1,500 businesses and professional organizations that might support the memorial to be contacted.

Headline One Year Later March 2007: **“YOU DID IT!! With the combined efforts of the Women’s Auxiliary, and the Fund Raising Committee, we are presently holding over \$135,000.00 in investments and inventory.”**

With this announcement the ground breaking ceremonies were scheduled to take place in October of 2007. The event was well attended, including Webbs Norman, of the Rockford Park District. Nine months later, on July 27, 2008, the Tri-County Korean War Memorial was dedicated. Let’s recap the timeline to put this achievement into perspective.

- Don Crosty announced the project on June 22, 2005
- Following that, volunteers spent thousands of volunteer hours at fund raisers and knocking on doors of many generous businesses in the tri-county area
- The effort culminated with the dedication of the memorial on July 27, 2008—3 years and 1 month after the announcement

The date was significant. It was 55 years to the day from the signing of the armistice in 1953, ending combat action in Korea.

I would have loved to sit in on the meetings as the group tried to determine who would be the guest speaker at the dedication. Eventually, four-star Marine General James Cartwright was invited to speak, and proved to be up to the task! He told Rockford Register Star writer Cathy Bayer, “This is going to be hard.”

General Cartwright, 58 at the time, came home after 37 years in the Marines. His position at the time was vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, making him the nation’s second highest ranking military officer. With all the power his position had given him, requiring him to make decisions that would affect a nation, he was feeling a “weight” prior to stepping upon the stage.

He knew he was going to address several hundred guests, many local dignitaries, and dozens of veterans, while honoring the years the men and women of Chapter 272 had put into the goal of “Creating a Memorial” of honor. Hopefully, he could help

erase the moniker “Forgotten” as it applied to the Korean War. The General did both.

We are now 14+ years beyond the original dedication of a memorial that will outlive us all. We have reached a point in our chapter’s history where the hands of time have proven to be relentless. Those hands of time have been good to this organization. We have thrived, enjoyed hundreds of hours of camaraderie, and continued fundraising to keep the chapter in a position to take care of the memorial. At times we have created scholarships for college-bound students, and supported other chapters in need. Those same hands of time have seen many of our members pass away.

Having attended many “Final Salutes,” I feel comfortable saying, “None of those members who have passed will ever be forgotten.” Hopefully, neither will Chapter 272. As we celebrate our chapter’s “Final Formal Gathering,” we all know we have “done well.”

I salute those men who sat, drank coffee, and decided to apply for a “Chapter Number” back in 2001. I salute the men who accepted me as an “Associate Member” in 2005. I salute the women who, in 2005, jumped at the chance to work with the men in the development of our “Unforgettable Memorial” that sits on East Riverside Blvd., in Loves Park, Illinois.

Today my heart is full of love for all of you, who have allowed me to sit at the tables and listen, as you shared some of your heart-wrenching stories of combat. Many times I sat, listened, and sobbed along with many of the others.



Ch. 272's monument

This will not be my final salute to you as a group. This will not be my final salute to veterans everywhere. This will not be my final salute the all those men and women we know as “Missing in Action.”

My final salute will occur at the time my heart stops beating.

*George B Graham Jr.
Lifetime Associate Member of the
Korean War Veterans Association*

I can hear the guns, but not the chatter

While reading a recent *Graybeards*, I came across a tale told by Ron Richoux titled “The Shot Gun Rider,” March-April 2022, p. 22, telling about the racket caused by a .50 cal going off in close proximity. I immediately thought about my own experience when I was going through combat crew training at Randolph Field, TX in the fall of 1952.

I had already flown several training missions in B-29s, but those were stripped of their turrets to make more room. On one mission I was in a B-29 with guns in all its turrets, 4 .50s in the upper forward turret and 2 in the lower forward. My radio operator station was in the front of the airplane, directly behind the turrets, with the bomb bay just behind me.

The guns were remote controlled and were just big tubs, the upper right behind my head and the lower under it. I had never been so crammed in, but thought little of it, being nineteen years old. During the flight I was sitting there with my headset on when this horrible din sounded. I was terrified. I thought the airplane was coming apart.



I got out of my seat and looked at the navigator on the other side of the turret. He was sitting there calmly. I finally realized what the noise was. It was the sound of 6 .50s going off within 4 feet of me, plus all the brass from the top four landing in a pan under the turret. I flew many hours, including nineteen combat missions, but I was

never that scared again.

When we landed I told the crew to let me know in advance when they were going to fire the guns. When I was on the radio I wasn’t able to hear the interphone chatter.

*Richard Salmi, Daphne, AL 36526
Rickidin42@gmail.com*

The Losses of the 2d Inf. Div.

By Zing Zhou

In the July-August 2022 *Graybeards*, p.58, there were some discussions about the casualties of the 2d Inf. Div. from late 1950 to mid-1951. I would like to provide some numbers of the enormity and the context of the losses.

In early Feb 1951, the CG of the X Corps, General Edward Almond, failed to detect that several CCF Armies (eight divisions: 117, 118+, 120-, 124, 125-, 196, 197, 198) had zeroed in on his troops advancing from Hoengsong to Hongchon. On the evening of Feb 11th, the leading regiments of ROK 8th Div., as well as several support teams from US 2d Inf. Div., were surrounded and cut off north of Hoengsong, along the 15-km road from Sang Changbong-ri to Saemal to Hoengsong. The details could be found in Arthur Sharp's book, "The Hoengsong Valley Massacre: Command Collapse or Cover-up?" and Appleman's "Ridgway Duels For Korea," Chapter 10.

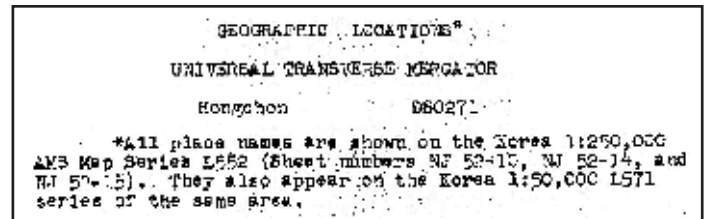
The losses were listed on Appleman, Page 249. I have taken time to study each record in Korean War Project's online database, focusing on the period from Feb 11 to 13. At least 917 US soldiers and 17 Dutch soldiers lost their lives due to the Battle of Hoengsong. The numbers include KIA, DOW, MIA who never made it back to friendly lines and POW who died before the truce. The breakdown by units is listed below.

It was a fiasco, but it was immediately overshadowed by the glorious stand of the 23d Regiment (also from the 2d Inf. Div.) at Chipyeong-ni, 30 km to the west of Hoengsong. From Feb 13th to the 15th the 23d was isolated by eight CCF regiments, and there were five additional regiments waiting in ambush on its withdrawal routes. The 23d prevailed, thus the glory of Chipyeong-ni completely hushed up the Hoengsong massacre, until the Marines advanced back to the Hoengsong battleground on March 2nd.

Later in May 1951, during the CCF Spring Offensive – 2nd Impulse, the 2d Inf. Div. bore the brunt of the main CCF attacks (Appleman Chapter 20). While two CCF armies and one NK Corps crumbled four ROK divisions on its right flank, the 2d Div. held its positions for almost 3 days under ceaseless attacks from seven CCF divisions (west to east: 29, 45, 44, 35, 181, 34, 31). This battle was known as the Battle of the Soyang River or "May Massacre." Although there were many things to be desired in the fighting withdrawal of the 23d and the 38th Regiments, the major defense line above Hongchon was intact.

I also studied each record in Korean War Project's online database for this period. At least 443 US soldiers and a dozen

#	Unit	#	Unit
14	13TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION Total	21	1ST RANGER INFANTRY COMPANY (AIRBORNE) Total
212	15TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (105MM) Total	111	23RD INFANTRY REGIMENT Total
3	17TH INFANTRY REGIMENT Total	2	24TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION Total
7	187TH AIRBORNE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM Total	2	17TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (105MM) Total
3	38TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (105MM) Total	2	18TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (105MM) Total
470	38TH INFANTRY REGIMENT Total	2	19TH INFANTRY REGIMENT Total
12	49TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (105MM) Total	1	77ND ARTILLERY TANK BATTALION Total
56	503RD FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (155MM) Total	1	82ND ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY AW BATTALION Total
36	82ND ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY AW BATTALION Total	21	9TH INFANTRY REGIMENT Total
104	9TH INFANTRY REGIMENT Total	24	US Grand Total
917	US Grand Total		
17	NETHERLANDS Van Heutsz battalion		



Dutch and French soldiers lost their lives due to the Battle of the Soyang River. The numbers include KIA, DOW, MIA who never made it back to friendly lines, and POW who died before the truce. The breakdown by units is listed below.

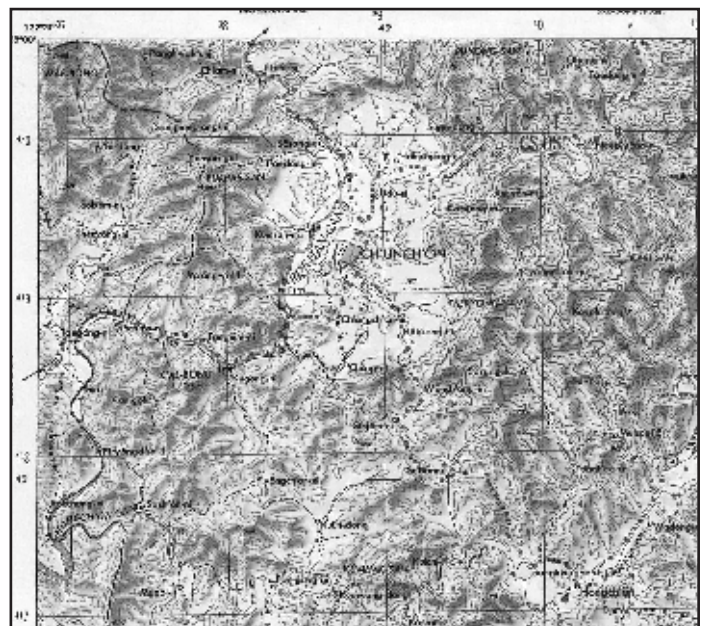
I think "May Massacre" was actually meant for the other side, whose casualties were 10 to 20 times heavier. The 2d Inf. Div. earned a Presidential Unit Citation for its action, adding a Streamer embroidered "HONGCHON."

Since May 24th, the Marines had counter-attacked in the same sector, and the scene must have been shocking. The 23d lost all its wheeled vehicles but one bullet-riddled Jeep, and the long train of vehicle wreckage lined the road from Chaun-ni to Hangye. There were countless bodies still on Kari-san (Hill 1051).

Map Coordinates

In the Mar-Apr 2022 *Graybeards*, p.20, there was a question about reading the coordinates and locating them on the map. I would like to provide some inputs as a map reader.

For instance, in one of the 1951's command reports, it showed Hongchon at coordinates DS0271. This coordinate system is based on "Universal Transverse Mercator" projection, which is a cartographic term we do not have to know. There were several AMS (US Army Map Service) map series, with different scales and different dates. "CT510389" can be found in Series L552 -NJ52-5. L571 series was the most used one on battlefield.



In the contemporary map on page 14, Hongchon is at the southeast corner, and there are four blue letters (CT, DT, CS, DS) printed on northeast corner. They intersect at the origin with coordinates 0 and 0. The bigger-font numbers on the margins are the coordinates, not the longitudinal or lateral degree numbers. The horizontal direction shows 7,8,9,0,1 in the map (from left to right), and the vertical direction shows 7,8,9,0

(from bottom to top).

So it shows Hongchon is in the DS sector, with the horizontal coordinates 20% between 0 and 1, and the vertical coordinates 10% between 7 and 8, thus "DS0271." Sometimes people used more digits, so it could also be DS020710. By the same token, the major city Chunchon could be CS882925.

Jing Zhou, jzhou@umich.edu

Remember the hospitals in Japan?

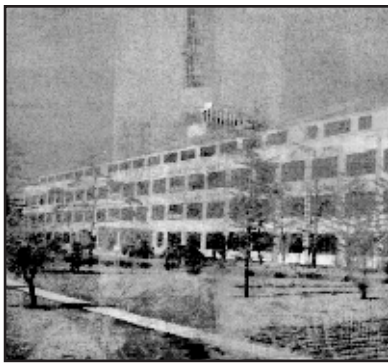
Member Thomas Lewis notes that one of the integral—and most often forgotten—components of the war in Korea is the hospitals in Japan. Many a warfighter owes thanks to the nurses, doctors, and staff members at those facilities. He'd like to hear from members about their experiences there.

Here is a partial list of the hospitals in Japan. Feel free to add to it.

- Army general hospitals – 106, 118, 218, 249, 343, 382
- Tokyo Army Hospital, 12 Evacuation Hospital
- Air Force Hospitals – Japan, Yokota; Okinawa
- Navy Hospital – Yokohama

There is very little history about them. Perhaps we can start building some.

Thomas J. Lewis, 15 Reed St., Waterloo, NY 13165, 315-539-2928, TLewis4343@gmail.com



HQ 343 General Hospital at Camp Drew, Japan

"Be not afraid as I go before you to lead the way:" I always said these words from the hymn 'Be Not afraid' to my squad before we left for a patrol at Christmas Hill."Wayne Pelkey

New Korean War Memorial Dedicated in Galveston

There was a new Korean War Memorial dedicated in Galveston, Texas recently in honor of the 51 Galveston County warriors of all branches of service killed in action in the war: Navy (3), Marine Corps (10), Air Force (4), Army (33), and 1 unknown. The ceremony was held on September 16, 2022. The nearby photos tell the story.

Background Information:

Galveston County Marine Corps League, Detachment 668, launched the effort to build this memorial in 2019. Three years later, on Memorial Day, May 30, 2022, the project was completed. Notwithstanding heightened fundraising challenges and other factors caused by the pandemic as well as supply chain delays, the success of this endeavor is unhesitatingly evident.

Commandant James Harvey originally recruited a team of U.S. Marine brothers, Richard Torres, Chairman, Doug McLeod, Ronny Harper, Allen Bishop, and Bobby Richardson (posthumously) to carry out this mission. Many others deserve credit as well, especially our underwriters who contributed generously to make this effort possible: American National Insurance Company, J.P. and Mary Jon Bryan, Charles and Mary Ellen Doyle, Gilbane Building Company, HomeTown Bank, Interstate Batteries, Edward A Janek, Knights of Momus, Doug and Joan McLeod, Mayes and Macy Middleton, Ann McLeod Moody, Moody Bank, Moody Gardens, E.J. Pederson, Scott and Renee Rice, and Gerald and Susanne Sullivan.

WE SHALL NEVER FORGET OUR KOREAN WAR HEROES

Dedication ceremony for the new Memorial
Friday, September 16, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
20th & Mechanic/Market Streets, Galveston



In honor of the 51 Galveston County fallen warriors of all branches of service killed in action in the Korean War, 1950 - 1953

Also, of crucial importance to the project were Jim Pozzi, Jack Bennett, David Cooper, Tim Walsh, Scott Brost, Scott Webb, John Kelso, John Zendt, Norm and Anne Miller, Meg and Craig Janek, Vic Pierson, Jimmy Rasmussen, Doug McLean, Kris Rutherford, Art Vega, Ronnie Mills, Bruce LePard, Kam DeBondt, Bruce Luersen, Steve Monson, Bernie Sargent, Gary Peters, Hal Rochkind, Dan Hinson, Jerri Hamachek, Major Mark Knight, and Stan Phillips.

Alves Key, key.deacon@gmail.com

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573 or emailed to: Sharparthur@aol.com

Members in the

James Patterson



Associate KWVA member James Patterson, a former U.S. diplomat, recently met acclaimed Korean author You-Jeong Jeong the bestselling author of “Seven Years of Darkness,” “The Young Son,” “Shoot Me in the Heart,” and “Perfect Happiness,” at a Korean Cultural Festival 2022 event at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Jeong’s novels have been published in translation, including English, French, and Chinese.

Jeong said that her major literary influences were U.S. authors



James Patterson and You-Jeong Jeong

Ken Kesey (“One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest”), Stephen King (“Carrie”), and Raymond Chandler (“The Long Goodbye”). The Los Angeles Times said: “You-Jeong Jeong is a certified international phenomenon ... Genuinely surprising and ultimately satisfying ... *Seven Years of Darkness* [bolsters] the case for Jeong as one of the best at writing psychological suspense.”

Patterson’s father, James G. Patterson, enlisted in the U.S. Army one month before the signing of the Armistice Agreement for the Restoration of the

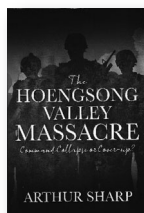
South Korean State in 1953. Patterson later served with Alabama’s Army National Guard for the Cuban Missile Crisis, the integration of the Univ. of Alabama, and the third Selma to Montgomery march in 1965. Patterson, aged 69, died in 2003. The younger Patterson has studied diplomacy of the arts, including cinema, music, and literature. He was cast as a reporter in the internationally acclaimed Academy Award-winning 2015 film “Selma.”

The Korean Cultural Festival 2022, October 20 - November 1, was sponsored by the Korean Cultural Center (KCC) at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea. The KCC works to strengthen Korea-U.S. ties through a broad variety of public programs and outreach, including exhibitions, performances, educational engagement, institutional partnerships, and diverse cultural events. The KCC invites walk-in visitors Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. KCC is located at 2370 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. (Photo: Courtesy of Korean Cultural Center)

Thanks for Hoengsong Valley Massacre book support

My book, *The Hoengsong Valley Massacre: Command Collapse or Cover-up?*, was released in May 2022. Since then KWVA members have been very supportive. Sales of my book have been significant and comments from readers have been positive (mostly). For that I thank everyone who has purchased a copy.

It’s not too late to get a copy, though. I have some books left. To get your signed copy, send me a check for \$22, which includes postage and shipping. Send your payment to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573 and I will get your copy out immediately. Thanks again.



Christmas Mass in North Korea in 1952

I was assigned to the 5th RCT in Korea from June 1952 through mid-April 1953 as a platoon sergeant with E. Company. During the week before Christmas the enemy played Christmas music every night, which we could hear plainly. The enemy’s intention was to make us homesick. They believed that soldiers who were homesick would not be good fighters or would not care to fight at all. But we proved them wrong.

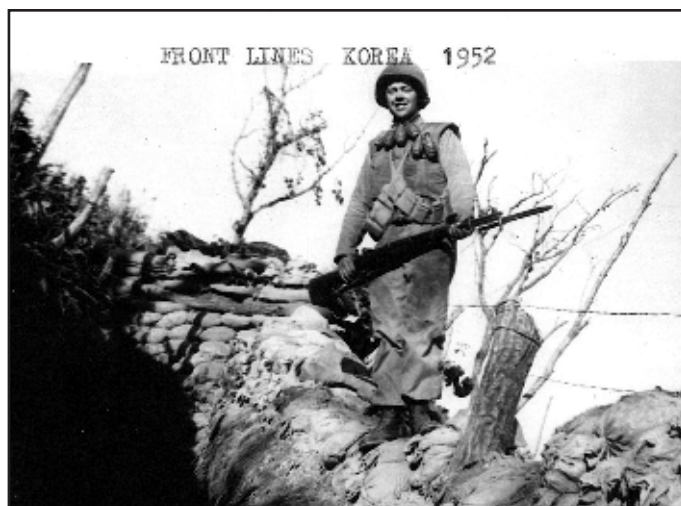
We also got word the chaplain was going to do a midnight mass. This had to be well out of the enemy’s gun fire range. Only three men from our platoon could go. I volunteered, along with Kearns and Carillo.

We knew this was going to be a long walk. We left after dark, about five p.m. There were no roads to follow. We had to just go cross country. We were to look for a tent. We stopped several times. We were wondering whether we should we continue or go back, unsure if we could find it.

Around 11:30 p.m. we saw it. It was a long way back after mass. We rejoined the platoon at seven a.m. We had no warm bed to crawl into, no hot breakfast...just a bitter cold day ahead.

To our surprise Christmas Day was very quiet. The three of us spent 14 hours to attend midnight mass in North Korea—thirteen of them just walking. It was a Christmas to remember.

*Lawrence F. Sand, P.O. Box 115,
Freeport, MN 56331-0115*



Platoon Sergeant Lawrence F. Sand on the front lines of Korea in 1952

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

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

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

THE SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE AT THE FRONT

By George Bjotvedt

"There are no atheists in foxholes," it is said. This was true in the front trenches of the stalemate phase of the Korean War.

The origin of the quotation is not certain, but some sources, anonymous, state that it emanated from World War II. Another anonymous source places it in press reports from the end of World War I. Regardless of its emanation, I had my copy of The Gideon International pocket size New Testament Psalms Proverbs in my left pocket of my fatigue jacket. It resided there to possibly absorb a bullet, which is an experience I had read about of a combat soldier or it could have been in one of those war movies starring John Wayne.

Aside from my religious awakening to my possible death in combat, the book provided me the comforting words of Psalm 23 which I read every time I ventured into no-man's land on patrols. The pocket book's position gave me peace of mind in the confusion of the front line with its constant presence of stress and fear.

Off line, when I had the opportunity for a shower in a mobile unit, I would always remove the book and place it in one of my combat boots. Done before my dirty clothing was whisked away, that is, to be exchanged for clean attire.

It was Thanksgiving 1952. The 8th Army provided the front line troops with hot turkey, appropriate sides, and plenty of canned cranberry sauce. On that day there was a sudden pushing aside of the burlap curtain door to my bunker. It was a very young chaplain, Captain Oscar Gelber, who stood tall in the

interior of the bunker.

"Oh excuse me, I am looking for the Third Infantry Division," he said. He was a bit breathless as he continued, "I wish to minister to some of the front line fighting men on this day of giving thanks for divine goodness." I thought this was a bit weird.

I smiled. "You are in the Third Infantry Division sector. And this is the 65th Puerto Rican regiment, which is a part of the division."

I explained that I knew that military chaplains were trained to provide services in the three religions. But in the case of the Puerto Rican soldiers they had accepted Chaplain/Father Murphy as their priest. Chaplain Murphy provided the Puerto Ricans with mass in Latin at Camp Casey. I said that I admired his presence at the front a man of the cloth.

Chaplain Gelber looked dejected. I stood up and approached him and spoke these consoling words.

"Your heart was in the right place, but your message would have been in the wrong regiment."

*George Bjotvedt, V.M.D., 5626 N. Teaberry Lane,
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314*

Have a Mini-Reunion?

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

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

India in the Korean War

By Tom Moore

Why was India among the belligerents during the Korean War? What business did a newly independent India have getting embroiled in the great power politics of the times?

What is clear is that New Delhi was at least partly motivated by the realization that the Cold War could take on a very dangerous dimension in Asia, which could reach India's borders. That led the government to take a great deal of interest in the Korean War.

Given the unveiling of nuclear weapons and their extremely destructive potential, it seemed to Indian decision-makers that India had to play a constructive role in the Korean War, especially since it commanded respect and influence among many in the international community. The aim was to prevent further conflagration in the peninsula.

At the tangible, material level, India sent a medical unit, the 60th Para Field Ambulance, to render assistance to those injured in the war. The unit consisted of 346 personnel and served in the Korean theater for three and a half years. It provided assistance to 200,000 wounded and carried out 2,300 field surgeries. Later, as combat was somewhat subsiding in 1953, India sent 6,000 soldiers to form the Custodian Force India (CFI), which was tasked with looking after prisoners of war (POWs) and resolving the issue of their repatriation.

In addition to contributing personnel, India played an important role in seeking to resolve the war at a political and diplomatic level. Two basic imperatives guided India's stand on the war. The first pertained to containing the war and not allowing it to escalate.

There were many events that served as catalysts for escalation, such as the crossing of the 38th Parallel by the North Korean forces, the appointment of General MacArthur, as commander of the UN forces, the crossing of the 38th Parallel by the UN forces in October 1950, despite warnings by the Chinese, and the crossing of the Yalu River by



Indian medics treating a wounded soldier

Chinese forces in November 1950. India strove to prevent any of these dangerous developments from providing an excuse for the belligerents to do further harm and reduce the space for compromise and moderation.

India's government supported UN Security Council resolutions that sought to restore the status quo without demonizing any party or proposing measures that would prolong or expand the Korean War. It thus supported Security Council Resolutions 82 and 83 of June 1950.

However, India showed no such support towards General Assembly Resolution 376 V of October 1950, which aimed at unifying the two Koreas, instead of stopping the fighting. This, from the Indian perspective, was a dangerous change in the objectives of the UN, whose agenda was being shaped to a great degree by the United States.

India also took a serious view of the General Assembly Resolution of February 1951, which clearly identified China as a party in the aggression on the peninsula. India believed that any finger pointing and name calling, especially targeted at China, would lead the Chinese to become aggressive, rigid, and a cause for great worry. The lesser the provocation, the better the prospects for peace.

India's second imperative was upholding the principle of great power unity. To that end, it believed that the

Security Council had to create the space for all five great powers to deliberate and work together. Owing to the non-representation of the People's Republic of China (PRC) at the Security Council, and the boycotting of this body by the Soviet Union as a mark of protest over Beijing's exclusion, India appealed for the PRC to be included in the Security Council and called for the body to jointly resolve the problem.

Another powerful reminder of India's commitment to the great powers working collectively concept is to be seen in its opposition to the Uniting for Peace Resolution that was adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 1950. With the Soviet Union intent on blocking proposals critical of the PRC in the Security Council, and thus exercising its veto option, the United States sought to outmaneuver the USSR by bringing these contentious issues to the General Assembly and using its clout to get resolutions passed that would further its objectives. By doing so, the Security Council - the seat of great powers - was undermined. As a result, it was roundly criticized by India.

With hostilities ebbing from 1951 onward, the need was felt to end the war. However, the issue of repatriation of prisoners of war (POWs) became a stumbling block. While the UN favored non-forcible repatriation, where the POWs were to be given a choice about return-

ing to their countries, the communists favored an all-for-all formula, where POWs would be repatriated to their countries, willingly or not.

Given the strong feelings on each side about this issue, and the potential for this disagreement to create problems and reignite hostilities, India was made chair of the five-nation Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission (NNRC). It was established following the Armistice Agreement in 1953, and looked into the fate of 20,000 POWs and their repatriation. India's conduct and commitment in this capacity drew appreciation from many quarters.

India ended up with around 90 POWs whose repatriation could not be worked out in Korea. They were brought to Delhi, India, when the NNCR ceased to exist in 1954. Most of these POWs opted to go to Brazil. Indian Foreign Secretary (1976 - 1979) Jagat S. Mehta thought he would see what happened to the largely forgotten Korean War POWs in India. He found a few. One was a photographer, another a watch repairer. All of them had received assistance by the government to pursue their vocations.

Mehta, struck up a close friendship with another, Nwang Ji, aka "Peter." Mehta helped Peter in opening a chicken farm in the Okhla area of Delhi on a piece of land that belonged to a church. Funds for buying the requisite material to operate the farm were also provided to Peter. Such was the quality of eggs and chicken at Peter's farm that diplomatic personnel paid him regular visits to buy his products.

With the money that he made from the chicken farm, Peter turned his attention to the south of India, where he collected widows' hair that they had shaved to meet their religious obligations. The hair was graded, classified, and exported to South Korea, where it was made into wigs for export to the United States.

Thereafter, Peter embarked on a garment business and started an employment business for people interested in working in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. So successful did he become that he bought a house in Friends Colony, one of the most upmarket localities of Delhi.

Incidentally, there is to be a Korean War Memorial installed in Delhi.

The Republic of Korea Navy

Except within Korea and the Southeast Asia region, Korea's seafarers do not get their due as being among the finest sailors in the world. Korea's naval history, with significant differences and variations, goes back more than 2,000 years to the 57 BC-668 AD era when the country was divided among three separate kingdoms, before becoming unified as one nation in the Shilla era, in the final years of the 7th Century.

Probably every Korean citizen today is aware of the nation's stellar navy as it was constituted at the end of the 6th Century, when the Joseon kingdom's ships repelled and defeated those of the Japanese during two invasions in 1592-96 and 1597-98.

In the last invasion of that era the ships of Korea's Admiral Yi Sun-sin successfully defeated the Japanese navy at sea, and Yi was killed in action during the final battle. This made reinforcement of the Japanese forces that were on the land impossible, and their withdrawal imminent.

In the decisive Battle of Myeongnyang in October 1597, Admiral Yi's small fleet of 13 ships defeated the Japanese armada of 133 warships and 200 supply vessels and saved the country from occupation by the invaders.

Today, however, there are two Koreas, each with its own modern navy. Unfortunately, because of tensions that have continued since the end of the Korean War, their primary purposes are to guard against each other's armed forces, while at the same time meeting the traditional naval role of maintaining sovereignty over territorial waters and protecting their own vessels in international sea lanes.

The Republic of Korea's modern-day

navy was founded as the Marine Defense Group on November 11, 1945, when Korea was still unified but under American military occupation south of the 38th Parallel, and under Soviet Union military occupation in the north.

Under a lofty, but impractical, plan of the United Nations, elections were supposed to be held in the two sectors in 1948, with electors deciding whether the Democratic Party in the south, or the Communist Party in the north, would govern the entire nation.

Separate elections were held - with both the Democratic Party and the Communist Party claiming victory, and right of governance of the entire peninsula. This tenuous situation remained for two years, until the United States advisory forces withdrew from the southern sector of Korea.

Almost in lockstep with the withdrawal, North Korean army units invaded the Republic of Korea on June 25, 1950, initiating the three-year long Korean War.

South Korea currently has some 160 ships in its fleet. They include 22 submarines; 12 destroyers (both guided missile and helicopter); 18 frigates (14 are guided missile vessels); 11 Corvette well-armed combat patrol vessels, and 97 patrol and amphibious warfare vessels.

Should anyone misinterpret and think this is a small navy, which it is not, they should reflect that in the Battle of Myeongnyang in October 1597, when Admiral Yi Sun-sin's small fleet of just 13 ships defeated the Japanese fleet of 133 warships and 200 supply vessels and thwarted Japan's plan to seize of the nation.

Brava Zulu, ROK Navy!



Part of the Korean Fleet in review in 2015

Who knew where I'd be on Thanksgiving or Christmas?

NOV. 25, 1952—I was drafted from Pike County, Illinois into the U.S. Army at St. Louis, Missouri. I went by train to Fort Custer, Michigan, two days before Thanksgiving. I was at Fort Custer two weeks and then went to Fort Knox, Kentucky by bus. I took my basic training at Fort Knox.

My first Christmas was spent there. My wife and mother came to visit me and spent Christmas day with me. After basic I flew to Fort Lewis, Washington. Then, I boarded the USNS Marine Serpent and sailed to Pusan, Korea. From there I went by train and truck to the 45th Infantry Division, about fifteen miles behind the front lines. I was a field wireman.

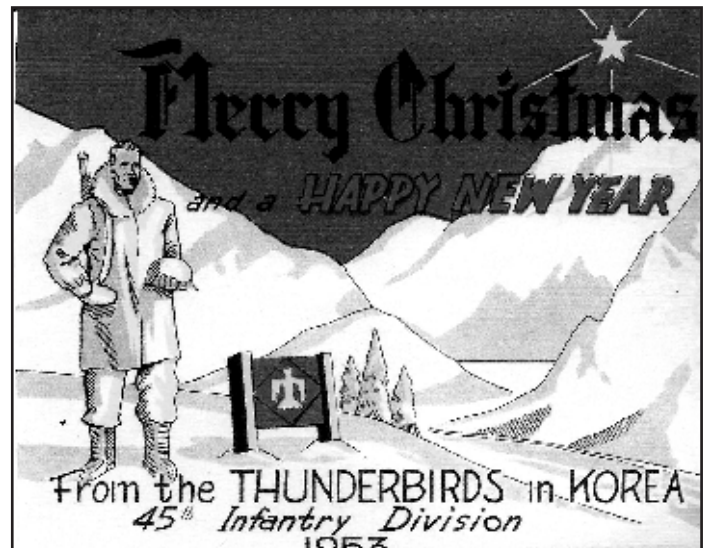
I spent my second Thanksgiving with my division, which served a special dinner with turkey and all the trimmings. My second Christmas was spent on R&R in Tokyo, Japan. In February 1954 the 45th Division returned to the states, but without me. I was transferred to the 8th Army in Seoul, where I spent the rest of my time in Korea.

After leaving Korea on a ship to Seattle, I flew to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, where I received my honorable discharge.

Donald Chamberlain, 1234 Sunset Dr., Pittsfield, IL 62363



Don Chamberlain's wire team; he's last man on right in front row



Happy holidays from the 45th Division

Thunderbird Linemen: Backbone Of Signal

By Tom Salmon

This is the saga of the maintenance of the Signal Corps—the story of the men in the mountains, high sprawling, conical knolls. This is the story of the men who have engineered the Signal Corps' most vital and most important task—their fighting comrades of the United Nations Army in Korea.

They are the men who have fought through the fiercest weather, in the most difficult terrain, and they are the men who have kept the Signal Corps' most vital and most important task—their fighting comrades of the United Nations Army in Korea.

Thunderbird with a compass. This is the story of the men in the mountains, high sprawling, conical knolls. This is the story of the men who have engineered the Signal Corps' most vital and most important task—their fighting comrades of the United Nations Army in Korea.

Talk to a Signal Corps man and he'll tell you that he's not just a Signal Corps man—he's a Signal Corps man. He'll tell you that he's not just a Signal Corps man—he's a Signal Corps man. He'll tell you that he's not just a Signal Corps man—he's a Signal Corps man.

Ode to linemen from Stars & Stripes

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MIAs ID'd

The remains of the following veterans have been identified recently:

The remains of the following U.S. Army veterans have been identified recently.

(SGT) HOWARD GORDON MALCOLM, Unit Headquarters Company, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Kunu-ri, North Korea. Home of Record, Illinois

(SGT) ALLEN H. TUTTLE: On October 26, 2022, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) identified the remains of Sergeant Allen H. Tuttle, missing from the Korean War.

Sergeant Tuttle joined the U.S. Army from Washington and was a member of Battery C, 38th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. In late 1950, his unit was positioned northeast of Kunu-ri, North Korea. On November 27, 1950, the 2nd Infantry Division came under attack from Chinese Communist Forces (CCF), forcing them to withdraw south to more defensible positions. The withdrawing men had to fight through CCF roadblocks, and SSG Tuttle was among men captured during this battle. He was taken to POW Camp 5 in Pyoktong, where he died between February and April 1951.

Sergeant Tuttle is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

(CPL) DELBERT LLOYD WHITE, Unit D CO 2 ENGR 2ID, North Korea. Home of Record, Iowa

(CPL) CLARK ELLIS WORLINE, Unit C Company, 2 Chemical Mortar Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, North Korea. Home of Record, Ohio

Korean War Unknowns 'Punchbowl' Disinterments Continue

The DPAA remains active in disinterring and identifying the remains of service members MIA during the Korean and other wars.

MIA (GB 9-10-22)



Korean War Disinterment Project Continues: Members of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) participate in a disinterment ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii, Nov. 7, 2022. The ceremony was part of

DPAA's efforts to disinter the remains of unknown service members lost during the Korean War for possible identification. DPAA's mission is to achieve the fullest possible accounting for missing and unaccounted-for U.S. personnel to their families and the nation. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. John Miller)

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.

A long way to get to Korea

Some of the troops that served in or passed through Korea during the war and after got there via roundabout routes. One of them was Captain L. H. Hardee, USMC. If he missed a duty station during his career it had to be due to administrative error. That is made clear in the following press release, which includes his time in Korea.

CAPT. L. H. HARDEE RELATES TRAVEL AND VARIED ASSIGNMENTS IN MARINE CORPS' CAREER

Captain Hardee was born in Kiowa, Okla on 15Nov19. Enlisted in the Marine Corps on 19Sep40 and took his recruit training at San Diego. From Nov40 until Apr41, he served with the 8th Marine Regiment at San Diego and during this time his unit completed a record 182-mile hike in two weeks.

From '46 to '49, he found many interesting and varied assignments in China from train patrols to riding LSTs on the Yangtze, also commanding a rifle company with 1stBn, 1st Marines during this time.

In April, he was reassigned to the 6th Marines and shortly thereafter sailed from San Diego Bay, via Panama Canal, to Iceland. There, on the barren treeless slopes, with winds up to 80 MPH, the Regiment dug defensive positions and received intensive training.

Upon return to the United States and sunny California, Sgt Hardee attended three Marine Corps Schools—Unarmed Defense, Scout and Sniper, and the course in machine guns. Then, in Sep41, his regiment sailed for the South Pacific and New Zealand, where they received final training prior to landing at Guadalcanal.

Sergeant Hardee was a Platoon Sergeant on the 'Canal. When his unit returned to New Zealand, he was reassigned to the Infantry Combat Intelligence course for seven weeks back on Guadalcanal. He then returned to his unit as an instructor and this proved very helpful during subsequent training.

From May to September of 1943 Hardee's unit was on the move again, and in November they landed at Betio Island, commonly called Tarawa. His unit landed on Green Beach and after 76 hours of hard fighting the island was Marine property. Garrison duty was not for his Regiment, however, as they immediately sailed for Hawaii to an advanced training camp.

Platoon Sergeant Hardee found his unit filled with new recruits and a need for intensive training arose. In May44, he went to sea as a part of the 2nd Separate Inf Bn, later designated 1stBn, 29thMarines, with a mission of landing from rubber boats on the island of Saipan. The landing there occurred on 15Jun44 and for his valiant fighting on Saipan

Please turn to **HARDEE** on page 45

EMPTY CHAIR

By Joseph Harman
October 29, 2022

I've been wrestling with how to value my military service in the Republic of Korea (ROK hereafter) for many years. There really is nothing comparable. I've done everything from forgetting about it to being angry about it.

I've been asked repeatedly over the years, "Did you shoot anyone?" "Did you fire your weapon in anger (aka at the enemy)?" "Were you shot at?" The answer to all these standard questions has always been "No." The "no" is then followed by the silence of parties involved in the conversation. This is at times followed by me feeling that my service in Korea was meaningless. I didn't get shot. I didn't kill anyone. Things didn't go like wars play out on TV. Therefore, it must not be real or have value. Then I would suffer in silence for a while.

The other day I tried something new. I got the same old question: "Did you fire your weapon in anger?" Again, I said "no" but this time I was finally ready to respond. I bluntly said, "If I fired my weapon in anger (in my case a 105 mm gun on my M60A3 tank) you would be looking at an empty chair. Is that what you want?" In other words, I would have been killed in 1987 or 1988 had I fired my weapon in anger.

You see, firing a 105 mm tank round in anger in the ROK means the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) has launched a full-scale attack across the DMZ (the 152-mile border between North and South Korea). Those who have been there know this is true. Simply put, firing anything beyond small arms in the ROK at the DPRK in or around the DMZ means WWII has started. That is the accepted scenario and the one we all anticipated and trained for.

Then I described my duty in Area 1 (generally everything north of Seoul to the DMZ) in blunt terms. I explained that during my time in Korea my unit was in the mother of all kill sacks for over a year. It was a massive engagement area that the DPRK had decades in which to plan the total destruction of everything in it.

Most weapon systems the DPRK had were aimed at Area 1, because it had to be taken to conquer Seoul. More than likely, we would receive little or no warning before they would unleash the complete and total hell that would literally destroy everything in a matter of minutes. At that time there were over 1 million hard core fanatical communists locked and loaded along the DMZ behind 1 million mines, supported by 6 million reservists, 12,000 artillery pieces and rocket systems, 1,600 aircraft and 2,000 forwardly deployed tanks.

To make matters worse, the DPRK would use their massive stockpiles of chemical weapons during the initial prep fires. We might not have any notice in Area 1. For some, like myself at times, even if we survived the initial assault, retreat would not be an option. Part of the plan is to blow the rock drops on MSR (Main Supply Route) 1 and MSR 3 if the DPRK

advanced past the DMZ. That is why they are there. However, once they are blown, those forward of the rock drops cannot retreat. This is known by those who have served north of the rock drops as a DIP (Die In Place) mission. It is in fact part of the calculus of serving in Area 1.

The powers that be at the DOD and in D.C. have known this for years. The book "Tripwire" (by Doug Bandow, Cato Institute) even lays out the theory that those in Area 1 are in fact there to ultimately ensure that the United States enters the war if the DPRK crosses the DMZ in force. You can read between the lines on this one. In other words, some could say that is where the expendable serve.

After contemplating this for over 35 years, I finally have a legitimate and realistic response that I can handle and that makes logical sense. I will be honest: the concepts that support this view are hard to understand by many because they have never been there or don't have similar experiences. Even most of our current warriors don't understand an enemy that has overwhelming firepower, at least in the initial days.

We haven't been outgunned by the enemy in most modern conflicts for decades. However, for those who have faced this, you know I speak the truth. President Clinton didn't call the DMZ the "Scariest Place on Earth" just for political reasons. It hasn't been called "Freedom's Frontier" or the "Tip of the Spear," because it is not. My OER (Officer Efficiency Report) from that time clearly states I was "in the most forwardly deployed unit in the United States Army." It is in fact a flash-point capable of mass casualties equivalent to the days when we dropped the bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Keep in mind that even though the DPRK has nukes the war is STILL not over. Bottom line: whoever goes first will obliterate the other on the first day of battle. Those in the kill sack in Area 1—the ones on the receiving end—will most likely die. In the days that follow the DPRK will more than likely be destroyed by our forces. But, folks, let's get real. That doesn't change what would happen on day one in Area 1 to the service members who are there.

So, folks, it's time to hold our heads high and educate those who don't understand the risks we took. Those alumni of Area 1 and beyond played Russian roulette. So far they have won, with some exceptions. Most will listen about its importance with a little patient, logic driven, education. It's about the delivery and the facts that we ourselves have overlooked and undervalued all these years.

The DOD hasn't helped matters because it continues to downplay the realities that I have conveyed in this piece. I would imagine some of their lack of transparency is driven by monetary issues. Case in point is the dance that they have played with hostile fire and hardship pay over the past seven decades. In other words, admitting the truth I speak here is expensive. In any other arena the level of risks taken are compensated by corresponding rewards, but not in the military.

Keep in mind that even though the DPRK has nuked the war is STILL not over. Bottom line: whoever goes first will obliterate the other on the first day of battle.

Regardless, finally, here's the icing on the cake that must be said, as in my case, and for my brothers and sisters of that time. We must add other important facts. You see, warfighting and peacekeeping share many common threads with other endeavors. The most important is measurable outcomes. Bottom line: in December of 1987 the Republic of Korea held its first democratic election for President. In January of 1988 the Republic of Korea's FIRST democratically elected president peacefully took office. After years of dictatorship, Korea was in fact reborn. This didn't happen in 1953; it happened 1987.

From 1953 to 1987 (35 years and more) and thereafter Defense Veterans ensured that democracy took hold and was allowed to thrive. We protected the people and the process.

Today, the ROK is one of the most economically successful democracies in the world.

We left our families, friends, and hometowns for many a year or more. We suffered the cold, rain, heat, lack of sleep, and operations that went on for months. Some of our brothers and sisters paid the ultimate price. This is the true cost of freedom. These service members and their families should be honored like any other war.

So next time you get those questions you used to dread, let them become opportunities. Reshape the battlefield and define success in some cases (like ours) as not firing your weapon. Instead, you helped protect and build a democracy. We were there to keep the peace and we prevented all-out war. We should be proud of accomplishing both. After all the alternative is much worse. They could be looking at an empty chair.

God Bless Defense Veterans & Their Families!

Joseph Harman, Camp Howze 1987, Camp Casey 1987 & 1988, A Co. 1-72 Armor

NOTE: Joseph Harman is the KWVA's National Treasurer. He can be reached at treasurer@kwva.us.

QUESTS & QUERIES

Ronald Rovenger

I am looking for information about my departed uncle, Ronald Rovenger. He was a West Point graduate, class of 1950, I believe, and an officer who served in the Korean War, during which he earned a Bronze Medal. There's no record that I can find explaining the award other than his headstone.

He passed in 2010 and even our family doesn't know how or why he received this prestigious award. I can't give you any information about his war record or platoon or troop movements. I can't even supply his DD214. What I can tell you, which will sound strange, is that our last name being so rare, Uncle Ron was the only Ronald Rovenger to serve in Korea or attend West Point.

There must be a record somewhere explaining this or someone still alive who served with him that remembers something. You're pretty much my last hope, as the Army can't tell me anything because of the warehouse fire decades ago. They're asking me for the very same info that I can't supply, and West Point hasn't or won't return my inquiries.

The medal and his education in chemical engineering landed him a job with General Dynamics, the propulsion division of NASA. The job involved developing a rocket for the then upcoming Apollo Missions to the moon. That information I acquired after contacting a celebrity whose life became a film.

All that remains is the medal. Please look into it. Thank you.
StephenRovenger@gmail.com

84th ECB

I have been researching data for a book on the 32 men from Washington County, Maryland who became casualties in Korea.

I have been able to compile data on all but one man, who was with the 84th ECB. I have found NO information online about the 84th ECB.

There was an article in Jan-Feb 2022 *Graybeards* about a reunion of the 84th & 62nd from Andy Basilla whom I contacted, but he has passed. His widow has no information about the 84th ECB, as Andy kept all of that to himself, she said.** I thought perhaps that you may know of someone else that I could contact or if there is any book or other source on the history of the 84th ECB in Korea.

The man I'm researching is: PFC HAROLD S. SHARER, ER33375841, HQ & SV CO, 84TH ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION BATTALION. He died August 23, 1951 of encephalitis, a non-hostile death, resulting from an accident. I particularly would like info on where the 84th ECB was on or about August 23, 1951 and what the ECB mission was. Secondly, I would like to know what the H & S Co was involved in that caused the accident, what it was, and the date of the accident.

I would appreciate any help that you can provide. Thank you.

*Charles (Jim) Mobley, Past Commander of Antietam [MD]
Ch. 312, 11814 Linbar Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21742-4410,
301-733-0433, cmobley2@myactv.net*

**** EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is another example of what happens when veterans keep their experiences to themselves or families don't know what to do with their memorabilia. The information is lost to history as a result. Veterans, please share your experiences and memorabilia with other people to be recorded or leave instructions with family members or friends about how to dispose of them when the time comes.

Busan Fire, January, 1953

By Therese Park

In late January in 1953, our family of nine—parents and seven children from 3 to 15—helplessly watched from our front room in Sujong-Dong District not far from the Busan Railway station as the eastern sky turned crimson. There was a mysterious scent in the air, too, that gave me, an eleven-year-old, fear that something awful was happening.

“The Big Market is burning,” our father declared in his usual authoritarian voice with a hint of desperation. “The Black market selling American goods is there too. Who’s going to extinguish such a massive fire without proper water equipment?”

It was the most helpless feeling I had experienced as a child, among all the tragedies the war had brought us since 95,000 North Korean communists crossed the 38th Parallel at dawn with 150 Russian tanks and ammunition. We lost our school building to the South Korean Army that needed shelter for the injured soldiers rescued from the battlefields, after which we studied on a mountain slope without a roof over our heads or walls to block winds from taking our books and notebooks with them.

When the temperature dropped significantly we had no school to go to and studied at home, like when Covid-19 forced many schools in the U.S. to close in the recent years, and students depended on Zoom sessions for learning. In 1953 in Korea we didn’t even have textbooks. All book publishers had been in Seoul before the war; now our capital city was nothing but piles of war-debris and ashes.

About this time of the war, the peace talks between the UN and Chinese leaders continued without much progress, while fighting between Chinese communists and the UN soldiers went on with killing machines. Still, the hope that the war would end soon was on everyone’s mind. And now the fire!

Our father’s words “Who is going to extinguish such a massive fire without proper water equipment?” played back in my mind again and again. I didn’t understand what “proper water equipment” meant. I had never seen a firetruck or any vehicles equipped with water tanks or water hoses.

When a small fire broke out in our neighborhood, men created a chain, each man passing a bucket of well water to the next man, and the man near the fire dumped the water on the fire. It worked. In those days, people strictly depended on well water for drinking, cooking, and washing. Bathing was considered a luxury since those with money could afford to go to the “bathhouse.”

Common people could not afford to own a bathtub or to heat a large quantity of water by burning pieces of wood. Our mountains stood bare without any trees since Japanese troops took over Korea in 1905 without our king’s agreement and ruled the Dynasty with bloody iron hands. One of their crimes against our Yi Dynasty was chopping down any useful trees from the Korean mountains and shipping them to Manchuria, Japan, China, and many islands in the Pacific to aid in building battleships, Kamikaze planes, army compounds, and military brothels, only to mention a few. The treeless mountains and hills during the rainy season could not absorb the rainwater, and mudslides destroyed everything—homes, people and children, livestock, and whatever was standing.



An overview of the aftermath of the Busan fire

Decades later, on September 30, 2006, I met a Korean War veteran at the reception following the dedication ceremony of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Overland Park, Kansas, at 119th and Lowell, which was built to honor and remember 415 sons of Kansas who never returned.

“Do you remember the Busan Fire?” the veteran asked me after he heard me say I lived in Busan as a Korean child. He said that he was one of the U.S. troops sent to the burning market to put out the fire.

“It was a hopeless situation,” he said. “People were screaming and ran for their dear life as the fire spread quickly through the shanties and vending booths built with cardboard, army blankets, drift wood boards, whatever the refugees could get their hands on.”

With time, as two national events took place at the Memorial each year—on Memorial Day in May and Veterans Day in November, I learned that the veterans’ name was John Cantrell, who had served as a U.S. Military Policeman during the war, assigned on a cargo train between Busan and Taegu that delivered military goods to a half dozen U.S. army bases between the two cities. Through him, I learned that American troops not only fought for the freedom of my forsaken motherland South Korea, but also put down the deadly fire that could have swallowed the entire Busan.

And didn’t I witness the U.S. Army soldiers replacing a log bridge over our neighborhood creek that floated away during the monsoon season with a sturdy metal bridge? And some soldiers dressed the dirt road with a sleek concrete road.

January 2023 will mark the 70th anniversary of Busan Fire. Though memories fade away with time, certain events of the past never do—like words engraved on stones. I’ll never forget that crimson sky I saw from our home in Busan.

Therese Park, tspark63@yahoo.com

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?”

Missed Kyushu, Made Korea

Dr. Barney Dibble served with the 1st Marine Division in Korea. For him it was a case of out of the firepan and into the firefight. He narrowly missed going to Japan for the final push in 1945. He was not so fortunate in Korea.

A CELEBRATION ON BOARD MARINE CAMP LEJEUNE, SUMMER 1945

In the summer of 1945 I was a corpsman (pharmacist's mate back then!) at the Naval Hospital on what we affectionately called the Swamp Lejeune Marine Base, near Jacksonville, North Carolina. We bunked in temporary wooden huts. The bunks were double-deck and about a yard apart. No lockers, bedside stands, or closets, just long slats above the bunks to stow our seabags on. So, inconveniently, we lived out of our seabags.

No glass in the windows, just screens and wooden shutters held up by props which could be lowered in a rain storm. In the huge brick barracks next door were a pool table, a game room, and a writing room. Showers and heads were in still another building.

I was assigned to an orthopedic ward for infected wounds. We stood port and starboard watches. One day, duty from 0800-1200, 1600-2100. Next day, 0630-1200, 1300-1600. Then repeat. Confusing at first, but we quickly adapted.

Most of the wounded Marines were from the battles for Iwo Jima and Okinawa. They spent most of their time playing poker or cribbage. Some of the pots were pretty big, with numerous five and ten dollar bills. I didn't have the time—or the money—to play, but I did stand by and watch for a few moments between duties.

I changed dressings. Sprinkled sulfanilamide into open wounds. (We didn't know then that although the sulfa did help control infection, it also delayed healing.) Aqueous penicillin was available; 5,000 units were given every three hours. Long-acting penicillin had not been developed. Nowadays penicillin, if used at all, is given in doses of millions of units.

I gave back rubs and massages to the bed-bound men. Made up "ether beds" for returning surgicals, meaning a rubber sheet beneath the regular sheet because many of the patients vomited as they woke up. Made rounds with the Navy doctors and nurses. Helped patients in and out of bed, in and out of wheel chairs.

One day, my name went up on the administrative bulletin board, along with nine other corpsmen. Every few days a list appeared with the date of transfer of ten corpsmen to a Marine unit headed for Guam. My DOD was August 14.

On Guam the Marines and corpsmen would be assimilated into already formed platoons, companies, battalions, regiments and divisions. Training would be intense because we would be heading for Operation Olympic, the final assault on the home islands of Japan. Rumors flew.

The assault was to be this summer. The assault was to be in the fall. The attack would be on Kyushu first, to establish a base

One day, my name went up on the administrative bulletin board, along with nine other corpsmen. Every few days a list appeared with the date of transfer of ten corpsmen to a Marine unit headed for Guam. My DOD was August 14.

and an airfield. The attack would be on Shikoku. The attack would go straight to the heart of Honshu – Tokyo. They had already ordered a million Purple Heart medals and ribbons. (This latter proved to be true. The Purple Hearts issued for the Korean and Vietnam wars were from that stock.)

But, to the surprise of almost everyone, nuclear bombs were dropped on Hiroshima on August 6th and on Nagasaki on August 9th. Total unconditional surrender occurred on August 14th and the surrender ceremony took place aboard the battleship Missouri on September 2nd. Ten million Americans in uniform and 175 million Americans fighting the war on the Home Front were overjoyed when the carnage ended.

I know I was. I had to agree with Paul Russell, a 21-year-old second lieutenant in the 104th Division, quoted as saying in 1945, "When the bombs dropped and news began to circulate that Operation Olympic would not take place... for all the fake manliness of our facades, we cried with relief and joy. We were going to live. We were going to grow up to adulthood after all. Thank God for the Atomic Bomb."

We all knew that a corpsman in a Marine unit was extremely unlikely to come through unscathed in an assault on the home islands of Japan. Nobody ever talked about it. Nobody. Ever. But that knowledge was just there.

I remember very clearly where I was and what I was doing when we heard the news that Japan had surrendered. I was on my ward, playing cribbage with a Marine wounded on Iwo Jima. A corpsman burst into the ward shouting, "It's over, it's over, it's over.....!"

There was a roar that probably burst a few ear drums! Hand-shaking! Back-slapping! Foot-stamping!

Quiet. Some weeping. Not for themselves. For those close buddies who weren't there to celebrate what they had died for.

With huge grins we shook hands, my Marine buddy and I. I knew where he'd been. He knew where I wasn't going. We both knew where we were going. Ten million of us were going home.

So when the lists came down off the bulletin board, we sort of grinned foolishly at each other and went back to work. And, on August 14th, instead of boarding a troop train headed for California and a troop ship, I celebrated the end of the war by going sailing on New River with a Marine buddy.

And then came Korea.

J. Birney Dibble, Jbirneydibble5@gmail.com

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

267 – GENERAL JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

The University of Florida Navy and Marine Corp ROTC Cadets received a visit at Graham Hall from the General Van Fleet Chapter 267 of Gainesville, Florida for a Tell America presentation organized by Lt. Col Richard Stalbaum, who served as our moderator and covered the causes, duration, and the positive results of the war. The speakers were Hank "Sarge" McQuinn, Ex POW, Combat Veterans Terry Fitzpatrick and Garry Giles, and Cmdr. Ron Carbaugh and Don Sherry. Everyone told of their experiences during the Korean War or as Korean Service Veterans serving after the war era.

We spoke to 52 cadets and 4 officers, totaling 56 in attendance. We showed two films: "Why did the US fight the Korean War," narrated by Victor Davis Hansen of the Prager University Institute, and "The Korean War and its Historical Impact," narrated by Major General Nels Running, USAF Retired.



LT. COL. Rich Stalbaum (Moderator), Terry Fitzpatrick, Garry Giles, Sarge McQuinn, and Ron Carbaugh at Ch. 267's Tell America presentation



Rich Stalbaum, Terry Fitzpatrick (speaking), Garry Giles, Sarge McQuinn, and Ron Carbaugh at presentation to cadets

We handed out several handouts to the interested cadets about the war and its positive results in history, such as the desegregation of our black brothers into mixed units, the development of the helicopter, the development of the jet industry, the "M*A*S*H" units, and the improvements in air search and rescue techniques.

We had two hours for this session. After each presentation by our members, there was a Question and Answer session and another after everyone finished, which lasted 20 minutes, as the cadets showed much interest in our presentation and thanked us for coming.

Special thanks to Midshipman 2/C Alexander Quinones, U.S. Navy, for making all the arrangements for this event. The Commandant of the Cadets, U/S. Navy Captain James P. Dunn III, closed the event and thanked us for coming while telling the cadets the importance of the Korean War in history.

Don Sherry, Adjutant, 352-375-8355, dpskwva@yahoo.com



Ch. 267 panel with Univ. of Florida Naval ROTC



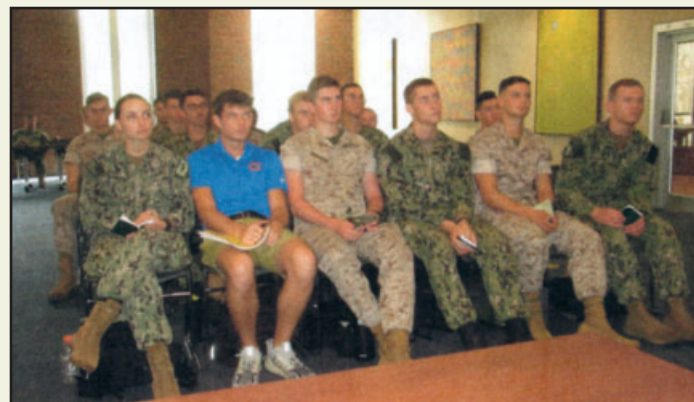
Ex-POW Sarge McQuinn speaks at seminar



Commander Ron Carbaugh of Ch. 267 speaks to cadets



University of Florida cadets at Ch. 267 presentation



Cadets listen intently to Ch. 267 presenters



Group of Navy cadets at Univ. of Florida Tell America event



University of Florida Navy ROTC officers

How you ended up in Korea

By Tom Moore

Here's a short story on how you ended up in a distant country in Asia called Korea, which has always been the invasion route of Asia.

Korea had been a recognized political entity long before the discovery of America. Its recorded history dates back to 57 B.C. though references to the area antedate the Christian era by 2,000 years.

Korea had been a recognized political entity long before the discovery of America. Its recorded history dates back to 57 B.C. though references to the area antedate the Christian era by 2,000 years. It was at various times subservient to the Chinese empire, but at the end of the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-95, China and Japan recognized the complete independence of Korea.

Conflicting interests of Russia and Japan in Korea and in the Vladivostok area of the Maritime Province of Siberia led to the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05, which was settled through the mediation of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt at the Treaty of Portsmouth, 1905, at Kittery, Maine. It permitted the Japanese occupation of Korea which was followed in 1910 by the forcible annexation and incorporation of Korea into the Japanese empire.

In the Yalta Agreements at the Crimea in February 1945 territorial concessions were made to Russia in return for its promise to enter World War II against Japan after Germany's defeat. (That was a deal that most Americans except President F. D. Roosevelt knew little about). The Russians finally declared war against Japan on August 8, 1945. The Russians then moved promptly to stake out a claim to the spoils of war. They entered Korea on August 10, 1945, four days "before" Japan offered to surrender.

American troops arrived later in Korea, on September 8, 1945. In the WWII surrender agreement Russia obtained joint-Allied occupation of Korea. The 38th Parallel was the southern boundary of the Russian occupation zone. They sealed off the boundary with machine guns and took over, even though the Allies at Cairo in December 1943 had pledged to create a "unified and independent Korea."

The Russians wanted nothing to do with a U.N. Joint Commission or free elections in Korea. Twice the Russians cut off all power sent to South Korea from the hydroelectric dams in North Korea. There would be no peaceful union of Korea.

Then, on June 25, 1950 the North Korean Army, trained and supplied by Russia, attacked South Korea in flagrant violation of the Cairo Declaration. This was a "war of liberation," designed to unite Korea, not as an independent nation, but as a satellite of the Soviet Union.

Then we Americans got our call to Asia and distant Korea.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

KWVA Attendance at Navajo Groundbreaking

By National Director Michele Bretz

On October 19, National Director Michele Bretz attended the Navajoland Nursing Home groundbreaking located on the Navajo Reservation near Chinle, Arizona. Prior to the official ceremony, the local Navajo Medicine Shaman blessed the ground with over twenty individual veterans present. All four states were represented by their respective nations and the bordering states of Arizona, Nevada, Utah, and Colorado.

Originally, the color guard was to consist of only Native American women warrior veterans, but due to the number of flags, additional volunteers were asked to join. Additional male veterans, the local ROTC cadets, and non-Native National Director Michele Bretz were asked to assist.

Timothy Johnson, USMC, and Cecilia Sandoval, a USAF nurse who had served in Korea, were the ceremony MCs. Keynote speaker was Thomas Begay, USMC/US Army, one of three surviving Navajo Code talkers. Cecilia Sandoval presented a medal to Mr. Begay, which he was supposed to have received at the WWII Museum.

Additional guest speakers were Linda Onesalt, USN, Tom Gorman, USA, and various organizations and Senator Kelly's representative, who was also a woman veteran. The national anthem was sung in both English and Navajo. The groundbreaking



National Director Michele Bretz, 2nd from left, listening to the ceremony with her fellow women warrior veterans



LEFT: Navajo Shaman ground blessing ceremony



RIGHT: Timothy Johnson, unknown (background), Thomas Begay, Cecilia Sandoval (L-R), Linda Onesalt (foreground) during medal presentation



Cecilia and I were looking for an Arizona state flag for 5 days. We happened to see a flag at Mountain Retreat Realty and stopped to ask if we could borrow theirs. A quick call to the boss and these ladies allowed us to borrow theirs for the day. In doing so, I found out that Nancy Coto (2nd from the left) was a U.S. Army veteran. It helps to know that even with the different generations, ranks, and military branches we like to help each other out!

consisted of one male and one female veteran from each branch, as well as each state. Upon completion of the ceremony, guests were invited to the hagona, ceremonial gathering place, for Native American food, conversation, and entertainment.

Note: Don Loudner, KWVA member and National Chief, introduced Michele to Cecilia two years ago because of their commonality of being military nurses stationed in Korea twenty years apart. The two had kept in contact via telephone and email on various projects, but didn't physically meet until this event. Once they met in person, they found that they had more in common, including living only thirty minutes apart and Cecilia's husband had worked in the same hospital as Michele before she joined the military. Cecilia has been actively involved in the community to promote



Cecilia Sandoval and Michele Bretz (R) saying goodbye after the events in Show Low, AZ airport. Yes, we could pass as sisters!

Last Man Standing

Thanks to the July-August 2022 edition of *The Graybeards* I received an answer to a question I had for about two years: what happened to Stanley Grogan? I suspected I knew the answer but hesitated to accept it.


Stanley and I had kept in touch with each other for about seventy years. But, as so often happens with old friends we lost touch. But, we had a longstanding friendship. He and I had a chance meeting on a plane going from K-9 Korea to Clark AFB, Philippines in the summer of 1952. He had finished a tour in Korea in the back seat of an F-94B and I had completed 38 missions of a tour in a B-26, destroying anything that moved in North Korea. I had been shot down on my 38th missions and received a concussion. The brass decided I should not complete my entire tour.

We were assigned to a new wing being formed, the 581st Air Resupply and Communication Wings, a complete misnomer. It was a CIA Wing for psychological warfare, probably in violation of the Geneva Convention, which would make anyone participating a war criminal. The unit had many types of planes but we were assigned to reconnaissance B-29 missions to fly to strange places. We were instructed not to discuss where we went or what we did for 50 years.

We had no guns, planes painted black, and no USAF designation. Thank God, because if we did Stanley and/or I would have been pushing up daisies about thirty miles north of Vladivostok. Russia had identical B-29s.


On January 6, 1953 four B-29s were sent to Yokota, Japan to fly psychological missions in the North Korea "area," one plane a night. Just out of curiosity, one night on our way up to the area we tuned into "Korean Katie." She knew more about our mission than we did. She said we were going up to fly missions in violation of the Geneva Convention and as such we were "war criminals."

She added that our Wing Commander, Col. Arnold, would fly the first mission on Jan 7 and they would shoot him down. He did—and they did. We lost our Wing Commander and some other brass on the first mission. How far north he was over the




U.S. Army Signal Corps Electronics - A Major Reason of Victory


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Korea Medal**



As a USAF pilot flew 38 B-26B interdiction missions in North Korea to destroy anything that moved. While 50 missions is a complete tour, was reassigned as a CIA pilot to fly 10 psychological warfare missions in unarmed B-29s repainted black without USAF insignia to various unidentified Korean locations.

On final CIA combat tour, he flew 65 B-26 interdiction missions similar to those in North Korea from Thailand and Da Nang, Indochina, from November 1953 to the end of the War on May 7, 1954.

Left USAF as a B-57 Canberra instructor pilot in August 1955.

By AFA Shooting Star Chapter 195, July 2018

Yalu River which separates North Korea from Russia we don't know, but they said he was north of the Yalu.

We flew the first of our ten missions on the third night. Stanley was our Radar Operator. We were instructed not to discuss where we went and what we did, but they were brutal missions.

We returned to Clark and continued reconnaissance missions to strange places. One worth mentioning is to Northern Thailand. On that one they got our starboard engine. We could not make it back to Clark on three engines and had to land in Bangkok for repairs. Our crew was treated like royalty. Unfortunately, we ate local food. That was worse than facing enemy fire. Stanley and I ended up in the local hospital for a

week with amoebic dysentery. I am not completely cured.

Stanley was our RB-29 Radar Operator for two years. I believe he was classified as 100% disabled with post-traumatic stress disorder (combat fatigue) as I am, and considered "unemployable." We both kept in close contact with our seven-man crew over the years. Sadly, I am the last man standing.

Unknown to me the AFA created a memento to put in their headquarters. It neglected to mention that I earned a Purple Heart that I never received because the CIA kept no written records of its psychological warfare.

Arthur Snyder, 429 Manor Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016, 908-581-0995, applesouse@verizon.net

Monument dedicated in Frankenmuth, Michigan

We had a dedication of a Korean War and Korean Defense monument on August 27, 2022 at 10 a.m. at the Heroes Museum, Frankenmuth, Michigan. Heroes Museum is the only museum devoted to wartime experiences of men and women from the State of Michigan.

The monument honors those who have and

continue to serve in the defense of the people of the Korean Peninsula and in remembering those who paid the ultimate price for their service and dedication.

Special thanks for making his monument possible go to Ken Heck, founding member of the Frankenmuth Saginaw Chapter, Fred Bauer,

Bob Hubbard, Gorman Wolfe, Commander, Sandy Schwan, Adjutant, and Rick Anderson, former Commander and Finance Officer, who passed away at a year ago at this time.

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



The Korean War and Korean Defense monument in Frankenmuth, MI



Back of the Frankenmuth monument



Members of Ch. 251 who attended monument dedication



Speaker Doug Voss, National Director and Ch. 306 Commander, who delivered a detailed speech on Korea



Another view of the Frankenmuth monument depicting casualties



21-gun salute performed by Frankenmuth American Legion Post 150, followed by "Taps" played by Jerome Yanco



Gorman Wolfe of Ch. 251 unveils Frankenmuth monument



Korean War vets Ken Heck, Bob Hubbard, Gorman Wolfe, and Korea Defense Vet Larry Schluckebier assist in monument unveiling



Sandy Schwan of Ch. 251 opens monument dedication

President Eisenhower, Thanksgiving, and Korea

Staff Report

There was speculation in November 1952 that President-elect Eisenhower had a trip scheduled to spend time with the troops in Korea. People around the globe wondered if the soldier-turned-statesman would make the trip, whether it would be a mission of war or peace. It turned out to be neither. His plan to visit Korea to share Thanksgiving dinner with the troops—if there ever was one—fell apart.

Some people were disappointed. He had promised during his 1952 presidential campaign to visit Korea if he was elected. Supporters read what they considered to be unmistakable signs as Thanksgiving approached that he was going to fulfill his promise. But why would he be going to Korea in 1952? There didn't seem to be any upside to such a trip.

Few, if any, Americans harbored hopes that his presence there would lead to peace, at least not immediately. Some people didn't even want peace in Korea at that point. They were afraid that a sudden peace after a year-and-a-half of fighting "might herald a new peace offensive by Russia designed to lull the free world into a disastrously false sense of security." The hopes of both the pro-and anti-peace proponents were dashed a few days before Thanksgiving when the signs that he was leaving disappeared. That was probably a good thing for Ike and the nation.

The trip would have been dangerous at best. Advertising his departure would have been foolhardy. It would have been asking for trouble. Rumormongers feasted on the uncertainty. They pointed to unusual security measures underway in Korea that indicated the arrival of someone important. That supposed uptick in activity lent credence to the report.

The smart money was on his going. Anyone who bet that way would have lost. When Thanksgiving Day 1952 arrived Ike was with his family, carving a 25-pound turkey for his wife, Mamie, daughter-in-law, and three grandchildren. His son, John, was in Korea. More significantly, his appointment book for the rest of the week was blocked out with the kind of dates even a

Please turn to **EISENHOWER** on page 47



Destiny Anderson sings the national anthem at Frankenmuth dedication



Jon Webb, President of the Castle Museum of Saginaw County, speaks at monument event



Speaker Gorman Wolfe recounts his experiences in Korea



Frankenmuth American Legion Post 150 Honor Guard presents Colors



Leo and Mary entertain the crowd before the Frankenmuth monument is unveiled



Colors are presented at Frankenmuth

Chapter & Department News

Chapter 122 Dissolves; Chapter 132 gains new members

A few years ago members of the Arden A. Rowley Chapter 122 made and passed an article in our Bylaws for chapter dissolution. Basically, it was to vote for dissolution whenever the chapter membership had declined to five members. Our chapter activity had declined to just about nothing other than monthly meetings September through June in the past two years. Our Honor Guard, of which I'm proud to be Captain, has continued to be active during this time.

Recently, we had our last chapter meeting and voted to deactivate. Several of us hard-headed veterans are very proud of our service for the freedom of South Korea and we wish to be the "last men" standing. A couple of us will join the Richard Countryman Chapter (CID 132) to help with their programs as they continue to be active. In fact, I gave the Countryman Chapter materials for an honor guard, the collar pins, honor badge nameplates, shoulder cords, and neck scarfs at our last Dept. of Arizona meeting. All they need to do is buy aviator shirts, name badges, and garrison caps (piss cutters) if they don't have one.

It's kind of the life's circle as I helped charter the Countryman Chapter and will be going in as the guy on the bottom of the totem pole.

Lew Bradley, lewbradley@gmail.com

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Our October meeting was held at Petite Violette French restaurant in Atlanta. The luncheon meeting was sponsored by the First Korean Presbyterian Church of Atlanta as an ongoing annual event. The food was sumptuous and delicious.

Our chapter is truly grateful for this continuous support of our chapter by this church.

Yong Ki Lee, yongkilee19911@gmail.com



Members of Ch. 19 enjoy luncheon



Ch. 19 members enjoy elegant dining at October meeting

20 HAWAII #1 [HI]

On October 3, 2022, we were honored at the National Day and Armed Forces Day of the Republic of Korea. The event was sponsored by Hong, Sook-in, the Consulate General of the ROK in Honolulu, at the exclusive Pacific Club in Honolulu, Hawaii. About 200 guests attended this function that included a Korean musical instrument ensemble, singers, and speeches by civilian and military dignitaries. Everyone enjoyed the lavish buffet that included prime ribs, golden colored roasted pig and a variety of other food.

On September 20, 2022, members and guests were invited to a luncheon at the Marriott Hotel in Waikiki sponsored by the Disabled Veterans Organization. This function was entitled "Consolation Ceremony for Disabled UN veterans in Korean War." Speeches by dignitaries praised the veterans for their support in the Korean War and each veteran was presented with sou-



Rev. Son of First Korean Presbyterian Church of Atlanta (L) with Ch. 19 President Norman Board at October luncheon

Scenes from Ch. 20's gathering



Members of Ch. 20 with hosts



Taekwondo group thanks Ch. 20 members



Young Taekwondo students thanks Ch. 20 member


venirs and monetary gifts. Entertainment was provided by a group of Korean martial arts students, followed by a delicious buffet lunch.

Stan Fujii, stan_fujii@hotmail

44 MISSOURI #1

We have made several significant donations, among them the St. Louis County Veterans Museum (\$300.00), Greater St. Louis Honor Flight (\$5,000.00), and the Focus Marines Foundation (\$400.00). These are just a few of the things we do as a chapter, in addition to conducting our fund drives to support veterans, their families, VA hospitals, etc. Our intake from our fund raisers is 100% used to support these programs and many like it.

Sydney ("Sid") Staton, Treasurer/Secretary, Korea 1963-64, 1 Calvary 7th Regiment



FOCUS Marines Foundation
Where things start to get better

September 06, 2022


MO Chapter Korean War Veterans Association
75 Sparrow Point Circle,
Penton, MO 63026

Dear MO Chapter Korean War Veterans Association,

FOCUS Marines Foundation sincerely appreciates your recent donation in the amount of \$400.00 received on 09/02/2022. Your contribution enables FOCUS Marines Foundation to continue its work with wounded Marines and veterans, enabling them to live fulfilling and successful lives after so valiantly serving our country.

FOCUS Marines Foundation is a non-profit organization as described under IRS Section 501(c)(3), EFN 27-2081900, which allows for contributions to FOCUS Marines Foundation to be tax deductible by the donor.

No goods or services were provided by FOCUS Marines Foundation in return for this contribution.

Sincerely,

Norm Harrison
Vice-President of Development
FOCUS Marines Foundation
Norm.Harrison@FOCUSMarines.org

ATTENTION:
Kim Boudry
Jason Bremer
Jason Tice
John Kaveler
Nathan Troup

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Vice Treasurer
Wendell Webb
Vice Treasurer

St Charles County Veterans Museum
410 E. Clin St
O'Fallon, MO 63366 US
636-724-8029
scvetsmuseum@gmail.com
stcharlescountyveteransmuseum.org


SALES RECEIPT

SALES # 4 DATE 09/05/2022

PMT METHOD Check

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
Vet Org Korea		1	300.00	300.00
TOTAL				300.00
BALANCE DUE				\$0.00

Thank you so much for the donation of \$300.00 to the St Charles County Veterans Museum.



GREATER ST. LOUIS HONOR FLIGHT
100th MISSION

Korean War Veterans Association Inc. Missouri Chapter #1
75 Sparrow Point Circle
Penton, MO 63026

September 27, 2022

Dear friends,

Thank you for your \$5,000.00 contribution on September 22, 2022, to Greater St. Louis Honor Flight's 100th Mission on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

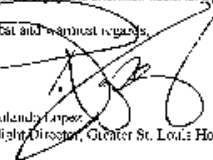
Because of donors like you, Heroes Men and Women who fought to defend our Country will feel appreciated for their service.

Because of donors like you, the Community has an occasion to gather and celebrate the accomplishments of those who have been a part of our Armed Forces.

Because of donors like you, former Soldiers will experience one of the most moving, memorable days of their lives.

Greater St. Louis Honor Flight depends on donations from dedicated supporters and appreciates your commitment to our mission. With your help, we will continue to coordinate even more all-inclusive trips for local Veterans to visit the national memorials built in their honor.

Please enjoy the enclosed card as a gesture of our sincere appreciation.

Best and warmest regards,

Roland Lapez
Flight Director, Greater St. Louis Honor Flight

51 RICHLAND COUNTY [OH]

We had an appreciation dinner for the previous members' family and friends with music and foods. President Walker gave a speech on what our goals and what is coming up this year and next.

Members made a day tour on October 6, 2022 at the Pioneer Career and Technological School and had a sumptuous lunch at the school restaurant. Doug Theaker, our member and the chair of the board at the school, introduced the staff and Gold Star students. The school has 1,200 students currently and educating young men and women proudly and successfully.

We welcomed new member Valerie Walker.
Jay Haar, jhaar2011@gmail.com



Ch. 151 contingent at the Pioneer Career and Technological School: Ken Estep, Mr/Mrs Dale Walker, Doug Theaker, Lorin Vance, Glen Weigler, Chuck Pfoutz, Jay Haar. Valerie Walter, Mr/Mrs Dave Barnhart (L-R)

KWVA FAMILY LUNCHEON AT DLX ON SEP. 14, 2022



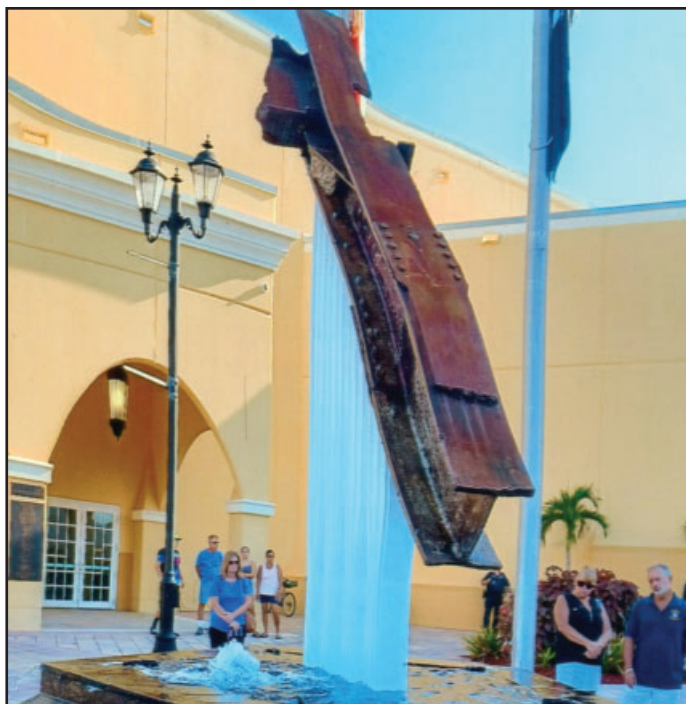
Members and guests at Ch. 151's family luncheon

106 TREASURE COAST [FL]

Members attended a 9/11 ceremony at the Port St. Lucie Civic Center.



Port St. Lucie, FL, City Councilman, unidentified attendee (behind bell), Ch. 106 and KWVA National Director David Pickett, County Commissioner Sean Mitchell, Fire Chief Nate Spera, and Police Chief John Bolduc (L-R) at 9/11/ ceremony



9/11 Memorial at Port St. Lucie, FL Civic Center



9/11 ceremony attended by Ch. 106 members in progress at Port St. Lucie, FL

Louis DeBlasio, 352 NW Shoreview Dr., Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, 772-344-8628, LouDi@bellsouth.net

111 CPL. RICHARD A. BELL [WI]

Former Commander, now chaplain, James Maersch awarded several certificates of appreciation to members. They included Max Sommerfield, Dick Klumb, Ken Muenchow, and Treasurer Wally Kohler.



Max Sommerfield (L) of Ch. 11 accepts certificate of appreciation for his service to our country



Commander Norb Carter of Ch. 111 (R) presents a Camo Quilt to member Francis Wanty

Dick Klumb of Ch. 111 displays certificate for many hours volunteered at Habitat for Humanity



Commander Norb Carter presented a Camo Quilt to member Francis Wanty, a Korean War combat veteran. Wanty is also a member of the American Legion and the West Bend Veterans Honor Guard.

Chaplain Jim Maersch recently returned from the November 5 Honor Flight out of Milwaukee. Although he always thought others were more deserving, his son had other ideas and applied to be a guardian and included his dad's name. Maersch, a Korean War draftee, was later recalled to active duty during the Vietnam War. Scheduled to be mobilized for Desert Storm, Maersch opted to retire from the Naval Reserve after serving for over 35 years.

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



Norb Carter of Ch. 111 presents certificate to Marine veteran Ken Muenchow

Treasurer Wally Kohler (L) of Ch. 111 receives a "Thank You" certificate for all he does for the chapter



121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

Korean War Veterans Honored with the Help of Grandchildren

To show our appreciation for our Korean War veterans and fallen warriors who served in Korea, we held a dinner ceremony to honor them and their families.

The Veterans Day Dinner and Ceremony was both a solemn and fun event. In addition to great socializing, the ceremony part of the



Members of Ch. 121: (Back, L-R) Dr. Steve Stratemeyer, John Plahovinsak, Joe Rettig, David Weeks, Dave Wright, Brian Brown; (Chair Row, L-R) Jack Long, Bill Riekert, Jack Brady, Russ Carlson, Bill Doud, Ray Hutchinson; Front: Tom Schneider

dinner was quite moving. After Chapter President Joe Rettig led with the Pledge of Allegiance, the attendees sang our national anthem and “God Bless America.” Chapter Chaplain Bill Doud announced the names of those members who passed away in 2022: Jim Balli, George Kerber and Donald Harrison. “Taps” was then played in honor of our fallen warriors.



American Legion NE Post 630 Volunteers: (Back, L-R) Bob Barnhorst, Allen Hughes, Steve Stratemeyer, Joe Rettig, Tom Schneider, Paul Collett; (Front, L-R) Pat Barnhorst, Audrey Buschmann, Pat Buschmann, Barb Rettig, Brody Buschmann, Dave Buschmann

Tom Schneider and Steve Stratemeyer placed six story boards around the room giving a history of the Korean War. This allowed veterans to show their families where they served during the Korean War. It was a great history lesson. The background music for the dinner was the top hits from 1948 to 1954. This brought back many memories for the veterans. They could all tell you where they were when they first heard each song.

The Veterans Day Dinner and Ceremony could not have been run efficiently if not for the volunteers from American Legion NE Post 630, located in Blue Ash, Ohio. The volunteers did everything from setting up the room to manning the registration table, serving drinks, appetizers, and dinners, collecting for the Split-the-Pot drawing, offering photography services, and cleaning the room.

The volunteers from Post 630 included Bob & Pat Barnhorst, Dave & Pat Buschmann and their grandchildren, Audrey & Brody Buschmann, Paul Collett, Allen Hughes, Steve Stratemeyer, and Joe & Barb Rettig.

Because many of the Korean War veterans are not highly mobile, and for a safe COVID-19 protocol, Raffel's Catering, located in Evendale, OH, delivered individual meals for the dinner. Raffel's also provided special cookies for the veterans. What was particularly gratifying was watching the joy of Audrey & Brody Buschmann serving our veterans. These two young people were amazing in their efforts to eagerly serve them.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Korean War Veterans Association, feel free to contact Joe Rettig at 513-891-7244 or email at jrettig@cinci.rr.com. Any veteran who served in Korea is eligible to join the KWVA. Any veteran who served in the U.S. military from June of 1950 to January of 1955 is eligible to join the KWVA regardless of where he or she served. They could have served in the U.S., Germany or any other location

Joe Rettig, 9490 Lansford Dr., Blue Ash, OH 45242, 513-891-7244, jrettig@cinci.rr.com

142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

Liberty Road Dedicated to Col William E Weber

On Thursday November 10, 2022, which would have been Col William E Weber's 97th birthday, a Road Dedication Ceremony was held at the Libertytown Fire Hall in Maryland. Henceforth, Rte 26, also known as Liberty Road, from Libertytown to Rte 15, is dedicated in his name.

Col Weber's daughter-in-law, Beth Chambers Weber, and his granddaughter, Dayne Weber, unveiled the new road sign. The sign reads:

**Dedicated to COL
William E Weber
US Army 187th RCT**

Col Chang, representing Major General Kyungkoo Lee, Republic of Korea Defense Attaché, spoke admirably of Col Weber and his steadfast recognition of the KATUSA. Dignitaries present were Col (Ret) Charles Zimmerman, VFW Post 8806; Libertytown Fire Chief, Mr. Chip Jewell; Lauren Hackett, from Linganore High School who sang the National Anthem; Chaplain James Harris, VFW Post 8806 who gave the Invocation and Benediction; Col (Ret) Richard Dean, Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation; Ms. Jan Gardener, Frederick County Executive; Mrs. Yumi Hogan, First Lady of Maryland; and Dwight Reynolds, American Legion Post 282, who sang God Bless America.



ROK Col Chang, First Lady Yumi Hogan, Frederick County Executive Jan Gardener's father (Veteran), Department of Maryland KWVA Veteran, and Ch. 142 members Fred Becker and Glenn Wienhoff (L-R) at road dedication

Representing Ch. 142 at Col Weber road dedication were Commander Fred Becker (L) and Secretary Wienhoff (R), who were greeted personally by First Lady Yumi Hogan (C) and Republic of Korea Col Chang, who is absent from photo



Representing Chapter 142 were Commander Becker and Secretary Wienhoff, who were greeted personally by the former First Lady of Maryland Yumi Hogan and Republic of Korea Col Chang.

Oakdale High School

Oakdale High School held a Veterans Day celebration on 9 November 2022. Members Robert Mount and Charles Chipley were invited to speak with two classes about their military experience. The students were attentive and asked various questions about their experiences.

After the classroom visits they proceeded to the auditorium for a veteran's day program. The keynote speaker was Dr. Kraig Sheetz, Executive Vice President of Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD. He is a retired U.S. Army Colonel with 28 years of military service. The program recognized veterans of all branches with the armed forces medley.

Lunch was provided for all veterans after the program.

Veterans Day Parade



Members of Ch. 142 participate in Brunswick, MD, Veterans Day parade: Left convertible: Richard Cody and Chip Chipley; Right Convertible: Fred Becker and Glenn Wienhoff

Sign indicates Ch. 142's "birthday" in Brunswick, MD parade



Sunday November 6, 2022, was a drizzly day as members Chip Chipley, Richard Cody, Fred Becker and Glenn Wienhoff participated in the 90th Brunswick Veterans Day Parade. Members rode in Fred Becker's and Richard Cody's convertibles, with the tops and windows up. Weather aside, fun was had by all and the parade was a success.



Ch. 142 member Richard Cody's convertible passing the main stand during Veterans Day parade

The Brunswick Parade has been held the Sunday before Veterans Day for the last 90 years. It is one of the oldest celebrations of our nation's veterans in the country.

Montevue Program

Montevue Assisted Living of Frederick, MD held a Veterans Day celebration on November 10, 2022. Robert Mount, Kern Thornton and Charles Chipley attended as guests. Bob Mount was one of the speakers and told of his Korean War experience. Other speakers were from Hospice and the local Vietnam War chapter.

Awards were presented to all veterans living at the home. The chapter presented a \$1,000.00 check for veteran's assistance at the facility. Refreshments, pizza and beer were served after the program.

2022-2023 Scholarship Recipients

We are most proud to present higher education scholarships to Korean War veterans' descendants. Through fundraising and donations, we have contributed to a special scholarship fund held by The Community Foundation of Frederick County, which selects scholarship recipients from submitted applications. This year, the chapter increased the number of recipients from two to three.


*The Col. William E. Weber Chapter 142
Korean War Veterans Association
of Frederick County, MD, Inc. Fund*

Scholarship Recipient: Amelia Harman

College Attending:
University of Notre Dame

Major:
Neuroscience and Behavior

What this scholarship means to you and your future?
This scholarship means the world to me as it will significantly reduce the amount of student loans I will need to take on. Your generosity will allow me to focus on my studies!



Ch. 142 scholarship recipient Amelia Harman

Jacob Fox, Ch. 142 scholarship recipient

*The Col. William E. Weber Chapter 142
Korean War Veterans Association
of Frederick County, MD, Inc. Fund*

Scholarship Recipient: Jacob Fox

College Attending:
University of Maryland College Park

Major:
Fire Protection Engineering

What this scholarship means to you and your future?
A scholarship of this magnitude is extremely important in mitigating my educational expenses. Specifically, I will put the money from this scholarship towards paying for my room and board next year.




*The Col. William E. Weber Chapter 142
Korean War Veterans Association
of Frederick County, MD, Inc. Fund*

Scholarship Recipient: Gabrielle Williams

College Attending:
Stevenson University

Major:
Business Management

What this scholarship means to you and your future?
This scholarship will help make it possible for me to accomplish my goals. I will return to my community and empower people to go for their dreams.



Gabrielle Williams, winner of Ch. 142 scholarship

This year's recipients were Gabrielle Williams, Jacob Fox, and Amelia Harman. We wish them much success in all their endeavors.

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

170 TAEJON [NJ]

On May 30, 2022 we remembered all our deceased members. Recently, while I was going through old chapter records I found this tribute to our founder, Walter Bray, who passed away on May 7, 1998. We remember and honor him every year.

This what I found:

As Told To Jim & Eleanor Lomauro Of Taejon Chapter, KWVA

A brash young teen who went to court, the judge considered the case report. Nothing to sentence, but he firmly insisted, these problems, erased, if he enlisted. The Army recruit matured overnight, then shipped to Hawaii, a garrison site. Several stripes later, for his mortar team, enlisted time ending, a homeward-bound scheme. Summer gear packed and paperwork done. The outfit embarked, farewell, tropic fun. Our soldier looked skyward and knew by the sun, this "ship's headed west, no USA run.


"Sure," said the sailors, and gave them the score, "The fight's in Korea, you're off to war."

Embarking in cold, soon to get colder; facing an enemy, numerous and bolder. Holding the line, while some could retreat. Shortly it was down to earth or defeat.

Our sole survivor in his mortar squad, lying wounded, played dead till enemy's prod, was made prisoner, marched north. Threats all the way, helped to keep up, cheated death every day.

Sgt Walter Bray
POW
Korean War

UNITED STATES ARMY
MORTAR SQUAD MEMBER
BATTLE OF TAEJON
WOUNDED IN COMBAT
PRISON CAMP ON YALU



AS TOLD TO JIM & ELEANOR LOMAURO, of TAEJON CHAPTER, KWVA

A brash young teen who went to court, The Judge considered the case report,
Nothing to sentence, but he firmly insisted, These problems, erased, if he enlisted,
The Army recruit matured overnight, Then shipped to Hawaii, a garrison site,
Several stripes later, for his mortar team, Enlisted time ending, a homeward bound scheme
Summer gear packed and paper work done, The outfit embarked, farewell tropic fun,
Our soldier looked skyward and knew by the Sun, This ship's headed west, no USA run,
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Embarking in cold, soon to get colder, Facing an enemy, numerous and bolder,
Holding the line while some could retreat, Shortly it was down to death or defeat,
Our sole survivor in his mortar squad, Lying wounded, played dead 'till enemy's prod,
Was made prisoner, marched north, threats all the way, helped to keep up, cheated death every day,
In sight of the Yalu River, far North Korea:
When in POW camp a Chaplain/prisoner was able to beg to try and save Walt's wounded leg
No amputation, thanks to that care, Walt was rescued from deep despair,
But then Padre was punished for medicine he stole, He froze to death in a grated hole,
Walter took over to give others aid, Though basic and crude, progress was made,
But time passed with prisoners weak and in rags, Walt buried dead brothers, hid dog tags
A prisoner exchange after years in that Hell, Walt and survivors hoped this to go well.
Dressed in pajamas, slippers, and caps, They were taken, they hoped, to freedom perhaps
Exchange at a bridge called "Freedom" one day, Walt stopped - stripped naked, as halfway,
He tore open the lining, pulled dog tags, counting for dead's only remains,
The years that we knew Walt are treasured but few, Paying homage to comrades is what we must do,
We stand where Walt rests, we remember his strife, remember he treasured time with daughter and wife,
(Army Reunion: Finding Russel Street alive!)
He did find another Taejon time guy, At their reunion we had tears in the eye,
Not yearly we come, recalling him that strife, We owe him forever, he gave us a life!
"Parents have boys, usual brothers; Veterans' experiences caused lasting others."

Note: Walter Bray carried a half dozen recruiting forms on his person every day. At a St. Patrick's Day Parade, Walt stepped out of formation, went to the curb, and gave a form to an Air Force Vet of the Korean War. The obvious camaraderie of the Taejon Unit; the neatness and pride in evidence was worth filling out the membership form. That level of military bearing doesn't happen, it is caused by everlasting obligation to us, THE LIVING, to honor the rest of our triangle, THE WOUNDED and OUR DEAD.

James L. Lomauro USAF, Ritual Team Taejon Chapter



The Ch. 170 monument in Saddle Brook, NJ



Walter Bray's grave marker



Ch. 170 members gathered to honor Walter Bray

In sight of the Yalu River, far North Korea:

When in POW camp a Chaplain/prisoner was able to beg to try and save Walt's wounded leg. No amputation, thanks to that care. Walt was rescued from deep despair. But then Padre was punished for medicine he stole. He froze to death in a grated hole.

Walter took over to give others aid. Though basic and crude, progress was made. But, time passed with prisoners weak, and in rags. Walt buried dead brothers, hid dog tags. A prisoner exchange after years in that Hell. Walt and survivors hoped this

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But yearly we come, recalling him, that strife. We owe him forever, he gave us a life.

“Parents have boys, usual brothers: veterans’ experiences caused lasting others.

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Kenneth J. Green, past Commander, 6 Ridge Ave., Little Falls, NJ 07424

192 CITRUS COUNTY [FL]

On November 1, 2022 we presented a check to the Nature Coast Young Marines at their regular meeting.

Hank Butler, hankrita32@gmail.com



Thomas Richardson, Ch. 192 member, John Livingston, Ch 192 Commander, far right, Hank Butler, Past Commander; (Center left, bottom) PFC Dyer, Recruit Lowing; (back) Master Sgt. Cook, Lance Cpl. Cook, and Unit Commander Mary Cook accepting the check

The Citrus County, FL, Memorial



209 LAREDO KWVA 1950 [TX]

We commemorated the implementation of the Korean War Armistice at a July 27, 2022 event at our Korean War Veterans Memorial.

Ricardo Santos, 956-231-3857, csantos@lmtonline.com



Ernesto Sanchez, Ch. 209 Commander, places American flags along the Korean War Veterans Memorial on July 27, 2022, to mark the 69th Anniversary of the armistice agreement



Ernesto Sanchez (C) speaks with Vietnam veteran Jesus A. Segovia (L) and Webb County District Attorney Isidro “Chilo” Alaniz in front of the Korean War Veterans Memorial on July 27, 2022

227 SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN [WI]

We donated a bench to the new Kenosha, Wisconsin Veterans

Memorial Park. We have members from several cities in the southeastern part of Wisconsin. The chapter was featured in an article in the August 27, 2022 Kenosha News, Section B, page 1 regarding the donation.

Thomas E. Linden, Secretary, 1540 Raintree Ln., #121, Racine, WI 53406, gonealot33@yahoo.com



The new Kenosha County Veterans Memorial Park bench donated by Ch. 227



Members of Ch. 227 display new bench at Kenosha County Veterans Memorial Park: Kenosha County Executive Samantha Kerkman, Tom Linden, Jim Drascic, and Don Milkie (Back, L-R); Bob Blodgett and Commander Julius Miannecki (Front, L-R)

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

In August Kerri Dobbyn contacted Senior Vice Bob Jaworski regarding her step-father, a Korean War veteran who was visiting Rhode Island from Florida. Kerri had gotten Bob's name from her neighbors, Linda and Donna Folkerelli, who know Bob from the DAV. A breakfast meeting was set up at the Lincoln IHOP at which Commander Dick Mende joined us. During the breakfast Commander Mende learned that he and Lionel served in Korea at the same time, only ten miles apart. Everyone had an enjoyable breakfast.

On August 14th some of our members attended the "Sounds of Korea," an excellent show put on by the Korean American Association of Rhode Island. It featured performers from New England and South Korea. A meal followed the show, capping off a wonderful evening.

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



Commander Dick Mende and Sr. Vice Bob Jaworski of Ch. 258 and Lionel Ford from Florida (L-R)



Members and guests of Ch. 258 at IHOP breakfast



Doris Ford (L) and Margaret Walsh of Ch. 258

Vinnie Doyle of Ch. 258 at the collection table helping out Quartermaster Charles Compton, who has done an excellent job organizing the chapter's numerous collections





"Sounds of Korea" finale at Woorigarak Korean Cultural Arts Center



Korean performers do fan dance during "Sounds of Korea" show attended by Ch. 258 members

267 GENERAL JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

We donated \$1,000 to the local Veterans Administration Fisher House at the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Nov. 1, 2022. Commander Ron Carbaugh and Adjutant Don Sherry made the donation to the Fisher House Director, Rick Fabiani, at the event. Members collected this money by going out with the "Rose of Sharon" flowers fundraiser.

Don Sherry, Adjutant, 352-375-8355, dpskwva@yahoo.com



Don Sherry (L) and Ron Carbaugh (C) of Ch. 267 present check to Rick Fabiani, Director of Fisher House

286 EAST TEXAS [TX]

On October 14, 2022 Homer Garrett, Bill Jacque, and Debra Christian, along with members of the Tyler Korean Baptist Church, rode in the 89th Annual Texas Rose Festival Parade in Tyler, Texas. The chapter has been riding in the parade for over 10 years and is a crowd favorite.



Homer Garrett, Bill Jacque and Debra Christian of Ch. 285, along with members of the Tyler Korean Baptist Church at the Tyler, TX Rose Festival Parade



Bill Jacque and Debra Christian (R) of Ch. 286 at parade

Thousands of people lined the street to view the parade, which celebrates the role of the rose-growing industry in the local economy. The parade helps to let the community know that there is a local KWVA chapter, and serves as a recruiting tool.

James Warren, jewarren@juno.com

298 ALAMO [TX]

We conducted a POW/MIA Ceremony at the Ilsong Garden Korean Restaurant in San Antonio, Texas, on September 17, 2022.

*Carlos A. Vela, President,
carlosavela.usarmy1974@yahoo.com*



Lee Rivas, Treasurer, Korean Defense (L); four Korean War veterans in the center, Carlos A. Vela, Korean Defense, President (Second from right), and Brian Sweet, Associate Member, at Ch. 298 meeting

299 KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA [MA]

Our leadership presented a Certificate of Appreciation and a check for \$250.00 to the American Legion Post 204 for use of their meeting room and strong support of the chapter.

Al McCarthy, mccarthy.albert@live.com



Charles Morris (Treasurer), Vartkess Tarbassian (Director), Ben Martino (Commander), Larry Linquist (Am. Leg. Post Club Mgr.), Al McCarthy (KWVA National 1st VP), and Ed Langevin (Chaplain) (L-R) at Ch. 299 check presentation

301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

HALL OF HEROES

The Spartanburg, SC County Veterans Affairs Office, working

with the Spartanburg County and City Councils, began a new program to honor its hometown heroes called "Hall of Heroes." From a long list of nominees, 21 local veterans were selected and inducted into the inaugural group.

The "heroes" were recognized for their exceptional honorable service in the armed forces and further service to veterans. All were either born, currently live in, or are buried in Spartanburg County, SC. Honored, some posthumously, were veterans from WWII to the present. The posthumous awards were presented to family members.

Our chapter was well represented. Two of our members were inducted into the inaugural program. One, ex-POW Robert "Bob" Bostwick, U.S. Army, 1st Cavalry, escaped by overpowering his captors. Bob has been involved in helping other veterans in MOPH, DAV, American Legion, and our chapter.

The second member recognized is Lewis I. "Lew" Perry, U.S. Navy, Torpedoman on the Destroyer USS Lowry (DD-770) in Korea in 1952. Lew is the Founder and twice past President of the chapter. He is the chairman of the Korean War Veterans Memorial and Honors Walkway in Conestee Park, Greenville, SC.

The awards ceremony was held on October 13, 2022 in the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium, conducted by Brent Cobb, Director of Spartanburg County Veterans Affairs.

Lew Perry, lewperry@aol.com



Bob Bostwick (L) and Lew Perry of Ch. 301

306 WEST MICHIGAN [MI]

We sponsored an ice cream social Sept 14th at the new Michigan Home for Veterans in Grand Rapids MI. It was the first ice cream social we have done in 2-1/2 years as a result of COVID.



Rod Chapman, Mike VanDyke, and Doug Voss (L-R) of Ch. 306 at ice cream social

All veterans born in each month are given a birthday party on the 2nd or 3rd Wednesday of every month. Chapter 306 was the first veterans organization of any kind to help dish out ice cream and cake to the veterans in the home.



Overview of the new Michigan Veterans Home



Open house in the lobby of Michigan's new Veterans Home

The MI Veterans Home is for veterans who need skilled nursing care. All amenities are there to allow for the veterans' mobility in the home regardless of their health and challenges. Rooms are large and doors are wide. It's an outstanding home for our veterans.

Doug Voss, Sr. Vice Pres., dwv123@aol.com

314 WESTERN CAROLINA [NC]

We have been very active over the past quarter with the following events: meeting with guest speakers, donating quilts, Annual Apple Festival, the passing of two members, and saying goodbye to our Apple Festival Chairman.

We finally had a meeting with guest speaker, Emily Pitts, Caregiver Program Director, who gave our chapter information on her program and how to apply. Beth and Rhoda Robinette also showed us their "Fidget" blankets and how they would benefit our members. They volunteered to assist us with our Annual Apple Festival. Sue Meyers, together with her Crab Creek Volunteers, donated more than 95 various quilts, crocheted items, and bags to be given to our VA and veterans.

Our Annual Apple Festival yielded over \$2,500 in donations and fundraising to assist us with the upgrading of our local memorial to join the two generations of Korea veterans. (More to come.) One of our members, Charles Holden, volunteered all three days, despite having a major storm wash us out. In addition, we gained two more members.



Emily Pitts, Asheville VA Caregiver Program Director

Rhoda and Beth Robinette, "our fidget ladies." Jim Cannon in background



Don Stucker, one of our members, received a fidget blanket at home since he couldn't make the meeting



95 quilts donated to George VAMC in Asheville to the Oncology Unit led by Sue Meyers, Associate Member, and Saturday Stitchers with Crab Creek Extension in Henderson County

Within the last two months we lost two members, Walt Davis and Paul Vaughan. Even during COVID they kept volunteering advice and how to improve our chapter. They surely will be missed. We've decided to continue their legacy by starting a widow/widowers group to keep them involved with our chapter. They will be eligible for the Legacy Membership.



Evan Moore (L) and Michele Bretz at the Apple Festival. Evan's grandfather has volunteered for two years during the set up and will be joining as a Legacy Member. His great grandfather, 1LT Leonard D. Smutz, was a Korean War Veteran KIA while test flying between Japan and Korea



James Taylor (Apple Festival Chairman) with Chapter Commander and National Director Michele Bretz. He will always tell you that "he is the original James Taylor."



Charles Holden (R) talking to prospective members

Fair winds and happy trails to James and Rennie Taylor, our Apple Festival Chair couple that will be moving to Katy, TX. For the last several years, they have organized this event and helped with its set up. James also organized for the parade getting us jeeps

Walt Davis Memorial Table



this year. Although the parade was cancelled, Kim Lambrecht, who owned "Ol' Glory" jeep, volunteered to take over his position and join our chapter.

Michele Bretz, paintedneedle@aol.com

HARDEE from page 21

Platoon Sergeant Hardee was awarded the Navy Cross, leading his platoon against great odds in taking a ridge. He was given a Field Commission as 2ndLt and led a rifle platoon throughout the action. Following the securing of Saipan, his unit returned to Guadalcanal and started training for Okinawa.

The lieutenant was then ordered back to the states and assigned duty again in San Diego.

His five months there was spent on Shore Patrol Duty. In Jun45, he was an instructor in Infantry Demonstration Platoon at Camp Pendleton, and in September of that year was assigned to Marine Corps Schools at Quantico. Following school, now a 1stLt, he was ordered to the 1st Special Marine Brigade and immediately sailed for Haiti, later landing at Cuba and Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

Upon return stateside, he reported to Marine Barracks, Great Lakes, but left after a short period and was on his way to China. From '46 to '49 he found many interesting and varied assignments in China from train patrols to riding LSTs on

the Yangtze, also commanding a rifle company with 1stBn, 1st Marines during this time. Back to the states, Lt Hardee was assigned as Security Officer at San Francisco; but with guns roaring in Korea, he was once again on the move, as an instructor with the Landing Force Training Unit, Pacific, and during this period made numerous trips to Japan, Formosa, Okinawa, and Korea, participating in both training and landing of troops in Korea.

In 1953 Hardee served in the 1st and 3rd Divisions, and in 1954 became Commanding Officer of Marine Barracks, Fallbrook. In 1957 Captain Hardee transferred to San Diego and the next year, took over duties as Officer-in-Charge, Drill Instructor School, a school teaching NCOs the tasks and techniques of making civilians into Marines.

In Apr60, Captain Hardee was on his way again—destination Adak. In addition to Captain Hardee's Navy Cross, he wears the Presidential Unit Citation and other area awards. His wife, Catherine and their three daughters are with him here on Adak. (Source: *The Adak, AK, Sun, May 8, 1961, p. 7*)

Corpsman up - to guard the gates of Heaven

By Tom Moore

On February 3, 2022, Leonard J. Adreon of Clayton, Missouri, graduate of Soldan High School and Washington University, St. Louis, husband of Audrey, father of Diane, Linda, and Carol, passed away. You think, “Ok, so what?”



Leonard Adreon

Leonard Adreon (1926-2022), a typical American, went into the U.S. Navy as an unsophisticated seventeen year old in 1944, in the latter days of World War

II. He had not traveled far beyond Clayton. He had grown up in a family that struggled during the Great Depression, like the rest of we Korean War veterans.

His World War II military service took him to boot camp at the Naval Station, Great Lakes, Illinois. In triple-stacked barracks privacy went out the window. Boot camp lasted eight weeks, and the kids were transformed into sailors. He asked for an Aerographer Mate job (predicting weather conditions for pilots). When his orders came in, he would train as a Hospital Corpsman. He had no interest in medicine.

Leonard was off to Farragut Naval Training Station, near Coeur d’ Alene, Idaho. He was issued the “Handbook of the Hospital Corps,” their training text. He learned first aid, various diseases, injuries, blood and laboratory work, and wounds of war. In a few months, he received a diploma, and the rank of Hospital Corpsman Third Class. E-4, his last promotion.

PO-3 Adreon was ordered to Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois, and assigned to the Decommissioning Unit of the Naval V-12 College Training Program, an Officer Training Program that the Navy had with the university. He worked in “Sick Bay,” on the second floor of Patten Gymnasium, on Sheridan Road, which also housed the Navy sleeping quarters. He treated sailors sick or injured, who were Officer Candidates sta-

tioned there. These OCs also played on the Northwestern football team.

Regulations required that a corpsman and Navy doctor accompany the team, so Leonard traveled with the football team around the country. The war ended in the fall of 1945, and soon the Navy released him. Then he made the mistake of his life; he joined the inactive Naval Reserve.

The GI Bill allowed Leonard to study at Washington University, in his hometown area of St. Louis. He was in the business school. He played on the varsity basketball team, with the author’s good friend, Charlie Cain. He graduated in June 1950, then worked for his grandfather in the insurance business.

A short time later a letter arrived with a thud. Leonard was to report to the Navy base at Great Lakes, Illinois in thirty days. He arrived there, filled out forms and took a physical for ninety days of officer training at Newport, Rhode Island. The material went to Washington, D.C. for processing. Meanwhile, he was assigned to the Great Lakes Naval Hospital.

His Newport orders did not come, but other orders did. He was transferred to the Fleet Marine Force and ordered to report for pre-Korean training at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California. Leonard was put in Camp Del Mar, and outfitted for the Marines.

He went into a tent in which he was met by a drill sergeant who said, “I’m gonna make you swabbies into Marines.” They were issued M1 rifles, bayonets, and Kabar knives, then went through Marine boot camp training. Then they practiced amphibious landings, after which they moved on to San Diego with 5,200 others. Leonard went aboard his “first” Navy ship, the USS General M.C. Meigs, which was five stories tall. They were put in row after row of six-high rack-beds, in the bowels of the ship.

Eighteen days later, they pulled into Yokohama, Japan. They continued from there to Kobe, Japan for one short liberty. They returned to the ship at midnight, and sailed off to the port city of Pusan, South Korea. The city had a sickening vile stench

and an odor of many toilets. Raw sewage ran in the streets. The city was in shambles, buildings were destroyed, and debris covered the streets. The troops boarded military trucks and were transported to an air strip outside Pusan. They scrambled onto helicopters and flew north to Inje. It was the spring of 1951.

Once again they boarded trucks. A commander addressed them and explained it was the mission of the First Marine Division to cause enough enemy casualties to force a negotiated cease fire. They were going to fight in a stalemate.

Leonard was assigned to a platoon, and they headed off to attack a hill. About halfway to the top he heard his first yell of “Corpsman.” He saw a Marine waving his arms. He found a corporal lying in a small ditch, screaming in pain, and rolling side to side. Leonard took out his scissors, cut away the man’s jacket and shirt, and found a stomach wound. He injected morphine and pressed bandages firmly against the wound. Leonard instructed the corporal’s buddy to press the bandages until the blood stopped flowing.

He then filled out an Emergency Medical Tag (EMT), spelling out the treatment he had given. He then took the wounded Marine’s M1 rifle, jabbed the bayonet into the ground, and placed his helmet atop the rifle. That signaled stretcher teams that a wounded man needed transport to a forward aid station. Then it was away to the next wounded Marine.

The Corpsmen carried med-kits called Unit-One, two of them. One contained scissors, syrettes of morphine, sulfa, iodine, Merthiolate and alcohol. The other med-kit contained tourniquets, three sizes of bandages, gauze, medical tape, and a minor surgical kit consisting of a scalpel, suture threads, needles and hemostats. For broken bones they made splints from tree branches. Leonard had a strong arm, so the Marines gave him grenades, which he used on machine-guns.

It was take a hill, get kicked off the hill, and re-take the hill. Tend the wounded, tag the dead. One day they took a hill that seemed too easy. The Chinese had left it.

Some Corsair aircraft flew over that had been called by a Captain for air support. The planes came in low and dropped their deadly napalm. The bombs spewed orange and yellow flames. The pilots thought the Marines were Chinese troops.

Many Marines were killed. The rest had third- or fourth-degree burns over 80% or more of their bodies. The Corpsmen started IVs, covered the burns with ointment, and called for medevac copters. When Leonard asked an officer what happened, he was told: "This is war; mistakes happen."

Later in 1952, he heard: "Adreon get your gear, you're going south." He had orders to report to the Naval Officer Candidate School at Newport, RI. Leonard had a priority flight. He thought on the flight home, "If I become an officer, that's four more years active duty, and eight years in the reserves." Then he was at the Officers School.

On the first day ninety new men reported in. They were assembled in front of the school's commanding officer, who stood there in his starched naval attire. Then he yelled at Leonard that he was out of uniform. He was wearing the only uniform he had, a Marine uniform.

The gray-haired officer turned purple. The commander said, "Get in the proper uniform if you want to be an officer."

Leonard replied: "I'm not sure I want to be an officer."

The veins in the CO's neck were ready to explode.

Leonard was then called to the commander's office. The commander called him a "chicken-s**t SOB," and said he would assign Leonard every dirty job on the base.

Moreover, he would not have any privileges or liberty. Leonard was assigned to the Lousy Detail Group. He scrubbed decks and cleaned heads for a month or so. Finally, on 14, July 1952 he was released from active duty.

Leonard put on his Marine uniform. He hadn't had a place to spend money in Korea, so he had a really nice payday. He went to a used car lot in Newport and purchased a green 1948 Chevrolet Sports Coupe for \$425.00. He took a vacation. He went to Florida and then New Orleans. Then, Leonard Adreon did what most of us did. He returned home, married, and raised a family. He spent 36 years as the executive vice president of the Siteman Organization, a real estate management and development company.

Many years later, Leonard said this about the Korean War:

There is a fury in a combat situation, that doesn't allow for participants to reflect on what is happening. To me, we just did what we had to do. It was all about trying to complete a mission. It was also about survival. I am also horrified that the world continues to fail to solve problems in a peaceful manner.

At age 25, I killed young Chinese kids. I had no choice. Looking into the face of a dead 18-year-old soldier, is one of the saddest things I have had to do. I am in the twilight of my life. I have shared what I know about that war, to build awareness to present a realistic picture of a ground war, and to honor those who served, as well as those who died, or were wounded in that miserable, 37 - month war.

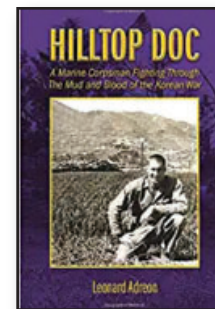
Who was Leonard Adreon? He was our generation, he was "us."

Speaking of books...Leonard Adreon

One of the more readable books available about the Korean War is "Hilltop Doc: A Marine Corpsman Fighting Through The Mud And Blood of the Korean War," by Leonard Adreon. He tells his story in a terse, riveting style that keeps the reader engrossed—and he does not pull any punches.

According to the Amazon blurb:

"As a Marine corpsman, Leonard Adreon saw some of the worst of the Korean War's carnage and the best of its humanity. His gripping description brings to life the war between the Chinese army and the U.S. Marines as they battled to take the high ground. You will feel the anguish, the frustration and the terror endured by Marines on the hillsides of Korea, and how U.S. troops fought with valor and esprit de corps under adverse conditions and against massive Chinese forces.



As a corpsman, Adreon tells the story from the unique perspective of a young man from St. Louis, with no medical background, thrown into the role of saving lives amid the war's violence. He livens the grim, emotional,

and sometimes ironic battlefield scenes with his background story – of how his own mistakes and the military's bumbling landed him at Korea's 38th Parallel."

Reach Tom Moore at tm103ps@yahoo.com

EISENHOWER from page 31

President-elect must keep. By Thanksgiving Day 1953 peace—or at least an armistice—had arrived so there was no need for by then President Eisenhower to travel to Korea. But he did not forget the country or the war in 1954.

He and his family celebrated Thanksgiving that year in Augusta, Georgia. When they sat down to dinner he expressed deep gratitude for his son's safe return from Korea, and noted his fervent hope that American soldiers would never have to go to war again. Based on his and America's history, that was a pipedream.

"We are very, very thankful," the President said tersely—and happily.

"America has countless things to be thankful for on this November 26. But I think most important is this: For the first Thanksgiving in the last four we sit down to the traditional Thanksgiving feast without the fear of the casualty list hanging over us.

"We no longer have to worry about the killing in Korea. Now, my wife and I are just exactly like many thousands of other families in America tonight. We have home

our son (who returned from Korea late last summer)—and what is more important than that is that our grandchildren have home their daddy; our Barbie (John's wife) has her husband home.

"We are very, very thankful—and I am certain I speak for thousands and thousands of other families in America when I say: May we never again have to have our loved ones go off to war."

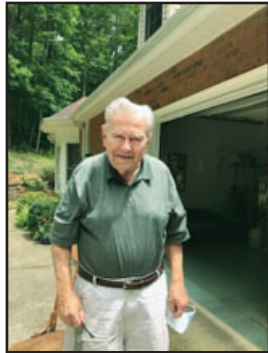
No doubt countless of thousands of Korean War vets felt the same way.

Déjà vu' and 70 years ago, living 20 minutes apart for the last 25 years

By Michele Bretz

If it hadn't been for COVID-19 and a local WLOS story about distributing masks provided by the South Korean government to their allied nations, Frank Mari, a chapter 314 member, and Ron Arnold, a local Korean War veteran, would never have met. Commander Michele Bretz got a call after the story ran and made rounds to the various individuals who had called in. The calls resulted in gaining two new chapter members and an interesting story.

On June 29, 2020, Michele arranged to deliver masks to Ron and Carol Arnold. Ron, Carol, and Michele discovered they were fellow University of Florida alumni. Ron graduated from the University of Florida in 1962 in Aerospace Engineering. Ron worked on the Apollo Program for NASA in Clear Lake City, Texas during 1968, 1969 and 1970, where he participated in the first lunar landings.



Initial meeting with Ron Arnold

Like Michele, Carol was a retired nurse. Ron was so excited that he also wanted to show what he had accomplished since the war and after graduating college. He showed Michele his montage of working at NASA. Michele recognized the pictures instantly and she told him that her Dad had worked at Univis, a company that had developed the lens for the camera and he had these exact same pictures!

Next, Ron showed Michele an album his mother had created while he was in Korea. It had lots of detailed information and labeled photographs. As they started reviewing the pictures, Michele saw the name "Frank Mari," one of her members, on the back of several pictures, on a menu and on a letter addressing a health issue. She called Frank Mari on her cell and, after asking a few questions, handed the phone to Ron Arnold. The two of them started talking as if they hadn't been separated by time or distance. She wanted to take an actual picture, Unfortunately, Ron was using her phone.

Due to the pandemic, they continued to keep in touch with each other via telephone and eventually were able to meet with their

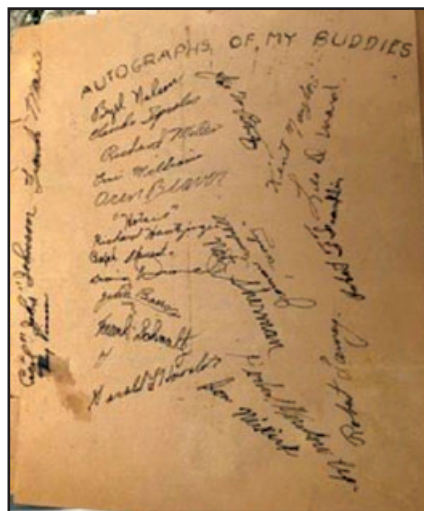
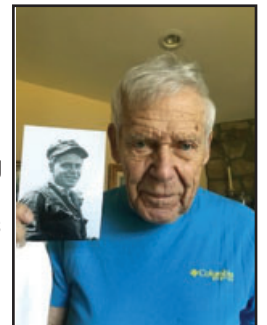
spouses and family members. Following the last chapter meeting, Ron and Carol were able to visit Frank and Mildred after the meeting to deliver the Caregiver Program information as well as a fidget blanket. Despite age and health, they continue their special friendship. As Ron and Mildred's memories fade, this reunion has been their constant beacon of their local friendship.



Photo from Ron's album his Mom kept from photos taken by him during the war. Note a younger version of Frank Mari, 2nd from left



At right, Frank Mari showing a picture of himself during the war
Left, Carol and Ron Arnold making their visit to Frank and Mildred Mari's house to catch up on old times after the meeting



Autographed back page of Ron Arnold's buddies while in Korea. Note Frank Mari's signature on the upper right corner. This is what caught my eye the first time



Ron Arnold at a recent chapter meeting showing his collection of pictures of himself and Frank Mari, during the Korean War and now. Frank on left and Ron on right. Center photo made in Frank and Mildred's home in Hendersonville, NC.

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REUNION ROUND-UP IN PHOTOS

Here are a few photos from the recent reunion in San Antonio taken by Public affairs Coordinator Fred Lash. They capture a lot of smiles on the faces of pleased attendees, many of whom said that by all measures the meeting was a great success. Hopefully, we will see you all next year.



The historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, built in 1859, was ready to greet the Korean War Veterans Association.



The Mayor of San Antonio, Ron Nirenburg (center, above the flags on the table), with the KWVA Board of Directors in the Menger Hotel on October 25, 2022.



Korean ladies in customary attire perform a traditional fan dance at the KWVA banquet on October 27, 2022.



KWVA Board members and guests at the USO Center at the Brooke Army Medical Center.



Mary Ingman (L) and Rosie Rubin (R) receive commemorative bricks in memory of their fathers, both Medal of Honor recipients: with them are (L to R) Secretary Harold Trieber, Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency Director Kelly McKeague, President Jeff Brodeur, and 2nd Vice President Tom McHugh.



KWVA Administrative Assistant Sheila Fritts (C), flanked by Harold Trieber (L) and Jeff Brodeur, is recognized for her outstanding performance at the meeting's banquet.



KWVA member Ray Miller at the banquet, flanked by ladies in Korean traditional attire.



Korean women with Donna Lash in the middle.



Guests at the banquet include 2nd Vice President Tom McHugh, Bonnie Rubin, Ahn Myung-Soo, Consul General of the Republic of Korea (Houston), Mrs. Myung-Soo, Maura Brodeur, President Jeff Brodeur, Mary Ingman, and Kelly McKeague, Director of the DPAA.



The KWVA Board of Directors at the Alamo in San Antonio, flanked by Texas Rangers.

Republic of Korea Ambassador Cho, Taeyoung, Visits National Museum of the United States Army



In front of the Campaign Wall with the Army seal

The new ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United States, Ambassador Cho, Taeyoung, visited the National Museum of the United States Army the afternoon of 31 August 2022. He was accompanied by 15 ROK embassy personnel. Ambassador Cho was greeted by Monika Stoy, a campaign advisor for the Army Historical Foundation, and Mrs. Leah Beckett of the Foundation, who escorted him throughout the visit. Four members of the Defense Attaché's office also participated – COL Chang, Segeun; COL Lee, Youngsoo; COL Lee, Changgyu; and LTC Kim, Taesoo.

Upon his arrival, Monika Stoy showed him a memorial tree honoring Army Unit 8240, Korean Partisans; another honoring

her father, Kyungjin Choi, who served in Army Unit 8240 as a partisan; and a third tree honoring the 1st Special Forces Group which trained the first ROK Army Airborne unit on Okinawa in 1958. She then took him to a large paver which honors a Korean War Hero, Police Superintendent Cha, Il Hyuk, which had been sponsored by his son, Mr. Cha, Kiljin. She stopped at the 3rd Infantry Division and 15th Infantry Regiment Unit tributes, as they had extensive Korean War service. The group stopped at the Army Unit 8240 unit tribute where Ambassador Choi and Monika Stoy placed a wreath and held a moment of silence for the many partisans who did not return from their dangerous missions behind communist lines during the war.

LTG Roger Shultz, President of the Army Historical Foundation, greeted Ambassador Cho when he entered the museum. The group was shown the Army Campaign Wall and the Circles of Distinction Wall (which highlights major donors to the museum) in the museum foyer, with a group photo in front of the campaign wall being taken. Monika Stoy pointed out her parents' names on the Circles of Distinction wall and hers and her husband's. The Stoy's also pointed out to the Ambassador it was the 3rd Infantry Division which first entered Seoul in March 1951 for the final liberation of the city during the Korean War.

The group then moved to the Army theater where they watched the movie "Of Noble Deeds" which highlights the 7 Army



L/R – Leah Beckett, Tim Stoy, Haesook Choi, Ambassador Cho



At the AU 8240 unit tribute



In front of the Medal of Honor wall

values – Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, and Integrity, and Personal Courage - and covers various periods in the Army's history. After the movie, the group was broken down into three smaller groups, with Monika Stoy leading the tour for the Ambassador, Tim Stoy leading another group with the Consul General, Kwon, Seijoong, and a third group led by Leah Beckett. The Ambassador's group was accompanied by one of the museum's docents, LTG, retired, Paul Mikolashek who provided very interesting information on the exhibits.

They toured the Founding of the Nation (Colonial, Revolutionary War, and War of 1812), Preserving the National (Civil War), Nation Overseas (WWI), Global War (WWII), the Cold War (including the

Korean War), and Changing World (Global War on Terror) exhibits. While in the Cold War exhibit the group posed for a photo with a section of the Berlin Wall. The Ambassador enjoyed his tour so much, he stayed much longer than planned. After the tour he received a short overview briefing of the Army Historical Foundation, the Museum's future expansion, and the status of current projects by LTG Schultz in the AHF conference room. The visit concluded with a visit to the Medal of Honor Garden where the Stoy's explained the medal's history, pointed out the Korean War recipients, and a group photo was taken. Only two Korean War recipients are still living, SSG Hiroshi Miyamura (3ID) and COL Ralph Puckett (8th Ranger Company) As he was departing, Ambassador Cho expressed his deep appre-

ciation for the friendly welcome and excellent tour and shared his wish to visit again once his wife arrives. He also expressed the desire to learn more about the Korean Partisans and Army Unit 8240. Sadly, this chapter of Korean War history is not well-known in the Republic of Korea.

The Stoy's are organizing a wreath ceremony honoring all Army units which served in the Korea War including Army Unit 8240 at the Airborne and Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, North Carolina. They dedicated a memorial stone honoring Army Unit 8240 in June 2012. The ROK Defense Attaché is co-host for the event. Should you be interested in attending the ceremony, please contact Monika Stoy at email timmoni15@yahoo.com.

Ohio Korean War Memorial Wall Dedicated



West side of wall showing the 3,095 Ohio veterans' names KIA in Vietnam

On Saturday, July 23rd, a Korean War Memorial Wall was dedicated with the names of 1,822 Ohio veterans who were KIA during the Korean War. The event was held at the Ohio Veterans Memorial Park (OVMP) in Clinton, Ohio. The program started at 12:00 noon with pianist Enu Young Lee from Seoul, Korea, who has performed three times at Carnegie Hall, playing for those attending the event.

At 12:30 the Moonlight Serenaders, a 23-piece band, played the Big Band music of the 50s. This led to the actual Wall Dedication at 1:20 p.m., which was 10 minutes early due to approaching rain. There was a white camouflage netting covering all 1,822 names until it came time to unveil the wall.

Some history about this park. It sits on 1.7 acres. The groundbreaking started on August 25, 2007, with the wall and Gold Star mother being dedicated on May 17, 2009. The actual wall is 125 feet long; it's the longest freestanding monument in the country. It's held in place by its own weight.

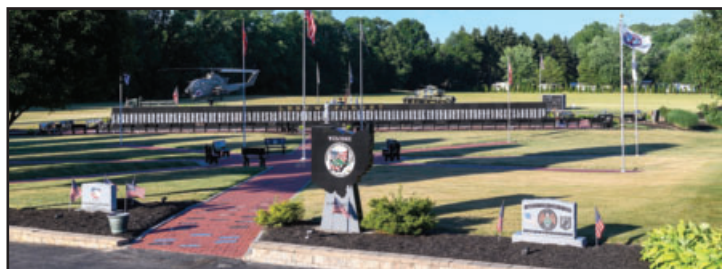
Each side has 50 panels, 72" h x 30" w x 8" thick that sits on a base of 27 panels 8" h x 16" w x 48" to 60" long totally 129' 2". All this sits on a 7-foot deep concrete/rebar foundation. The west-facing side of the wall contains 3,095 names of Ohio veterans who were KIA in Vietnam. Of those listed there were 1,945 Army, 904 Marines, 124 Air Force, 121 Navy and 1 Coast Guard.

One of the names listed is Sharon Lane, a nurse from Canton, Ohio,

who was the only female KIA by enemy fire. She died in a rocket attack. The Gold Star Mother stands 7 feet tall, weighs 1,600 pounds, and is 30" base x 70" tall statue. It is a replica of Sharon Lane's mother. As it turned out since the names on the Vietnam Wall are in alphabetical order, where Sharon Lane name falls on the wall is directly in front of the Gold Star Mother, whose eyes appear to be looking at her daughter's name.

All the granite carving and engraving at the park was done by Ken Noon, who was one of the park's founders and the visionary of what the park would look like. The east-side facing side of the wall contains 1,822 names of Ohio veterans who were KIA in the Korean War. Of those listed there were 1,508 Army, 223 Marines, 57 Air Force, and 34 Navy. The east side of the wall also commemorates the War of 1812 (1812-1815), Mexican War (1846-1848), American Civil War (1861-1865), SpanishAmerican War (1898 April - August), World War I (1914-1918), World War II (1941-1945), Korean War (1950-1953), Vietnam War (1964-1973), Gulf War (1991), War On Terrorism Sept 11, 2001, Afghanistan-Iraq Oct 2001, Beirut Bombing - Oct 1983 - 13 Ohio Names, Gulf War - 16 Ohio Names, Iraq War - 195 Ohio Names, Afghanistan War - 94 Ohio Names.

On the east side visitors will find the Gold Star Father, the same size as the Gold Star Mother on the opposite side of the wall. OVMP has a POW/MIA Pond with a reflecting Wall which has an eternal flame burn-



Entrance to Ohio Veterans Memorial Park



East side of wall showing the 1,822 Ohio veterans' names KIA during Korean War

ing 365 days, 24 per day. There is a Purple Heart Memorial that is unique and one of a kind. There is a Medal of Honor Monument. Leading up to it is the History Walk that contains on the north side monuments for the U.S. Navy Armed Guard, Branch of Navy, disbanded After WWII; the youngest Marine to die in Vietnam War, Dan Bullock, who entered the Corps at age 14 and was KIA at age 15; Rocky Bleier, Drafted - Army 1968, Wounded August 1969, Returned to NFL, Won 4 Super Bowls; and Pat Tillman, who gave up his NFL career in 2002 to volunteer. He was a Ranger, KIA 2004 Afghanistan.

On the South side of the walk there are monuments for U.S. Merchant Marines, Civilian Volunteers - WWII, Tuskegee Airmen, First All Black Servicemen to Serve As Aviators, U.S. Armed Forces WWII, 2nd Ranger Airborne Company, ALL Black Company - Korea - Deactivated After War, and the U.S. Army Infantry Combat Infantrymen's Badge.

On the grounds is also located a Cobra Helicopter 1963 AH-F1 that was first deployed to Vietnam in September 1967. It arrived at the park in October 2011 from Janesville, Ohio. There is also an M-60 Patton Tank that served in Vietnam, Desert Wars and Germany that arrived at the park in October 2016 from Defiance Ohio VFW. There is also a Family of Heroes Hall pavilion that contains 32,768 dog tags on a 6" chain hanging from the ceiling in the shape of a cross.

Park officials are looking for a UH-1 Huey Helicopter to complete the collection of items they would like displayed on the grounds of the park as a part of history. If anyone knows where the park might get a Huey helicopter then please contact OVMP President, Gary

Kindig at (330) 805-3133.

The Ohio Veterans Memorial Park (OVMP) is located at: Ohio Veterans' Memorial Park 8005 Cleveland-Massillon Road Clinton, OH 44216 (330) 529-4001 info@ovmp.org

*Bob McCullough, Ch. 138 Secretary-Treasurer,
Cell: 216-276-7576, BobMc717@gmail.com*



Moonlight Serenaders "Serenaders Sister's sang the national anthem and other songs during the July 23rd event



Pianist Enu Young Lee from Seoul, Korea played half an hour before the event started



Moonlight Serenaders, a 23 piece band, played before and during the July 23rd event



Boy Scouts of America Crew 1944 WWII Reenactors



United States Coast Guard and Boy Scouts of America Crew 1944 WWII Reenactors presented the colors



East side showing white camouflage netting covering all 1,822 names with the back of a mannequin dressed to represent a U.S. Soldier in Korean War looking at the 1,822 names



East side showing unveiling of 1,822 Ohio veterans' names KIA during Korean War



Mannequin dressed to represent a U.S. Soldier in Korean War facing the 1,822 Ohio names KIA on the wall



East side showing all 1,822 Ohio veterans' names KIA during Korean War



Even the rain didn't drive anyone away



Some of the KWVA Chapter 130 members, left to right: 2nd row with sun glasses Jimmy Tomsho, 1st row Frank Thomas, Al Leyerle, Max Bowers, Bob Jones, 2nd row, with sunglasses, Carl Canon

Medal that was given to every Korean veteran who attended the July 23rd event



Max Bowers as he reflects on those lost and his actions that got him his Silver Star

HOLD THAT LINE!

By George Bjotvedt

The Korean War was for front line infantry men and Marines a daily conscious effort of staying alive. The unique stalemate phase of the Korean conflict had, at times, its hilarious moments. For starters, those who fought at the front sure felt like it was a real war. Fortunately, the Truman administration and his Secretary of Defense came rapidly to that same conclusion. They dispelled the misguided designation of the war as a 'Police Action.' And, the American Legion began accepting wartime Korean veterans for membership to the organization.

But the real test that the Korean conflict was really a war was the issuance of combat pay for individuals in designated combat units. Of course the designation of units was applied to those who manned, fought, and held the front line. The eligibility for the forty-five dollars per month was predicated conditionally if the unit was under fire for six days of each month. Front line company clerks recorded the actual number of days under fire. Shortages were forwarded through the chain of command to the unit's covering artillery battery for a 'short round.'

I had to bear in my mind that when I found myself in the frontal slope of the shallow trench of the Main Line of Resistance (MLR) there could be consequences other than becoming a causality or KIA. For instance, as a junior officer I knew I would lose my allowances for food, housing, and clothing. Therefore I was at risk that something in the army's replacements could be missing. In my case, what was missing were green tee shirts. The green color diminished becoming a sniper's delight. My civilian white tee shirts made my trench exposure in quick and low spurts to haul butt!

Korean veterans were well aware that their trench warfare was not the same as in WWI. There were no whistles blowing for the men to go up and over the top and attack the enemy's fixed trench works. Rather, the front line was a demarcation place for combat and ambush patrols to go over and down the mountain finger trails into the extensive no-man's land. Those men who participated on patrols without the services of scout dogs would silently pray for dark nights and steady breezes. Breezes carried the aroma of Kimchi sufficiently far enough in advance to give early warning of an approaching enemy patrol.

Early in 1953, the on-again and off-again peace talks added solace and outright frustration for the men with the endless continuance of the war. Any humor was subjugated, replaced by the need for self-preservation. General Eisenhower, now president, knew full well that he needed to bring the war to a satisfactory conclusion without surrendering any portion of the front line. But that did not extend to the fortified outposts.

The president's old friend from WWII and newly appointed 8th Army Commander, General Taylor Maxwell, discretely agreed with Ike that the outposts had outlived their usefulness. The other request was to create measures whereby the deaths of Americans serving at the front could be reduced in what he saw to be the waning months of the war. The president's wishes were summarily carried out by American divisional commanders.

On that fateful night, I faced the possibility of incarceration at Fort Leavenworth or a rifle shot in the back.

The general followed through with a request to the Pentagon for additional scout dog platoons. Also, General Taylor, trained in airborne tactics, knew the importance of survival of men in battles and on battlefields. For me, none of the early occurrences that I have expressed in this narrative were ever close to one that was shocking and weird. Ironically it led to my meeting with an old nemesis.

I was assigned to the S-2 position 1st Battalion, 65th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division in January 1953. Seeing this fearless leader on an equal staff position level brought a deep swell of hostility. The reaction was immediate; it was his quick threat of a court-martial for my insubordination involving my decision to abort a combat patrol. On that fateful night, I faced the possibility of incarceration at Fort Leavenworth or a rifle shot in the back.

Nothing came of the court-martial threat. An implication over my leadership or my disobedience of orders was quashed. As a combatant and similar level staff officer, my previous superior had no sense of shame or an apology. Perhaps it was fitting that he kept silent on the matter.

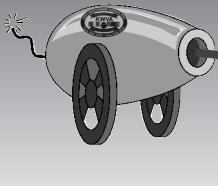
The S-2 section operated without the input from the S-3 with the tacit approval of the battalion commander. Lt. Colonel Le Hatte had seen extensive combat in WWII, during which there were horrendous losses of men. It was that war experience that propelled his desire not to needlessly sacrifice his men so close to a proposed ceasefire. He supported a plan for consideration that would involve the avoidance of skirmishes in no-man's land. He approved the plan whereby the destruction of enemy patrols was best left to the 4.2 mortars. Surprisingly, the S-2 section plan provided the colonel with the lowest patrol casualties of the regiment.

The front line maintained its integrity through the spring of 1953 and the months leading up to the cease fire on July 27, 1953. I had rotated on May 1 for home and my new assignment in the Chemical Corps at Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland. My 30-day leave in June ended my service obligation of two years in the infantry.

A year after serving with Chemical Corps, I resigned my commission and entered the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. My veterinary career was in Laboratory Animal Medicine, where I had the opportunity to provide good veterinary medicine to animals used in medical research.

My small contribution in the "Forgotten War" will always raise the question was the conflict necessary? Were there victors in the war? I am not sure. We are still left with the capricious separation of the peninsula into two nations.

*George Bjotvedt, V.M.D., 5626 N. Teaberry Lane,
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, viking4800g@gmail.com*



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: sharparthur@aol.com, or phone it in to (813) 614-1326. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

Military downsizing after a war

I read with interest your above referenced editorial in the September/October 2022 issue, p. 10. It is a subject that several of my friends and I have been talking about for a long time. In my opinion it is the veterans organizations that have to come together in strength to stop the hesitating waltz that the politicians are doing around the "WOKE" issue.

I have always believed that the Secretary of Defense and the Armed Forces Chief of Staff reported to the president on the condition that the military not make unilateral decision on its rules and regulations. In addition, it is up to Congress to approve the rules and regulations and the Code of Conduct for the military. That is why I mailed a letter to the various organizations' commanders. It is an effort to unite all of the veterans into one temporary group and march peacefully in Washington, D.C. in force. That will give everyone the inspiration that you speak of and it is what we need right now.

Jim Mageau, jmmmageau@verizon.net

Poor 2ID

In the Sept/Oct 2022 *Graybeards*, page 70, your sidebar at the end states "there was no elaboration on this report." Here's one:

About General McClure, 2ID: I believe I know what the beard thing was all about. It didn't have anything to do with crossing the 38th Parallel. I read somewhere that the first order McClure, who had a bad drinking problem, gave the 2ID was all personnel would grow a beard.

Colonel S.L.A. "Slam: Marshall, of the U.S. Army Historical Department, writes in his book, *Bringing up the Rear*," pp. 188-189:

To replace 2d ID commander Keiser, the Army Dept. ordered Major General Robert B. McClure on, from the Marianas, where he had been serving as governor, to Yongdongpo, where the division was being rebuilt.

After Bob McClure arrived, he called me to his van. Not drunk, he was well on his way. He said right out that the new orders were a terrible shock to his nervous system, that he had never expected to lead troops in battle again, and that for the time, he was not up to it. He went on, "I can only brace myself by hitting the bottle. I'll be doing a lot of drinking, so you go ahead. Program whatever you wish. When something calls for my appearance, give me fair warning and I'll get in shape, but don't expect too much. On the other hand, don't worry about me. This is just a phase. I'll come out of it."

My use of McClure was quite eccentric. He stayed in his van day after day and did not get out to the troops. Every night I arranged for a special group of outstanding leaders to dine with him, at the general's mess. Sometimes it would be sergeants who had starred in the battle in the North, on other nights captains or battalion commanders. There would be a reception and cocktails, with the feed following. A few hours before the formation, I would go to McClure and tell him it was time for a brace. He would shower and take a few pills. Usually when he appeared, he would be shining, with no sign of wooziness.

No wonder General Almond sacked McClure: the poor 2d ID.

Tom Moore, tmp103ps@yahoo.com

Air Force had leaders, too—such as they were

The "Senior Command Changes in the Korean War" article in *The Graybeards*, Sept/Oct 2022, p. 68, was interesting and informative, but I was surprised it did not include anything about the Air Force leadership. I flew the F-80 Shooting Star as a fighter-bomber (dive bomber) in Korea from June 52 to January 53 and was not at all impressed with the leadership of the 5th Air Force headquartered in Japan.

About half of my 100 missions were on close support targets, ammo dumps, artillery installations, and machine gun installations on the front lines selected by front line troops and spotted for us by forward air controllers. At those, we usually selected the entry and exit routes and tactics.

Our other missions were interdiction missions such as bridges, military installations, and strategic targets in major cities. Those targets were selected by higher headquarters in Japan. In most cases, the entry and exit routes and tactics were left up to the planners at our wing or squadron level. But, on two occasions the entry and exit routes and tactics were directed by 5th Air Force headquarters. In both of those cases the tactics were those of the P-47 Thunderbolt of WWII, not those capable of the F-80 and F-84.

On one of those missions, we were directed to enter and exit the bomb run on the same heading and climb out, after bombs-away, at 1,500 feet per minute. That was definitely a P-47 tactic. In the F-80 I normally used full power and the excess speed I had picked up in the dive to climb out straight up to just above 10,000 feet, just out of 40mm gun range.

I don't recall this specific target, but it was heavily defended by 40 and 90 mm anti-aircraft guns. After releasing my bombs, I

climbed straight ahead and the prescribed 1,500 feet per minute. After a few seconds, I felt my airplane buck and assumed, correctly, that a 90mm had burst just behind my tail.

I broke right and lost some airspeed in the turn. After another few seconds, the plane bucked again and I broke hard left. Again, after a few seconds, the plane bucked a third time. I thought, “Right, left, left again” and broke left. My wingman told me later that when I broke left the gun broke right and the next burst was right where I would have been had I turned right. I vowed that from then on I would hit the targets picked by 5th Air Force but I would use my own tactics for withdrawal.

On another higher headquarters directed mission, this one on a communications center in Pyongyang, they again directed that we enter and exit the bomb run on the same heading. I was the number two man in the third squadron on this target. My flight leader of the squadron was a very experienced 1st lieutenant named Brown, who was on the second 25-mission extension of his 100-mission tour.

We followed immediately behind the squadron ahead of us. Going down the bomb run, we could see that the sky ahead, in the departure route, was black with 90 mm anti-aircraft fire. Lt. Brown released his bombs on the target. As he pulled out of his dive, he called the squadron and directed that they break left after bombs away and join up on a southerly heading. We did that and not a shot was fired in our direction. Once again, following the WWII tactics directed by 5th Air Force could have gotten us killed.

There was one other time when I questioned the thinking of 5th Air Force headquarters. I was leading a flight of four on a close support mission. We had contacted our forward air controller, who had identified our target as an artillery installation on top of a mountain in the vicinity of the Punch Bowl. He also advised that it was late afternoon and we were the last sortie that could be called to take out that installation. If we didn’t get it, it would be shelling our troops all night.

I rolled in on my bomb run at 12,000 feet and lined up with the target. At about 8,000 feet, I saw a flash, heard a bang, and felt a shock. My plane had been hit.

I checked the controls, engine, and flight instruments and looked for smoke. Everything looked good. So, I put my crosshairs back on the target, released my bombs and blew that artillery installation right off the top of the mountain. I was put in for a Distinguished Flying Cross for that little escapade, but when it came back from 5th Air Force it said, “If this is true, court-martial this man.”

It seem that the new commander of 5th Air Force had made a policy statement that if we were hit over enemy territory we were to abort IMMEDIATELY and head south to friendly territory. Well, if I even thought of that, I didn’t do it and I’m sure that the ground troops and their wives and families are glad that I didn’t. But, I never did get a DFC.

Lt. Col. Alfred J. D’Amario, USAF, Ret.,
ajdamario@yahoo.com

Might as well have a peashooter

Tom Moore, writer of the article referenced above, received

additional feedback. He wrote: “I enjoy getting feedback on my articles from the membership. I thought you might like to see this one.” (*The feedback writer’s name has been omitted.*)

Hello Tom,

Read your article on Command Changes in the Korean War. I was there July 1950 after being transferred from the 1st CAV. Div in Japan to the 24th Inf Div.

When we got on line 3 July 1950 we were given two bandoleers of ammo- one was WW1 for the O3 Springfield, second for the M1 rifle. My rifle had been tagged for repair since it would not extract the casing. They told me I could get a good rifle when we got into Camp Zama- never happened. Went into combat with a worn-out WWII rifle.

All our light Machine Guns and heavy weapons had no extras barrels, our Bazooka’s had practice ammo (blue) and 2.7 good but ineffective against the heavy armor Russian tanks.

Speaking of feedback

Bob Greene offered some insightful feedback via phone about the editor’s comments in the September-October 2022 issue, “Is the U.S. doomed militarily?”, p. 10. Here’s the essence of his comments.

He pointed out one thing about serving that many people overlook: not everybody who serves is necessarily a combat soldier. That being the case, why don’t the armed forces enlist people who aren’t capable of serving in combat to fill support roles?

A large part of the 76% of Americans who aren’t qualified for military service due to obesity, limited mobility, etc., might be willing to serve if they knew they would not have to pass the standard physical, medical, and mental tests that might otherwise keep them out. That way, the remaining 24% could be assigned to combat roles—if they are made aware that is their “MOS” and they agree to it.

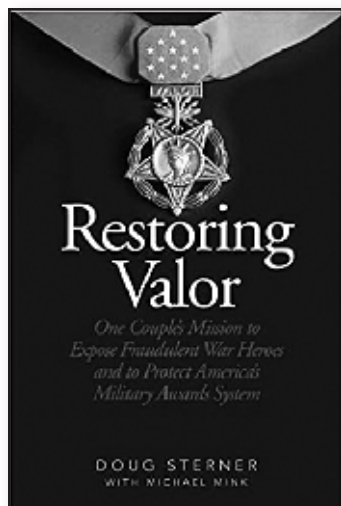
Of course, such a division in duties would create problems for people considering enlisting. It might affect warfighters’ morale knowing that they will be assigned to combat while other troops are safe from that responsibility. And it might actually have an adverse effect on recruitment, since more people would prefer to join to get support roles and fewer would volunteer for combat roles. Obviously there are details to work out.

Secondarily, Mr. Greene suggested that Congress pass a law mandating some type of government service for all high school graduates to begin right after high school. He envisioned a two-year term to be served with agencies ranging from the National Park Service to the equipment maintenance divisions at various government installations. That plan, too, needs development.

The key in either case is service to country. That is something sadly lacking in our society nowadays. The conversation has to start somewhere. Mr. Greene presented the seeds. But will his ideas grow?

Recommending the book *Restoring Valor*

The authors are Doug Sterner and Pam Sterner, with Michael Mink. They are on a mission to expose fraudulent war heroes and protect America’s military award’s system. Stolen valor



stolen valor cases reported to the FBI has tripled in the last 10 years. There are more imposters who lie about earning high military decorations than there are actual real-life heroes. These imposters trade on tales and trappings of military valor to secure privileges, or unearned benefits.

I want to make this recommendation a personal essay. I have been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge. It is confirmed on my Honorable Discharge Report, the DD-214 military document. To qualify for this award, two close encounters with the enemy are required. In the hierarchy of awards, we have Bronze Star, and the Combat Badge, Purple Heart, Silver Star, Service Cross, and Medal of Honor.

The authors use real names in their book, e.g., Ronnie L. Robbins, who served in the U.S. Army from 1972 to 1975 but did not serve overseas or in combat capacity. He was charged with altering his DD-214 to reflect combat service in Vietnam. While running for reelection to a local political office, he produced and distributed campaign material stating he was a recipient of the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Combat Infantryman's Badge—all false. Those ribbons and badges can be purchased at "Medals of America, Fountain Inn, South Carolina." They are not very expensive.

Incidentally I remember the day I earned 60 points to go home. I had RA in my ID and 1 year of my enlistment remained. On the way, we underwent a quick medical at Sasebo and then a boat trip to Seattle and the girls dancing on the pier. Back to Camp Polk in Louisiana to train the Ohio National Guard.

I was not impressed with their mustering out ceremony: here sign here. Home was in New Hampshire. The payoff was the GI Bill and degrees in Physics and Astronomy.

Gordon Hammond, 5944 Plaza View Dr.,
Zephyrhills, FL 33542

NOTE about the Authors: Doug Sterner is a Vietnam veteran and two-time Bronze Star recipient. He has been a frequent guest on news shows such as Anderson Cooper and is the media's "go-to" person for the Stolen Valor Act. He is the founder of the Hall of Heroes website and curator of the Hall of Valor data base on Militarytimes.com.

Pam Sterner is a graduate of Colorado State University,

occurs when a person lies about receiving military decorations that they earned! It has become a frequent societal problem that has been discussed in the news, and recently by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has paid disability benefits to more than 600 people falsely claiming to have been POWs in the Vietnam and Korean wars. The debate over the application of the 1st Amendment rages on still. The number of

where, as a student in 2004, she authored the study that became the framework for the Stolen Valor Act. They live in Pueblo, Colorado.

Michael Mink is a free-lance writer who has written more than five-hundred nationally published articles and has co-authored two previous books.

The 288-page book, available in several formats, was published in 2014 by Skyhorse. It is available at amazon.com, ISBN-10 1626365512 or ISBN-13 978-1626365513

Is what we fought for at risk?

North Korea has been firing many missiles, 23 throughout this year, including two over Japan recently. Why? They have tested ballistic missiles seven times since September. Obviously the tensions are running high and the U.S. has done military exercise jointly with Japan, Taiwan, and S. Korea and redeployed an aircraft carrier into waters near the peninsula.

North Korea we know flew over DMZ, actually in and out of the area. China has done aggressive moves, testing or showing its muscle power by the air and water exercises near Taiwan and the South China Sea.

Yet South Korea has now enough power to counter attack all the missiles from any angle and defend with more accuracy in 180° degrees. They now have a medium range surface-to-air missile system called KM-SAM and a long range L-SAM, both superior to the US THAAD. (KM-SAM: Korea's Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile; L-SAM: Korea's Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile Designed to intercept ballistic missiles; THAAD: Terminal Altitude Area Defense deployed by the U.S.)

Japan is visibly worried about all the missiles possibly aimed at them. No one knows who will be hit first, but it doesn't matter. Taiwan, S. Korea and Japan are united in the defense. There is a valid question in my mind as to who is behind the North's testing and firing missiles in such succession.

South Korea endured the painful experience of North Korea's invasion in 1950 and they are determined to defend itself against North. With more than fifty times the economic strength, a vast and immense technological advantage, and twice the population, South Korea could build a military of the size and capability necessary to deter and, if necessary, defeat the North to the end.

Poland recently bought nearly 1,000 of K2 main battle tanks and 648 self-propelled howitzers and 46 FA-50 fighter jets from S. Korea. Massive arms deals and sales of 7 billion dollars this year alone show South Korea's capability to defend itself. The sale will easily double by next year.

Regrettably, there is no diplomacy at this time and for quite a while. I don't understand it. I believe diplomacy and compromises are far better than wars or nuclear disasters.

Jay Haar, jhaar2011@gmail.com

Gen. Smith never said that

The author of the article in the September/October 2022 issue, "Has the true story of Task Force McLean been told in The Graybeards" should apologize to the family of Major General Oliver P. Smith for the slanderous and untrue statement

that he circulated the rumor that the men of the two Army regiments (31st and 32nd) "were cowards and ran like rabbits from the communists." General Smith said no such thing, nor would he.

Not only was he a masterful military tactician who guided his 1st Marine Division through perilous times, and, not only surviving the onslaught of 120,000 Chinese, but, in so doing, degraded their forces so badly that they had to suspend their offensive operations until January 1951.

Some of the men of the 7th Marines may have agreed with the characterization, since the soldiers' conduct was similar to that of the 8th Army's "Great Bug-out" on the west coast during this same time frame. Incidentally, the Marines brought the surviving Army forces out of the region and down to Hungnam to safety, saving them from total destruction.

In any event, General Smith was a warrior with class and would not have voiced any such remarks, even if he thought them to be true.

John Nixon, "B" Co., 1st Tank Bn., 1st Marine Division, Chosin veteran

EDITOR'S NOTE: The original writer's suggestion that General Smith made those alleged disparaging comments may have been a case of mistaken identity. There was a U.S. Navy chaplain who created a public relations nightmare in his 1951 suggestion that Army troops did not perform well at Chosin.

He's my brother

The story in the current issue, "Dr. Yong Kak Lee at the Chosin Reservoir," pp. 61-65, was my elder brother.

Yong Ki Lee

NOTE: Yong Ki Lee is a member of Ch. 19, GEN Raymond G. Davis, Atlanta, GA. He is the chapter's liaison with The Graybeards.

Just my thoughts

I'm writing you once again about our so-called national chaplain. He quotes from the New Testament forgetting that so many Korean War vets are not Christians. Example: "Our Lord is coming, and he will judge those who have set him at naught" It implies the return of the Messiah which is a matter of belief by many but not all.

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. @ \$18 plus \$9.20 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$12.50 S/H.
- ☐ Orders for 21 to 100 doz. @ \$3.00/doz. plus S/H
- ☐ Order for 400 doz. or more @ \$2.75/doz. plus S/H

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



9/27/21

Dear Mr. Brodeur,
I'd like to thank you for the flowers and tremendous support provided by the KWVA in recognition of uncle Tommy's journey home.

1st Lt. Thomas J. Redgate, after MIA for 70 years, was recently laid to rest at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne MA.

The support and appreciation expressed by veterans organizations, military personnel and people of Boston has been overwhelming and will never be forgotten by our family.

Sincerely
Andrew Redgate

There are a number of quotes from the bible he uses, implying, "walk as a soldier for God." As far as I know we fight for our flag and country. Wars have been fought by combatants who believed that God was on their side. So much for man's inhumanity to man. These are just my thoughts. Thanks for what you do.

Brook Michael Paschkes, mikepaschkes@gmail.com

Thanks for the KWVA support

The nearby thank you note is in reference to the KWVA's support provided when MIA Thomas Redgate's remains were returned to his family for burial. We covered the story on p. 54 in the November-December 2021 issue in an article titled "1st Lt. Thomas F. Redgate interred."

Cardinal Spellman At Korean War Front

Lt. Gen. John W. O'Daniel, commander of First Corps, sat beside Van Fleet in the church alone with Brig Gen. Charles F. Colson, First Corps chief of staff, and Brig. Gen. James Brittingham, corps artillery commander.

Cardinal Spellman arrived wearing army winter clothes and donned his mass vestments in the chapel. Following mass, Cardinal Spellman stood outside the chapel and shook hands with every soldier, asking his name and home. He asked each to write his name and home and relatives' addresses and the Cardinal would write to them on his return to New York.

Gen. O'Daniel said, "We are highly honored to have the Cardinal with us here today. This has really christened our new chapel. I had occasion to meet the Cardinal in France when I commanded the 3rd Division. He's tops." (Columbus, OH, Daily Express, Dec. 24, 1951, p. 1)

Senator Sullivan's Speech

Friends:

I am attaching a speech that Senator Daniel Sullivan (R-AK) was so moved by our Wall of Remembrance that he gave this speech on the Senate Floor and also submitted this for resolution.

THANK YOU Senator Sullivan, for your very emotional and wonderful speech. You are a GREAT AMERICAN!!

Respectfully,

Jim Fisher, Executive Director,
Korean War Veterans Memorial
Foundation

Korean War Veterans Memorial

§ § § § §

Madam President, I want to talk briefly about a very sacred place on our Nation's Mall, The National Mall, that I had an opportunity to visit yesterday. It is the Korean War Veterans Memorial that millions and millions of Americans have visited. Something happened last Wednesday that I wanted to talk about a little bit, a really important rededication of this very moving war memorial.



U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK)

Now, I like to get out on The Mall most days, go for a run in the morning when I am in DC, and I love our memorials, like everybody in America does, particularly the memorials that are dedicated to the service of our mili-

tary members, our veterans. The Presiding Officer is a veteran, a war hero. I have a ton of respect for her and her service.

But whether it is the World War II or the Vietnam Memorial, one of the most moving memorials that I like to visit is the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Why? Well, I think there is so much we can all learn from the Korean War.

In the Marine Corps, they really drill into you what happened during the Korean War. Unfortunately, not enough Americans know about the Korean War.

But one of the big lessons is you need to be ready. You need to be ready.

In 1945, the U.S. military was the most fearsome military in the world, probably in the history of the world, and in 1950, just 5 years later, we had a very difficult time stopping a third-world army in the opening months of the Korean War. Now, we rebounded, as Americans always do, but that is a lesson. That is a lesson for our country.

In my view, the uniformed civilian leadership of our military did not serve their country well, letting the state of our forces become very unready. That is one of the lessons of that very difficult, brutal war.

There is another lesson, and it is the nobility of service from our veterans that really is epitomized by service in the Korean War. The memorial has many beautifully engraved sayings, but one, when you think about it, is so moving and, in my view, depicts the nobility of American military service, particularly as it relates to that war.

It says: "Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met."

Think about that—young men and women in America sent to fight halfway around the world to defend freedom. That is exactly what they were doing. And they didn't even know whom they were defending. A lot of them didn't even know where they were.

To me, those words capture the essence of nobility, and so does the Korean War Memorial. You see part of it here.

The centerpiece is nineteen large statues—soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines. They are grunts, infantry grunts on patrol. You can see there is a cold, wet wind whipping their ponchos. Their faces are full of fear when you look at the statues, but also pride and determination. And all of this, in my view, captures the nobility of our service and our sacrifice as a nation in this war.

Now, historians have referred to the Korean War as the "forgotten war." I

am kind of a Korean War history buff. I really, really dislike that term. I think we should just get rid of it. It is kind of a pejorative term in some ways. I have always thought it downplays the sacrifice and nobility and meaning of this very brutal conflict.

I have often thought and said that, instead of the forgotten war, we should call it the "noble war," because it was a noble undertaking. It was a noble undertaking. Anyone who knows the history of this war or visits the memorial or knows a Korean war veteran or their family members knows that this was a noble undertaking by our great Nation, saving a country—literally saving a country—and we sacrificed a lot for it.

That is the other thing that I think is very powerful on this memorial. Take a look at it—another depiction. You have heard it many times, but it is right there: "Freedom is not free."

"Freedom is not free." Indeed, the freedoms that we enjoy in America, that so many countries around the world enjoy right now because of our military members over the course of history, decades—I always like to say, probably the greatest force in liberating mankind from oppression and tyranny in the world is the U.S. military. Think about it. Hundreds of millions of people. World War I; World War II; the Civil War, of course; but the Korean War, certainly. Over 37,000 Americans were killed in action, over 8,000 are still listed as missing in action, and over 103,000 Americans were wounded.

And, of course, the killed and wounded Korean veterans and military and civilians from that war are literally in the millions—in the millions. But what also resonates are the very, very tangible results of the war in terms of freedom.

Many of us have seen the famous satellite images at night taken over the Korean Peninsula—the whole peninsula. And if you look at the 38th parallel and what is north, it is literally dark and looks cold and looks lifeless. And if you look at everything south in that satellite picture, it is alive, bursting with life, and light.

I encourage everybody, every American, if you are in D.C., go take a look; go pay your respects. It is so moving. It is dramatically improved, this memorial, which I didn't think could be improved upon.

In my view, there are very few better illustrations of the disparity between freedom and authoritarianism than the image of that Korean Peninsula at night with those two countries—one is bright and alive, and one is dark and literally dead. American citizens, American soldiers, American military kept an entire country free.

So what happened last week? I didn't think this war memorial, to be honest, could be improved—one of my favorites: powerful, as I have talked about; great words—but it was improved.

Last Wednesday, I had the opportunity to attend the dedication—really, the rededication—of the Wall of Remembrance that was added to the Korean War Memorial last week. The wall now has engraved on it the [names of] 36,573 Americans that were killed in action—every one of them—like the Vietnam wall.

This is an example of what you will see at the new memorial. I encourage everybody, every American, if you are in D.C., go take a look; go pay your respects. It is so moving. It is dramatically improved, this memorial, which I didn't think could be improved upon.

Importantly, intermixed in the names of the Americans are also the 7,200 KATUSA soldiers. These were the Korean Army personnel who served with American forces, right alongside them. So they are just here. They are not divided by American and Korean. Those are just the ones who served with the Americans. Again, the Korean military—their killed-in-action numbers are way higher than even these.

And here is the other thing that is so moving about this memorial. The names are laid out by service—Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines. And they are listed according to rank. So if you look at the Vietnam Memorial, it is mixed in. It doesn't matter what service. And it is the date in which somebody was killed, chronologically.

This is by military service and their rank. Why does that matter? What does it mean? Well, I will tell you what it means. It depicts the sacrifice of war, regardless of what the war is. Wars throughout history, up until now, always fall upon the young men and women of our great Nation—the 18-, 19-, 20-year-olds. They are the ones who do the fighting, and they are the ones who do the dying.

So, for example, this is actually a picture of the section after section after section after section, which is just U.S. Army Private First Class—U.S. Army PFCs. And it is just thousands, one group. Huge sacrifice. Huge sacrifice.

So I encourage everybody to go out, take a look at this newly improved Korean War Memorial that was dedicated last week. It was such a moving ceremony. It was made all the more moving by the beautiful voice of Miss America, Emma Broyles, who sang "God Bless America" in front of the thousands of veterans who were there—thousands of—Americans, Koreans.

And the final thing I just want to mention—and I think the whole Senate—I am working on a Senate resolution, and I would love to get some of my colleagues here on the floor right now to join this resolution with me. It is a simple resolution saying thank you to the Korean government and the Korean people, because guess who paid for this memorial.

It wasn't the American taxpayer. It was the Korean Government and the people of Korea. Over 22 million. We had tremendous support from our Korean War American veterans' associations.

They did a great job. But the vast, vast bulk of the funding for this new, incredibly moving Korean War Memorial was from the people of Korea and the Government of Korea. And they sent their defense minister, they sent their veterans affairs minister, they sent a huge delegation of members of their

legislature all for this ceremony. So I want to thank all of them.

And I want to thank our veterans, our Korean War veterans, who served in the noble war—not the forgotten war, the noble war, a proud moment of history between our two great nations—a history that has bonded us—the Republic of Korea and the United States of America—for decades.

And now our Gold Star families and Korean War veterans can visit the names of their friends and families and loved ones who did this, as the memorial says:

Answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met.

That is why this should be called the noble war.

I yield the floor.

NOTE: Sullivan has a distinguished record of military and national security service. He is currently a Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Since 1993, Sullivan has served in a variety of command and staff billets on active duty and in the reserves, including: TRAP Force Commander and 81mm mortar Platoon Commander, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable); Weapons Company Executive Officer, Second Battalion, Fifth Marines; Commanding Officer, Delta Company, Anti-Terrorism Battalion; Executive Officer, Echo Company, Fourth Reconnaissance Battalion; and Commanding Officer, 6th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (ANGLICO).

In 2004, Sullivan was recalled to active duty for a year and a half to serve as a staff officer to the Commander of U.S. Central Command, General John Abizaid, spending substantial time deployed in the Middle East, the Horn of Africa, and Central Asia. In July 2013, Sullivan was recalled to active duty to serve with a Joint Task Force in Afghanistan focusing on dismantling terrorist networks and criminalizing the Taliban insurgency.

Veterans wishing to be buried on Korean soil

There was an article by Jessie Yeung titled “They once fought to defend South Korea. 70 years later, these foreign veterans are choosing to be buried there” published on August 26, 2022 by CNN Travel. Vincent Courtenay, Publisher of *The Korean War Veteran*, commented thusly:

This article, republished from CNN Travel, focuses on the desire of some Korean War Veterans to be buried on Korean soil. While an outstanding, well researched and written article, it does not reveal the process by which veterans or their families can apply for such burial, and we gladly provide that information in short form for veterans and their families.

The information is published beneath this CNN Travel article.

The Korean War Veteran congratulates writer Jessie Yeung for the excellent article and photography, and CNN Travel for publishing it and giving it global distribution.

We note that Sapper James Grundy, who is mentioned in the article and whose ashes will be buried in the UN Memorial Cemetery, was nominated to be designated an honorary citizen of Busan, but passed away before the honor was conferred.

Sapper Grundy already had been named an honorary citizen of Nam Gu, Busan, where the UN Memorial Cemetery is located.

Here are a couple excerpts from the article. (We cannot print it in its entirety due to copyright restrictions. It can be accessed at koreavetnews@gmail.com.)

(CNN) — For more than 30 years, British veteran James Grundy made an annual 5,500-mile journey to South Korea, to visit the graves of bodies he had recovered as a young man thrust into war.

Grundy was just 19 when he joined the Korean War in 1951, according to the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea (UNMCK). As part of a recovery unit, he recovered fallen soldiers from battlefields across the Korean peninsula and transported them for burial at the cemetery, located in the southern coastal city of Busan.

The cemetery remains the only UN cemetery in the world — and for many, a final site of reunion between veterans, widows and loved ones lost in the Korean War.

It was established in 1955 after the South Korean government offered the land for the UN’s permanent use, to honor the troops and medical personnel sent from 22 countries under the UN flag during the war...

Today the cemetery, located not far from the coast, remains a popular destination for war history travelers, accessible by bus and subway. Free to enter, it also holds a UN flag raising and lowering ceremony every day, with special events to commemorate key dates like the outbreak of the Korean War.

Mr. Courtenay filled in the blanks about the process through which Korea’s Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs joins with the United Nations Memorial Cemetery to arrange for burial of a veter-

an’s ashes within the veterans section of the Cemetery. Here it is:

Veterans are approved for burial in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery Korea after initial application has been made to their embassy in Korea. Usually, the serving defense attaché at the embassy is the contact.



The UNMCK leaves determination of eligibility up to the embassy. The embassy can then work with Korea’s Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs to arrange for receiving the veteran’s ashes in Korea and the burial service at the

UNMCK. The MPVA so far has handled this role with great aplomb and dignity and deserves praise for what it has done to honor the veterans’ final wishes.

No veteran should feel embarrassed or ashamed to have a desire for burial in Korea. Bill certainly did not, and, as all veterans know who served there, there is some mysterious and compelling connection with the land where they fought, quite distinct to Korea, which is always at the bottom of their thoughts.

First, the MPVA provides air fare or subsidized fare for family members to bring the decedent veteran’s ashes to Korea. The MPVA Minister himself and a mixed services ROK honor guard receives the ashes at Incheon International Airport. Usually the ashes are placed, with great honor and respect, in the National Shrine at the National Cemetery in Seoul, while the family members prepare for the journey and the service that will be held in Busan.

A military burial is held in the green section of the UN Memorial Cemetery, adjacent to the UN Memorial Wall, which is shown in this article. A few times interment has been in the cemetery itself, in the graves of veterans who fell during the war. However, the UN Memorial Cemetery has established the veteran section, on consecrated ground for receiving the ashes of the veterans. Family members participate in the service, including placing the ashes in the ground. The veteran is commemorated with a marble grave marker.

I am showing the marker for British veteran Sergeant William Speakman who was awarded the Victoria Cross during the Korean War, the highest decoration for valor in the United Kingdom or any of the Commonwealth Nations that supported South Korea during the

war. Bill had wanted to be buried within the DMZ on the position where he was wounded in the battle for which he was cited for bravery.

I met with him in Korea and at the time was unable to make the arrangement, and he was happy to know that he would rest in the UN Memorial Cemetery among soldiers from the nations he served with. Bill lost six friends in the team he led during that battle and said that he thought about them every day of his life.

No veteran should feel embarrassed or ashamed to have a desire for burial in Korea. Bill certainly did not, and, as all veterans know who served there, there is some mysterious and compelling connection with the land where they fought, quite distinct to Korea, which is always at the bottom of their thoughts. Even veterans who fought in many campaigns during World War Two before Korea, remember solemnly in their hearts, their service in Korea.

With respect to Canadian veterans, two are now buried in the

UNMCK veterans section, Trooper Albert McBride, whom I knew, and Soldat John Robert Cormier, who is mentioned in the CNN Travel article. Additionally, the ashes of Pte. Archie Hearsey were buried in the grave of the brother he served with in Korea, Pte. Joseph Hearsey. Both had served in the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI).

Korea's KBS television network produced an hour-long program on the Hearsey brothers that involved numerous trips to Canada and filming in their hometown, also in the capital of Ottawa and other cities in Canada.

Canada's Defense Attaché Captain (N) Jill Marrack, already has applications for two Canadian veterans approved. Both of them also served with the PPCLI. The Korean War Veteran congratulates writer Jessie Yeung for the excellent article and photography, and CNN Travel for publishing it and giving it global distribution.

KOREA: OUR FIRST LIMITED WAR

By Tom Moore

Korea was the first "Limited War," i.e., a war limited in scope, objectives, and means employed, to be fought by the United States in modern times. America should consider what effect our experiences in Korea have had on our future limited wars.

The broad national policy under which America entered the Korean War was one of containing aggressive Communist expansion. This policy had been first enunciated in 1947 by George Kennan, then head of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff, and expressed officially later that year in the Truman Doctrine, under which America played a decisive role in preventing a Communist take-over of Greece.

The policy was confirmed when America joined NATO, the first military alliance outside the Western Hemisphere that the U.S. had ever entered in peacetime. These early actions applied to Europe and the North Atlantic area and the Near East. America had not given much thought to the application of containment in the Far East until the attack against South Korea by North Korea, aided and abetted by the Soviet Union and Communist China.

America was also instrumental in creating the United Nations, an organization designed to prevent just such aggression as the North Korean invasion. The United Nations sponsored the American action in Korea. This forthright sponsorship, including the call on all members of the United Nations to contribute to a United Nations Command, was under American leadership. The contribution of combat troops, medical, and other supporting units, by twenty member countries was of great international legal and moral value.

It is characteristic of Americans to seek always total victory, and they feel thwarted when it is not attained. Complete military victory was not achieved (the fighting ended with an armistice) in Korea, though most Americans firmly believe

that the UN won a definite and worthwhile victory in preventing the absorption of South Korea into the Chinese satellite empire. This was in America's national interest.

Would Korea or the Vietnam War fly today? Most Americans feel today that there should be "no" valid reason for not seeking to obtain a Senate or Joint Congressional Resolution, affirming support of the action taken or proposed (We the People). Most Americans of all walks of life still want to know the "Reason Why" of any proposed action and, if they find the answer reasonable, they usually can be counted on for support and cooperation. Limited wars, without a formal declaration of war, are found suspicious today.

When the word war is mentioned, most Americans want to be informed by "their" government of America's true objectives and, within minimal essential security limitations, of America's intentions, as specific problems arise. Like Americans of old, they rightly demand to know the reason for American policies, and to have a part in determining what those policies should be.

Educated Americans today know that joining NATO violated President George Washington's admonition against entangling alliances. Baron von Steuben, the German soldier, who came to this country to organize and train the Continental Army, quickly sensed the American trait of wanting to know the objective of any proposed action. He wrote to the Prussian Army, with remarkable perception: "The genius of this American nation is not in the least, to be compared with that of the Prussians, Austrians, or French. You say to your soldier 'Do this' and he does it. But I am obliged in America to say, 'This is the reason why you ought to do that,' and then he does it."

I suspect today, Americans would go along with a Congress-approved limited war, if there was a good reason why.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

Profile of an American hero: Sergeant 1st Class

Some of the troops that served in or passed through Korea during the war and after got there via round-about routes. One of them was SFC Henry Brown, U.S. Army. He served with valor in WWII and Korea and deserves the accolades he received from the Window Rock, AZ, Navajo Times, from which this article is reprinted. (It appeared on p. 4, May 3, 1961.)

A salute!

Sergeant 1st Class Henry Brown of the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina is our subject in this issue of the NAVAJO TIMES.

Sgt. Brown, 38, was born May 22, 1923 near Klagetoh, Arizona. Sgt. Brown attended school at Leupp, and also attended Fort Wingate Vocational High School. Like quite a few young Americans Mister Brown found himself in service soon after Pearl Harbor, and on his way to basic training at Camp Callen, California. Following basic Private Brown was shipped to Fort Lewis, Washington to duty with the U.S. Third Division, which was receiving training preparatory to going to North Africa.

At this juncture in his military career Private Brown volunteered for the then all-new force called the Airborne. Fort Benning, Georgia was the Training Center for the Airborne, and it was there that Private Brown went to win his Paratrooper wings and learn armed combat Airborne style, which was then, as now, one of the most grueling of all forms of training in the armed services.

Shipping out to Africa, which had been invaded, Brown made his first of 5 combat jumps. This one was into the island of Sicily, where he picked up the first of four Purple Hearts, each one denoting a wound received in battle. After recuperation in England, Staff Sergeant Brown transferred to the 101st Airborne, along with others, to help bring the Division up to full combat strength in preparation for the forthcoming invasion of France.

On June 6th, 1944, Sgt. Brown jumped into Normandy with the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment. In this action, Sgt. Brown won the Bronze Star Medal, for valor in action, and was also awarded his second Purple Heart. Sgt. Brown helped evacuate the wounded, and reorganized the few people he had left, and they held in the face of a furious counter-attack until reinforcements arrived.

After some time in England, Sgt. Brown was back in combat at the time of the Ardennes breakthrough by the Nazis. Sgt. Brown was one of the defenders of Bastogne, where General McAuliffe's reply to German talk of surrender was "NUTS." In this action Sgt. Brown was awarded the Silver Star medal, given an Oak Leaf, instead of another medal, for his Bronze Star Medal. It was here that the Division was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.

The war ended in Europe and just before embarking for the U.S., Sgt. Brown was informed that he had been recommend-

ed for the French Croix de Guerre with Bronze Palms. These were individual awards to Sgt. Brown for action against the enemy given by the individual Foreign Governments. Also, the Division was awarded the Order of Languard by the government of the Netherlands.

In November of 1945 Sgt. Brown was released from service and came back to the Navajo Reservation with the intention of using the GI Bill to complete his schooling. After working in the copper mines in southern Arizona he was sent back to the hospital for recurrence of wounds received in action. He reenlisted in the 11th Airborne, asked for and received duty in the Far East.

In early 1951 Master Sergeant Brown, joined with a Regimental Combat Team and made another combat jump into Korea. During the action in Korea Sgt. Brown managed to win another Cluster for his Bronze Star, and also another for his Purple Heart . . . He was also awarded 3 different decorations by South Korea and the Republic of Korea Army.

He was reassigned to Company A, 127th Airborne Engineer Battalion as 1st Sergeant, at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. At this time Sgt. Brown's father passed away, and due to the illness of his mother, he was released from service and came home. After working for the Law and Order Department of the Navajo Tribe for a while he again enlisted in 1955 and was assigned to Germany for 3 years.

In a letter from Sgt. Brown he told of his belief in the Navajo Tribe, and how much education played in the future of the Navajo Tribe. Sgt. Brown has studied in the Armed Forces Institute and hopes to finish college and become a lawyer and help his people.

We could go on and on about this outstanding young Navajo, and probably embarrass him by calling him a hero, which he says he is not. Sgt. Brown's closing remark is that he wishes to remain a good Indian and citizen soldier. We believe he is all that and much more.

Sergeant Henry Brown has given many a young Navajo a target to shoot for. He has attained high rank and stature in the toughest fighting force in the world, the Airborne Divisions of the United States Army. Our sincerest best wishes for continued success in whatever his chosen field may be.

An added note to this column.

Here are the awards that have been presented to Sgt. Brown.

- SILVER STAR MEDAL
- BRONZE STAR MEDAL, with VALOR and 3 Oak Leaf Clusters
- PURPLE HEART, with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters
- ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL, for meritorious service
- GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL
- AMERICAN DEFENSE RIBBON
- EUROPEAN THEATRE, with 7 battle Stars and 2 Arrowheads
- OCCUPATION MEDAL for Japan, 1947 to 1949

Henry Brown

- NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON
- KOREAN SERVICE RIBBON
- UNITED NATIONS, with 1 Arrowhead and 3 Battle Stars
- ALLIED COLORS for service in Europe in combined Task Force Operation
- Belgium CROIX DE GUERRE with Bronze Palm
- French CROIX DE GUERRE
- WAHRUNG, Republic of South Korea Army for

Meritorious Service

- CHUNGHIL, for Military Advisory-Duty with South Korean Army (equal to the BRONZE STAR of the U.S.)
- ARMY COMMENDATION OF SOUTH KOREAN ARMY, for outstanding Service and being an outstanding representative of the U.S. Army
- VICTORY MEDAL, World War II

Parachutists Master, with 5 combat jumps

Once more the Congratulations of the Navajo Tribe to Sergeant Henry Brown, a fine example and representative of the Navajo people.

The Friendship between 7th Medical Battalion, APO 7, and Butch, a Korean orphan Boy

By *Therese Park*

I recently read about E. Malcolm Strom (1918-2018), WWII and Korean War hero, in an online magazine, Flint Hill Rural Electronic Rural News, published in November 2019 under the caption “Spotlight on E. Malcolm Strom.”

According to the article, Strom graduated from Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science (today’s K-State University) and was working for the local federal Soil Conservation Service. In November 1941 he’d just started working for the Soil Conservation service in South Dakota when he received notice to report for physical examination prefacing induction into the U.S. Army. He boarded a bus for Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas on December 7, 1941. It was on that bus when he heard the news that the Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor. He was sworn into Army the next day.

He went to work at Ft. Leavenworth Receptionist Center processing inductees. Later he was assigned permanently to the medical unit eye-specialist to perform eye exams for new recruits. The next three years brought him more training that made him Second Lieutenant. He later served in France, Belgium, and Germany, including Normandy just after D-day, and Belgian Ardennes during the Battle of the Bulge. Strom died in 2018 at age 101.

It took me a while to connect Strom with the author of the book *My Korean War Experience* (published 2013), in which he described his eight-month service in Korea between January to August 1952 as a lieutenant in a form of diary that contains his correspondence with his wife Edith and his army comrades. What I like most in the book is Strom’s observation of several Korean orphans, particularly a boy named Butch:

7th Medical Battalion, APO 7, Monday, March 3, 1952:

Sometime back our 2nd Platoon picked up a Korean boy about 10 years old... Lt. Waddington, MC, is in charge of him (now.) The boy had been in the Battalion almost since the war started. Whoever has been taking care of him rotated, so he gave (him) away. The boy goes by the name “Butch” and he speaks like the GIs; too much of it is not good. If he knows his Korean name, he won’t give it.

“I’m Butch,” he introduces himself.

He speaks very good English, (but) he cannot converse with other Koreans. He’s very smart. He washes himself

Please turn to **BUTCH** on page 79



Captain Butch with Lieutenant Malcolm



Butch and Friend

What happened in South Korea on May 16, 1961?

I was assigned to the Korean Military Advisory Group, (KMAG) in Korea from June 1960 until August 1961. There were about sixteen American soldiers in my unit, Headquarters KMAG Flight Section, (K-16).

We were stationed at a small Korean airport, designated as “Seoul Tower,” which was located in the middle of the Han River. Our aircraft consisted of 2 H-13 Bell Helicopters, 3 L-19 Bird Dog fixed wing aircraft, 2 L-20 Beaver fixed wing aircraft, and 2 L-23 Twin Engine Beechcraft Executive fixed wing aircraft. In addition to the soldiers in my unit there were also several other American units stationed at the airfield.

Very early in the morning, on or about May 6, 1961, we were all awakened by the sound of machine-gun fire outside of our sleeping quarters. There were only six or seven of us in that hooch and I distinctly remember someone yelling “Hit the floor.” I was already there.

Then the Operations Sergeant called out of his room and said, “Mageau, go outside and find out whose shooting that gun!” I promptly told him to go and look himself. It was apparent he had never heard a 50 cal. machine gun before or he would have remembered it.

Anyway, K-16 was surrounded by the troops involved with the coup d’état and we were afraid to move for a little while. We finally got a telephone call from one of our officers with instructions to warm up our two helicopters. That was my job, along with another crew chief. The officer explained that Chief KMAG, MG Hamilton H. Howse, was going to set up a CP somewhere else. That was a nerve-wracking experience.

While we were assured we would not be shot at, it was twilight and all we could see at the end of the runway was a huge tank and other armored vehicles that were there to make sure no government fighter planes were going to take off. I’ve never seen any reports on this coup d’état in our magazine. I don’t know if any Americans were involved or got wounded during the fighting, but don’t ever believe that there was no fighting.

I flew in the co-pilot seat reconnoitering



Paratroopers fill the sky on or about May 6, 1961

the positions of both sides and counting the number of troops that were holding the high ground. A couple of times they aimed their weapons at us and threatened to shoot at us. Our CP was set up on the 8th Army golf course, but no one was playing golf.

Does anyone remember this? Hopefully, someone will do a little research and find out what happened, how our troops were affected, etc.

Incidentally, the names of some of the other enlisted men in my unit are SP/5 Harold Juvenile, SP/5 Joe Crupi, SP/5 Clancy Holakai, SP/4 Nelle Mendonsa, SP/4 Matsui, Sp/4 Richardson, Sgt. Lansford, Sgt. Jim Scoffield, SP/4 Craige, Operations Sgt. Durbin, and a few others I can’t remember. Our officers and pilots were Major Jim Kearns, Captain Charles Canedy, Captain Clancy Woliver, Captain John Louis and a new LT.

Most of the officers and enlisted men were all regular army and probably ended up in Vietnam. I haven’t been able to locate any of their names on the Vietnam Wall in D.C. I do know that Captain Canedy became a BG and commanded the Army aviation 1st Air Calvary units.

I took the above photo from our H-13 helicopter landing site, located on a small hill about 1/8 of a mile from the 8th Army golf course where KMAG had its CP set up during the first few days of the coup. I don’t remember if we had just landed or if we

were getting ready to take off, but when we looked out, off in the distance, the sky was filled with paratroopers. It appeared that they were landing on the banks of the Han River.

We could hear sporadic gunfire but I don’t know who was doing the shooting. On the bottom right of the picture an H-21 helicopter (with no markings) with its rotors turning appears to be waiting. Our landing site is on the bottom right hand corner of the picture, way back!

We subsequently were told that the paratroopers were from the Korean 1st Tiger Division.

Jim Mageau, Charlestown, RI, jim-mageau@verizon.net

EDITOR’S NOTE: There was a military junta in South Korea in May 1961. The U.S. State Department announced that U.S. troops would “have not been and will not be involved in any way” in it.

Press Officer Joseph W. Reap said, “The situation there is fluid. It does appear that the rebel military group is in control of the capital city area but we have insufficient and incomplete information on other parts of the country, and because of that I have no comment.” (Nome, AK, Nugget, May 17, 1961)

At the time U. S. forces in Korea were composed mainly of two divisions, totaling about 23,000 men serving under the U. N. Command.

Stationed in Seoul - Mission the Same

By Walter Redden

Chosun Christian College, located three miles northwest of the center of Seoul, South Korea, was our new headquarters. The college was founded in 1915 by an American Presbyterian minister whose name was Horace Grant Underwood. The three buildings we occupied were made of gray quarry stones and looked similar to the buildings on the Rhodes College Campus in Memphis, from which my sister graduated.

Chosun Christian College was completely destroyed and the college that was built on that location is known today as the Yonsel University. It is one of the three most prestigious schools in South Korea. Established in 1957 and located in Seoul, it is a private research university with approximately 38,000 undergraduate students, some 11,000 graduate-level students, and 4,500 faculty members at the present time.

Our headquarters were scattered throughout the administration building and the former college library. Only three buildings were still standing when we occupied the college. Building A had been stacked with bunk beds and became our sleep area. The room to which I was assigned had been a biology class lab. We had to throw out all of the lab contents to make this our "home." The former library was our duty station, and it was fascinating living and working among all the forgotten books.

The chow hall was a mile or so down a very muddy road on the Ewha College campus. Due to the Korean War, this campus had very few structures left standing.

I asked the guide for an explanation of why so many people were greeting and meeting the tour bus. He said "Mrs. Thatcher is on our bus." The guide pointed to my wife, Annette, thinking she was Mrs. Thatcher.

Ewha is a private Woman's University founded in 1886. Today, it is the world's largest female educational institution. (The word "Woman's" is used instead of "Women") I have a close personal friend who graduated from the school of pharmacy at Ewha. She now lives in New York. I made a trip to Seoul to celebrate her 50th class reunion.

In 1951 there was total destruction of the city of Seoul. Absolutely nothing was left standing. For me, as a young man, it was almost too much to see and more than my mind could comprehend. Buildings were completely destroyed and only small outside walls, usually less than two feet high, remained standing. When we arrived, the center of one of the last remaining buildings was filled with smoldering red-hot ashes and plumes of smoke. The South Korean Capitol Building was leaning toward the ground with its Capitol Dome missing in action.

Viewing this sight in 1951 from the top of an old fire tower in mid-city Seoul was something never to be forgotten. (Two of us drove to the Gulfport - Pass Christian area of the Gulf Coast of Mississippi two weeks after Hurricane Katrina hit and the unbelievable destruction there would be comparable to the destruction of Seoul. A sad sight indeed.)

In 1951-52 the population of Seoul was half a million. People were either killed or had escaped south to Pusan. In 1990, 40

years later, I was fortunate to be selected for a "Return Visit to South Korea," a wonderful trip sponsored by the Korean Army. Some 25 plus veterans and their wives were in the group.

The trip began in Chicago. We flew Korean Air to Seoul. When we arrived there I could hardly believe my own eyes. The city had been completely devastated and was in ruins when I left it. Now, it looked like Los Angeles or Chicago or any large thriving city in the world. There were tall buildings, condos, businesses—no signs of war. I was overwhelmed with what I saw.

This was a fabulous, once in a lifetime week. Our hotel was world class. The food, the service, and all entertainment were impeccable. The tour of the DMZ and various side trips were first class. When we were getting off the tour bus one day, a crowd was gathered to greet our groups. There were cheers and the standard British bow. Rumor had it that Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister of Great Britain, was on board.

I asked the guide for an explanation of why so many people were greeting and meeting the tour bus. He said "Mrs. Thatcher is on our bus." The guide pointed to my wife, Annette, thinking she was Mrs. Thatcher. I quickly put a stop and quietus to that misunderstanding and confusion. It did make for a day of excitement!

After a week filled with lots of reminiscing and awe-inspiring tours, we met at the Seoul airport, where we boarded a huge Korean Air Jet and headed for home. What a change from 1951 to 1990. I'm so glad I got to make this trip and see it with my own eyes.

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

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573 or emailed to: Sharparthur@aol.com

Magnificent Rare Color Photographs of Hill 355

The nearby magnificent photographic treasures from the Korean War were taken by LCol Brian Simons, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, who served as signals officer for 1 Bn, The Royal Canadian Regiment, which held the great Hill 355 (Dagmar) from early August until November, 1952, and held fast during the October 23 massive attack by enemy forces.

Hill 355 was heavily attacked on Nov. 24 1951 when it was held by 2 Bn 7th Inf Regt. The companies had to withdraw and the battle went on through rain and snow for three days and nights, ending on November 27 when another battalion counterattacked. Casualties were very heavy. The Royals lost 18 soldiers killed in action that night, with another 35 wounded and 14 missing in action.

Throughout their four-month deployment on the Hill 355 complex the Royals 1st Battalion suffered the loss of 41 soldiers, and more than 100 were wounded. Others serving on Hill 355 from the Royal 22e Regiment and support units and Korean porters who were killed in action on the Hill 355 complex during that period are not included in that number.

(See short article following this report by Vincent Courtenay, which lists the names of 41 members of the 1st Battalion of The Royal Canadian Regiment who lost their lives in the August-October period that the Battalion held the Hill 355 complex.)

These magnificent images were recently brought to the attention of the Canadian War Museum, which is in process of acquiring them from Colonel Simons. Historian Andrew Burtch is directing the acquisition. Colonel Simons has held them in his personal collection of color and black and white photographs for the past 70 years. (Note that the images are all protected under Canadian copyright laws which are recognized internationally, and they cannot be used for commercial purposes.)

The images are being published here in low resolution format for ease of transmission, but the originals that will be transferred to the Canadian War Museum are all high resolution format photographs that lend themselves to maximum enlargement for display purposes.

Hill 355 today is the same geographic feature that marks the north and south boundaries of the Demilitarized Zone on the west central front. The British and other Commonwealth troops call Hill 355 Little Gibraltar; the American forces that held it called it Dagmar. The photograph was taken in October 1952 by Brian Simons, a young signals officer serving with The Royal Canadian Regiment. The photograph of the entire hill was taken from the rear position, held by D Company. D Company swept the B Company area that had been overrun by huge enemy infantry forces on the night of October 23, 1952 following the most brutal massed artillery bombardment ever experienced until then by any allied unit in the Korean War.

Lieutenant Brian Simmons graduated from the two-year curriculum in the Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, British Columbia, followed by graduation from the Royal

Military College of Canada in spring 1952. The Class of 1952 graduates were advised that the cadets who were to be commissioned in army units would all be eligible for immediate deployment to Korea. Brian remembers a very enthusiastic response was given in the lecture room. He graduated as an electrical engineer and was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

A classmate who also graduated as an electrical engineer and served in the Signals Corps was Ramsey Withers, who eventually became a full general and Canada's Chief of the Defense Staff. Two classmates who were commissioned in The Royal Canadian Regiment included Lieutenant Andy King and Lieutenant Dan Loomis. They both served with Brian on Hill 355, and both were awarded the Military Cross for bravery.

Dan Loomis, who was a chemical engineer but served always as an infantry officer, retired in the rank of Major General. He had been wounded on his first fighting patrol and was ordered to be evacuated to Canada. He refused and arranged to take physiotherapy for a serious ankle wound during the day, and each night returned to the front lines to serve as a platoon commander on Hill 355.

Another classmate was Herbert Pitts, who served in Korea with 1st and 3rd Battalions, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He retired as a major general. All of them have since passed away and Brian is their sole survivor.

For many years after his retirement Colonel Simons lived in Ottawa, but then moved to Chilliwack, British Columbia. While living there in retirement he wrote and published the newsletter for the Korea Veterans Association of Canada National Capital Unit 7 in Ottawa, despite the vast distance between him and the unit.

He recently moved to a retirement residence in Vancouver, British Columbia, where he is near his daughter, Elaine Simons, who is handling his photographic collection.

The little-known tragic story about Canada's understrength forces in Korea in the autumn of 1952

The tragic facts regarding Canada's shameful lack of support for its soldiers fighting in Korea in summer and autumn, 1952.

By Vincent Courtenay, Editor/Publisher The Korean War Veteran

The companies of 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, which should each have a minimum of 150 soldiers, had closer to only 50 soldiers each during the defense of Hill 355, and on the night of the October 23 enemy attack. These conditions were known in Ottawa, but the Canadian Army was being hard pressed serving its commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and had a full reinforced infantry brigade group deployed in Germany. The all-volunteer Canadian Army was woefully short of volunteers.

The Royals and others serving on Hill 355 were suffering casualties every day, but they were not being adequately replaced. When the bombardment and attack came in on B Company on the night of October 23, earlier bombardments that afternoon had reduced the company's numbers to the size

Hill 355 (Kowang San) Taken During Korean War**

of one very thin, understrength platoon, with little less than 30 soldiers in the positions that faced the enormous enemy assault.

Prior to the enemy attack, the Brigade commander and the Battalion CO were so concerned about the thin numbers holding the massive hill that a fifth infantry company, designated 'E' Company, was formed from snipers and other headquarters personnel. In earlier weeks, a very thin company from the Royal 22e Regiment had helped hold part of the huge complex along with the Royals and also suffered severe casualty rates.

The remainder of the R22e Regiment was so under strength that the company was withdrawn from Hill 355. It was combined with another R22eR company, yet together, that reconstituted company was still vastly understrength. After the hellish artillery bombardment that fell shortly after nightfall, men who had survived pretended to be dead at times, when the enemy stormed onto the hill. A few faked death, when necessary, but also fought their way to the higher ground held by A Company.

Lieutenant Herb Pitts (later Major General) served in D Company of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in an adjacent position. His company was seconded to the Royals and relieved the Royals' D Company so that it could counterattack the enemy. Designated as 'P' Company, Lieutenant Pitts' group was comprised of three officers and 40 soldiers – a little less than one-third the size designated for an infantry company.

The acting battalion commander could not call counter-fire onto the B Company area that was teeming with enemy troops for fear of killing his own men. Communications were down and nobody knew the situation until a patrol from the composite 'P' Company reconnoitered and reported there were no Canadians left on the position. Divisional artillery then made the area hell. But it was not until just before dawn that D Company moved from a rearward position and swept through the B Company positions and secured the hill.

One of the Royals retired company commanders, decades later, told me in the Officer's Mess in Wolseley Barracks in London, Ontario that in his opinion the true story of Canada's forces in Korea could never be told. He said throughout his time in Korea his company was scandalously below strength yet was tasked with attack and defense roles as though it was a fully constituted infantry company.

"I don't know how many times I took the company forward with only 60 or so soldiers," he lamented.

I wish that he had written a detailed biography. The published histories of the Canadian Army in Korea do not present this very significant fact.

Royal Canadian Regiment soldiers who were lost on Hill 355 in the August-November 1952 period

I have compiled this list of Royals who were killed in action in the Hill 355 complex using various official sources, and the number of soldiers lost by the Royals may be even somewhat greater. Also, the list is exclusively of soldiers who served in The Royal Canadian Regiment. It does not include members or other units who died on Hill 355 during the period, including

soldiers from the Royal 22e Regiment the Vingt Deux who supported the Royals.

One of those who fell serving with the Vingt Deux was



Lieutenant Arthur Graham Herman

Lieutenant Arthur Herman, who had graduated from Royal Roads with Lieutenant Brian Simons, but who had not gone on and attended the Royal Military College in Kingston. He was killed in action by a shell barrage on his first day on the Hill 355 position on August 19, 1952, one day after his 24th birthday.

Another soldier from the Vingt Deux who was killed in action on Hill 355 was 20-year-old Soldat



Soldat Andre Adelard Regimbald

Andre Regimbald. He was killed by shellfire on his first day on the position on September 5, 1951. His son Leo Demay in his later years moved to Korea and served as international affairs director at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan, Korea.

He visited his father's grave every day for a period of 10 years, from 2007 until his retirement in 2017.

Honor Roll of Royals who were KIA on Hill 355 in 1952

- Allen, James Russell, Private, 23 October Age 25
- Anaka, Gregory, Private, 23 October, Age 20
- Bawden, Charles Fredrick, Private 23 October, Age 23
- Bignucolo, Carlo Ernesto, Private 17 October, Age 23 *
- Bilyk, Frederick, Private, 20 October, Age 25
- Boath, David Hogg, Corporal, 23 October, Age 19
- Bolton, Russell Wilburn, Corporal 5 September, Age 23
- Bruce, William Edwin, Private, 23 October, Age 25
- Countryman, Lloyd Gordon, Private 23 October, Age 23
- Darrah, Howard Clarence, 1 October, Age 22
- Dawson, William, Private, 23 October, Age 23
- Elliott, William Henry, Private, 1 October, Age 20
- Emerson, Lorne Auley, LCorporal 22 October, Age 20
- Fairman, John Howard, LCorporal 13 October, Age 20
- Hackett, James Caswell, Private, 21 October, Age 19
- Harriott, Cyril, Lieutenant, 5 September, Age 24
- Hilton, John Walker, Age Private, 24 October, Age 19
- Hughes, Eldon James, Corporal, 2 October, Age 22
- Kilpatrick, Joseph Edward, Private 13 October, Age 19
- Knight, Edward J. Michael, Private 23 October, Age 21
- Latham, Mervyn Edward, Private 13 October, Age 19
- Lavene, William Howard, Private 5 September, Age 21
- Maurer, Age Derick Peter, Private, 29 August, 29
- McInnis, Angus Weldon, Private, 23 October, Age 21
- McKinnon, Hugh Ian, Private, 1 October, Age 23

Please turn to **HILL 355** on page 76

Sgt. James Holman featured in South Korean newspaper

Stg. Jim Holman was featured in a Seoul, South Korea newspaper on June 23, 2013. Here is the interpretation of the article:

"Again, the boring sound of the trumpets."

In April 1951, at the central front of Hwacheon, Gangwon Province, 17-year-old Marine PFC James Holman began to tremble. Chinese troops were blowing trumpets. Thousands of CCF (Chinese Communist Forces) began to push forward with shouts covering the sky. No matter how we shot our machine guns, no matter how many of the enemy were killed, the enemy kept pouring forward incessantly, like a wave. Private Holman was hurling fire indiscriminately. Why was this 17-year old boy from Kansas, USA firing guns in South Korea, the country he had never heard of before?

Holman envied his oldest brother, who was a Marine Corps Master Sergeant. He wanted to be a great Marine like his brother. So, in early 1950, he volunteered for the Marine Corps without his parents knowing. Because he was less than 17 years old, he needed permission from his parents to join the military. He falsely wrote down his age as 17. He joined the military on June 23, 1950, and heard the news that the war erupted in the country called Korea just two days after he enlisted.

In March of the same year, he was put on board a transport to South Korea. As a member of 1st Battalion, 7th Regiment, 1st Division, Marine Rifleman, he arrived at Inje, Gangwon Province in early April. Two weeks later he was committed to the battle to prevent the Spring Offensive of CCF, which is recorded as the biggest CCF offensive in the history of the Korean War. From April-May '51, the CCF attacked extensively in Inje, Hwacheon, Yanggu, and Gangwon Province. Wave after wave of the CCF reinforcements poured into the battle with as many as 250,000 soldiers. Soon the boy painfully learned that the reality of war was the dead bodies stacked in front of him.

The boy becomes a 79-year old grandfather this year. He is a successful entrepreneur real estate developer in Tulsa, Oklahoma. However, the memory of the Korean War (6.25) is a wound that he could not overcome. In a telephone interview he said, "War is too horrible. I never talked about it for 40 years." In the middle of the interview, he often had to stop, having a lump in his throat, while talking about the names of comrades who died.

Holman still shudders at sound of the whistles and bugles and said, "It was too much! The CCF continued pouring in despite our success in killing them. Bodies piled up everywhere and blocked the view. The battle continued for a whole week, even as we fought back with every weapon that we had, mortars, artillery, etc."

The Chinese Spring Offensive ended in a crushing defeat. The Allies reached a turning point, switching to offensive operations. After the Spring Offensive, from August to September '51, Holman fought in a battle against the North Koreans at the eastern front, Yanggu Coastal Basin, Gangwon Province for three weeks. The Coastal Basin looked like a hollow bowl that holds punch, so the battle was named the "punch bowl battle." In this battle, the ROK and U.S. forces killed 2,799 and captured 557 soldiers of the North Korean Army.

Many pictures that he took during the war contain his comrades in

a daze, standing over the dead bodies. He became familiar with David Hatch and James Holtke in transport Pusan. He heard the shouting, "Hatch was shot," during combat. Holman called his friend's name several times while shooting his rifle. No matter how many times he called his friend's name there was no answer. He could not recognize who is who, because there were so many bodies: moreover, the bullets kept coming. "I attacked more crazily, having a fit of anger for my friend's death."

In April 1952, Holman came back to his hometown after the most severe year in his life. Because of David Halberstam's book about the Korean War, "The Coldest Winter," and because of his memory of the cold winter, he still cannot sleep without wearing socks during all four seasons.

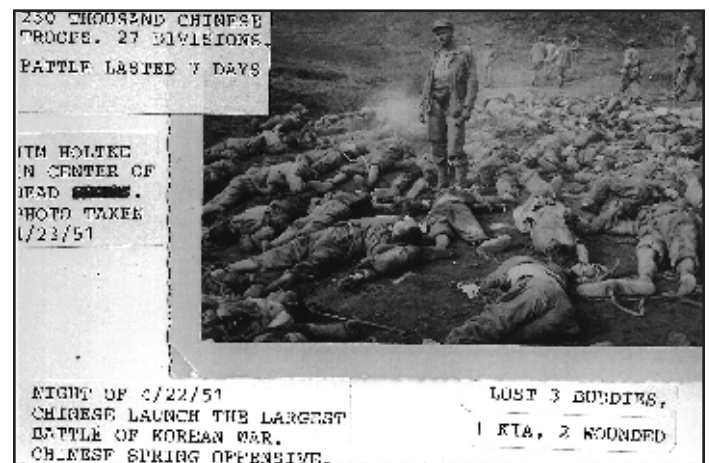
The experience of the war has made him a different person. He drove a truck to make money during the day and went to college at night. "I realized how precious our ordinary life was so I could not live roughly." He succeeded in the real estate business, and is now operating an investment company named after him.

"I do not regret that I enlisted. After the war, I became a better person, because I learned the importance of things that I have. Above all. I can now live and breathe."

He also found Hatch in '95. "During the battle, he heard my voice, but he could not respond, because he could not raise his voice above the noise of the shooting." After being evacuated by helicopter, he was sent back to his hometown, and he lost touch with his buddies. "After 35 years, we had a lot of things to talk about." Since then, they have held several meetings to commemorate the Korean War.

Last month Holman visited Korea for the first time since the Korean War. From May 22-31, at the invitation of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, he visited the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). His memory of the barren land and death had been transformed into a land of green life. "When we left, there was total ruin ... no sound, no trees, only rock. But now it was thickly wooded. I could recall the old look. I could not believe that here is the place where we were at war. The developments of Seoul were surprising. I am proud to have contributed to this foundation of prosperity."

Due to the trauma of the war, for decades he did not return to South Korea, but now is planning to travel there with his comrades.



Please turn to 70th ANNIVERSARY on page 76

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.

HOLMAN from page 72

SEOUL KOREA NEWSPAPER
JUNE 23, 2013

KOREA WAR

"WAR EXPERIENCE
CHANGED MY LIFE"

AS TOLD BY

USMC
SGT. JAMES "JIM" D. HOLMAN
1ST BN, 7TH REG, 1ST DIVISION

SEOUL, KOREA NEWSPAPERS - June 23, 2013

Desperate Struggle Against the Communist Chinese Army
"War Experience Changed My Life"

1st Battalion, 7th Regiment, 1st Division, US Marine Rifleman, PFC James Holman



중공군 공세 때 사투- "전쟁 경험에 내 인생 바뀌" (A Fight Against the Chinese Army - "War Experience Changed My Life")

미국 해군 1사단 7연대 1대대, USMC 1st Battalion, 7th Regiment, 1st Division



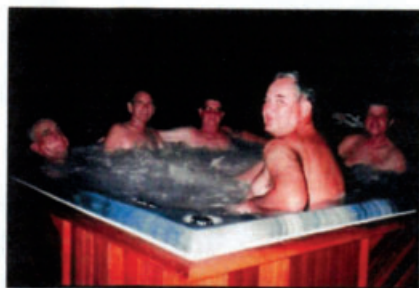
MILITARY REUNION:

I had never talked about the war and barely mentioned I was a Marine. My wife didn't know anything about my time there for more than 30 years. My wife asked if I kept in touch with the men that were my friends in Korea, and I said I hadn't. She told me I should. So I tried to locate as many as I could. I located Holtke in Peoria, Illinois. We quickly put together a reunion in 1987. David Hatch joined us there. I told Hatch that when he was injured, that I tried to find him. I said, "Hatch, I heard you were hit and I was calling your name, but I couldn't find you." Hatch told me, "I could hear you, but I couldn't talk." But I have started to open up about my experiences in the last few years. I still get emotional when I talk about the horrors I experienced, but especially on Memorial Day and other commemorative holidays. It is important to share the stories of people who fought and people who died. The Korean War ended over 60 years ago in a cease-fire armistice. This has remained shaky in the decades since. I would say about two years ago when Kim Jong Un cancelled the armistice, we were back where we started. So it is just like when we were at war.



In 1986, my friends from the Korean War celebrated our 35th Reunion at the Holman Ranch. From left to right: Holman, Green, Clark, Hatch & Hatch

Hatch was badly wounded in the second battle in May, and was flown to a medical ship for treatment. From there he was flown back to the States and spent 3 or 4 months in the hospital at Grand Rapids. He had 100% disability



HILL 355 from page 71

- Millar, Robert Elman, Private, 1 October, Age 27
- Morrison, Charles Joseph, Private, 24 October, Age 22
- Nystedt, Roy Stanley, Private, 1 October, Age 22
- Poole, James Donald, Private, 23 October, 20
- Rice, Bernard G. David, L Corporal 13 October, 21
- Richards, Robert Henry, Sergeant, 27 September 29
- Rowbotham, Alexander, Private, 23 October, 22
- Ryan, Warwick Colmba, , 17 October, 21*
- Ryan, William Joseph, Corporal, 23 October, 23
- Shore, Henry James Donald, Sergeant 2 October, 23
- Shortreed, Vernon Kenneth, Private 17 October, 21
- Stainsby, Ronald, Private, , 27 October, 25
- Stowe, Charles Lorne, Private, 13 October, 24
- Ward, Stanley Arthur, Private, 23 October, 20
- White, Ronald Orin, Private, , 1 October, 21
- Whiting, Frederick Joseph, Private 23 October, 24
- *Pte Carlo Bignucolo and Pte Warwick Ryan were undergoing training at the Hara Mura Battle School in Japan and were scheduled to join the 1st Battalion in its position on Hill 355. They were killed in a training accident and are buried in the



Yokohama War Cemetery near Tokyo, but their names are respectfully included in this honor roll.

*** NOTE: Thanks to Vince Courtenay, The Korean War Veteran, October 19, 2022 for these stories. The article and photos are reprinted with his permission.*

Lieutenant Brian Simons



Lieutenant Colonel Brian Simons (Retired) and his daughter, Elaine Simons, at a veterans' celebration in Vancouver, Canada



The huge Hill 355, Kowang san to the Korean people, and Hill 355 on military maps, tops out at 355 meters (390.5 yards/1,171.5 feet) and dominates the Saimichon Valley that runs westerly and demarks the north and south sides of the front that stretched from coast to coast.



The left forward position of B Company of 1 Bn The Royal Canadian Regiment, which was virtually annihilated by the enemy bombardment and attack on the night of October 23. To the left central is Hill 277, code-named "John," where huge enemy forces were secreted and crossed to attack the southwest slopes of the position. Photograph taken following the October 23 enemy attack. (Brian Simons photograph)



Lieutenant Brian Simons returned to Hill 355 when it was held by the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, and took this amazing photograph of the hateful Hill 227, which had harbored many of the enemy troops that attacked Hill 355. He took this remarkable photograph on July 28, 1953, the first day in which the Korean War Military Armistice Agreement had taken effect, after all of the guns had fired

their final volleys and then gone silent at 11 p.m. of the previous night, July 27, 1953, when the Korean War ended! (Brian Simons photograph)



Vancouver Outpost, the furthest allied point westward from the central main position of Hill 355 was a long, dangerous trek from the main hill. A Company was holding the vital Number Two Position which would be handed over to B Company before the huge enemy assault took place on October 23. But A Company held the position and with it the outlying Vancouver Outpost.

On the night of October 1, 1952, Vancouver Outpost was subjected to an intense artillery bombardment that stove in all of the bunkers and destroyed the trenchworks and defenses, killing most of the half dozen soldiers holding it. Lieutenant Andy King, who had graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada along with Brian Simons in June of that year, immediately gathered a section of soldiers and dashed to the outpost.

While there he called down artillery on enemy infantry that were approaching to occupy the ground. He sent his men back to the main hill but remained in the outpost position, calling down the artillery fire, and was awarded the Military Cross for bravery.



The enemy held Hill 227 (codenamed John) across which many of the attacking enemy forces came, and before the attack on October 23, had also infiltrated and took up positions in vast caves dug in and around the Royals' Vancouver Outpost. The year before, in November 1951, when the U.S. Army's 7th Regiment was attacked by huge enemy forces while holding Hill 355, D Company of Canada's famous French speaking Royal 22e Regiment held the slim ridge at the base of Hill 227.

The enemy attacked across their flank to hit the American Battalion on Hill 355. Finally, the enemy forces began attacking the Vingt Deux from the slopes of Hill 227. The Vingt Deux held out for four days, had 13 soldiers killed and many wounded. Every soldier in the platoon closest to Hill 227 was wounded during that earlier action. (Brian Simons photograph)



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.

ALASKA

JOHN J. TRAUTNER

ARIZONA

RALPH A. GASTELUM JR.

ARKANSAS

GENE KNOTTS

CALIFORNIA

DELBERT R. CANBY

GEORGE E. LAWHON

WILLIAM T. SOTO

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

KEVIN SECOR - B. VSO LIAISON

- US VA

FLORIDA

CHARLES G. BARKER

GILBERT M. BERG

WILLIAM H. BUNKER

RONALD J. COLEMAN

MARTIN J. CONE

EUGENE R. 'GENE' DAVIS

RICHARD R. DEVASTO

WALTER L. DUGAN

GENE T. ELLIOTT

ROBERT GROSS

BERT A. HORVATH

WILLIAM 'BILL' KING JR.

ROBERT A. LEE

JEROME H. MONTAGNINO

THOMAS J. MURPHY

JAMES A. PRIOR

JOHN N. RALLIS

DAVID F. SEILER

CARL M. VANORMER

ERIC H. WIELER

GEORGIA

ROBERT A. MOORE

JAMES W. MORRIS

CHARLES W. PATTERSON

ILLINOIS

ELMER L. DAVIS

INDIANA

ROBERT F. ROBB

WALTER A. SCARE

IOWA

VINCENT J. STECKEL

MAINE

HERBERT G. COLSON

MARYLAND

ALVIN R. ABRAHAM

HENRY MINTON FRANCIS

ROBERT L. MCGREEVY

ROBERT L. STRINE

ANNELIE E. WEBER

MASSACHUSETTS

THOMAS E. KELLEY

RICHARD P. 'DICK' ZIEMBA

MICHIGAN

GEORGE F. BRAY

WILLARD E. FOSTER

MINNESOTA

K. J. BREMER

MISSOURI

WAYNE E. MCCOLLOM

ROBERT 'ROB' NEUBERT

ELTON F. WISCHMEYER

NEW JERSEY

WALTER JANUS

JOHN J. MCGLUE

SAM J. UMBRIAC

NEW MEXICO

HERBERT H. HUGHES

DONALD W. TREIMANN

NEW YORK

IRVING M. BREITBART

NORMAN C. CHAMPAGNE

CALVIN CRISS

WILLIAM L. CROUSE

MICHAEL P. DUGGAN

PAUL M. FERLA

ERWIN H. HULL

FRANK KANDULA

JOSEPH V. NEWLAND

EDWARD RAMOS

NORBERT J. RAPPL

NORTH CAROLINA

WALTER W. DAVIS

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NORTH DAKOTA

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BURTON J. BURSLEY

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CHARLES L. FOSTER

JERRY L. SHASKY

KERMIT F. STROH

OKLAHOMA

JOHN E. LAMLE

RUBIE RUCKER TINDALL

PENNSYLVANIA

HOWARD KANE JR.

RUSSELL J. KOLMUS JR.

HARVEY ROBIN

RHODE ISLAND

ERNEST R. 'PETE' FRAPPIER

SOUTH CAROLINA

EDWARD F. ALLENDER

JAMES H. STOVALL

SOUTH DAKOTA

LYLE D. CLINE

DEWAYNE KLUNDER

TENNESSEE

JOHN H. ARNOLD

DANA E. MITCHELL

JOHN E. PYLES

CARROLL F. REUSCH

PETER STAAB

JOSEPH 'JOE' WHITE

TEXAS

ERNEST H. BOUSQUET

JOHNNY GONZALES

FRANK GROCHOSKE

DONALD P. MCCLURE

BILL ROBERTS

WILLIAM D. TURLEY

VIRGINIA

ANDREW E. OLESON

WASHINGTON

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WALLACE G. ETHIER SR.

ERWIN P. JONES JR.

HAROLD R. OLSON

PAUL G. PETREDIS

JUDSON B. REYNOLDS

KENNETH F. SMITH

WEST VIRGINIA

FRANKLIN D. SHEPHERD

WISCONSIN

RICHARD R. BAHR

DANA H. GRUETZMACHER

ERNEST STEPHAN

The last President of the Korea Veterans Association of Canada has passed away



Donald Sudden died on November 22, 2022, a few days before reaching his 90th birthday. He was the last national president of the now disbanded Korea Veterans Association of Canada.

Donald joined the Canadian Army to serve in Korea on June 7, 1951. He went overseas with the 81st Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery in January 1953. His battery fought in the epic May 2-3 Battle of Hill 187 – a huge raid by hundreds of enemy troops against C Company of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment. It was the final major battle fought by the Canadian Army in the Korean War, although all units stayed in action and fought with the enemy on other positions right through until the armistice that ended the war was signed on July 27, 1953.

When Donald was interviewed by Canada's CTV News on November 10, 2013, he commented on a visit he had made to Korea in 1989 with fellow veterans. "It was a strikingly beautiful country, with beautiful people, and what they did after the war it was just hard to believe," he had said, fighting back tears.



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

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R050376 WILLIAM A. SPRINGBORN

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R050370 JOSEPH LOPOMO

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LR50347 JAMES B. BODY

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LR50373 ROBERT W. BURR

LR50351 LARRY E. SHEARS

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OREGON

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LR50360 BERNET V. POCZOBUT

TEXAS

A050357 GLORIA R. CRAWFORD

R050356 ALEXANDER Y. RODRIGUEZ

WASHINGTON

A050366 MAJ HANS H. KIM

WEST VIRGINIA

LR50374 EDWARD R. KENNEDY

WISCONSIN

A050348 RICHARD G. JOHANN

R050378 JOHN P. SAGAN

BUTCH from page 67

and comb his hair, keeps his clothes clean, brushes his teeth... Butch plays poker, black Jack, pinochle, checkers, and other games, and wins most times. But Lt. Waddington is taking steps to get him in an orphanage in Seoul because when the GIs leave, he'd not have a home. The boy will cry when he leaves but I think he'll understand.

Two pages later in the book, Strom reports:

Oh yes, they took Butch to The 7th Day Advent Home in Seoul.

7th Medical Battalion, APO 7, Saturday, March 8, 1952

Remember Butch, a ten-year-old orphan? The Little Rascal came back about 1700 tonight with an 8-year-old Korean boy with him. Lt. Waddington heard someone enter his tent, and looking up he was astonished to see Butch.

"Why, hello Butch! How did you get here?" he asked.

Butch answered "I hitch hike. Me come back to GIs. Me no like Korean food..."

Seeing that Butch had a little Korean friend with him, Waddington asked, "What are you going to do with him? Where are you going to feed him?"

Butch answered, "I go to 1st Platoon, get mess kit. I take good care of him."

"But where will he sleep," Waddington asked.

Butch said, "He sleep with Sergeant White and me in

supply room."

The poor boy apparently couldn't stand the orphanage and the food they got. He doesn't want to be considered a Korean. The other boy, whom Butch named "Chuck," really is a baby but Butch said he'll take care of him. The Chaplain has just called the orphanage (the boys ran away from.) I suppose the boys will be returned to their home tomorrow.

Five pages later...

7th Medical Battalion, APO 7, Saturday, March 23, 1952

Sergeant Calloway, a colored Seven Day Adventist, saw Butch yesterday. Butch has stayed at The 7th Day Advent Home now for over a week and almost reconciles himself to the Home. He asked for some candy and said he still doesn't like Korean food. Lt. Waddington is seriously thinking of adopting him now. His hopes are to take him at the time he rotates home.

The book "My Korean Experience" doesn't follow Butch's later years, leaving readers disappointed, but it certainly gives a clear picture of how American troops felt about the Korean orphans they sheltered, fed, and cared for and how much the "rascal" like Butch trusted and loved his GI friends that he brings one of his fellow orphans to his GI friends who'd certainly love and care for him as they had done to Butch himself.

Therese Park can be reached at tspark63@yahoo.com



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Christmas Spirit

Service members celebrate during the annual tree lighting ceremony at Hurlburt Field, Fla., Dec. 3, 2021. The ceremony was held in person this year after being virtual in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.