Information and Computer Kiosk
Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall
Washington, D.C.
The Graybeards
The Magazine for Members and Veterans of the Korean War

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THE GRAYBEARDS

MAY-JUNE 1997
Calls to Attend Our Reunion

MEMO: To all 1997 fun filled reunion attendees and to all cliff hangers

From: Tod Cornell,
your 1997 National Reunion Chairman

Joan Rivers' favorite line was . . . "can we talk?" Well, let's talk about the 1997 National Reunion of the Korean War Veterans Association in Albuquerque, New Mexico. First off . . . everyone with a balance due . . . and everyone that is still thinking about attending, you now have until 1 July to get all payments into the local bank. After that date, the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center will not hold the rooms or guarantee the rate of $82.95.

That comes to the other change, the Pinnacle is now a Radisson property and all of the Radisson rules are in force. So, if you are going to attend . . . NOW is the time to do SOMETHING!!

So why attend this reunion? Because it's at a national gathering that things can get done. The business sessions are set for the 24th and 25th of July with the annual meeting on Saturday the 26th. This is the place and this is the time to take care of KWVA Business. Crying in the wind some of our brothers back East are prone to do . . . does not work.

If you are interested in this organization . . .
If you are interested in the future of our military . . .
If you are interested in the latest on Korea POW/MIA's . . .
If you are interested in the latest on Veterans Administration . . .
I could go on and on, but I think you get the point. The Albuquerque Reunion IS special and if you stay home . . . you lose. The WINNERS will be in Albuquerque 23-27 July 1997.

Turn to pages 10 and 11 in this issue and fill out the application found there! See you there!

Albuquerque Chapter One - KWVA has a bare bones reunion where we can attend a banquet for $28 and breakfast for $10. Those are reasonable prices. What is expensive is transportation and lodging. Our organization is in deep, deep trouble and our leaders have failed to communicate fully with the membership about it. According to my information too few plan to attend the meeting. I propose that the good citizens of KWVA attend. If enough of us go, we can vote — and straighten out the mess. Let us find out in person, what is going on, if not mismanagement, what else? What we want to know are the true facts of the case. If our leaders got us into this situation, perhaps they can use our help in getting out of it. There are 10,000 or more of us, and if we appear in Albuquerque in large numbers, we will be heard.

We may have 13,000 members, and the count was 12,000 in June 1996, according to data published. Or we may have barely 10,000 members or less according to the financial reports printed in the Graybeards. How many members do we have? The Secretary-Treasurer should provide this information regularly, either in print or upon request from any member wishing such information.

We also need to know the state of affairs of KWVA. The last two issues of Graybeards are devoid of any mention of the several criminal investigations being conducted in the State of Illinois, and by federal agencies. I know this is going on because I have been contacted and asked for information. I did not solicit these requests. In the last issue of Graybeards, our President failed to address the critical issues posed by the authorities seeking information. One of our Directors told me he had not received any information. Again, this issue of Graybeards should have a complete report with figures and names. I doubt our members will be properly informed. It is also likely those who make up the slate of potential directors listed in the March-April Graybeards will not have laid out their program, if elected, that would give members information they need to cast an intelligent vote.

In my judgement, if we continue to receive so little hard facts and information, as has been the case during these past four months, why not have an independent investigation made by the state of our incorporation? New York law provides assistance in cases of corporate turmoil. Perhaps our leaders don't appreciate how strongly the membership feels about the current state of affairs and the cause behind it. It cannot be resolved through the magazine. Only at Albuquerque at the general membership meeting can we move to ask the New York Attorney General to file a suit in the New York Supreme Court for a receiver to collect KWVA files and property, state an account and this matter will, under New York law, be settled within a year. That is how simple this is.

I have been asked, as a life member, to do something. Good citizenship means being involved. By acting in a democratic way under the bylaws of our organization, the place to deal with our problems is at the Reunion in Albuquerque. If at least 500 members of the KWVA believe in what we are about, and are willing to back your good thoughts with action, be in Albuquerque for the 25th and 26th and vote at the membership meeting.

For those of us who enjoyed our sojourn in Korea's snow, we will enjoy the war stories in a place that will be hot! PLEASE WRITE PROMPTLY!

Blaine P. Friedlander, LM 1027
2341 Dale Drive,
Falls Church, VA 22043-3019

Old Comrades
I walked among my comrades brave,
on that bloody hill
And saw no movement, none at all,
for it was deadly still.

There were no cries from trembling lips,
no soldier's blasphemy;
I called their names out, every one,
but no one answered me.

I know each rock each clump of trees
that marks this hallowed ground
For in my mind I see them fall
and I hear that battle sound.

Now the silence takes my breath
for all that I can see.

Are rows on rows of crosses
where old comrades use to be.

—Thomas Lynn

THE GRAYBEARDS

MAY-JUNE 1997
President's Message

First, the Council and I want to thank the many members who have so generously donated funds (page 6) to keep publishing the Graybeards during this period of financial difficulties. It tells the “doomsayers,” that have so severely criticized the efforts to resolve the current fiscal issues and keep the KWVA a viable organization, they are out in left field. The members care about the KWVA and predominantly are supporting the Council and actions taken.

Opposite this message is the KWVA current financial status. As you will note, our checking accounts had only $3,144 as of 8 February 1997. The Council at the Mid-Winter Meeting had no knowledge as to the extent of cash availability actual CD’s and bills due or unpaid, only losses incurred as presented by CPA Myrda in his preliminary report.

In late February, I started sifting through all the bills the CPA had sent me that had accumulated in the KWVA P.O. Box. Many date back to 1 August 1996. There were about 50 accounts that had to be checked to ensure they were legitimate and required payment. This action took many hours of phone calls between myself and cognizant vendors. All vendors were told about our financial difficulties and agreed to extensions for partial payments until fully paid, as funds became available. I also got a KWVA Credit Card (limited to $6,000) to pay some of the due bills and alleviate possible cash shortfalls in case of fiscal emergency.

As you will note the accounts payment statement denotes $104,808 in bills received thus far. Hopefully, that is all of them, except for the Graybeards, CPA Myrda/Mrs. Munson and other operating costs, phones, postage, etc. The Executive Council has been kept fully informed of all of the actions taken by Treasurer Martin and myself to keep the KWVA solvent. We will continue to do so until the investigation/audit is completed and the bonding company takes action on the KWVA claim.

Also, upon completion of the inventory by Director Cook and CPA, we may be able to use the value of the inventory as collateral for a bank loan if required to keep the KWVA operational.

One important point must be noted. Some state Departments/Chapters and members are espousing that national membership dues be held in escrow accounts at their local banks until the fiscal/legal issues are resolved. This is contrary to our National Bylaws. I have instructed Mrs. Munson to place any member whose national dues are not paid “within 60 days after dues date” in inactive status. They will not be mailed a Graybeard, and will be no longer be considered a member in good standing, thus ineligible to vote in national elections. Without paid dues, the KWVA will become inoperative. Is this what those members want? Mrs. Munson will continue sending out dues notices.

Lastly, this issue has the election ballot. Eight members are candidates to fill four director seats. Let us have a high ballot count. Vote for the candidate whose records show they have been and are committed to the welfare of the KWVA and its goals, not individual purposes.

This issue contains the official ballot for the election of four (4) Directors of the Association for the next three years. Please exercise your right to vote. Every election is important!

FINANCIAL STATUS
(as of 23 May 1997)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand (8 Feb.'97)</td>
<td>$3,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>76,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graybeards Donations</td>
<td>5,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartermaster Sales</td>
<td>3,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPPY SALES</td>
<td>2,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations/Commissions</td>
<td>2,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$93,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Disbursements</td>
<td>(75,038)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Balance</td>
<td>$18,391</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accounts Payable/Expenses
(August 96 – 23 May 97)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graybeards Printing</td>
<td>$34,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graybeards Mailing</td>
<td>10,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graybeards Typesetting</td>
<td>2,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams Mark Hotel (96 Reunion)</td>
<td>4,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VFW Poppies</td>
<td>3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPA Services</td>
<td>8,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Services</td>
<td>8,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>7,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97 KWVA Credit Card</td>
<td>3,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATT (1,800 numbers)</td>
<td>5,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: Vendors, etc.</td>
<td>16,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Total</td>
<td>$104,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments (checks)</td>
<td>(75,038)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments (KWVA credit card)</td>
<td>(3,571)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Outstanding</td>
<td>$28,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Loss</td>
<td>($7,808)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Does not include KWVA state/scholarship programs and 96 Reunion liabilities.

Note: No CD’s or other bank accounts have been found thus far.

See you at the 97 Reunion in Albuquerque.
Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards

Many members have responded to the suggestion to temporarily help underwrite the cost of publication of The Graybeards by making voluntary contributions. This issue contains 48 pages rather than the 32 in the March-April issue. We continue to use black ink on lesser quality paper, fewer black and white photos and no color printing on the cover. Your heartening response has made this step possible. Hopefully we will be able to restore color and other desired changes in subsequent issues. Members may continue to respond by sending your contribution to KWVA, P.O. Box 35406, Baltimore, MD 21222 marked: Support of Graybeards. Every donation will be recognized in the magazine.

As the time of publication the following 229 names of donors and two "Memorials" have been reported to The Graybeards and are listed as follows:

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Afflerback, W G  
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Ashworth, J H  
Augustine, H  
Augustine, H  
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Baltsman, H E  
Barlas, J A  
Barnes, R J  
Bates, Jr, A E G  
Baugh,a  
Beckering, R D  
Bell, C R  
Belton, R M  
Berry, M  
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Bunner, T R  
Busini, L J  
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Cappiello, M R  
Cassati, S  
Casagnia, F A  
Catt, H J  
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Cipollari, A M  
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Coulter, K L  
Crisp, R  
Crosin, E J  
Culbcahe, W F  
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Dallas, W E  
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Detlefsen, J W  
Donahue, J M  
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Dougherty, W J  
Ducker, K F  
Dugan, J J  
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Everson, W F  
Everhard, J  
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Fenton, B F  
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Fladeland, Jr, E  
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Frank, B L  
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Gifford, R  
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Goodman, S E  
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Hahn, D R  
Hamel, G T  
Hammond, E T  
Hammond, G  
Hampton, H W  
Hand, P E  
Hanson, B  
Hansen, D W  
Hart, Jr, C F  
Harvey, C M  
Hathaway, D H  
Hauner, R R  
Hawes, R M  
Hayes, A M  
Hessler, W G  
Hilsky, C J  
Hinz, R S  
Hobbs, H F  
Hollingshead, H B  
Horstman, R K  
Houser, G O  
Hurlin, J C  
Imbrogna, J A  
Jackson, A T  
Jacobs, J R  
Jantos, E M  
Jeffrey, D R  
Jeri, L V  
Jones, R L  
Jordan, Jr, A L  
Kaprelian, G  
Karchner, P E  
Kelly, W B  
Kerr, J W  
Kettler, A  
Kriszat, E F  
Kronenberger, J F  
Kurtz, J  
Kus, K  
LaBossiere, D R  
Laird, R E  
Langlais, R G  
Littlefield, B  
Loest, D A  
Lovitt, W R  
Lynn, T E  
Lyons, T A  
Maggiulli, M  
Manning, J F  
Markert, H F  
Martin, J K  
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May, J M  
Maynard, E A  
McGuire, J  
McCoun, B  
McDougall, W  
McMorrow, M  
Meaney, R W  
Mebruer, Jr, H  
Meehan, E M  
Mentis, R P  
Meredith, W B  
Merrill, R  
Middleton, D A  
Miller, A M  
Morgan, W B  
Morris, J M  
Morris, J H  
Muir, R J  
Murray, F  
Murray, T  
Naples, T P  
Nickolas, D J  
Nolan, W L  
Paese, A G  
Pairsou, D J  
Pappas, J M  
Pappas, J M  
Paprocki, R  
Passanante, J  
Peduzzi, J F  
Pence, W L  
Peters, D R  
Petersen, D J  
Pierson, Jr, N W  
Plume, C V  
Polera, F D  
Price, W G  
Raffler, R L  
Randall, B J  
Rebele, C P  
Reed, B A  
Reppucci, Jr., T A  
Reynolds, M K  
Reynolds, B L  
Rhindress, D P  
Rifenbark, D P  
Romeu, A  
Roth, L J  
Russell, J F  
Ryker, J F  
Santelli, R J  
Scarpato, P J  
Schiro, F  
Schroer, G H  
Sofca, M  
Selonke, L  
Sexton, M J  
Shackelford, H A  
Shankweiler, C F  
Sheren, J C  
Shortman, A L  
Sicking, T  
Simon, S  
Simone, P  
Smith, R C  
Smith, Jr., E  
Smolinsky, J D  
Stanchfield, Jr, L D  
Stevens, R E  
Stockmeier, F C  
Stoddard, E L  
Stone, Z E  
Strysick, M  
Sunie, E  
Sweet, D G  
Thurn, S E  
Tucker, W D  
Tuxhorn, L  
Valloric, J J  
Vinski, J J  
Voswinkel, Jr, W H  
Wallace, H  
Ward, A R  
Webster, W R  
Weirich, J J  
Welch, J L  
Welch, P W  
Welsh, P R  
Wheeler, V  
Whitacre, R D  
Wickers, W F  
Wilson, Jr., P I  
Witkovich, G R  

In Memorium:
Harry Rayb  
PFC A Cot
Actions Speak Louder Than Words

I could write about many important issues facing our organization. This is not new, everyone has problems. Life is about taking whatever comes and making the best of it. Getting called into service, like going to Korea, makes my point. We simply made the best of it. However, I have decided to turn my column over to the members and let them do the talking. Since the number of letters as evidenced by reading the opposite page is large, I will include only excerpts from them and the subject of these letters are our magazine, The Graybeards.

"I hope this contribution to keep publication of Graybeards helps. I think it is one of the best veterans magazines around. Keep up the good work."

"I enjoy the Graybeards very much. It has helped our 90th FA group find missing members. It has helped our group grow for our reunions. I hope our problems pass and we can keep growing."

"We need more pages in it, not less. I would also like to see more pages donated to "letters." Veterans that write would like to be heard and they deserve to be. We have a wonderful magazine. Let's keep it that way."

"Here is my check, the amount of one years dues. We can either be part of the solution, or part of the problem."

"It's a great magazine. Continue the good work. We will not be forgotten."

"Could not refuse your request. I think the articles and magazine are great."

"Keep 'em coming! The Graybeards deserves everyone's support."

"The Association should fully fund this fine and important publication."

"We are sending you a check for $100 to help support The Graybeards. I hope this will help keep the magazine as good as before."

"I am sending my $5 for the restoration of The Graybeards magazine plus $5 for the member who won't contribute. No need for any recognition."

"The KWVA needs this publication to keep all are members informed and abreast of information pertinent to our cause."

"Enclosed is my contribution towards your efforts to keep The Graybeards coming to us throughout the year. My experience in Korea was that of a "retread," and a reluctant one at that, but as we all know, war brings us closer together, and the friendships, and memories are precious and should be, and so I am so very grateful for you and all those who are doing so much to keep alive the spirit of our days together."

"Enclosed is my check to support The Graybeards. I do prefer the black on white coated paper, it is easy to read for my old eyes. I am sending a contribution so you can return to a 64 page format."

"Let's get back to the great "Graybeards" as it was. All Korean War veterans should continue to display Honor - Courage - Pride and Dignity as a fine example to all the people in our great country and the world."

"Here is my contribution to help save The Graybeards. I am sorry it can not be more."

"Sorry to see our magazine funds so low. It is a great magazine. I look forward to receive each one."

"I certainly hope you get the magazine back to its original standard!! I appreciate it very much. I spent 4 tours in Korea...during the war with the 7th Inf. Div."

"It is with great pleasure that my contribution will be used to support The Graybeards magazine."

"Here's an extra $5 for someone who might not be able to afford it."

"Although I did not serve in Korea, I did serve in the Air Force from February '52 to February '56. I look forward to receiving The Graybeards and read it from front to back. I am also in the American Legion and the VFW and receive their magazines also. In my opinion The Graybeards is by far the most interesting of all veterans publications. The true stories written by the men who served in Korea are very down to earth, very touching and sometimes sad. Very often some of the stories will bring tears to my eyes. God bless all of our Veterans."

"Enclosed kindly find my check to be used to restore the magazine to its former standard."

"I am enclosing my check for $20 which hopefully will take up some slack for those members who may wish not to contribute. I hope that this organization can be kept active as it is probably the only one that is for the Korean Vet."

"Instead of listing my name as a donor, could you list a friend of mine who didn't come back? Thanks and keep up the good work."

"Sometimes I have the feeling that our organization of Korean War Vets has accomplished its original mission of restoring our forgotten war to the full attention of American citizens and may be slipping into post-campaign lethargy. The most positive connection we now have to our past and to each other is The Graybeards. We simply cannot downplay the importance of this publication. Therefore, please accept the enclosed donation to help underwrite the cost of its continuing appearance in six issues per year.

The memories related on the pages of The Graybeards are poignant and deeply moving. It was our war since we participated in it but it was also one of America's finest stands. We halted the invasion of an aggressive military force and simultaneously stopped the spread of communism into a peaceful nation which has since grown healthy and financially secure. With each issue, we are reminded of something from our personal past for which all of us can take pride."

After reading through these letters I can only say thanks to all those members who chose to respond to our appeal for additional financial support. I am humbled and grateful to each one of you. Hopefully, we will come out of this period in our history stronger than ever.

You will note the present issue has increased the number of pages from 32 to 48. This has been made possible by the generosity of the members. Unfortunately, many members who have sent in materials for publication will be disappointed. I share your disappointment, but we will continue to do the very best job we can under very difficult circumstances.

Amos T. Camp, Editor
Minutes of the Executive Council
Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
Mid-Winter Meeting — February 15, 1997 — Albuquerque, New Mexico

Executive Session was called to order - by President Nick Pappas. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation Roll Call was taken by Secretary Jim Martin.

President Pappas presented a run down and general discussion of problems regarding Treasurer Maison. The confidential report prepared by Stan Myrda, CPA, given to the Council members Friday night, was reviewed in detail.

The report by Mr. Myrda has determined that there were a number of questions concerning the KWVA's financial records that need to be answered. The Treasurer had been asked to respond to these questions - but these questions remain unanswered. Due to the nature of the questions, the Treasurer was suspended, effective 8 February 1997, bank accounts closed, Quartermaster Office/PO Box locked up, and all accounts are being monitored, pending resolution of discrepancies. President Pappas noted Treasurer John Maison has submitted his resignation. Mr. Stan Myrda, CPA, went over his Preliminary Special Procedures Report at this time (not an audit). General discussion followed.

Motion: [Coon, Lynch] Move Stan Myrda CPA is to continue on with the investigation and the Board prepare a letter (signed by all members) to be sent to John Maison to provide all back-up documentation within a certain time limit. (30 days) Vote - Roll Call Yes 6 No 7 excused 1. FAILED

Motion: Amend previous motion to 15 days. Died lack of 2nd.

Motion: [Danielson, Coon] Move that we continue investigation as initiated in November, 1997, by President Pappas and go forward. Yes 10 No 3 PASSED

Motion: [Van Ort, Coon] Move that we give authority to President and Mr. Myrda to temporarily sign checks and take care of KWVA normal business. After discussion, makers withdrew motion.

Motion: [Coon] - Move that we give authority to President and Mr. Myrda and both have to sign all checks. DIED, no 2nd.

Motion: [Coon, Danielson] Require that the KWVA bank accounts require any two signatures on checks from the following three persons President, Vice President, or Treasurer. VOTE: Yes 13 No 1 PASSED

ROSE OF SHARON
ORDERING INFORMATION
The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen. Sample order is 4 dozen, $2.50 per dozen = $10 plus $3 S&H. Minimum order is 20 dozen @ $50 plus $5 S&H.
Ordering Address: Mr. Earl House 1870 Yakona Road Baltimore, MD 21234 Phone (410) 661-8950

DEATH NOTICE OF A MEMBER OF KWVA
The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased
Date of death
Department/Chapter
Home of record
Army ☐ - Navy ☐ - Marine Corps ☐ - Air Force ☐ - Coast Guard ☐
Other
Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by
Relationship to deceased
Send to: Editor, The Graybeards P.O. Box 10806 Arlington, VA 22210

NOTE: TAPS notices will be published in the January-February and the July-August issue of Graybeards each year.

Moving?
Please notify
Graybeards
of your change
of address.
KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210
Attn: Membership Secretary

THE GRAYBEARDS MAY-JUNE 1997
Advertising Contract Agreement

This will authorize you to publish my/our Ad for __________ issues of the The Graybeards magazine beginning Month ______ Year ______. It is my understanding that the cost of the Ad will be according to the prepaid rates published below based on the size of the Ad and the number of insertions. The publishing schedule of The Graybeards is currently, five issues per year January/February; March/April; May/June; July/August/September; and October/November/December. All Ads must be paid in advance of publication.

All information to be contained in the Ad will be as described on the worksheet found on the reverse side of this contract agreement or comparable sheet and is to be attached to this contract. Copy must be camera-ready and meet the quality standards as defined by the editor of The Graybeards on behalf of the Korean War Veterans Association. Should alterations or additional work be necessary to produce an Ad acceptable for publication, such charges will be quoted to the Advertiser before any work is done.

The size of the Ad must conform to the nominal sizes as shown on the rate sheet below. Any changes or modification to the size or wording of the original Ad will be done at an additional cost agreed upon by the advertiser and The Graybeards Editor.

I understand that The Graybeards Editor retains the right to cancel this agreement if deemed necessary. The balance of charges will be returned at the time of cancellation.

Business/Organization/Company: _______________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State ______ Zip ____________
Phone ____________

Signed ___________________________ Contact Person: ______________________
Date ____________

Make checks a able to: KWVA
Send with your remittance to: Amos T. Camp, Editor, 7828 Rebel Drive, Annandale, VA 22003

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Sizes shown are nominal

Agency Commission
Fifteen percent to authorized agencies on space, position and color. Terms for payment are net with order: net 10 days with prior approval.

The information and proof copy on reverse side or attached have been checked and are approved for printing.

Signed: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________
Solicitor: __________________________ Date: ____________________________

Send all copy for printing together with this contract to: Amos T. Camp, Editor, 7828 Rebel Drive, Annandale, VA 22003

Thank You For Your Patronage

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

THE GRAYBEARDS
MAY-JUNE 1997
Quartermaster Remains CLOSED

The KWVA Quartermaster remains closed until further notice. This closing became necessary while a detailed audit of the financial affairs of the KWVA continues.

The Executive Council, meeting in Albuquerque, NM on February 15, 1997, ratified the actions taken earlier closing the Quartermaster. As of this writing, the merchandise of the Quartermaster is being inventoried under the direction of the auditor. This precautionary measure is designed to preserve and determine the value of the inventory. At such time as this process is completed, it will be decided how to best dispose of the inventory and as quickly as possible recover its financial value.

A new Quartermaster will be named ASAP. We are sorry for the inconvenience. You will be informed.

Attention
KWVA Members

All 1-800 numbers listed on page 2 of the January-February issue of The Graybeards are cancelled effective 1 April 1997. The new telephone numbers are:

Nick Pappas .......... 302-227-1309
Nancy Monson .... 703-522-9629
Tom Clawson ....... 612-457-1266
Jim Martin ............ 410-282-8498

1997 National Reunion Notes

In spite of last minute adjustments, your 1997 Reunion is in Full Swing! Make your deposit NOW and pay the balance by NLT 1 July 1997. (Use the Registration Form on page 11). —After that date there will be a price increase! ACT NOW to make sure you are included in a exciting, informative reunion. Each person will receive a receipt and a letter with all the details.

Sign up for FIRST CLASS tours in the Land of Enchantment

In 1540, Francisco Vasques de Coronado came searching for the fabled golden cities of Cibola. What he found was the heart and soul of The Land of Enchantment. The Command Post also known as the War Room will have a complete list of every advertised event in the Albuquerque area. There is plenty to do from shopping at our new mall, daily trips for native bingo and gaming, to golf and much more. Express your desires and there is a very good chance the busy bees of Albuquerque can set it up for you.

The following tours offered are based on a specific number of people required by the tour company. Fill in the form at the end of this announcement.

• Tour One - Thursday 24 July — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
A tour of the Turquoise Museum, Old Town Albuquerque and the Indian Pueblo Cultural Centers. Discover the difference between handmade and hand crafted jewelry at the Turquoise Museum while surrounded with one-of-a-kind turquoise specimens from over fifty mines. Across the street in historic Old Town with time for lunch and sight-seeing. Then board your de luxe coach for a trip to the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center featuring an Indian Museum and exhibits on the history of the state’s 19 Indian Pueblos. The price is $25 per person, based on 35 paid guests. Number x $25 = $__________

• Tour Two - Friday 25 July — 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
A tour of Acoma “Sky City” Pueblo. This is the oldest city in the United States dating back to 1150 AD. You will have a guided tour with plenty of time to shop for native pottery and sample native cuisine. Coach transportation, guide and box lunch for $35 each. Need 35 people to sign up. Number x $35 = $__________

Tour Three - Saturday 26 July from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. tour of Santa Fe. A guided walking tour of the large historic plaza with many art galleries, museums, churches and much more. Bus and guide for $23 each. Need 35 sign-ups. Number x $23 = $__________

Should we need to contact you, please make sure to fill in the following:

Name ___________________________ Phone ______________________
Address ____________________________

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Check enclosed for $__________
All checks or money orders payable to: 1997 KWVA Reunion
Mail check and registration form to:
Albuquerque Chapter One - KWVA
P.O. Box 60123, Albuquerque, NM 87198-0123
Call Tod Cornell at (505) 255-4967.

CREDIT CARDS: Charge my credit card:
◆ M/Card ◆ Visa ◆ Amer. Exp. ◆ Discover
Acct. # __________________ Exp. Date __________
Your Tel. # __________________
Card Holders Name: __________________________
Signature __________________________
Mail credit card charge and registration to above address.

THE GRAYBEARDS 10 MAY-JUNE 1997
1997 REUNION

PACKAGE PLAN FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM AND REGISTRATION IMMEDIATELY

1997 Korean War Veterans Association
13th ANNUAL REUNION
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87198-0123
JULY 23-28, 1997

REGISTRATION

Member Name: First____________________ MI ___ Last________________ KWVA#_______
Address______________________________
City_________________ State_________ Zip___________
Telephone: Home________________ Office________________

Hotel Selection 1 or 2 Persons # of people x # of days
Radisson (Headquarters) $82.92 __________ x ______ = $___________
LaBaron $57.49 __________ x ______ = $___________
Banquet, 7/27/97 @ $28 each, # attending ______ x $28 = $
Breakfast, 7/28/97 @ $10 each, # attending ______ x $10 = $
Registration Fee @ $32/single person ______ x $32 = $
Registration Fee @ $55/couple ______ x $55 = $

TOTALS = $

Total Package Plan Balance: All payments due no later than NLT 1 July ______

$100.00 deposit guarantees a room. Your deposit will apply to your account for the activities you choose from the latter mailing.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS:
Check enclosed for $___________
All check or money orders payable to: 1997 KWVA Reunion
Mail check and registration form to: Alvarez Chapter One - KWVA
P.O. Box 80123
Albuquerque, NM 87198-0123
Call Tod Cornell at (505) 255-4967.

CREDIT CARDS:
Charge my credit card: □ Mastercard □ Visa □ Amer. Express □ Discover
Acct. #_________________________ Exp. Date _________ Your Tel.#______________________
Card Holders Name:________________ Signature __________________

Please mail credit card charge and registration form to:
KWVA, 1997 Reunion
Albuquerque Chapter One - KWVA
P.O. Box 80123
Albuquerque, NM 87198-0123

THE GRAYBEARDS II MAY-JUNE 1997
TEN...HUT ...We’re Asking For Volunteers....

...to pay their dues promptly and save us the expense of having to mail a dues reminder.

LOOK AT THE MAILING LABEL used to mail this issue of The Graybeards to you. (Following is an example...) (A) R012345 (B) 970101

(C) John J. John

12345 Main Street

Smiley, New York 01234-5678

(A) = your membership number. The first two letters reflect your type of membership.

(B) = the date on which your dues expire—written in reverse with the year first and followed by the month and day of the month. The example shows a dues date of 1997, January, 1st.

(C) = Member’s name and address.

This manner of reminding you to make your dues payment can result in considerable savings, i.e., time, printing, postage, etc., etc. However, we need your full cooperation. Your failure to respond to this notice causes us to send you a reminder, as we do not want to lose a single veteran.

In the past we have mailed as many as three dues reminders to delinquent members. The costs for such mailings grow more prohibitive each day. It is something we would like to avoid having to do, but we need your cooperation. If your dues are over two months late, you will no longer receive The Graybeards. A member will be considered delinquent if his/her national dues have not been submitted by his/her Chapter/Department. This includes any such dues which are being held in escrow.

Again, we offer an explanation of the prefix on your membership number (see A on example) to determine your type of membership.

Annual dues:

RO = Regular Member ($15.00 per year dues)
CO = Charter Member ($15.00 per year dues)
CN = Canadian Regular Member ($15.00 per year dues)
AO = Associate Member ($12.00 per year dues)

Number prefixes for life members:

LR which = Life Regular Member
LA which = Life Associate Member
LC which = Life Charter Member

At present, dues are not required for the following:

PO which = Prisoner of War
CM which = Congressional Medal of Honor
GO which = Gold Star Family Member

If you are not on the new calendar year dues schedule, the following information will help you to determine the amount you should submit.

Dues date on the mailing label reads:

Where ?? appears, it means day of the month will vary

9703?? (Mar. 1 thru 31, 1997) = $12.50 (Associate $10.00)

9704?? (Apr. 1 thru 30, 1997) = $11.25 (Associate $9.00)

9705?? (May 1 thru 31, 1997) = $10.00 (Associate $8.00)

9706?? (Jun. 1 thru 30, 1997) = $8.75 (Associate $7.00)

9707?? (Jul. 1 thru 31, 1997) = $7.50 (Associate $6.00)

9708?? (Aug. 1 thru 31, 1997) = $6.25 (Associate $5.00)

9709?? (Sep. 1 thru 30, 1997) = $5.00 (Associate $4.00)

9710?? (Oct. 1 thru 31, 1997) = $3.75 (Associate $3.00)

9711?? (Nov. 1 thru 30, 1997) = $2.50 (Associate $2.00)

9712?? (Dec. 1 thru 31, 1997) = $1.25 (Associate $1.00)

If you are a Regular member (indicated by an RO on your mailing label), do not send the dues for an Associate member. Your check will be returned. The delay may result in your missing an issue of the magazine.

Complying with this schedule will pay you to January 1, 1998.

Please be advised that membership cards are not issued each time you renew your membership. A durable, white plastic membership card was issued when you joined. If you should decide to become a life member, a gold plastic membership card will be issued to replace the regular membership card.

If possible we would like to receive from you a completed membership application with your check. Simply Xerox the form on the last page of this issue and fill in all of the information. Our new manner of recordkeeping contains information not previously requested. Therefore, many of our older members do not have the information we now use in our data base.

The Post Office has implemented a “Zip+4” mailing for bulk mail. So, when you mail in your address for some reason, change your address, etc., please provide these extra four numbers. If you don’t know what they are, call your local post office and ask them. It gets your mail to you quicker and saves money on our postal costs and/or time in locating your +4 numbers.

Make your check payable to: KWVA. Mail it to: KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, Virginia 22219-1806. If you wish to charge your dues to a MasterCard or VISA account (no other credit card), please write your credit card number and expiration date clearly and mail it (with your name, address, and signature) to the same address.

Support Your 1997 KWVA

13th ANNUAL REUNION

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

JULY 23-28, 1997

THE GRAYBEARDS

MAY-JUNE 1997
The USAF in KOREA

The 3903rd RADAR BOMB SCORING (RBS) SQUADRON DETACHMENT C

By Francis X. Marshall

Introduction

Very little historical information has been written about the United States Air Force ground activity during the Korean Crisis (1950). This article is intended to provide a written documentary about one of the heavily involved Air Force SAC units. This writer was involved in the first year of the Korean War as an enlisted man. My participation was as a member of a very well trained, technology intense, group of Air Force personnel whose mission was to assist in the destruction of North Korean targets. The mission was to be accomplished by employing a unique set of hardware designed to actually facilitate the tracking and steering of airplanes to bomb release positions and then commanding the release of the ordnance. All calculations were accomplished by the detachment personnel.

The 3903rd RBS squadron, Detachment C, was formed and placed into a training program by the Strategic Air Command (SAC) in early 1949 at Keesler AFB, Biloxi, Mississippi. The first class of students, both officers and enlisted personnel (22), attended and graduated from the school in October, 1949. The Commanding Officer was Lt. Opincar.

The Air Force had modified the Army Gun Firing Radar system (SCR-584 B) to accommodate a new concept designed specifically to evaluate the proficiency of SAC aerial bombing crews. The objective was to provide realistic training by providing the SAC air crews with targets located all over the USA. These air crews would be able to make bombing runs on targets and perform every function except actually dropping the bombs. The 3903rd RBS Squadron were positioned at strategic locations on the ground. By using a sophisticated tracking and computational system, using a two-axis plotting technology, the members of the squadron could very accurately identify bomb impact points as if bombs were actually dropped. The entire operation was completely mobile. A crew of 20 people could transform the operation into drivable condition easily within 46 hours. Setup was done in the same amount of time. The operation was very mobile and could be relocated overnight then set up at a new site and begin operation on the same day.

The first demonstration of this system took place at Carswell AFB, Ft. Worth Texas in the early spring of 1950. Almost all SAC Commanders were present at Carswell to observe the operation in actual testing. A B-29 contacted the command center midday and advised that their target had been selected—the Alamo, in San Antonio, Texas. Prior to the final bombing run, a triangulation “wind run” was conducted in order to establish the wind direction and speed in the area. Acquisition of the B-29 was difficult at first; however, once radar contact and tracking were confirmed, the mission commenced and proved to be successful. The RBS unit (hereafter referred to as “the detachment”) was shortly dispatched to McClellan AFB in Sacramento, California. Our Commander was Capt. Eli V. Drago and his Executive Officer was Lt. John T. Baird. The mission was to provide Bombardiers training using B-25’s flown from Mather AFB, California. We also provided the same services to all SAC wings who would fly into our “Bomb Plot” area from USAF SAC bases, scattered all over the USA. In late June, 1950, the Korean War broke out and RBS detachments were ordered to Korea. I believe that two other similar units were sent to Korea to operate in the western and eastern sectors of Korea, while Detachment C was assigned the central corridor of Korea. I am unsure as to their schedule.

It took about 6 weeks to have the equipment prepared for overseas shipment and for the personnel to be prepared for assignment in Korea. The equipment was loaded unto the cargo ship “USS General Mann” moored in Vallejo, CA. The ship departed the USA in late August 1950 and arrived, non-stop, in Yokohama, Japan, after 30 days of sea travel. Upon arrival, the men were off-loaded and moved onto Johnson AFB outside of Yokohama. After a short stay at Johnson AFB where the men were outfitted for action in Korea, they departed by C-47 for Pusan Korea in early November, 1950. All the equipment continued aboard the USS General Mann arriving in Pusan concurrent with the arrival of the Detachment.

At this time in the war, the North Koreans had pushed the Allied Forces all the way south with defenses set up north of Pusan. During the final approach of the C-47 taking us into Pusan, we could actually see the front lines as we descended. We were off-loaded at the Air Base in the middle of the area where the Fighter Aces of the return from their missions. It was an awesome sight for the entire detachment. It was within a day of my 20th Birthday and it was the first time I had had a drink of straight whiskey. It was not the last. We went through the usual routine of locating our sleeping quarters and getting reunited with our equipment. We were shipped when the ship was unloaded and we were all involved with “unpacking” our equipment and driving it to our first operational site.

Our mission in Korea was to operate very close to the front lines so as to direct our fighters and bombers to preestablished targets. Specific Longitude and Latitude coordinates (classified systems) of the assigned targets for missions that were to be completed that night were provided. Our operational controllers, during the conduct of a mission, directed the pilots to headings that would place them enroute to the targets. Our controllers would instruct them as to when to precisely drop the bombs. Our radio call sign was “Vaudeville Control” and was the source of significant humor from the air crews. Our Commander tried to get our call sign to be “Room Service” but was unsuccessful and “Vaudeville Control” remained our call sign.

We were attached to the 7th Cavalry (for security and logistics) and had intended to move with them as they moved. The 7th Cavalry was attached to IX Corps. The commanding Officer of IX Corps was not too pleased with the thought of this Air Force Detachment dropping bombs in the vicinity of his troops; therefore, we were thusly relegated to perform some “Calibration missions.” These missions called for us to drop one 500 pound sand bomb from 10,000 feet at a predetermined target within the friendly area. If we hit within a 3000-foot circle 9 out of 10 times, the general would let us begin to...
we learned that the night bombing from 20-30,000 feet were very effective from a psychological standpoint because the airplanes could not be heard on the ground.

The length of the drop zone was a mile or two. During the time the mike was open, we dropped about 15 flares. As soon as I left go of the mike button, I heard the pilot scream, "Look outside the Van. You guys have stepped on the war—everybody on the ground is blinded." We looked outside and he was right. We continued to operate flare drops until our Commander convinced the General that we were a good team and we really knew what we were doing. We received the approval to begin to operate as we had been trained. Accordingly we prepared our equipment for overland travel and headed north to the front lines and our first operational assignment.

True to form, we loaded on trains with our equipment and headed North to Pyongyang. Our train ride was about 7 days long. It was cold, it was noisy, it passed through many tunnels and we seemed to stop everyday, at least three time, and for no apparent reason. We arrived in Pyongyang, halfway into North Korea, on 20 November. We unloaded our Equipment and drove to Sinanju, a very short drive. We were positioned on a cliff overlooking the Yalu River, near to the Chinese border. It was there that we conducted our first operation. Our assignment was to steer fighter aircraft into target areas after they had been unsuccessful in finding "targets of opportunity." This was a wild experience. We would pick up these fighters on radar, lock onto them and direct them to targets. Sometime they would only have 30 minutes (or less) of fuel left so we had to act smartly. At times the targets were caves and bunkers, and at other times they were trains parked in a siding or troops digging into a hillside encampments. The pilots were most always successful and were always enthusiastic as they cleared out of the target area departing for home base.

During the winter months we were on the move about every week. Our operations became more and more sophisticated and we became busier and busier. We would attack targets with fighters during the day and bombers that came in from Japan or Formosa during the night. We would usually have B-29's loaded with 40-500 pound bombs that would allow us to make 3 or 4 separate bomb runs per airplane. Seldom did we handle formations. The missions were always exciting. Later in the war we learned that the night bombing from 20-30,000 feet were very effective from a psychological standpoint because the airplanes could not be heard on the ground. This coupled with the accuracy made the operation more exciting and effective. The Chinese invaded North Korea near to the end of November. Our orders were to head south and get to Kimpo AFB in Seoul ASAP. It was a very frightening experience and even though there were great sensivities about terms like "bugging out" or "retreating" or "withdrawing", it really amounted to wholesale panic. We secured our equipment into our assigned trucks (mine was the Computing Van) and shoved our clothes into the truck and headed south, not really knowing how to get to our final destination.

I remember getting separated from the rest of our group and wandering (lost) through the mountains for a period of 3 or 4 days. On several occasions we came across US Army units where we got hot food and even clean clothes. Occasionally we would be stopped by military police because of one-way roads over mountain passes and we would have to wait sometimes for many many hours. The lines of trucks heading south were endless! Another spectacular that I saw continually were the trains heading south—you could not see a single piece of metal on those trains because people were hanging on to the sides and top and front and back of the entire train as part of the massive human escape to safety. It was an unbelievable and unforgettable sight.

The winter was very very cold in Korea—there is no cold in the world like Korean cold. There is just no way to get warm! We finally arrived in Seoul (Kimpo AFB) and were the last to be reunited with our group. Everyone arrived safely. After the retreat south we went to Taegu and reconstituted our group and began to conduct operations.

Spring of 1951 found us operating in the vicinity of Chunchon. There was a very prominent piece of land in the northeast corner of the village—it was about 2000 feet in diameter and it rose about 300 feet from the level land that surrounded it. The promontory was obviously an observation point because the area around it, including the promontory, were riddled with bomb craters.

One afternoon I noticed a parade of Korean people headed down the rim of the rice paddies towards our encampment on the hill. Our CO was notified and he simply instructed us to be on the alert. The Korean group came to the base of our "hill" and a person would descend down into the Bomb craters and dig around with their hands. Finally one of them shouted and they all came running to this one crater and all started digging. Very soon, a dead body was uncovered and removed from the crater. The men proceeded to wrap the body in endless muslin while the women wailed a somber sound I have never heard. Once the body was wrapped they lifted the body to their shoulders and walked single file heading for the mountains seen in the distance. My questions were never answered.

Throughout 1951 the detachment became busier as each day passed. The air crews were confident that the detachment would lead the missions to successful conclusions. We were successful when assigned ammunition storage facilities. On one occasion, the fire and explosions...
USAF in KOREA Continued

were seen from 25,000 feet with extreme clarity. I can remember one mission where a large group of North Korean soldiers were observed marching down this valley just south of Yopl. We were instructed to direct a group of fighter planes loaded with napalm into the valley. This all occurred during daylight hours. Pilots reported, as they cleared the area after dropping their napalm, that the mission was successful. Reconnaissance photos confirmed the pilots’ report.

We had a good team of men in the detachment. Morale was always high. We all stayed together for the entire year and were without major problems. Our officers were always there for us and provided us with the confidence we needed to continue to be successful. We were able to go to 2 or 3 R&R’s to Japan. They were always fun. We were well protected by the Army and even several foreign units. We came close to combat conditions several times but were successful, in that we never fired a shot or were fired upon.

When we lay in our beds at Camp Drake on that morning of 25 June 1950 one man, Cpl. Conover (Corner), Chaplain’s Assistant, said, “Here we go again”. He was the only man in our barracks at that moment who was in W.W. II. We all got out some beer or wine we kept in reserve while we waited for further instructions. After much drinking, on an empty stomach, every last man went to the Chapel and heard the Catholic Chaplain conduct the service as he bestowed his blessing on us all. Many of the men were not Catholic but it made no difference. We then went to the Mess Hall and an officer “ordered” the Mess Sergeant to provide a “late” breakfast for this was not a normal time.

We were not front line troops, but we were rear echelon, Clerks, Eland, Supply, Finance, Post Office, etc. Our normal strength would have been around 800 men and officers.

Our unit was the “A.P.O. 201 Hq. Detached of the 1st Cav. Division. We provided the Postal Services for our Division and later in Korea for many of the United Nations Forces who were then supporting our effort to stop the takeover of the Korean Peninsula by the North Korean and Chinese Armies.

PICTURED WITH THE SQUADRON SIGN DESIGNED BY CPL. ROMANO ARE: FIRST ROW (L TO R) CAPT. DRAGOON, CPL. MARSHALL, PVT. STEINBRING AND LT. BAIRD; SECOND ROW, SGT. NADOLNY, TSgt. MEIER, CPL. FILKOWSKI AND T/Sgt. DEGEN; THIRD ROW, SGT. REED, CPL. ELIAS, SGT. MARTIN, CPL. ROMANO, CPL. LENZ, SGT. BLANKENBAKER, SGT. REED AND SGT. MOORE.

Detachment C was positioned in 31 different towns and villages and conducted more than 350 operations during its tour of duty in Korea. Each town has a very interesting story that could be told. The people, the fighters, the commanders, our support personnel, the enemy and our bombers—all memorable.

As I reflect on my experiences in Korea, I can only say that it was educational and very motivational.

The technology fascinated me, the exemplary management motivated me and the wartime carnage left me with a strong sense of the need to be people sensitive. I attribute whatever successes I have had in my career after the war to the foundation that was built during my tour of duty in the United States Air Force, especially during my time in Korea.

4501 Northridge Road, Norman, OK 73072
405-329-8400, Fax 405-329-4662

We Were a Team - “Be Proud”

Three of our unit transferred out and were KIA. The rest of us stayed in the rear and did our job. After being denied transfer to the line to take a killed buddy’s place, I accepted my fate at being “just” a mail clerk. After demanding my Capt. Robert Brandow and Col. Pongonis that I be transferred to the front, I was told to calm down or else, and then received a lecture from Col. Pongonis. He told me after ammo and food, the letters from home and loved ones did more for the morale of the fighting men than anything the military command could provide. A letter from a wife or lover could be the spark to help a wounded man in a hospital get better. Many of our replacements were reserves who were married and were the troops who bore the brunt of the Chinese onslaught in Nov. 1950 and later on.

As the NCO in charge of the Locator for A.P.O. 201 1st Cav. Div. I insisted every piece of mail including packages were properly forwarded to their destination. Since that time I have learned for every (1) one man on the line about (9) nine are in some sort of support: Ordinance, Transportation, Quartermaster, Logistics and Post Office to name a few. The Medics did a great job of saving lives and trying to put so many wounded back together.

Recently I have taken it upon myself to get as many of our original group from “A.P.O. 201” to have a reunion in July. The response has been great but I am still looking for some of the men. One experience I had that left a lasting impression was a young man asking me for any mail we might be holding for him. He had been to Tokyo General Hospital twice for his combat wounds. He had 2 Purple Hearts and volunteered to go back to his outfit on the line. I found a letter for him that just come in from home. He read it sitting on his helmet and said “thanks” and got a ride to the front lines. Several weeks later we received a large casualty list and he was on it as Killed In Action. He got his third Purple Heart. I felt sorry for him but I was proud to have provided that letter to this brave young man. We all were a team. Be proud to be a Korean War Veteran.

John Kronenberger, Treasurer-elect
Imjin Chapter Fairview Heights, IL
Residence: 102 Williamsburg Dr.
Belleville, IL 62221
Phone (618) 277-2311 FAX (618) 277-2004.
power of attorney to Stan Myrda to give him authority to continue dealing with Magna Bank, credit card organization, vendors, bonding company, etc. and other associated issues as he has been doing. PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

Motion: [Schilling, Danielson] Move that authority for three new appointed signatories be given to sign new signature cards for Magna Bank headquartered in St. Louis. PASSED

Motion: [Schilling, Grygier] Move for three new signatories to be given authority to execute new signature cards for First Union in Washington DC. PASSED

Pappas — noted that Stan Myrda will be providing KWVA with Board with certain recommendations for accounting procedures to be put into place — once received, it will be copied and passed out to the Board.

Myrda — This is tax season and we cannot devote full efforts to pursue the issues immediately. Council understood his point.

General discussion regarding Quartermaster: Suggestion KWVA get out of Quartermaster business altogether and to contract. KWVA would receive 20% of gross profits on sales to its members. Contractor to take existing inventory on consignment. Discussion about amount of present inventory — amount KWVA would receive back? Cost plus 20% of gross profit back? How would KWVA control? Periodic reports. Use similar contract as with Chosin Few. President to recommend final action to Council after inventory is priced by CPA.

Break for Lunch Reconvene at 1:00 p.m.
Meeting called back to Order 1:00 p.m. (OPEN)
Reading of 1996 Minutes — copy sent to Board Members in Sept. 1996 — also published in Greybeards.
Motion: [Coon, Grygier] Move to dispense with the reading of the Minutes. PASSED.
Point — No educational report in these minutes. Discussion.

Hartke Group Meeting - Harley Coon, Amos Camp, Tom Maines, John Maisen, Harley Coon and Nick Pappas met with the Hartke Group to discuss Hartke’s proposal to get membership up to 100,000 — they wanted 1/2 membership fee plus $2 for administrative costs. KWVA would only get $5.50 — we figure cost of Greybeards costs $10/member/year. Thought there were better ways to go out to get membership — thanked them and left. Even if KWVA membership increased to 10,000 it would cost the Organization money. No guarantees. Recommendation not to do business with Hartke Group.

Presentation of Proposal from Tom Maines — Trans America Underwriters, Inc Table until Sunday morning.

1995 Reunion Report - Stan Myrda: Mr. Richard Greene says KWVA owes them $12,000 - Stan Myrda says $5,100 — contract specified 10% of all funds received — I suggest that any money refunded back to membership should be taken out of the total funds received. Noted Contract with RGA is ambiguous — construe it to mean what came in AFTER KWVA returned refunds. Board did not approve taking over meeting rooms at George Washington University which Greene did on his own. Reference of letters sent back and forth.

Motion: [Van Ort, Coon] Move Stan Myrda be authorized to negotiate with Richard Greene & Associates for a maximum sum of $6,800 with a list of objections to RGA's charges (legal definition of various contractual obligations, list of individual objections, etc.) and on this basis KWVA is willing to settle. RGA to have 30 days to respond to the offer. KWVA will suggest as an alternative if no settlement can reached, the matter be determined by arbitration, i.e. the American Arbitration Association. PASSED

General discussion regarding Courage Production’s two movies and what has happened to the percentage of sales suppose to be given to KWVA. According to Richard Greene they still have not recovered costs, thus no money paid to KWVA. Dan Smith handles matters in connection with the video — need to contact him. Credits show Dan Smith and Richard Green as Executive Producers. KWVA hasn’t received any payment from these two films.

Educational Report - Bill Van Ort — Report — General Discussion. Educational scholarship is the only legacy that we can give to the future. Point of clarification — $1/member for 1996 for Educational Fund ($12,500) and $4,500 profit due to raffle of car to go to Educational Fund.

Suggestion (Van Ort) If there are funds earmarked for Educational Funds - they be forwarded to Educational Scholarship Fund for immediate deposit. Liability of KWVA is $12,500 plus $4,500 to the Educational Scholarship Fund for 1996.

Motion: [Coon, Cook] Move to table all actions on ‘96 Scholarship Fund until we get an accounting of all KWVA funds so we can make an intelligent decision. Roll call vote. Yes 10 No 2 Abs 1 PASSED

Motion: [Coon, Magill] Move to give Stan Myrda limited power of attorney for authority to deal with Mercantile Bank. PASSED.

1997 Budget — Tom Clawson: Discussion — Overall 1997 Budget is an underestimate. (i.e. 8,100 regular members — budget based on 7,000) (rather be low-end than high-end). Discussion of line items of budget — overall notation that the budget gets cut across the board.

Further discussion postponed until Sunday morning.

February 16, 1997

Elections Dick Wainwright, Chairman Nominations and Elections Committee. Report and presentation of Resolution for destruction of 1996 ballots.

Motion: [Danielson, Shilling] Move that the Board confirm the appointment of Dick Wainwright as Chairman of Nomination and Election Committee through 1997 reunion. PASSED

Motion: [Cook, Magill] Move to sign the Resolution presented by Dick Wainwright. PASSED.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 a.m. Sunday. [Grygier, Clawson] PASSED

Minutes of the Executive Council Mid-Winter Meeting

February 16, 1997 — Albuquerque, New Mexico
Meeting Called to Order by President Pappas Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation Secretary Jim Martin declared a quorum was present.

Korean War Veterans Museum Report - Dick Wainwright, — Census idea a good one. General discussion about establishing such a museum. Introduction proposal from Lynnita Sommer in Tuscola, Illinois.

Motion: [Barton, Morgan] Move the Executive Council supports the concept of a national KWVA museum and to appoint a committee to bring back a proposal to the Executive Council at the July 1997 meeting in Albuquerque. PASSED

Appointment of Ken Cook - Chairman — Approved by the Executive Council. PASSED

Report on Southwest Military Historical Society -
Tucson, AZ - Dick Wainwright. Motion: [Lynch, Van Ort] Move Dick Wainwright be given the full cooperation of this Executive Council to establish a Korean War Memorial Library. PASSED

Wainwright will be contacting. KWVA has given permission to use the name to solicit membership in the KWL.

Motion: [Schilling, Coon] Move to accept Mr. Wainwright’s report with our thanks. PASSED.


General Discussion about Van Ort letter published in the KWVA Department of Delaware, January/February ‘97 newsletter, received by Council Members.

Motion: [Coon, Cook] Move Board accept Mr. Van Ort’s apology and no correspondence be sent outside criticizing other Executive Council members. PASSED

1997 Budget Discussion

Motion: [Lynch, Barton] Move to cancel all 800 phone numbers. Roll Call. Yes1 No 12 FAILED Amendment to Motion: [Schilling, Cook] Move that we have two out-going only 800 numbers for use by the President and the Secretary. Roll Call. Yes 11 No 2 PASSED

Parliamentary Rule - Amendment to Motion passed, but main Motion Failed. Must redo the Main Motion.

Motion: [Coon, Clawson] In the 1997 Proposed Budget, delete Quartermaster expenditures of $91,958 and any reference to income. PASSED

Motion: [Schilling, Barton] Move that we have two out-going only 800 numbers for use by the President and the Secretary. Roll Call Yes No PASSED UNANIMOUS.

Motion: [Schilling, Lynch] Move to suspend the state rebate program for the 1997 budget year. Roll Call Yes 13 No 0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

Motion: [Coon, Morgan] Combine printing and stationary, office equipment, office equipment repair, copy service, and office supply into one category called Office Supply in the 1997 Proposed Budget. PASSED

Motion: [Barton, Coon] Move we reduce the amount budgeted for combined Office Supplies from $10,204 to $5,000 in the 1997 Proposed Budget. PASSED

Motion: [Coon, Magill] Move each member of the Executive Council bear their own expenses to this Mid-Winter meeting and the July 1997 Annual Reunion. PASSED UNANIMOUS

Motion: [Coon, Grygier] Move we combine the categories mailing, post office box, UPS, mailing service and postage meter into one line item called Mailing in the 1997 Proposed Budget. PASSED

Motion: [Coon, Schilling] Move we reduce the line item Mailing in the 1997 Proposed Budget from $8,642 to $7,000. PASSED

Motion: [Danielson, Coon] Move reduce the line item Incidental in the 1997 Proposed Budget from $5,000 to $1,000. PASSED (1 no, Van Ort, Lynch Abstained)

Motion: [Schilling, Coon] Move to delete line item Computer Expense from the 1997 Proposed Budget. PASSED

Motion: [Barton Grygier] Move to raise line item for Auditing to $6,000 in the 1997 Proposed Budget. PASSED

Korean War Service Medal Packet - Report from President Pappas. General discussion on lobbying for serviceman being allowed to wear the ribbon.

Motion: [Coon, Morga] Move this Council reduce the line item Education Grants for the 1997 proposed budget to zero at this time. Roll Call vote. Yes 10 No 2 Absent 2 PASSED

Motion: [Coon, Danielson] Move to make the following line items changes to the proposed 1997 Budget: round VA Services to $125; delete proposed credit card fees of $1,500; round off Legal Fees to $700; Bank Charges to $500 and Reunion 97 expenses to $2,000; delete Dues/Subscriptions and reduce Public Relations to $500. PASSED

Report on Graybeards - Amos Camp. - Number of copies printed this issue 13,500 and discussion on costs and goals for future publications. Chapter newsletter competition not affected by budget cuts.

Raffle for Graybeards - Jim Martin - Report. Proposal for raffle of Colt 45 pistol and M-1 rifle raffle to support the Graybeards, with incentive plan to give 10% to the chapters for what they collect. A book sent to each member plus each chapter would get 10 books to sell (then the Chapter would get $100 for the Chapter). This should cover the cost of at least two issues of Graybeard. Note: Nominations for Council Directors resumes’ to be printed in March/April issue—Ballots to be put into the May/June issue.

Motion: [Grygier, Morga] Move that this Council and KWVA print 6 issues of pages of the Graybeards per year. Roll Call Yes 11 No 0 Absent 3 PASSED.

Motion: [Coon, Clawson] Move to request members to donate at least $5.00 to maintain Graybeards at least six issues. PASSED.

Motion: [Clawson, Morga] Move that we proceed with the donation program for the award of the commemorative 45 pistol and M-1 rifle to support the publication of The KWVA Graybeard magazine. PASSED

A Korean Twilight Series. Discussion of membership complaints about the controversial articles. Only 1 story left in the series. Editor Camp adamant that it be published. Gave his word to author the entire series would be published as is in the Graybeards.

Motion: [Coon, Lynch] Move to discontinue printing the Korean Twilight in The Graybeard. Roll Call Yes 3 No 7 expressing 2 and abstain 1 FAILED.

1997 REUNION — Tod Cornell Reunion Chairman. Discussed plans for Reunion ‘97 at Radisson Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Plans include numerous seminars, tours, social events and commemorative parade as well as Executive Council meeting and General Business session which includes election of officers.

Resolutions from Yongdung Po Chapter #114. (Printed in Jan-Feb issue of Graybeards)

WHEREAS: The National Monument of the Korean War Veterans has been dedicated on July 27, 1998 and;

WHEREAS; the official position is now that “nothing can be done” to implement the placement of a Wall of Honor at the present site and;

WHEREAS; A significant number of members of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., has expressed a strong desire to honor our KIA/MA/POWs with names on a Wall to be placed at the present site and;

WHEREAS; The resolve the present leadership has grown less enthusiastic with the passage of time;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; That a committee of Continued on page 18
Executive Council Minutes from page 17

strong minded and willing individuals, be tasked with the mission of securing this Wall of Honor with a restricted financial account to handle donations for the purpose of obtaining a Wall of Honor, and this restricted account to be administered by the National Treasurer, with all expenditures to be approved by the Executive Council with the concurring assent of the General Membership.

Motion: [Tramonte, Morga] Move to support the Resolution of Yongdung Po of our commitment to a "Wall of Honor" and recommend it to the membership at the '97 Reunion. Roll Call Yes 11 No 0 Excused/Absent 3 PASSED

A Committee be appointed, with a strict financial account to build a wall of honor.

RESOLUTION from Nick Tosques of Delaware to the KWVA Executive Council At the 10 November 96 Special Meeting called by the KWVA Delaware members as accorded by National/State Bylaws, Articles 4, Section 7, the attendees by a "unanimous" vote herewith submit this action Petition for your action at the 97 Mid-Winter Council Meeting.

Whereas, the KWVA Department of Delaware is not an "official" affiliated KWVA entity according to the National Chapter Charters issued;

Whereas, "dual" state KWVA corporations are not only creating internal conflicts, but relationships with other state veteran organizations;

Whereas, Commander Hancock claims that as commander of the Department of Delaware, he is the chief KWVA spokesman for all state members, in matters concerning Delaware veteran issues;

Whereas, non-compliance with State Bylaws, the validity of 95/96 State Department elections are questionable;

Whereas, by State Department actions, motions and votes, many KWVA members have been deprived of their constitutional rights to attend state meetings and have a voice and vote on issues concerning Departmental affairs, including the opportunity to run for state elected offices;

Whereas, the State Bylaws, which were not sent to all members for review and approval, need to be clarified, amended and voted on to ensure the Department membership includes all state members and their inherent rights therein;

Whereas, the State Commander has been requested four (4) times to call/chair a statewide meeting to allow dissident members to be heard and let the general membership resolve and decide the issues, which he has refused to do, hence this petition;

Whereas, National President Pappas acknowledged that he issued a State Department Charter prior to receipt of an official formulation of the Department as required by National Bylaws;

Whereas, the State Commander has twice threatened publicly to withdraw the Department of Delaware from the National Association without the vote or approval of the state membership;

Whereas, we concur with Commander Hancock's quote in this letter of 1 November 96 to you, "The Department of Delaware along with its 2 member chapters, hereby ask you Board of Directors to try to resolve the many dictates that are being accomplished by Mr. Pappas ...etc."

Whereby, all correspondence concerning this matter has been previously provided to all state members and the Executive Council for their information, thus action on our Petition should be effected with no problem.

Therefore, in concert with Commander Hancock's appeal for your assistance, we respectfully request the Executive Council instruct the Department Commander, in writing, to call a statewide meeting of all Delaware KWVA members (190) within 45 days of receipt of that letter. Said meeting to be co-chaired by two (2) National Directors and Commander Hancock on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon in Dover, Delaware. This will allow maximum membership participation and ensure a fair mediation and resolution to the issues herein in an open forum.

Furthermore, if said meeting is not called as directed, the council authorize the Department Charter be revoked by National and all Delaware veteran organizations be notified accordingly.

For any questions, please contact me at 302-732-9116. Sincerely, Nick Tosques, Meeting Chairman, President, Chapter 1.

Motion: [Coon, Morga] Move this Executive Council form a grievance committee who reside in that area to help resolve the problems in Delaware as outlined in Nick Tosques' Resolution. Committee to consist of Bob Morga, Ed Grygier, Andy Lynch. PASSED

Danielson's Resolution: Three items: (Copy not given to Secretary) 1) Annual meeting procedure 2) Board of Director procedures 3) Resolution proposed restructuring of regional directorates Executive Council reaffirms prior stand on this Resolution.

Don Barton — Proposal to Host 1999 Reunion in Portland, Oregon. Also move reunion date from July 27 to late September effective in 1999.

Motion: [Morga, Coon] Executive Council supports the proposal presented in general, and will present it to the general membership at the '97 Reunion in Albuquerque for Reunion '99 be held in Portland, OR. Tentative dates Sept 27 - Oct 3, 1999.) Roll Call Yes 6 No 4 absent 1 excused. PASSED

Motion: [Coon, Magill] Move that the 1997 Fiscal Year Budget be approved. PASSED

Membership Report - Ed Magill Membership Figures 12,705 total as of 12/31/96 and breakdown of how types of membership.

Motion: [Cook, Coon] Move to accept report of membership committee. PASSED

Jim Martin made Presentation of donation $54.30 from Roses of Sharon program to KWVA National Treasurer.

Tom Clawson made presentation of check for $1,443.75 royalties from sale of granites.

Motion: [Clawson, Coon] Move to adjourn. PASSED

Contributors to "Tell America" Program

H.B. Wong
W.E. Dallas
W.D. Hoppenbrouwer

The "Tell America" program should continue at the individual, chapter and department level as a continuing project. Our young people will only learn about the importance and meaning of the Korean War through the witness and testimony of the men and women who were there.

Editor
A letter from the President

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Nicholas J. Pappas
206 Country Club Drive
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

May 22, 1997

Bruce Babbitt, Secretary
Department of Interior, Room 6156
1849 ‘C’ Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Secretary Babbitt:

We, the Korean War Veterans Association, are cognizant of the requirements to get Our Korean War Veterans Memorial repaired and restored. The Washington Post article of 10 May 1997 describing conditions of Our Memorial, caused our executive director, Norb Reiner, and me to respond to many media questions regarding our thoughts, opinions, and actions we contemplate.

Loss of the Linden trees, cracks in the pool, shifting of the paving blocks, failure of the lights, large chips on several of the UN markers, and so forth are conditions we have seen and been aware of for a long time. Informal and casual discussion with National Capitol Region (FNPR-NCR) personnel kept us advised of both the progress and problems relative to effecting repair and restoration. We understand the complexity of resolving the matter since there are contractors and federal government agencies involved.

Some of our members were Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board volunteers. They are knowledgeable regarding ground conditions, the failing lights, and planting of trees and shrubs in the late, extremely hot spring and early summer of 1995.

By being adequately informed of the conditions, progress, and actions taken to make repairs, we declined to become very vocal. We responded to the news media in a low key fashion, i.e. we were being informed of the conditions, progress to effect a good repair, we are deferring any overt actions.

Despite the dispute of fault and other internal problems among the contractors, architects, and government agencies, it is now time for us to become very serious regarding the repair and restoration of Our Memorial. We request NONE of the two million dollars in perpetual care the Department of Interior holds in trust be used for repair and restoration, if possible. This is a contractual engineering/construction problem and must be treated as such. We sincerely request repairs to Our Memorial be rectified by 27 July 1997 when we commemorate the Second Annual Anniversary of its dedication. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

I am sure a concentrated effort is under way to resolve the problems and make necessary repairs/restoration. This is evident by the repair to the paving blocks around the pool. Logic dictates a curbing or something similar would prevent their separation in the future. Why not?

Furthermore, the League of Korean Americans, Inc. (LOKA) is making arrangements to provide Korean Hibiscus, cleared through U.S. Customs and Department of Agriculture, for the planned garden at the south side of Our Memorial towards Independence Avenue. LOKA is a group of young professional Korean-American citizens who wish to show their gratitude for the sacrifices made by our armed forces in the defense of their homeland. We hope these will be planted by 27 July.

Thank you for your immediate attention. Your reply will be placed in our publication, The Graybeards.

Very respectfully,

Nicholas J. Pappas
President, KWVA

See story beginning on page 27
‘USS THE SULLIVANS’ Commissioned on Staten Island, NY

Naval home port is site for U.S. Navy’s newest destroyer ceremony

More than 5,000 people returned today April 19th to the former U.S. Navy’s home port in Stapleton, Staten Island to attend the commissioning of this newest destroyer ‘USS The Sullivans.’ The ship’s name commemorates the sacrifice made by the five Sullivan brothers—George, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert—sailors from Waterloo, Iowa, who died in 1942 during World War II’s Solomon Islands’ campaign. They were all assigned to the USS Juneau which was sunk by a Japanese torpedo during this campaign.

Before the formal ceremony began, the ship’s executive officer, Lt. Stephen Davis, Jr., explained the history of the Sullivans. He stated “They were average Americans, whose lives, like many of their peers, were forever changed by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.”

The significance of this tragedy of losing five brothers on one ship eventually changed the policy of the navy concerning family members serving on the same ship at the same time.

This destroyer was built over a three-year period by Bath Iron Works in Maine. It follows in line replacing its predecessor The Sullivans which was in commission from 1943 to 1965. This vessel has a compliment of 26 officers and 315 sailors. In a ceremonial passing of the torch, Luke Miller, a member of the former USS The Sullivans, handed the ship’s “long glass” to Operations Specialist First Class J.J. Harrington.

One of the highlights of the day came as Cmdr. Gerald Roncolato, with the help of the ship’s sponsor, Kelly Sullivan Loughren, and her brother, John Sullivan (grandchildren of Albert Sullivan), gave the order for the crew to man the rails.

The excited sailors charged aboard the ship and stood at attention as it came to life, with its gun turrets and satellite receivers spinning. Cmdr. Roncolato answered with “It’s an honor to be given command of a ship like this, but it’s even more of an honor to serve with sailors like these.” The USS The Sullivans, like its predecessor, has a large shamrock painted on its hull. “That shamrock represents a link to the glorious past of the Navy and of this country,” the commander said.

“It is a fitting circumstance that the destroyer The Sullivans is being commissioned here in New York Harbor,” said New York Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the principal speaker. “For it is here that those five brothers from Waterloo, Iowa, went aboard the cruiser Juneau in February 1942, just as it was commissioned at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and sent on its long and fateful voyage.”

Veterans organizations from all over the city participated in this ceremony including many members of the Cpl. Allan F. Kivelcan Chapter, Korean War Veterans Association. These veterans were invited to a guided tour of the ship and then to a reception that followed.

Other speakers included John Mason, vice president of program management for Bath Iron Works; Navy Rear Admiral George Huchting; Bernard Rostker, Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Capt. William Hines of the Navy’s Chaplain Corps; and Zachary Fisher, honorary commissioning chairman.
Our War Memorial
Its up and running!

by Sherm Pratt

On May 23rd, the Washington Post in an article focusing on our Korean War Memorial on the Mall in Washington, painted a rather grim picture of the present day unsatisfactory condition of the Memorial, now nearing its second birthday. The reporter alluded to the removal of the 40 linden trees that had died, and his article was sprinkled with phrases such as “a broken fountain,” “buckled walkway paving stones,” “closed areas with yellow tape and orange cones,” and a memorial “that seemed to deteriorate so quickly.” He quoted one visiting veteran as saying he was “surprised to see the memorial “torn up.” The reporter wrote that Senator John Glenn had written to the Army Engineers and the Park Service that “It is disrespectful for our Korean War Veterans to see the national memorial to their service in such disrepair. I would hesitate to take a visitor to this memorial.”

On the same day, similar accounts, with views of removed stone, open diggings and muddy erosion were aired by CNN and other national networks on Washington area stations. KWVA members may have also seen or heard such accounts in their areas beyond Washington.

More than a little concerned, if not in fact alarmed, KWVA member Ray Donnelly and I rushed down to the Mall and the Memorial to see for ourselves just how serious the matter might be. We are pleased to report that in our judgment, the media accounts were greatly exaggerated or at least outdated and any conditions that may have existed to the detriment of the well being of our Memorial and its appearance, have been mostly corrected, or soon will be. We found that the 40 linden trees in the circle around the pond had indeed died and became unsightly and thus were removed.

Donnelly and I found no tapes or cones on the site. All small granite stone cubes removed from the walkways to repair a water leak have been expertly replaced without any indication that they had been removed. Any open pits caused by the removal of dead trees around the circular pool and fountain had been filled and are now temporarily covered with fine gravel. There were no visible signs of repairs, breakdowns or damage, and the entire site was filled with admiring and awed tourists and visitors. The pond pumps were working normally with water overflowing in a cascade from the pond and into the surrounding gutter as planned and intended. Ducks were frolicking in and on the water.

The only indication of anything amiss at the Memorial, and only to the most inquisitive inspector, were the stacks of granite cubes that had formerly been in place around and between the removed dead trees where the gravel is now in place. The stacks, were in the woods some distance in the rear behind a picket fence and almost entirely out of sight of anyone casually moving about the Memorial site. On-site park workers advised us that in the next few days the stacks of cubes would be moved to a more remote out of sight location for storage until such time as they were needed for replacement around new trees. later this year.

National Park officials Jerry Branzelle and Dawson Davids explain to KWVA members Ray Donnelly (left) and Sherm Pratt (second from right) the repair work that has been done to date on the Korean War Veterans Memorial as a result of dead tree removal and water leaks at the Memorial Pond. Trees were located in the light graveled background areas to the rear of the individuals in the above photo which is also the area where replacement trees are planned to be planted.

After visiting the Memorial site, we requested and obtained an interview with National Capital Park and Monuments Supervisor Arnold Goldstein. Goldstein explained some of the circumstances surrounding the damage and repair to the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and plans for restoration by tree replanting. He said that the tree loss could have been caused by any number of uncontrollable events or conditions to include soaking from excess water leaking from the pool, hard clay or too tightly packed sand underneath that prevented necessary and proper drainage, or, perhaps more likely, the possibly unfavorable time of the year when the trees were planted.

The Memorial trees arrived in late winter during some of the coldest Washington weather so they could be planted in the Spring and the Memorial completed in time for the July 1995 dedication. The trees could not be planted until after the arrival and mounting of the statues which was on April 17 and 18, 1995. For many days before that time they remained stored on site above ground in their burlap wrappings not fully protected from the freezing weather. Goldstein indicated that this experience too may have harmed the tree root systems and brought about their demise. He said that trees are more often planted in the fall of the year, or warmer periods, with time for root development over the winter months.

Park officials also told us that they expect to again select the popular linden trees for the pond plaza but that some redesigning would be considered to minimize chances of a repetition of tree losses. They expressed hope that problems in funding the costs for replacement trees could be overcome before planting times later this year. Goldstein said that growth problems with new monuments and memorials is not unusual and occasional complications should be expected. It could also be remembered that our Memorial, like the nearby Vietnam Memorial, and even the majestic and much larger Lincoln Memorial, desirable as these choice locations may be, are all placed on fill ground which was once some of

Continued on page 28
Visitors at the Korean War Veterans Memorial huddle at the flag pole alongside the pond and on the nearly graded gravel area where trees once were planted. The most spongy and bottomless tidal flats in the Capital City. Although our Memorial site underwent a period of ground “packing” for many months, it would nevertheless be most unrealistic to expect that there would be no settlement, drainage or other ground or terrain problems, in such an area. Nor is it likely that many visitors will miss the trees in the coming months pending their replacement since few will know there were ever trees around the pond plaza. They are by no means now conspicuous in their absence.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial is still a remarkably beautiful, sparkling, meaningful and well maintained addition to our National Capital. An especially unique and inspiring feature of our Memorial that is unseen and unknown by the average visitor is the imaginative and spectacular lighting system. The beams of tourists that ordinarily blanket the memorial site mostly come by the bus loads in daylight hours. As the sun sets, most are gone. Those that are not can be treated to a sobering, poignant and impressive scene that is sure to be never forgotten. As night falls, the combat troops of the Memorial become bathed in lighting that renders them realistic and glowing without the distraction of harsh and glaring lights. There are dozens of small “bullet” spot lights that illuminate the statues from recessed, hidden and unseen locations in the ground and plants around the statues. The viewer is thus not distracted by glaring and obtrusive high powered lights. And this panorama of gleaming and shining combat troops marching through their rice paddy to victory is also strikingly reflected in the bordering polished granite Memorial wall with murals of support troops. No visit to the Nation’s Capital can ever be complete without a nighttime return to our Memorial to see the magnificent effect of skillful illumination under this extraordinary technique.

KWVA members can rest assured that their Memorial is in splendid condition, impressive, attractive, and awesome. It remains as a unique and unexcelled work of art, an example of historic greatness, and a tribute and honor to those who sacrificed so much in one of our Country’s cruelest and most costly struggles. It is a Memorial for which all can continue to be deeply and justly proud.

Our Memorial Kiosk
Is it an acceptable substitute for names on the wall?
As is well known by many of our KWVA members, one of the disagreements, of several that arose during the planning and construction of our prized Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall in Washington, was whether the memorial should include the names of our fallen comrades as does the Vietnam Memorial nearby. Many continue to feel quite strongly about the matter. Although the adopted proposal for our Memorial did not include “names on the wall,” for a variety of design, practicable, or other reasons, our Memorial does have a feature that in many ways, at least to some, is considered to be far superior. To see a name on a wall, and touch it, or make a tracing on paper of the name with a pencil can be of much meaning to be sure. But once a visitor departs and leaves the wall behind, there is mostly only a memory to take home. The name on the wall or a piece of the stone cannot be taken away and returned with the visitor to his home. There is only an intangible memory to retain, unless perhaps some photos were taken.

With our Korean Memorial, an entirely different, lasting, and “retainable” element...
Ray Donnelly inspecting the computer booth at the Korean War Veterans Memorial Information Kiosk. Sample souvenir certificates are shown on both glass panels.

include such details as are known concerning the circumstances of the death or disappearance of the particular service person. The computer data will even include a photograph of the service person if one has been provided by the family or others.

A visitor to the Memorial can walk up to the computer booth of the Memorial and easily and quickly down load to the monitor screen the information about a Korean MIA/KIA of his or her choosing by simply touching the screen. From a displayed alphabet, the first four letters of the last name of the service person can be selected by merely touching letters on the screen. A list of names with those four letters appears and the visitor can scroll up or down, again by touching the appropriate icon on screen, until the name desired appears. By touching that name on the screen, the computer will then down load a page in an attractive format containing the name, photograph and all other pertinent information on file.

By touching a “print” icon on the kiosk computer screen, a printout will emerge. The printout will be a handsome certificate form with artistic and colorful top and bottom borders. The top border includes a reproduction of the Korean War ribbon with five stars and the certificate is over printed on a full page background reproduction of the War medal. The certificate is highly suitable for framing or other tasteful display on desks, living room tables, night stands or elsewhere. The visitor thus has something tangible and treasured that can be taken with them and that will forever be a reminder of their historic visit to the Korean Memorial, as well as a priceless and lasting memento of their Korean War casualty. There is no charge for this service and two copies of the certificate are allowed.

The emotional impact on visitors at the Memorial who have used this kiosk service is profound and deep. Widows, mothers, sons, daughters or other relatives or friends can regularly be seen walking away from the kiosk, intensely examining their certificates and excitedly discussing it with companions who usually are choked with feelings and often with tears unabashedly running down their cheeks. For many, it is almost as though their loved one, once on the field of battle and fallen, have for some brief moments returned to them in person.

Nor will it always, necessarily, be required that next of kin, or friends of these fallen Korean War heroes will have to personally come to Washington to avail themselves to this service to obtain this treasured certificate. Studies are now underway to determine the feasibility of placing the Memorial computer data on-line in the internet so that certificates can be down loaded on personal computers in the home, or local library, or elsewhere, at most any point or locality in the U.S. Retired Col. Fred Badger, long associated or working with the National Battlefield Monument Commission and other veterans memorial activities, now heads a team that is looking into this possibility. They are hopeful that it can be implemented in the next year or so.

The computer kiosk feature of our Korean War memorial is unique, popular and widely accepted and an extraordinarily valued feature. It is a service for which Korean vets and all others can justly be proud and appreciative. Our comrades can take great comfort in the provision of this service and well ask themselves whether the kiosk and its certificate services are not a more than adequate substitution for the wall with names that some so fervently desired.

—Sherm Pratt

45th Division Library Receives Donation

A copy of the book Decisive Battles of the Korean War by Lt. Col. Sherman Pratt Ret. was donated to the 45th Division library on May 17, 1997 by the Oklahoma chapter of Korean War Veterans. Pictured making the presentation are from L. to R. Chapter President Harold Mulhausen, Robert Engler and museum volunteer Frank Boyer.

Pratt was the company commander of “B” Co, 23rd Inf Regt. 2nd Inf Division and Engler was in Pratt's company in 1950 while in Korea. An article in the Graybeards enabled Engler to get in touch with Pratt and they have had many pleasant visits via telephone since.
We Will Not Be Strangers

Korean War Letters between a M.A.S.H. Surgeon and His Wife

EDITED BY DOROTHY G. HORWITZ
Foreword by James L. Matray

"Not just another book about the combat experience of the Korean War. It is, in fact, the quintessential Korean War book." — Judy Barrett Litoff and David C. Smith, editors of Since You Went Away: World War II Letters from American Women on the Home Front

In the first war Americans didn’t care to understand, a young M.A.S.H. surgeon finds himself in a dusty hospital tent on the Korean front. He and his new wife back in Manhattan exchange daily letters in which they express the timeless urgency of young love and a mutual contempt for war. Even though their day-to-day lives offer stark contrast, his spent in a blood-smeared apron and gloves, hers teaching high school Spanish and taking dance classes with Martha Graham; Mel and Dorothy are determined to chronicle these disparate experiences for one another so that, in their words, “we will not be strangers.”

By examining the minutiae, they avoid exploring the emptiness; by framing their lives in the normalcy of the 1950s, they avoid confronting the reality that their lives are not theirs alone to control. Attending separate Rosh Hashanah services, his in a mess tent and hers in a Park Avenue synagogue, they are reminded of the pain of their separation. In Mel’s hands, Dorothy’s letters comment on Sid Caesar, Edward R. Murrow, Joseph McCarthy, and Adlai Stevenson, while Dorothy holds anguished accounts of the carnage and uselessness of war.

“We Will Not Be Strangers is at once a coherent account of the Korean war, an insight into the isolation of wartime separation, and a delightful love story. Dorothy Horowitz has provided us with a sensitive account of humanity in a time of international crisis and devastating war.” — Paul M. Edwards, Director, Center for the Study of the Korean War

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THE GRAYBEARDS 30 MAY-JUNE 1997
Relieving An Outpost on Approaches to “Old Baldy”

This is the story of an event, significant only to those who experienced it, and one of thousands that must have occurred during the Korean war, illustrating how human lives can be affected by circumstances beyond their control.

On January 19, 1952, I was ordered to take a reinforced squad to relieve a unit that had been occupying our outpost. This outpost, now known as Westview, directly faced “Old Baldy” to the immediate front and was attached to this infamous hill by a saddle on the Northwest side. The objective was to deny the enemy access to Baldy, the valley and the outpost for the night.

Just before dark, reinforced by a machine gun squad, we relieved our platoon’s second squad. The relief was accomplished so quickly that I did not have an opportunity to ask them where they had placed the radio. A quick search of the perimeter failed to turn up a radio. As it was already dark, it was not prudent to send a man back to the MLR for fear that he would be shot by our own troops.

I stationed my squad in bunkers around the perimeter of the hill (an inverted cone) and placed the machine gun to the immediate left of the saddle. From there it would cover the entire length of the saddle, the U.N. side of Baldy, and the valley.

The night was frigid, around zero, and snow was being driven sideways by a strong wind. Suddenly, on this little outpost in the middle of nowhere, a bell rang. It seemed to be the loudest bell I had ever heard. Before we could react, the bell sounded again. My God, someone had hung a field telephone in a tree. By the time we located the phone it had rung a third time. Big Ben could not have sounded louder. I answered the phone and was informed that Baker Company had a patrol out in the valley and they were lost. We were ordered to challenge anyone who came up our hill, lest it be this lost patrol. What a situation. Instead of being able to fire on anyone coming up the hill, which was the order that I had given, we first had to challenge them. This new order was relayed around the hill.

I informed the individual on the other end of the line that I would be monitoring the phone and they were not to ring the telephone under any circumstances. We tried to remove the phone from the tree but it was firmly fastened. As we were silhouetted against the sky we decided to just dangle the headset into the trench.

Guessing that if a Chinese patrol was coming to the outpost that night they would come up the saddle rather than climb the steep slopes of the hill, I had positioned myself at the point where the saddle entered the outpost. The machine gun was to my immediate left. I noticed that the sandbags had been removed from the area where the saddle entered the outpost, thus making it easier to enter or leave. As this also left a gap in our defense line, I replaced the bags.

About 0300 hours, we heard the sound of footsteps crunching in the snow. Almost immediately a figure appeared in front of the sandbags and there was no mistaking that this was a pointman for a Chinese patrol. I had already slipped the safety off my M-2 carbine and was just pulling the trigger when I heard a voice to my left say “HALT”. True to his orders the machine gunner challenged this intruder. Instantly there was the ear-shattering chatter of a burp gun as the Chinese soldier sprayed the area directly to the front and the sides of his position, including the sandbags that I had replaced and was now standing behind.

I fired at the figure and at that range (12-14 feet) I knew that even I could not have missed him. The figure disappeared and I waited for the chatter of our machine gun...NOTHING! I later learned that the ammunition box had been blown off the gun by the first round of fire. There followed, pardon the expression, dead silence for what seemed like hours. My only thought was where are they? In answer to my silent question a potato masher hand grenade came out of the night and landed in the trench beside me. Before I could react (run?) it exploded and shrapnel hit my head. Looking around I could not see anyone on the saddle or on the hill but we lobbed some grenades down the hill anyway.

Again there was complete silence. What happened next? The telephone in the tree rang—very loudly. After groping around I located the headset and a voice said...

What’s happening out there?” I replied “We’ve been hit!” and the voice came back “By who?” The rest of the conversation cannot be printed, but I did request flares over Baldy. The flares arrived within seconds and not an enemy was in sight.

At that point the machine gunner requested permission to test fire the weapon and I replied “What the hell, you might just as well.” Shortly thereafter we were ordered off the hill and we made an orderly withdrawal, if you can call climbing up the next ice covered hill on our hands and knees orderly.

When we got back to the MLR we learned that the B Company patrol had returned to our lines soon after they were reported lost. This information had not been relayed to our outpost.

On many occasions since that night I have wondered what would have happened if we had received that notification.

Would we have been able to kill all of the men in the Chinese patrol? Who knows.

If we did kill them all, would it have made any difference in the outcome of the war? No.

Were they coming to the outpost to lay in wait to ambush our next patrol? Probably.

By not killing the men in the patrol, did they later go on the kill American and other U.N. soldiers? I pray not.

If I had not replaced the sandbags would I have been killed by that first burst of fire? Probably.

Would anyone other than my family, and hopefully my buddies, had ware? Probably not.

Were the Chinese alerted by the ringing telephone? We will never know.

“I didn’t raise my boy to be a soldier…”

If my cap had not been folded up, and had the shrapnel not hit a double fold, would I have been killed? Probably.

As I grow older and mellower I find myself praying not only for my friends that were wounded or killed in this war but for all the men and women who lost their lives in the service of their country. I am reminded of a song that my dear mother used to sing while we were doing the dishes after the evening meal.

Continued on next Page
Relieving An Outpost from page 31

“I didn’t raise my boy to be a soldier,
I raised him up to be my pride and joy.
“Who dares to lay a musket on his shoulder,
to kill some other mother’s darling boy.
“Let nations arbitrate their future troubles,
It’s time to lay the swords and guns away.
“There’d be no war today if mothers all would say,
I didn’t raise my boy to be a soldier.”

Wouldn’t that be wonderful!!

Note: The writer is a former platoon Sgt. for the
Second Platoon of “A” Company, 179th R.C.T., 45th
Infantry Division who returned home relatively un-
scathed. He is an active member of the Northeastern
New York Chapter of the K.W.V.A.

Thomas J. Flavin
33 Paul Street, East Greenbush, NY 12061, (518) 477-5593

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL DEDICATED

The Dedication of the Greater Rochester Korean War Veterans Mem-
orial was held on Saturday, July 27, 1996 at 11 a.m. when Chap-
Pres. Frank Nicolazzo opened the ceremonies with the posting of the Colors of our Country and our regional Veterans organiza-
tions. Arrayed in a semi-circle at the eastern edge of the Memorial Plaza were more than twenty-five National and Canadian Colors and the flag of the UN. Directly behind these Colors were twenty Veterans organization Flags completing the colorful backdrop to the day’s program.

Flags of the 22 nations who served in Korea under the United Nations during the Korean War lined the north and south walkways leading to the plaza. At the base of each of these flag poles was a permanent marker inscribed with the name of the country whose flag will be displayed at every significant event to be held at the Memorial in the future.

A special Blessing of the Memorial was given by our dear friend and Honorary member Rev. Young-Dai Kim of the Rochester Korean

has for the men and women who answered the call to defend the newly emerging South Korean nation during the early 1950s. The military service people, from the U.S. and the 20 other United Nations coalition coun-
tries, would never be forgotten by his people.

Keynote Speaker John L. Behan, Di-
rector of the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs brought a smile and a tear to those sharing his thoughts. He spoke of the tremendous sacrifices made by all who served in all of the Nation’s wars.
John, a double amputee of Vietnam, has been a strong voice in Albany. We are lucky to have this man on our side.

The program concluded with a Bene-
diction by Chapter Chaplain Phil McNaney and the sounding of Retreat as the Colors were retired from the field.

Members of Monroe County Chapter (Rochester, NY) at Memorial (l to r.) President Frank Nicolazzo; Lawrence Tyndall (rear); Robert MacCrae; John Blind; MGen Norbert Rappl (rear); Rose Harshbarger; James Cannioto; Sec. Charles Harshbarger; William Orman; Peter Fantigrossi; Steven Salerno; Memorial Chair. Donald G. Cofsky; 1st V. Donald Anderson; T. Robert DeMeco; Treas. Paul Wurzer; Helen Tubbs; Richard Higgins; 2nd Vice Gordon Pike; Gerald Eisele.

United Methodist Church. This was followed by the unveiling of the Memorial, as the Church Choir sang “Arrirang.”

The three-ship military helicopter fly-over came in precisely as scheduled, in a classic “Missing Man” formation, followed by a twenty-one gun salute performed by troops of C Battery, 1st Bn., 156th Field Artillery Regiment.

Eleven members of Monroe County Chapter No. 1 read the names of our 164 fallen brothers. A muffled drum roll followed the reading of each list of 15 names, and when the entire casualty list was completed, the military bugler from the 98 DIV Band sounded “Taps.” Rev. Yu Rak Kim of Unit 26, K.V.A. Hamilton, Ontario offered a special prayer for all surviving Korean War Veterans.

Piper Sgt. Howard Smith, Rochester Scottish Pipe Band, sang “Amazing Grace.”

Mr. Nam-Jin Zeon, Consul of the Republic of Korea, spoke about the tremendous debt of gratitude every South Korean citizen

THE GRAYBEARDS 32 MAY-JUNE 1997
Finger Lakes Chapter No. 1

New York State does not have a State Veterans Cemetery, as other states do, it is felt that Sampson State Park is a natural site for this project.

We feel this is a valid project for the following reasons:
1. New York State does not have a Veterans Cemetery. Virginia has 5, North Carolina has 3, Tennessee has 3, and little New Hampshire is in the process of building one. 2. In a radius of 75 miles of this site there are 236,750 veterans. This area takes in Syracuse, Rochester, Ithaca, Binghamton and New York.

We are in the process of informing all Veterans in New York State requesting their support. The Finger Lakes Chapter No.1 of the KWVA of Waterloo, N.Y. has already gone on record as fully supporting this Veterans Cemetery. The area we are requesting is 50 plus acres in Sampson State Park, Romulus, N.Y. This area would be usable for 20 to 40 years.

Further information may be obtained by calling: T. James Lewis, 15 Reed Street, Waterloo, New York 13165-1305.
Phone: 1-315-539-2928

Lt. Richard E. Cronan Chapter, Delray Beach, FL strongly urges the national organization of the Korean War Veterans Association to permit associate members to become life members paying dues according to a similar schedule as that of regular members.

Navy Corpman on Old Baldy"

Great cover on the Jan-Feb issue! Old Baldy brought back memories of my tour of duty at the Marine outpost CARSON, just a few miles to the west. In January 1952 I was a Navy Corpman assigned to Dog Company, 2nd BN 1st Mar Div., and a lasting memory. Later, in April '52 I was included in the group of medical personnel assigned to Operation LITTLE SWITCH at Freedom Village for the exchange of POW's. I still have several pictures of that event. If you are interested I can make copies. There are countless stories about Korean duty, but please don't subject us to anymore of Cohane. This last one was an embarrassment.

I have lost contact with my KV chapter. Please help me locate an active chapter in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Raymond Barton
15692 Crestwood Dr. #232, San Pablo, CA 94806
Tel. (510) 262-0825

Honors Veterans Day and Marine Corps Birthday

The Enfield, CT Veterans Day Parade and the Marine Corps’ 125th Anniversary were observed on November 11th by Connecticut Chapter 1. Immediately after the parade the members gathered and President Jim Shemderine (US Army) proposed a toast to the Corps.

Members pictured l to r are: Pat Laucor, Joe Porteous, Rudy Schoen, Jim Doucett, Dave Smyth, John Dinigria, Richard Frawley, Ed Maynard, Charles Shewokis, Fred Spain, Dwight Siocum, Don Matthews, Phil Gianelli, Jim Raynor, Norm Musk and Jim Shemderine, President.

KWVA, Hawaii Chapter #1

Members of the KWVA, Hawaii Chapter #1, spent four days in the month of January cleaning up the Korean Vietnam War Memorials in Honolulu. The chapter is scheduled for another clean up in July. Last year, members logged 400 man hours in the clean up which includes applying a detergent and hosing it off with water and wiping it dry, weeding, transplanting ground cover and watering.

It has been over 2 years since Hawaii's Korean War veterans initiated the voluntary program in maintaining the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials. Other chapters of Korean War veterans organizations involved in the program are the 45th Infantry Association, 5th Regimental Combat Team and the Chosin Few.

Today, more than a dozen veterans’ organization participate in the program which is supported by Hawaii’s Department of Defense and the Office of Veterans Services.
New Oregon State Department President
Reports to Chapters

Presidents Putman/Lusardi: Now that we have started into a new calendar year, I thought it best to inform your respective chapters of some of the accomplishments of the Department since becoming chartered as a Department by the National KWVA organization, October 22, 1996: ...applied and provided an (KID) by Department of the Treasury as first step toward becoming nonprofit as required by NATIONAL KWVA; ...applied for nonprofit status to District Director, Internal Revenue Service; ...contacted several KWVA vets throughout Oregon in response to the VETS NEWS about forming local chapters and volunteering Dept. resources for that purpose; ...commenced “Tell America” program by responding to an invitation to tell the Korean War story at the Henry Hill’s Elementary School; ...sent at least 32 letters and advertised in various publications to notify KWVA vets about existence of Dept.; ...received verbal authorization from John Mangis, Director of ODVA to meet with Capitol Planning Commission to gain its approval of the Korean War concept illustration of proposed monument to be located on the Capitol Mall; ...planning for September ’97 OREGON KWVA first annual conference to be held at the Wilsonville Memorial Park; ...planning to establish a food booth at the Monmouth Art Festival, July 2nd to 4th as a fund raiser; ...received official Certificate from National chartering the Oregon Department of Korean War Veterans Associations and presented copies to the Iron Triangle and Oregon Trial chapters; ...conducted open monthly Departmental meetings rotating between Salem and Portland on alternate months; ...visited each chapter as an outreach effort to enhance Departmental image and reinforce its commitment to make direct contact and provide a service to chapter organizations; ...established a Departmental History Book that includes all documents, photos and memorabilia in order to document its activities. This History Book is available on a loan basis to each chapter.

Considering that the Department has only been chartered five short months it has continued to steadily progress as an organization and to develop a sound infrastructure as it has moved along and within a meager $200 dollar budget.

Departmental officers are volunteers and have committed their personal resources and energies to make this organization the best it can be. The Department also recognizes that whatever success it may later claim, it will do so as a result of the dedication, volunteer help and motivation of chapter members. Your support has been greatly appreciated. Would each of you please share this first Departmental progress report with your membership. Thank you.

Robert Wallace, President

Nassau County Chapter #1

Some time back VAMC Northport, NY gave the Salvation Army Division of Homeless Services the use of Bldg. 11 on their premises. The Salvation Army is working on the building to turn it into a home for homeless veterans after their rehabilitation in the VA Hospital. They expect to provide rooms for 87 homeless veterans when the building is completely refinished.

Naturally the cost is tremendous, but it was given a push by members of KWVA - Nassau County Chapter #1, NY, when the membership donated a check in the amount of $1,000.00 to help the program.

Pictured are l to r: Ed Fenton, Chapter Founder; John Leignadler, President; John Algeo, Past President; Alfred Pike, Director of Homeless Svcs. Salvation Army & John Quinn 1st Vice President.

This donation took place at our regular meeting of 22 April 1997. Initial dedication is expected to take place for the first 19 rooms sometime in June or July, the date has not yet been set.

Western Pennsylvania Chapter

Minneapolis Korean War Veterans Memorial

Students at South St. Paul Senior High School are linking up with other schools throughout the state to help raise funds for the Minnesota Korean War Veterans Memorial. They are co-hosting a five mile walk/run and taking pledges throughout the state.

The goal of the walk/run is to raise $50,000 for the Minnesota Korean War Veterans Memorial which is to be built on the State Capital Mall in St. Paul.

Over 94,000 Minnesotans served in the Korean War, 700 were killed in action, 1500 were wounded, and 154 are listed as missing in action.

The purpose of the Memorial is to be a tribute to thousands of Minnesotans who served the cause of freedom in the Korean War.

Members of the Western Pennsylvania Chapter at the Memorial Service July 27, 1996 in Pittsburgh, PA. The back drop is to honor those who served during the Korean War.
Mahoning Valley Chapter No. 137

Youngstown, Ohio

Two questions: **First,** is there an official Korean War Veterans Association Flag? I have seen two styles but are either really the voted on bona fide officially proclaimed KWVA flag? One flag resembles the blue United Nations flag with a map of Korea encircled. The other also resembles the UN flag with two airplanes over, a lonely soldier with rifle on a hillside, and a battleship on the bottom, “encircled,” flag center. Could you or any one explain where these two fine flags originated and for what they stand? I called Nick Pappas on the phone on March 24 and he didn’t know. I’ve talked to 9 chapter presidents here in Ohio and they don’t know for sure. I’ve talked to two State Department Presidents and they are not sure.

I know there are many more important pressing issues of the day, but by God we have Memorial Day, the 4th of July, Armed Forces Day, even Flag Day upon us and I’ll bet most members of our KWVA are not sure what our official flag is. Why don’t you show them in our *Graybeards* magazine?

**Second,** expanding membership has been focused upon by President Pappas as the most important issue of survival for our KWVA. Our State of Ohio has a good program in motion to start new chapters and much needed help comes from our Department of Ohio Board. I’m sure many states have similar programs. BUT in the continental USA there are about 20 states without even ONE chapter.

Recently I have been asked for a contribution to help start a new chapter in another state. My NEW chapter did donate to that

cause because that state does not have a Department. BUT my membership feels we can not continue to do this on our limited funds.

What we would like to see is an interview with Mr. Edward L. Magill on the subject of how this organization plans to reach these 20 odd states and what the program is “to get chapters started” and even State Departments where none presently exist. And is there any funding available to assist the expansion program whereby new membership can create new revenue? And lastly, how can our present chapters and membership help in the expansion plan at the least expense to each chapter?

I have close buddies in 12 of the states who are Korean War vets and who have no chapter in there state. I ask, why don’t they have a chapter available? I’m ONLY ONE LITTLE GUY who keeps involvement in OLD UNIT Reunion activity. I would like to know how “I,” – “We,” can help.

We are doing our best. Good luck to the person who has the pleasure of interviewing 2nd Vice President Ed Magill. He sounds like a real nice and GOOD man on the telephone.

Dean B. McClain, President – Tel: 330-709-9565
521 Westgate Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44515-3407

Greeter Richmond, Virginia Chapter #143

Pictured above are members of the new Greeter Richmond Chapter #143 formed in Richmond, Virginia. The President is Jams F. Jones, Jr. The Chapter had 25 members in late November and is still growing. The correspondent for the Chapter is Lloyd R. Davis, Jr., 1608 Gunn St., Richmond, VA 23224.

Republic of Korea Chapter

Members of the Chapter and First Korean United Methodist Church of Cherry Hill, NJ shown visiting the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Moyong Chul Lee, 1005 Arborley Ct., Willingboro, NJ 08046 Tel: 609-877-4196

West Bay Chapter #2

Vice Commander, Maurice Trottier of the Ocean State Chapter #1 conducted the swearing in Ceremony of the West Bay Chapter #2 of R.I. The new Commander of the newly formed West Bay Chapter #2 is Edward Shottelk.

The West Bay Chapter #2 sponsored a bus trip to Washington to see the Korean War Memorial and other things this past April. Members of the Ocean State Chapter #1 participated.

Ocean State Chapter #1

The Chapter signed up several new members as a result of marching in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. The Chapter reports they now are up to 85 members and growing.

This is a very active chapter and are proud of their accomplishments. Keep rolling!
Petition Program Proves We Care

Remembering our POWs/MIA's is a hot button subject for veterans everywhere. The petitions published in "The Graybeards" were widely circulated and a tremendous amount of favorable publicity came to the KWVA as a result of these efforts. Two members deserving recognition tell their own story.

Regarding work; to get the POW-MIA accountability petition circulated, I did the following (evidence enclosed):

1. All three local news television stations broadcast thorough reports. I staggered the TV appearances over a two-week time to maintain interest. Additionally, one station, KODE-TV put their story on the local cable network.

2. News briefs to the area newspapers (Joplin Globe; Carthage Press; Neosho Daily News; and Webb City Sentinel), and to the hostess of a popular noontime local television show who read it on the air. Feature on petitions by Joplin Globe newspaper.

3. Personal appearances to the area veterans clubs "American Legion, Joplin, Webb City, and Pittsburg, KS; VFW, Joplin, Neosho, and the VFW District 15 meeting in Carthage). Many veterans took the petitions with them.

4. Distributed petitions to personal friends whose networks, in addition to neighbors, included the Joplin POW Club; workers in factories; office buildings; and Missouri Southern State College.

5. An all-day Sunday session (March 23) in a booth set up at the region's largest shopping mall, Northpark Mall. The booth consisted of the POW-MIA black flag, the US ensign, two signs made by my wife Mary, one telling what the booth was all about and the other plastered with news clips describing the Korean War POW-MIA issue and, of course, a stack; of petitions and ink pens.


7. On Tuesday, 10 am, April 2nd, I presented a yellow-ribboned package of 654 signatures to Steve McIntosh, aide to Missouri U. S. Seventh District Congressman Roy Blunt in the Federal Courthouse in Joplin. Full TV news coverage. This concluded my drive, all done on my own time.

Every person who signed said they supported the KWVA's efforts to get this POW-MIA issue resolved.

I am writing this letter to let you know that I had no problem getting 350 signatures. I mailed one copy to Congressman William Delahunt, representative in Congress for the 10th Massachusetts District. Also a copy was sent to John Kerry, U.S. Senator from Massachusetts. People were happy to sign the petitions.

Also the cover of this issue brought back to me that received my second Purple Heart Award in July 1951 on "Old Baldy."

In May 1951, while in Korea, I was appointed to the Boston Police Department. The members of my Squad started to say "Hey Chuck, this is a Police Action - you belong here, we don't!" When I got discharged in October 1953 I went to work on the Boston Police

See Petition on page 37
Korean War Veterans Education News

by Bill Van Ort

I am proud to announce the appointment of Commander Charles F. Cole, Ph.D. USNR (Ret) as a Director of the KWVEGC. Charles served in Korean waters from mid-August of 1950 until April of 1951, as an Ensign aboard the Destroyer, USS Ozbourn, (DD-846), and later served on the Eastern seaboard of the United States with Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) #4 in 1951-1952. After active duty, he returned to college, receiving his Ph.D. at Cornell in 1957. He served several stints in teaching or administration at the University of Arkansas; The University of South Florida; the University of Massachusetts and at The University of Ohio State, retiring in 1994 as Professor Emeritus of Natural Resources. He is a member of the Central Ohio Chapter, KWVA in Columbus, Ohio, He is the author of the book, “Korean Remembered,” a Yucca Tree Press Publication. “Charley” can be reached on the internet Charley@netwalk.com Welcome aboard, Charley!

* * * * * *

Donations received by the KWVEGC since 1 January through 17 May 1997:

Individual donations $1,850.00
Memorial bequests 80.00
Chapter donations 606.00
for a total of $2,536.00

The KWVEGC would like to thank the individual and chapter members for their donations. If we are to have a successful presentation in Albuquerque, NM, additional donations are urgently needed. We can’t stop now! I received a letter from President Pappas, dated the 13 of May 1997, stating:

“... the KWVA precludes giving of definite dates or specific funding amounts for the subject matter at this point in time or in the near future.”

This means that the amounts shown above are all the funds we have to award our applicants. It doesn’t take a Rocket Scientist to figure out that the amount of awards will be smaller and fewer awards will be presented due to the absence of financial support from the KWVA.

* * * * * *

For those college bound students in 1998-1999 school year, there is a slight change in policy. An applicant MUST send a s.a.s.e. ($ .32) for each application. We will no longer send out applications on telephone or FAX requests. If a veteran or descendant requests more than 2 applications at a time, the s.a.s.e. should have a $ .55 stamp for postage. This cost saving factor amounts to about $80.00 a year in savings for our committee. Monies that could be used for grants. We know you will agree with this change in policy.

“Petition” from page 36

Department. I retired as a Detective on July 31,1983. My wife, Louise, and I will be having our 45th wedding anniversary on September 6, 1997. We had six children, two girls and four boys.

I am a Life Member of VFW, DAV, Purple Heart and 24th Inf Div Assoc. and Chaplain American Legion, Post 40 in Plymouth. I serve on the Plymouth Veterans’ Council.

Charles “Chuck” Delaney
P.O. Box 517, Manomet, MA 02345-0517

My Squad, September 1951

Students of Korean War Veterans Deserve an Equal Chance to Attend College Too!

That is why I will gladly pitch in to help give them an opportunity to receive a college education.

Enclosed, please find my tax-deductible donation for:

☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ☐ other________

Name ________________________________ KWVA# or SSN#

Grade/Branch of Service ____________________________

Address ____________________________ Apt. # __________

City ____________________________ State __________ Zip __________

Clip and return this form with your check payable to:

Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation

Lt. Col. Hansel Hall, USAF (Ret.) Treasurer & CFO
P.O. Box 14648, University Station

Minneapolis, MN 55441

“... for the Children of our Sacrifice...”

THE GRAYBEARDS 37 MAY-JUNE 1997
USS Missouri Packed Punch

Just received the magazine, and while reading through it, saw the letter by a former crewman of the USS Missouri who said he has never read an article on the ship in the magazine. If I remember correctly, after I arrived home, the Missouri was run aground off the East coast of Korea, but I will let some crewman of the Missouri write about that.

So, I thought I would write a short story concerning the USS Missouri and what I saw it capable of, while I was a member of the 5th Regimental Combat Team of the 34th Div.

The exact date is long gone into history, but I figure it to be around September of '51. The Missouri was to support us during the attack on a good size target, after the jets had worked it over without much result, since the CF were dug in very deep.

We were advised by radio that the Missouri had fired one of its big guns and to await the arrival of the shell that was being used to mark the target. We heard the shell as it came from our right flank high above our heads and much to my surprise, I was able to see the shell as it went past, only it appeared to be a large shadow as it continued on to almost the very top of the target. I was able to see it strike the side of target, just below the ridge line as the shell disappeared in a cloud of dust as it struck the ground, followed by one tremendous explosion, with earth being thrown up high into the sky, followed by a large dirty cloud that just seemed to hang there forever. I could swear, after each shell hit, the target had to jump at least two feet off the ground. I was only too glad be in the viewing stand and not on the receiving end of those shells.

After each shell struck a short time later, we would hear the sound of the explosion, which today I would equate with the sound of two railroad boxcars banging together. I was happy to oblige you. Even though I am a little late, thank you very much for your support that one particular day in late 1951. It was much appreciated by the infantry.

John W. Sonley
5443 W. Geronimo St., Chandler, AZ 85226-4582

Washington Times flubs Map - No Korean War Memorial on the Mall

I had just had to send you copies of the front page of the Washington Times, C-Section. Where were the people that made up the 1/2 page color map of the Mall? Locked up with O.J. jury? I know the site was not on the map as of Sept. 1, 1996. That may have been where the color map of the Mall came from. Will it ever be put on the map? Maybe someday it will all fall in place.

Elisha E. Smith
4600 NW 196th St., Opa Locka, FL 33055-1821

Editor's Note: I called and gave them H**L!

The Korean War was World Wide —
All served wherever they were assigned.
One Man's Sojourn in the Air Force

In the Jan-Feb 1997 issue of The Graybeards asked for more Air Force stories. I did not serve in Korea, but
1. I enlisted in the Air Force 27 Nov. 1951 and took basic training at Sheppard AFB, TX. Finished basic training 21 Feb. '52 with rank of E-2.
2. Gen Jet Course from 21 Feb. to 12 June '52 at Amarillo AFB, TX.
4. Left for overseas 7 Oct '52 to Southampton, England, thence to 55 FBS Wetherfield, England AFB.
Our main objective was to prevent Communism from spreading to Europe.

I went on five different TDY's two times for three weeks to Morocco and once for six weeks. A three week TDY to Casaux AFB France; 3 weeks to Elevais AFB, Greece. The reasons for these trips was the mobility of 55 FBS. My APSC (MOS in the Army) was 43 250 or senior aircraft mechanic and hanger crew. I usually worked on the engines. The planes I worked on T-33's, F-84G's and F-84F's.


Dean E. Troze/Meister
130 Haynes St., Mankato, MN 56001

A footnote. There were AFBs all over Europe at that time and all the planes I worked on could carry the A-bomb except the T-33's.

A Great CO Remembered

A great man died the other day, my former CO in the Korean War, Stillman Hazeltine of Custer, South Dakota.

I was Platoon Sgt of the 2nd Platoon, "F" Co, 15th Regt, 3rd Div, and Hazeltine was CO of my Company in November, 1951 around Thanksgiving when we were called on to take "Little Gibraltar Hill" on Korea's western front. It was during this attack that I realized what a fine officer he was. In all my time in Korea I never saw anyone so cool and calm under fire. Some other things he did that day were nothing short of pure guts. To me, one of the great things about him was the compassion he showed for his men in other words he wouldn't sacrifice his men just to better himself.

A couple of years ago Hazeltine came to my second platoon reunion in Knoxville, Tennessee. It was the first time I had seen him in over 40 years and he came all the way from Custer just to be with a dozen other former "F" Company men. He told me, no way was he going to miss being with us at this reunion. What a pleasure it was to see him again and visit with him for a couple of days.

I guess there are a lot of good men who have done a lot of good things for this country of ours, but as far as I am concerned, most of them are not in the same league with Stillman Hazeltine. I will miss him very much.

Denzil Batson (Former M/Sgt)
158 Brooks St., Republic, MO 65738

The Graybeards
38
MAY-JUNE 1997
LETTERS

A letter to The President of the United States

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., of which I am a National Director, declared March 1997 as POW/MIA Remembrance Month and petitions the Congress and President of the United States to take immediate action to have all American remains returned and the status of any prisoners of war and missing in action believed to be alive, resolved.

As long as the United States continues to prop-up the Communist dictatorship in North Korea, by providing periodic infusions of millions of dollars in economic aid, a.k.a. humanitarian aid, we can expect that Government will continue threatening South Korea and the 37,000 plus United States Armed Forces personnel we have stationed on the DMZ and elsewhere in South Korea.

There are 8,177 American servicemen still unaccounted for from the Korean War. Although there has been an agreement reached in 1996 with North Korea for two joint searches to search for the remains of these Americans the DoD POW/MIA Office (DPMO) has recovered but one body during one very brief joint search. Subsequent events, i.e., the North Korean submarine and crew found spying in South Korea, brought a quick end to plans for the second search.

On the issue of more food, the repressive North Korean government is demanding food as a condition to peace talks. North Korean civilian officials are said to be worrying what their military might do if food does not arrive. Another veiled threat.

Japan refuses to send food, even though there is a record amount of surplus rice, in danger of spoiling, in Japanese warehouses. Japan’s Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto has said it would be difficult for Japan to give aid in light of recently disclosed evidence suggesting that North Korean agents kidnapped several Japanese citizens in the 1970’s and took them to North Korea to help train spies in Japanese behavior and language.

Why then is the U.S. not equally concerned about the colony of Americans living in a compound on the outskirts of the capital city of Pyongyang, North Korea, who were also kidnapped. Analysts in the DPMO have intelligence that some of these Americans are POWs kept by North Korea after the Korean War.

Your assistance in formulating legislation, official policy and goals which will resolve these matters will be greatly appreciated. I enclose the Petition signed by 475 individuals in the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area who petition for action in this matter.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Barton, National Director
Korean War Veterans Association

Enclosure: Petition To Resolve Korean War POW/MIA Issues
Informational Copy to: Senator John Lim, Chairman Committee on
Trade and Economic Development
S-401 F State Capitol, Salem, Oregon 97310

FAX: 503-986-1814

Director Barton also sent copies of the Petition and the above letter to Senators Gordon Smith, Ron Wyden and Congressman Earl Blumenauer

Death of First Commonwealth Division Commander Reported

First of all, congratulations on an excellent publication (this is peer approval, as I do our own newsletter). Alas, not only are we “forgotten war” veterans — we seem to be members of “the forgotten Division” in that War. I keep seeing ads which list “divisional insignia of all formations” but nary a sign of our own FIRST COMMONWEALTH DIVISION — a unique organization.

My object, however, is not to chastise, but to advise you of the passing of the first Commander of 1 COMWEL, Div, Field Marshal Sir James Cussels.

I enclose an extract from his obituary.

Keep up the good work — we look forward to once again meeting many of our old allies at our Convention in Winnipeg next year.

Les Peate, CD National Secretary
The Korea Veterans Association of Canada
8 Mooreside, Ottawa ON, K2C 3P4, Phone: 613-225-0443

Editor’s Note: We normally do not carry obituary notices for lack of space. However, in this instance it is important to point out Field Marshal Sir James Cussels was given the task of forming the Commonwealth Division out of the British, Australian, Canadian and New Zealand troops which had been sent out separately to serve with the United Nations forces under American Command. From these disparate units Cussels created a fine fighting machine and one which was unique, since there has never been another Commonwealth division.

POW/MIA — The issue that will not go away

I have been reading with great interest the recent articles concerning our POW/MIA’s.

In line with this, I am attaching a copy of an article published in the Syracuse, New York Post-Standard and it appears very appropriate for the Memorial Day issue. This item was forwarded to me by Donald Oswald, as Richard Oswald was one of my best friends when we were stationed at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. I think this is an excellent article and reflects the same situation so many of our comrades’ families are suffering through.

John W. Huff
30 W. 305 Claymore Ln., Haperville, IL 60563

Editor’s Note: The excellent article mentioned in the letter above is much too long for publication in The Graybeards. However, the article prints a box of the Government response and is as follows:

“The U.S. Defense Department, which has focused much attention on POWs and MIAs from the war in Vietnam, has lost touch with most families of missing persons from the Korean War. The government says it wants to renew these ties. Call In: Families with relatives missing in action from the Army can call 1-800-892-2490; from the Navy, 1-800-443-9298; from the Marine Corps, 1-800-847-1597; and the Air Force 1-800-531-5501. Those lines are open during regular business hours.

WARNING: The government says these lines are to be used only by family members of missing servicemen.”

"Korean War" or "Korean Conflict?"

Our local newspaper continues to refer to the Korean War as Korean “Conflict.” I would like to educate them to correct this. I remember reading about this sometime ago and I think it was in Graybeards. I would like the information I send them to be factual and hopefully, helpful. For example funeral announcements state, “He/
My Turn — Members Soundoff

The Real Face of War

I have been away for some time, so I am late in responding to the short story entitled Laszlo under the heading, A Korean Twilight, in the January-February 1997 issue of the Graybeards, as well as to your comments in “Campfire” entitled The Many Faces of War. With utmost respect, I disagree with you that stories like those in A Korean Twilight should appear in The Graybeards as “one of the faces of war.”

To put my objection in the proper perspective, let me tell something about my background in the military. I do so only to let you know that my military experience was not short lived, and that all but a small part of it was “stateside.”

At the time of Pearl Harbor I had just finished three months of basic training. After one year as an enlisted man, I received my commission and served thirty-four months in the European Theater. I saw combat in North Africa, Italy, France and Germany, and was in the liberation of the Dachau Concentration Camp. I was separated from the service on February 2, 1946. Almost ten years to the day I entered the service during WWII, I was recalled to active duty (much to my surprise, I might add) and was eventually assigned to the 7th Infantry Division in Korea.

To begin, I read a disgusting story in an earlier issue of The Graybeards that was written by M.E. Cohan, and my immediate reaction was, “What trash! Do we need this in The Graybeards?” Then I read your article, “The Many Faces of War” and my curiosity was aroused, so I read the story entitled Laszlo. My immediate reaction to this story (whether fiction or not) was different.

You attempt to justify your decision to print A Korean Twilight by saying, “We must be honest and recognize wars bring out the best and the worst in all of us. I am confident we serve our children best by not holding back too much reality of life. The best way to learn and pass on our values is exposing how different people react to circumstances they face.”

I ask, rhetorically, are these stories representative of the faces of war or, more accurately, are they not simply the sordid side of everyday life that is so ubiquitously depicted in the print media, novels, television and theater. Stated differently, do the acts of immorality described in Cohan’s stories and done under the aegis of war and a uniform transform these acts from unacceptable societal behavior to “one of the faces of war”? I think the answer is quite obvi-

Readers are welcome to submit letters, poems, articles and stories to “The Graybeards” for publication. The editor publishes on the basis of suitability, length and timeliness. Opinions and comments published are the sole responsibility of the author. All official positions of the Korean War Veterans Association are located under Official Announcements.

Lead, Follow, or get out of the way

I found the attached article in our local newspaper but it is an Associated Press Release so I’m sure it went out everywhere. The article concerns the rundown condition that our Korean War Memorial is deteriorating into, due to lack of good maintenance. This really makes me quite angry after all the effort that it took to get this memorial finally into a finite form. During the process of getting the monument into being, our KWVA group was always engaged in backbiting, criticism, and counter-criticism, personal attacks, and skulduggery, to the point that the damn thing nearly didn’t get built. But finally it did!

Now, here we are again, embroiled in audits with accountants of the Magazine shut down for a time and now with a less attractive facade; and still the inside stories are filled with the same backbiting and name calling. I don’t know about the other members, but I’m frankly sick of it. We could be spending our efforts on getting our memorial properly maintained before the damn thing falls down around us. We could be an effective lobbying voice as to our government’s overtures toward buying North Korea out of it’s self-made economic mess. We could be doing something about the still missing Korean prisoners we hear about. But what do we do?

We sit around our penguin butts, and call each other names, make charges and countercharges. Doesn’t every member think it’s about time we got our heads on straight, and did something positive for this organization, for our country, and for each other? I challenge all the other members to stand up and be counted! I challenge them to write the leadership of this Association and say clear as a bell, “I’m mad as hell and I’m not going to take this crap anymore.” It’s time to say “Lead, Follow, or get out of the way.”

James H. Appleton, Lt.Col. USMC Ret., 1039 Regency Dr., Melbourne, FL 32935

THE GRAYBEARDS

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MAY-JUNE 1997
Reunions

13th ENGR (C) Bn: anyone who has served with the unit desiring to join the Association, contact: Ernie Eldridge, US Naval Home, RM-1740, 1800 Beach Dr., Gulfport, MS 39507-1597.


JULY 1997


KWWA National Reunion, July 23-28, 1997 Albuquerque, NM, Raddison Hotel. Contact Ted Cornell, P.O. Box 80123, Albuquerque, NM 87198-0123, Tel: 505-255-4967.


Army Post Office 201, attached or detached to Hq & Hq Co. 1st Cav Div, July 25-28, 1997, Belleville, IL. Contact John Kronenger, 102 Williamsburg Dr., Belleville, IL 62221-3157 or 618-277-2311 or Fax 618-277-2004.

3rd Annual Korean Veterans Reunion, July 26, 1997, Waterloo, NY. V.F.W. open to all present and past members. Contact Thomas James Lewis, 15 Reed St., Waterloo, NY 13165. Tel: 315-539-2928

AUGUST 1997


96th Field Artillery Bn Asstn., August 7-10, 1997, Green River, WY. Contact Arnold Anderson, 1350 4th St. SW, Huron, SD 57350


USAF Francis Marion APA-LPA 249, Boston, MA. Aug. 21-24. Contact Bob Martin, 16 Staples St., Melrose, MA 02176.

Panama Canal Marines Annual Reunion, August 28-30, 1997, King of Prussia, PA. Contact MSG Michael R. Boyce, 5115 MacNamara Dr., Fredericksburg, VA 22407-6563. Tel: 540-786-2878.

11th Annual Korean Veterans Reunion, Aug. 29-31, 1997, Columbus, NE. Contact: Bill Kline, 165 9th Ave., Columbus, NE 68601. Tel 402-564-5994.

SEPTEMBER 1997


62nd/37th Troop Carrier Squadrons Assoc., September 4-7, 1997, Kansas City, MO. Open to all present and past members. Contact: Kemp F. Martin, 806 Oak Valley Dr., Houston, TX 77024. Tel: 713-464-0401.

Sampson AFB (Geneva, NY, 1950-56) all personnel, Sept. 4-7, Auburn NY Holiday Inn. Contact: Walt Steacy, PO Box 299, Interlaken, NY 14847-0299. Tel: 607-532-4204, fax 532-4648 email: SampsonABFvet@aol.com

511th AC&W Group Reunion Association including the 613th, 847th and 848th AC&W Squadrons, Sept. 4-8, 1997 at Colorado Springs, CO. Contact Don Simmons, 704 S. Grove Rd., Richardson, TX 75081-5116. PH 972-231-6518, Internet: dona7112@iadtv.net.

11th Engineer Combat BN (Korea), Sept. 5-7, 1997, Branson, MO. Contact Fred Boelsche, 54 Edstan Dr., Moonachie, NJ 07047-1239. Tel: 201-641-5828.

US Army Tenth (X) Corps, Korea 1950-53, Hqs and all assigned and attached units, Sept. 9-12, 1997, Sam's Town, Las Vegas, NV. Contact Lloyd Burtis, 6727 Edgewood Drive, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107, Tel: 505-345-6047.

Carrier Air Group Two (CVG-2), all hands who served in CVG-2 with VF-23, VF-24, VF-64, VA-65 or VC/VT/HU Detachments Korean War (1950-53), Sept. 10-14, 1997. Contact R.A. Wallin, 5904 Comanche Place, Lynchburg, VA 24502, Tel: 804-239-0428 or E-Mail address rawall@aol.com.

THE GRAYBEARDS

MAY-JUNE 1997
90th FA Bn, Sept. 11-13, 1997, Kansas City, MO. Contact Merlyn Winterfeld, 719 West Elm St., Ogden, IA 50212. Tel: 715-275-2066.


12 Reunion George Co, 3d Bn, 1st Marines Korea Assoc. (1955-59), Sept. 11-14, 1997, Orlando, FL. Contact Dave Carter, 5901 Albeth Rd., Orlando, FL 32810, 407-299-1525


90th Field Arty Bn Assoc. Sept. 11-14, 1997. Kansas, City, MO. Contact Lee Robarge, P.O. Box 21742, Milwaukee, WI 53221. Tel: 414-541-2997.


44th Eng Broken Heart Bn, Korea, Sept. 16-18, 1997, Charleston, SC. Contact Kenneth Cox, 10529 Caner Ave., St. Louis, MO 63114-1901. Tel: 314-423-5483


841st E.A.B. Engineers Aviation Bn (Scarfaw), Sept. 17-21, 1997. Open to all Koenig Vets, Holiday Inn, Pittsburgh, PA. Contact John C. Carlin Jr., USX Tower, Suite 600, 600 Grant St., Pittsburgh, PA 15219.


USS Hornet CV-8 CV/CVA/CVS-12, 49th Reunion, all ship's company, air groups, Marines, Sept. 19-21, 1997, San Jose, CA. Contact Carla Svendsen, Secy, PO Box 1147, Denver, CO 80207. Tel: 704-483-2764.


2d Chemical Mortar Bn, Sept. 24-28, Thayer Hotel, USMA, West Point, NY. Contact: William R. Thomas, 7418 Overdale Dr., Dallas, TX 75240. Tel: 972-387-1247.


OCTOBER 1997

115th Medical BN (40th Inf Div), October 1997, Las Vegas, NV. Contact Herb Wittenberg, 767 S. Sunset. Suite #6, West Covina, CA 91790. Tel 818-337-6138 or Fax 818-337-8610.

H-3-1 Korea, October 1-5, 1997, St. Louis, MO. Contact Jack Dedrick, 6 Sheridan Ter., Swampscoot, MA 01907-2042. Tel: 617-598-9725.


Air Trans. Sqd Twenty-Two (VR-22), October 6-8, 1997, Myrtle Beach, SC. Contact Fred W. Swanda, Jr., 400 Tenth Ave., South, N. Myrtle Beach, SC 29582. Tel 803-272-7547.

Attention KWVA Members

An Opportunity to own the 8-page July 27, 1995 Dedication Day “A Pictorial Scrapbook” in full color as it appeared in the September-October Graybeards

Reprinted on coated paper including the dramatic picture of the Statues with the Lincoln Memorial shown in the background.

The Association is making these souvenir copies available to help support printing of The Graybeards. Order as many as you wish—Chapter or individual orders. Perfect for recruiting new members and/or as a keepsake for friends and relatives. Valued at $2 each.

Send your request to:
Editor, Graybeards
7228 Rebel Drive
Annandale, VA 22003

Suggested donation:
$1.00 per copy, plus $2.00 shipping
Include check with order payable to:
KWVA
A TIME TO REMEMBER

After graduating from high school in 1950, our future plans were more or less in limbo. College was a possibility, but, as in most generations, some of us were tired of the classroom. “Good” jobs were scarce and the minimum wage scale was about seventy-five cents per hour.

There was one situation that faced us all, particularly the boys. A new war had just started. We knew what war was. We had lived through the most devastating of them all, World War II. Many of us had given up a great deal as a result of that war. Some had lost brothers, sisters, uncles, or even fathers. We had all dealt with shortages and rationing. We had seen returning veterans trying to piece broken bodies and lives back together. We had been made aware of the horrors and devastation of war. We were well aware of who fought and bore the burden of war, and it seemed it was now our turn.

Korea? What is Korea? Where is Korea? We had not heard much about Korea, but now there was a war there and our nation was involved in it.

In 1950, when a young man reached the age of eighteen, one thing was for sure and for certain. You had to register for the draft. This was a fact of life that made the future look so doubtful. The only choice you had was to volunteer or wait on the draft. Some of us chose to enlist in reserve units and enter military service with hometown people. This is the option I took and joined a medical unit that was being activated. In August of 1950 I found myself in the Army, stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C.

After a period of training I was sent to Korea in the summer of 1951 and there I was assigned to Medical Detachment 7th Regiment 3rd Infantry Division.

I was first assigned to collecting station and then to different battalions as aid man until I rotated home in the summer of 1952. During much of this time the front line was more or less stationary as the peace talks were beginning at Panmunjom. Nevertheless, the life of a combat medic can be most hectic and dangerous under the best of circumstances. Even when not under fire there was always foot inspection to help prevent frostbite, APC pills to dispense, and sick call, as well as evacuation of the wounded.

I have always been thankful for the experience and for the opportunity to offer comfort and relief to some of America’s greatest heroes. The Korean War was fought mainly by teenagers.

Upon returning to civilian life, a combat veteran not yet old enough to vote, I put my Army experience behind me and, for the most part, forgot about it.

I have enjoyed a good life as a salesman in the food industry. I married my high school sweetheart and we reared two wonderful children who gave us four perfect grandchildren.

My Korea experiences were part of my past that I did not care to remember or discuss. That is, until the summer of 1995.

During all the discussions and concern surrounding the Viet Nam Memorial, I had wondered why no one had ever remembered the Korean War. To those of us who were involved in it, it was as big and as brutal as any war could be.

Then, on a trip to New England, my wife and I decided to detour through Washington, D.C. to visit the Korean War Memorial that had just been dedicated. It was there that it all came back.

As we approached the memorial I was struck by a scene that had been locked in my memory for more than forty-three years.

There before me was my platoon on recon patrol. There was the lieutenant, the platoon leader, the BAR man, the individual riflemen, and the medic. Surely I had been there. As these pictures from the past filled my mind I lost it and must have looked pretty pathetic a sixty-three year old man crying like a baby. I couldn’t leave these, my buddies, some I remembered for the first time in over four decades. Some had remained in Korea forever, and some it had been my sad duty to tie an ID tag on their body bags. I searched the wall and there I found an image that could have been a twenty-year-old kid that carried the aid kit and was called “Doc.”

I returned home with a different outlook concerning my Korean experience. I came to terms with several things that had been loose ends since Korea. I dug up what memorabilia I could find - my Sergeant’s stripes, my division patch, my combat medical badge, my dog tags, my service ribbons. I was awarded the Commendation Medal for meritorious service. I brought it out. I placed these in a case and proudly mounted it on our den wall, along with my Honorable Discharge. I even found some orders that had been cut promoting me to Sergeant and awarding me the Medical Combat Badge, which I framed and mounted there. All of this may look boastful and overly proud, but I am not ashamed of my service to my country.

Later in 1995 I ran across information about the revisit program sponsored by the Korean Veterans Association. My wife and I signed up and went on the trip this past June.

We enjoyed a delightful flight on Korean Air and the gracious hospitality of the KVA. They did an outstanding job of making us feel welcome and comfortable.

Seoul was certainly a shocking and pleasant surprise. All of us were looking for the old Korea we remembered from the war. Over and over the expression “unbelievable” was heard. Someone even exclaimed,
A TIME TO REMEMBER from page 44

"This isn’t Korea - it doesn’t even smell like Korea.” The odor of chordite and “honey carts” was gone. We found ourselves in a beautiful, bustling world-class city.

It would be impossible to detail all of the events of these seven days, except to say that no one who was on this trip will ever forget it. The Korean people were super-friendly and continually expressed their gratitude for American help and support in preserving country and freedom. They haven’t forgotten.

The highlight of the trip was being honored at a reception with President Kim Young Sam. Each veteran and his wife were presented a beautiful gold watch with the president’s name engraved on it.

I am sure that each of us left Korea with swelling pride for what they have done since we were there as GI’s. The country’s prosperity and development adds a great deal of meaning to the conflict that young Americans struggled so hard to find forty-six years ago.

The trip has changed some of my feelings about why I went to Korea the first time, and along with my visit to the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C., I have been able to come to terms with myself.

Everyone can’t return to Korea as we were able to. But if you can, you owe it to yourself to visit the memorial and remember the “Forgotten War.”

Lloyd D. Pittman
1218 4th Street Lane N.E., Hickory, NC 28601
(704) 327-8023

1998 Revisit Trips to KOREA

Currently, as of May 25, 1997 ALL three of the Trips/Korea are sold out with long “wait-lists” for EACH 1998 Trip (April, June, and September). However, there is the possibility that KVA/Seoul (Korean Veterans Association), who sponsors the Revisit Program, MAY increase the Quotas for the April, 1998 Trip to 120 spaces. Also, there are cancellations, which occur prior to the departure dates.

All the K-Vets (Family Members) who are on the 1997 wait lists, will be transferred to the 1998 Trip of their choice, with “priority” reservations.

FYI ... I will NOT receive the specific dates, allotments for the 1998 Trips from KVA/Seoul until approximately the middle of January, 1998 when KVA has completed their budget requirements for the 1998 Trips. Spaces for each Trip are on a 1st come, 1st served basis, and your deposit must be received BEFORE a Space will be reserved for you!

Kathleen Cronan Wysocki (“Lt. Honey” – USAF/Nurse Corps)
Coordinator, Revisit Trips/Korea
P.O. Box 3716, Saratoga, California 95070-1716
Phone: 408-253-3068 Fax: 408-973-8449

Identifies All Military Personnel as “Tommy”

Read with interest the article appearing your March-April 1997 publication, “Will an American “TOMMY” Please Stand Up”? Rudyard Kipling’s works have always been supportive of the British Army. His poem “Tommy” clearly identifies all military personnel, in I’m sure all countries! My version of “Tommy,” I came across some years back, it is a great deal shorter and just might have & say the same meaning, it goes as follows:

God and the soldier all men adore,
In time of trouble and no more.
For when war is over and all things righted,
God is neglected and the old soldier slighted!
I have no knowledge who the author may be of this, but it really covers the point very well!

Your publication is well done & I enjoy reading it. Thanks for your time.

Andrew B. “Mac” McFarlane, Capt. US Marine Corps (Ret.)
577 Pine Avenue, Saddlebrook, NJ 07663
KOREA SEPT ’50 - AUG ’51 “Fox” Company, 2nd Bn. 1st Marines, 1st Marine Div. Private First Class - Corporal

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The Combat Medic
Why do we assume that the Combat Medic is immune from fear
Why, when he is attending our wounded buddy we feel it is only we who are shedding a tear
Armed with only a medical kit and a red cross arm band
His blood is too spilled on hills and beaches of sand.

While we Infantry are safe deep in our hole
To the urgent call ‘medic’ he responds ever so bold
The Combat Medic is the bravest soldier of all
For no matter how fierce the fighting, he’ll always respond to our wounded call.
— J.A. Langone
May 1997
Korean War Marine Veteran Remembers The Dedication of the Korean War Memorial July 27, 1995

On July 27, 1995, at 3:00 p.m., a dedication of the Korean War Memorial took place in Washington, D.C. 42 years after the end of hostilities. But how many knew or cared?

54 THOUSAND DIED QUIETLY.

On June 25, 1950, war began in Korea when the Korean's from the north crossed over the 38th parallel and attacked their brother's in the south. Little attention was paid of this, for not many knew of Korea and where it was.

BUT 54 THOUSAND DIED QUIETLY.

TV was in it's infancy. Newspapers and radio paid little attention to this conflict over 5000 miles away. However, because the North Koreans were Communist, Washington did take notice and decided that the advancement of communism anywhere in the free world could not be tolerated.

SO 54 THOUSAND DIED QUIETLY.

So from June of 1950 to July of 1953 the United States and other countries from around the world, were in another war, only 5 years after the end of World War II. It wasn't called a war though, for President Truman decided to call it a "Police Action," thus minimizing it, hoping Congress and the American people would not think we had gone to war again so soon.

BUT 54 THOUSAND DIED QUIETLY.

Years later we got involved in another conflict which lasted for 10 years, and we didn't win this one either. They called this one the Vietnam War (note war). By now TV had become a very powerful news force and the kids back home were seeing first hand the horrors of war and wanted no part of it. We digested it with the morning paper over coffee, and at dinner with the TV evening news. 58 thousand died there in 10 years, but not quietly. Their Memorial has been up for years in Washington, D.C. Korean Vets did not come home to bands playing or flags waving either. There are over 1.5 million Korean War veterans that did come home.

BUT 54 THOUSAND DIED QUIETLY.

We still have thousands of American troops guarding the 38th Parallel between North and South Korea. An Armistice was signed on the 27th of July 1953, which means only a temporary suspension of hostilities. In theory we have been at war with North Korea for over 45 years, yet this is known as the "Forgotten War." Once again, for the most part, the Korean War was pushed to the back pages of the newspapers, in their reporting of the Korean War Memorial Dedication, that took place in Washington, D.C. on July 27th, 1955.

FOR ONLY 54 THOUSAND DIED QUIETLY.

There are few books, movies and documentaries made of the Korean War, for it was just a "Dirty Little War" that didn't seem to accomplish much and it only lasted 37 months. Yet history proved that this so called "Police Action" was without a doubt the greatest deterrent of the spread of Communism. Both China and Russa found out that we would defend our rights of freedom.

54 THOUSAND DIED QUIETLY.

Yet probably the most notable thing to come out of the war, was a TV show called M*A*S*H, that ran for several years. It was comedy about these doctors doing a quick fix on the men coming off the front lines after they had been wounded. On occasion it would try to show the horrors and maiming of men at war, but for the most part it was produced for the entertainment and amusement of the general public. So is this the perception the American people have of this war, that it was not much more than a comedy to be enjoyed and then forgotten?

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE 54 THOUSAND THAT DIED QUIETLY?

So on July 27th, 1995, the President of the United Sates and the President of the Republic of South Korea, dedicated the Korean War Memorial, honoring all Korean War veterans. The million and half that made it home, the over 8 thousand that are still listed as missing in action (MIAs), and for all those that were listed as killed in action (KIsA). PERHAPS NOW, THE 54,246 AMERICANS THAT HAD DIED QUIETLY, WILL FINALLY BE HEARD.

Charles Miller, Korea, 1951-52 USMC

News Brief

First New Jersey Korean War Memorial Commission Meeting

Members of the N.J. Korean War Memorial Commission held their first meeting to begin the process of honoring the state's Korean War Era veterans with an appropriate memorial. Present (from left, seated): Robert Yancey; Chris Boutilette; J. Robert Tracey; Kathleen Morrissey, liaison from the Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs; E. Larry St. Laurent; (standing) Joseph Poggi; Joseph Hems; Jack Casey, state senator; Nilsa Cruz-Perez, assemblywoman; and Michael Warner, deputy commissioner for veterans affairs. The committee's goal is to be able to dedicate the memorial during the summer 2000, the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.

THE GRAYBEARDS 46 MAY-JUNE 1997
Application for Membership in the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210 (Telephone: 1-800-378-7888)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOX
Assigned Membership Number

K.W.V.A. Regular Annual Dues — $15.00 • Associate Membership — $12.
☐ New Member ☐ Renewal Member #
Life Membership — up to age 60 $150; 60-65 $100; 66-70 $75; over age 70 $50.

Please Check One:
☐ POW ☐ REGULAR MEMBER ☐ LIFE MEMBER ☐ ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Name __________________________________________ Birthdate __________ Phone __________
(Please Print)

Address: __________________________________________
Street __________________________________________ City ______ State ______ Zip ______

—All new members, please provide the following information—

Unit(s) to which Assigned — Branch of Service —
Division ____________________________ Army ☐
Regiment ____________________________ Air Force ☐
Battalion ____________________________ Navy ☐
Company ____________________________ Marines ☐
Other ________________________________ Coast Guard ☐
Dates of service in Korea were
from ______ to ______

Make checks payable to: KWVA
Credit Card # ________
Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
Expiration Date ________ VISA ☐
P.O. Box 10806
MASTERCARD ☐
Arlington, VA 22210

Your Signature ____________________________

Name of Chapter (if applicable) ____________________________

MAK E AS MANY COPIES OF THIS APPLICATION FORM AS YOU WISH!

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

Section 1. Qualification of Members. Membership in this association shall consist of honorary members, regular members, and associate members.
A. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as an honorary member by the vote of the Executive Council.
B. Regular Members.
1. Service in United States Armed Forces. Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, said service being within or without Korea, but during the Korean war era (September 3, 1946-December 31, 1955), or who, as a member of the armed forces of the United States as defined by U.S.C. Title 10, served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1956, shall be eligible for membership. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, so long as the individual meets the service requirements.
2. Medal of Honor. Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service in Korea during the Korean war era shall be eligible for life membership.
3. Prisoner of War. Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward shall be eligible for life membership.
4. United Nations Command and Korean Army. Any person who served honorably in the armed forces of the United Nations command or in the Republic of Korea armed forces during the Korean War era and thereafter shall be eligible to membership. 90% of members must be United States Veterans, 10% can be others.
5. Gold Star Mothers. Any woman whose son was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership.
6. Gold Star Wives. Any woman whose husband was killed in action or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership.
KOREA

There is blood on the hills of Korea
Tis the blood of the brave and true.
Where the 25th Brigade battled together
Under the banner of the Red, White and Blue.
As they marched over the fields of Korea
To the hills where the enemy lay.
They remembered the Brigadiers orders:
"These hills must be taken today."
Forward they marched into battle
With faces unsmiling and stern.
They knew as they charged the hillside
That some would never return.

Some thought of their wives and mothers,
Some thought of their sweethearts so fair
And some as they plodded and stumbled,
Were reverently whispering a prayer.
There is blood on the hills of Korea,
It is the gift of freedom they love,
May their names live in glory forever,
And their souls rest in heaven above.

In the field, Korea
May 29, 1951

The poem above composed by Private Patrick J. O'Connor, a stretcher bearer, Royal Canadian Regt., attached to the 25th Inf Division, who was killed in action in the attack on Hill 466 on May 30, 1951. The above poetry was found in his pocket on May 30, 1951. Reprinted from the book Korean Vignettes, Faces of War, with permission of the author, Arthur Wilson, Capt. Inf. AUS. Copies of the book are available to veterans for $21 when Service Serial Number is included with order. Order from Artwork Publications, P.O. Box 25105, Portland, OR 97298, FAX 503-297-5163 or 1-800-433-4617 (for Visa orders).