The Graybeards
The Magazine for Members and Veterans of the Korean War.

The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210 (Phone: 302-227-1309) and is published six times per year for members of the Association.

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Bylaws: Jack Edwards (See Board of Directors)

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Reunion Co-Chairmen 1998: J. Norbert Reiner (See Nat’l VA Service Director) and Warren Wedlbahn, P.O. Box 1179, Alexandria, VA 22313-1179

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9001 E. Rosewood St., Tucson, AZ 85710-2659
PH & FAX: 520-298-1561
USS Benfold DDG65

This ship was named for Hospital Corpsman Third Class Edward C. Benfold, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism during the Korean War. He was killed in action in 1952.

Edward J. Benfold
825 Richard Road
Cherry Hill, New Jersey
(609) 482-0146

Name: Edward C. Benfold
Rank and Organization: Hospital Corpsman Third Class, U.S. Navy, attached to a company in the 1st Marine Division
Place and Date: Korea, 5 September 1952.
Entered service at: Philadelphia, PA
Born: 15 January 1931, Staten Island, NY

Citation: For gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving in operations against enemy aggressor forces. When his company was subjected to heavy artillery and mortar barrages, followed by a determined assault during the hours of darkness by an enemy force estimated at battalion strength, HC3c. Benfold resolutely moved from position to position in the face of intense hostile fire, treating the wounded and lending words of encouragement. Leaving the protection of his sheltered position to treat the wounded when the platoon area in which he was working was attacked from both the front and rear, he moved forward to an exposed ridge line where he observed 2 marines in a large crater. As he approached the 2 men to determine their condition, an enemy soldier threw 2 grenades into the crater while 2 other enemy charged the position. Picking up a grenade in each hand, HC3c. Benfold leaped out of the crater and hurled himself against the onrushing hostile soldiers, pushing the grenades against their chests and killing both the attackers. Mortally wounded while carrying out this heroic act, HC3c. Benfold, by his great personal valor and resolute spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of almost certain death, was directly responsible for saving the lives of his 2 comrades. His exceptional courage reflects the highest credit upon himself and enhances the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for others.

(The KWVA and all veterans are proud of Edward C. Benfold for his heroism while caring for the wounded without regard to his own safety. Our medics from all branches of the services displayed this gallantry every day during the Korean War. Most did not receive a metal, not even a Combat Badge. In some cases those that could recommend any award did not survive. Even today we see awards being given for deserving deeds back to World War II. Those that were there that remember these heroic deeds are coming forth allowing more of our heroes to get the award they earned and deserve. If you can help a veteran you know that did not get his medals of any type, please step forward and help. I know there are many out there that need your help just to get VA benefits. In closing we must thank our Navy and Air Force for they do not get enough credit for saving many of Army and Marine lives on the MLR. Please send in your Navy and Air Force stories and photos. You earned your place in history also.

Many Thanks to Myong Chol Lee, President KWVA ROK Chapter of New Jersey for the front photo and the associated story. We are proud of you also. —Editor.)

See letter to family from fellow Marine on page 23
President's Message

It is 1998 and I must annotate, despite the doomsayers who agitate, the KWVA continues to escalate; 12 State Departments, 140 Chapters and about 14,000 members (4,101 paid life). In May 1994 we had 5 State Departments, 69 Chapters and about 9,200 members (935 paid life). Does this sound like the KWVA, although temporarily beset with fiscal problems, will fade away? I say no.

1997 was a rough year, but with the great support of the membership, the KWVA is alive and will continue to thrive to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Korean War in the years of 2000 and 2003. Decisions made by the leadership concerning our financial issues were based upon facts, legal implications and long term solutions, not emotions. Certain members calling themselves the KWVA Action/Ad Hoc Committee, whichever, have questioned those decisions by publishing rhetorical “misinformation” to members, including soliciting funds for their ‘divisive’ actions. I think it is time for them to put up or shut up.

Therefore, by this Message, I am inviting the Action members to attend the Executive Council Mid Winter Meeting as scheduled below, to express their views and explain their actions in open session to clear the air. Time allotted is flexible.

The 98 elections are upon us. On page 6 is the nomination instructions for office. This year you are to elect a President, 1st & 2nd Vice President and four Directors. I urge all interested members to file their candidacy for election.

Also, on pages 9 and 10 are the hotel and functions scheduled for the 98 Reunion.

This is the 45th anniversary of the Armistice, so let America know the KWVA will be there. Co-Chairmen Reiner and Weidman assure me it will be a great Reunion.

Ed Markart of the Lake of the Woods Chapter has been appointed KWVA Treasurer effective January 1, 1998. Acting Treasurer Jim Martin will be appointed as Assistant Treasurer until a transition of the 97 financial records are completed. CPA Myrda will reconcile those same records and file our 97 Tax Return. There is no report on the investigation or claim at this time.

One final note, National Raffle tickets (2 books) for continued support of the Graybeards will soon be mailed to the members. Prizes are one (1) Korean War Commemorative M-1 Rifle, one (1) M1911A1 .45 Pistol, both with display cases, and one (1) $500 Savings Bond. Drawings will be held at the 98 Reunion Banquet. Donations are $2.00 for a single ticket or a book (6 tickets) for $10.00. Further information will be in the mailings.

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### 1998 Executive Council Mid Winter Meeting Agenda

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Agenda subject to change.

Meeting will be held at the Sheraton Premier Tysons Corner, Vienna, VA 22182 PH: 1-800-572-7666 or 703-448-1234 Attendance is open to all members.
Editor's Pen

By Vincent A. Krepps
(Korea, 2nd I.D., 82nd AAA AW (SP),
D Battery 1950-1951)

My devotion and efforts to provide you, the mem-
bership and readers a magazine that remembers
the Korean War, those that fought in that war,
including those that still defend the freedoms
enjoyed today in Korea and most of all to those
that paid the supreme sacrifice. My twin brother
Richard who died as a POW June 21, 1951 BNR,
will be my inspiration to remember Honor, Duty,
Country and You.

Rules to follow:

We will only print signed letters. Folded
newspaper articles with pictures can only
be used to abstract information about an
event. Original pictures are required if you
want to see your event pictorially shown.
No articles or pictures will be returned,
except in special cases. I will avoid letters
that are negative toward our association,
board, members and the veterans that
fought in the Korean War. If your story or
photos do not appear in a current issue, then
we will attempt to show it in the next issue.
We must start on the next issue as soon as
we finish the current issue. This requires us
to use what we have and also using early
mailings. The other rule we use is that there
are several sections, we try to give each one
ample pages in each issue and once we
reach that goal the leftovers are held again
for the next issue. Another problem is that
some events may become very old and
must be omitted from any issue. Minutes,
by-laws, and other important announce-
ments also dictate how much space
we have for stories, chapter events and the
mixed assortment that is mailed to me. I
will always do my best to print your requests.
Donations from members for The
Graybeards printing and mailing costs
is still needed. Remember our problems are
minor and will be fixed. Just ask those that
never returned.

Thanks for caring.
Vince Krepps

GRAYBEARDS COPIES

The requests for extra Graybeards of July-August issue was such a success we will
offer extra copies for every issue. I have 300 copies of Sept-Dec. issue on hand to
fill on a first-come first-serve basis. These first two issues were over printed. For
future issues I must have orders on hand with payment to request extra copies
printed. This program will help raise the needed funds to replace monies that was
lost for whatever reason. We expect to recover some if not all of those funds but
that will take time. Due to our upcoming major events leading to years 2000 and
2003 your help is needed in order to allow KWVA to have a major role in all
ceremonies. Funds are needed to keep our Association active. The Graybeards
will also be a great tool to the Chapters for New Membership and Tell America
Programs. Your order along with cash or Money order made out to KWVA National
must be sent to the Editor by the first week of the first month of
by-monthly issues. i.e. March-April issue, orders must be in first week of March.
We request minimum orders of 5 at $1 donation per copy plus $3 Postage. We can
send up to 10 copies for $3 postage. For orders above 10 copies additional costs
for Postage is $3 for each increment of 10.

Check Your Mailing Label.....

************** ** 5 Digit
A  R012345  B  980101
C  John J. John
12345 Main Street
Smiley, New York 01234-5678
D  Delivery Point Barcode

(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 1998, January 1st.
(C) = Member's name and address.
(D) = If a barcode does not appear on your label in the area indicated above, your address is not
correctly stated according to the USPC and the KWVA cannot take advantage of the lower postage
for automated addresses. Please contact your local post office for correct format.

A call for help...

Search for Library Material

Several years ago I began collecting information for a Korean War Library. Several items have already been
received from our members. I have acknowledged these items with a receipt. The gift register with a list of the items
donated and the items will be given to the Library when it is built and ready to receive them. Please help complete as
near as possible the following collections:

◆ A collection of “Graybeards.” If you have copies you will donate or have
copied, send a letter listing the issues. I do not have a list of all the
issue dates and I need this information to complete the collection.
◆ A collection of the minutes of the Executive Council meetings will
also be a priority project.
◆ We have our memorial in Washington, DC. A collection of pictures and
information about other memorials will provide a guide to those who
travel and want to visit such locations.
◆ Many of you had buddies who have become well known. These veterans
should be identified. If you know of such a veteran, write a short letter
telling who they were, what unit they were in, when and where they
served.

You should note that all items submitted and acknowledged become the
property of the Library. Items that cannot be used will be returned. I have the
equipment to copy or scan most items and will copy and return those items that
you request returned. All correspondence and donations for the these pro-
jects should be sent to the above address.

Thank You For Your Help,

Dick Wainwright
KWVA Member #6712
9001 E Rosewood St.
Tucson, AZ 85710-2659
Phone/Fax: 520-298-1581
murraywainwright@juno.com

January/February, 1998
Call for Nominees for Election

Korean War Veterans Assn., Inc
Subject: 1998 Election of Officers and Directors

Dear Members:

The By-Laws of our organization state that a call for nominees for election at the annual reunion be stated in the “Graybeards” each year. The undersigned has been appointed Chairperson of the Nominating Committee and presents this call for any qualified member who seeks one of the positions available in the 1998 elections.

The positions open for this election are President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President; for the 1998-2000 two year term. Four Directors positions are open for the 1998-2001 three year term. Those desiring to apply will be required to meet the following requirements as stated in our By-Laws.

(Reference Paragraph C, Section 3, Article III of the bylaws amended July 27, 1997.)

"C. No later than February 15 of each year where offices are to be filled, any person who is a member in good standing of The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. of New York, seeking to run for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, or Director shall make his or her intentions known to the chair of the Nominating Committee in writing using the following format:

1. Requirements:
   a. Must present proof of service by submitting a copy of a DD-214 or other document notarized as a true copy showing eligible service and a statement releasing your document for verification by the Nominating Committee.
   b. Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in the association newsletter.
   c. Must submit a letter with the following:
      (1) Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
      (2) A resume of your qualifications for this office stating your experience that will be of benefit to the association.
      (3) Your current mailing address, home phone number and KWVA membership number.
      (4) This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.
   d. A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Executive Council and that you understand that three unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.
   e. YOUR DUES MUST BE CURRENT THROUGH THE TERM OF THE OFFICE YOU ARE SEEKING. You will sign a statement to this effect. Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the association. (Note: If dues are not paid in accordance to this paragraph, candidates will be automatically disqualified with no recourse to run for an office.)
   f. Send the above items by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the Nominating Committee Chairperson to arrive not later than February 15, 1998."

Applications will be addressed to:
Nominating Committee Chairman
Maurice R “Dick” Wainwright
9001 E Rosewood St
Tucson, AZ 85710-2659

It is the duty of the Nominating Committee to receive, review and certify the nominees. The approved certified declarations will be forwarded to the Editor of “Graybeards” for publication.

The March-April issue of the “Graybeards” will list each certified nominee and the Official Ballot. Each member in “Good Standing.” whose dues are current when the “Graybeards” is mailed, are eligible to cast their vote by mail. The instructions to cast your vote will be listed on your ballot. It is imperative that you follow the instructions, complete your ballot and mail the ballot so it will arrive to the CPA by July 10, 1998.

Nominees will use this check list to complete their application:
   a. Have enclosed proof of service as required by paragraph C1a.
   b. Have enclosed a photograph as required by paragraph C1b.
   c. Have enclosed a letter meeting the four qualifications as required by paragraph C1c.
   d. Have enclosed a statement as required by paragraph C1d.
   e. Have enclosed a statement as required by paragraph C1e.
   f. Have mailed their application as required by paragraph C1f.

Is your membership current?
Check Your Mailing Label!! Please read this carefully!! Take a look at the mailing label which is affixed to this magazine to determine when your dues are due. The numbers on the line directly above your name and following your membership number (see sample on page 5) reflect the date on which your dues are payable. (If there are letters in this space — no dues are due.) If you have submitted your dues recently, please disregard this notice. If you feel our records are in error, please advise us. A copy of your canceled check, along with your explanatory note, will be most helpful. If you belong to a chapter and have paid your dues to them, please check to see if they have mailed it to national.

Regular dues are $15.00 per year. (Associate members’ (those who do not meet regular membership criteria) dues are $12.00.) As dues are due on a calendar year basis, you can calculate your dues to conform to this schedule by submitting $1.25 per month (or any portion thereof). For example, if you are a regular member and your dues were due “08/09/97,” that would be $1.25 x 5 ($7.25) plus $15.00 for the calendar year 1998. This would mean that you should submit a check for $22.25 to pay your dues to January 1, 1999. Associate member dues are $12.00 per year and can be calculated at $1.00 per month (or portion thereof).

If the Member Number above your first name includes an “A,” you are an associate member. Otherwise, you are not. By complying with this reminder, you will save us the expense of a dues reminder and it will be very much appreciated. Make your check payable to: KWVA. Mail to: KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210.

Note: All 1998 Membership Dues are now due!!!
Harley J. Coon  
2439 Lantz Rd.  
Beavercreek, Ohio 45434  
Dec. 23, 1997

I am submitting my name for the office of PRESIDENT KWVA for the years 1998-2000.

It is my desire to bring unity, sound financial management, and an outreach program for Korean era Veterans to gain more Membership. I will get the KWVA more involved in the recovery and accountability of our Korean War POW/MIA’s. We have about 1,800 Korean Ex-Prisoners of War still living and we know where a lot of our POWs are buried. I think it would expedite the returns if a few Ex-POW’s were to return to North Korea and point out the places where we buried our fellow prisoners.

I have served in the following offices.

5 years as National Board of Director. (Missed only 1 meeting in 5 years.)  
Director Department of Ohio KWVA.  
President Department of Ohio KWVA. (17 Chapters.)  
President of Korean War Ex-POW Assn.  
Board of Directors Korean War Ex-POW  
President and founder Harco Tools Inc. (35 years.)  
Inducted into Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 1994  
Served in Korea for 38 Months July 1950 to Sept. 1953, 33 Months as Prisoner of War.  
Served with “B” Co. 35th RCT 25th Inf, Div.

As a candidate I would appreciate your support.

Harley J. Coon

From 1st Vice President Tom Clawson

There are two announcements concerning the KWVA which I would like to address.

The first announcement is again, the KWVA Executive Council is offering to the membership a special discount program of 20% for the purchase of the Historic Korean War Memorial Granite Mural Wall mementos. This 20% discount is based on the excellent response to the support this fund raiser project. I personally want to thank those who have supported the mementos and have in their possession a “Collectors Remembrance,” as shown on page 29 of the Sept-Dec. 1997 issue of The Graybeards. You may still order this limited supply from KWVA Commemorative.

(Note: For all KWVA members — the granite and plaques are owned entirely by KWVA.)

Secondly, this announcement will be a short declaration of my position with the KWVA and upcoming elections for 1998. I am not running for President, as I have several family obligations and commitments. However, based on my background and concentrating on the duties of 1st Vice President for the last 4 years. I will be submitting my name for the Office of Director for the years of 1998-2001. The future of KWVA is gaining a positive momentum. First is the financial accountability situation will need to be corrected and resolved. Diligent consideration of our membership is also the next highest order of business. As a team member, I place my full support to Harley J. Coon, Director, who is submitting his name for Office of President — KWVA. Thank you for your help and thoughtful words of encouragement.

Respectfully,

Tom Clawson
1st Vice President

Important Information!

1998 Revisit Trips to Korea . . . .

KVA Headquarters, Seoul recently informed me that the KKWVA Allotments for all the 1998 Trips has been drastically reduced. The quotas . . . .50, instead of the usual 60 persons per trip. This “cut” is due to the current financial crisis in South Korea. In the past, KVA/Seoul has sought monies from the ROK Government to augment their budget. Revisit Trips/Korea.

However, it is most unlikely that the ROK Government will be in a position to extend financial assistance for the 1998 Trips. Further, with the recent election of a new President in South Korea it is not known what help he will grant KVA/Seoul for the Revisit Program. In addition, the April trip has been re-scheduled for May.

I will not have any information regarding the specific dates, spaces until approximately the end of January 1998 when KVA/Seoul has completed their budget for 1998 trips.

As this is written, Wednesday, January 7th, 1998, “wait-lists” have been established for each 1998 trip. Vets will be selected on a first come, first served basis, the date your deposit was received by Travel Agent, Tom Jin. ASAP, Tom and I will do a “nose-count” then contact the Vets who have confirmed “reservations.”

In the event that the 1998 Trips are canceled, you will be personally contacted by Tom Jin, or me. Tom will be negotiating the Airfares, Korean Airlines around the middle-late January, 1998. I will submit an article with all the details/info for publication, in next issue of Graybeards.

Kathleen (“Lt. Honey”) Wyosnick
Co-coordinator, Trips/Korea
P.O. Box 3716
Saratoga, California 95070-1716
Ph: 408-253-3068
Fax: 400-973-8449
Korean War
Veterans Educational
Grant Corporation

1998-1999 Campaign Dates Set

The Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation is proud to announce that applications for college grants are available beginning 1 December 1997 for the 1998-1999 school term. Eligibility for these grants must be consistent with our Bylaws.

Applicants or sponsors must send in a request for the application to:

Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation
8968 Thomas Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125-7602

Please enclose a self addressed stamped envelope ($ .32 for each application, $.55 for 2 applications in one envelope), and the application will be returned by U.S. mail.

Completed applications returned after 1 May 1998 will not be considered.

Your support is needed now.

If you have not yet sent in your donation to help support the college fund for 1997, you may still claim credit on your 1997 taxes if your donation reaches us by 31 December 1997.

For those who have donated for 1997 and wish to donate for 1998, please indicate on your check or money order, the year you request credit for. We are happy to receive your donation at any time.

Bill Van Ort
8968 Thomas Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125-7602
PH: 612-578-3475
E-MAIL: wvanort@isd.net
(see donation form on page 13)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number of Persons</th>
<th>Cost per Person</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Thursday, July 23, 1998</td>
<td>Welcome Party</td>
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<td>Friday, July 24, 1998</td>
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<td>Sunday, July 26, 1998</td>
<td>Option #2: Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception</td>
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<td>Option #3: Washington National Cathedral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 27, 1998</td>
<td>Bus trip to Memorial Ceremony and Arlington Cemetery</td>
<td></td>
<td>$15.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Banquet</td>
<td></td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 28, 1998</td>
<td>Departure Breakfast</td>
<td></td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mail registration form and check payable to "KWVA" to:

Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 10806
Arlington VA 22210

Please charge my  □ VISA or  □ MASTER CARD
My card # is ____________________________
My expiration date is ____________________
Signature ______________________________

Print carefully and double-check card number. Mail to above address. (Refunds for cancellations, will be honored in whole or in part, depending on availability of funds.)
TENTATIVE PROGRAM

◆ THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1998
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration, Sheraton Premier Hotel, Tysons Corner, Virginia
The registration desk will be open the majority of the day.
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Welcome Party Snacks (Cash bar)

◆ FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1998
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration, Sheraton Premier Hotel, Tysons Corner, Virginia
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Executive Council Meeting
4:30 p.m. bus departure OPTION #1 – Sunset Parade - Marine Barracks - This production will have limited seating.
5:00 p.m. - Midnight Hospitality Room
Tickets issued on a first-come, first-served basis. Includes bus fare and meal at NCO
Club, Washington Navy Yard.

◆ SATURDAY, 25 JULY, 1998
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration, Sheraton Premier Hotel Tysons Corner, Virginia
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Executive Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Show #1 – Korean Theater Company
5:00 p.m. - Midnight Hospitality Room

◆ SUNDAY, 26 JULY, 1998
11:00 am. - 5:00 p.m. Registration, Sheraton Premier Hotel, Tysons Corner, Virginia
9:30 a.m. bus departure OPTION #2 – Trip to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
10:00 a.m. bus departure OPTION #3 – Trip to Washington National Cathedral
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. General Business Meeting
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Show #2 – USO Troupe
5:00 p.m. - Midnight Hospitality Room

◆ MONDAY, 27 JULY, 1998
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration, Sheraton Premier Hotel, Tysons Corner, Virginia
8:15 am. bus departure Departs Headquarters Hotel for Memorial Ceremony on the Mall and then to Arlington
Cemetery (Presentation of KWVA Plaque to Trophy Room, Wreath Laying and Memorial
Bench Services.)
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. President’s Reception (Cash bar)
6:00 p.m. Annual Banquet

◆ TUESDAY, 28 JULY, 1998
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 am. Departure Breakfast

All activity locations will be posted in the lobby.

Important Notice: Tickets will be issued for each function when you register. It is imperative that you present your ticket and have current identification with picture readily available, e.g., drivers license, government ID, etc.
Korean War Veterans Association
14th Annual Reunion

45th Anniversary Korean War Armistice

Where:
Sheraton Premiere at Tysons Corner
8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182
(703)448-1234  (800)572-7666

Room Rates:

- Single: $84.00
- Double: $84.00
- Triple: $94.00
- Four: $94.00

Rates are exclusive of tax which is 6.5% and subject to change.

Reservations:
Members are to make reservations directly with the hotel on an individual basis, identifying themselves with the KWVA. Please use the phone numbers above.

Deposits:
The hotel requires a “one night” deposit by the cut-off date (6/24/98) to hold all reservations. Personal check, money order or any valid credit cards are acceptable. Deposit will be fully refundable upon cancellation “48 hours” prior to arrival.

Relocation Provisions:
In the unlikely event that a room is not available for a guest holding a guaranteed room reservation, the hotel will pay for one night’s lodging (room & tax) at an alternative property, plus transportation to and from such property, and one long distance phone call.

Release Date:
The hotel agrees to hold the block of rooms until 6/24/98. At that time rooms not covered by individual reservations or rooming list will be released for general sale. They will continue to accept reservations from KWVA members after the cut-off date based on rooms available at the confirmed group rate.

Check In/Check Out:
Check-in time for all groups is 3:00 p.m. Groups may be checked in earlier depending on occupancy levels and availability of “ready room.” In order to streamline the check-in process the hotel would appreciate receiving flight arrival times, if available.

Transportation:
The hotel provides a complimentary shuttle to and from Dulles and Washington National airports. The schedule is on a frequent basis on a pre-set schedule determined by the hotel. In addition the hotel provides a complimentary shuttle to Dunn Loring Metro Station and Tysons Corner mall. The hotel also provides complimentary parking for both cars and buses.
National VA/VS Representative Report
By Norman S. Kantor, Staff Officer

VAVS Appointment Letter

+++  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Veterans Health Administration  
Washington DC 20420

Mr. Norman Kantor VAVS  
National Representative Korean War Veterans Association  
138 Locust Avenue  
New Rochelle, NY 10805-3510

Dear Mr. Kantor,

We are pleased to accept your organization’s application to become an Associate Service Member of the Department of Veterans Affairs Terminable Service (VAVS) National Advisory Committee (NAC). Your organization’s appointment is effective through December 31, 1998. Congratulations!

The VAVS NAC was established in 1946 and it became a federally chartered advisory committee in 1975. The VAVS NAC is comprised of national veterans service, fraternal, civic, patriotic or voluntary organizations. The Committee serves in an advisory capacity by making recommendations to the Under Secretary for Health for the improvement of voluntary services to veteran-patients by means of coordination on a national level of the established plans and policies for community volunteer participation.

Acceptance of this appointment by your organization will require participation at the 1998 VAVS NAC Annual Meeting. National VAVS Representative and Deputy National VAVS Representative travel expenses are the responsibility of the respective member organizations. The 1998 Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 1-2, 1998, in San Francisco, California.

I am enclosing the following information for your reference. 1. A copy of our current policy documents, VHA Directive 1620 and our VHA Handbook 1620.1. 2. Copies of our News of the Week publication from the last 3 months.

As discussed recently with Joyce Blair, of my staff, the month selected for Annual Joint Reviews for your organization will be April.

After conferring with your organization’s leadership, please complete and return the acknowledgment form below. Again, congratulations!

Sincerely,

Jim W. Delgado Director,  
Voluntary Service Office

Enclosures

cc: Chairperson, NAC Executive Committee

+++  

VA/VVS Assignments and Reports

Every Chapter is requested to submit a listing of the following information as to allows records can be brought up to date.

1. Chapters V. A. V. S. representative, name and address
2. Chapters V. A. V. S. deputy’s, names and address
3. Name and address of V. A. center.

Chapters are reminded that members wishing to enter into the V. A. V. S. program are to submit their complete name, address, also full zip code. Also the name and address of the V. A. Med. center.

A copy of V. A. form 10-1240 (V. A. V. S. Summary Of Joint Review) when completed by the chief of volunteer services and the volunteer is to be sent to the K. W. V. A. Representative.

Update

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library

Plans are moving forward on the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, scheduled to be built in Tuscola, Illinois by the year 2000. On Christmas Eve, the board of trustees submitted a bid for an option on a 20-25 acre tract of land on which to build the museum. As The Graybeards was going to press, the landowner’s reply was not yet known and negotiations were continuing.

As of January 4, the new Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library organization had a charter membership of 180 members.

At the December meeting of the board of trustees, the original size of the proposed museum was changed from four galleries (Korea 1950-53; Korea Today; Gold Star Gallery; and Temporary Exhibits) to seven, with the addition of the following: a Convention Gallery attached to the Convention Center in which reunion groups can temporarily display artifacts associated with their units, groups, or divisions; a Veterans Gallery, which will include photographs, memorabilia, and information about American veterans serving throughout the world from 1950-55, as well as about American veterans serving in Korea from 1955 to present; and a Machines of War gallery to house heavy equipment and large artifacts such as airplanes, tanks, large guns, and construction machinery. The latter gallery will be built in Phase Two of the museum project.

As of January 4, the new Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library organization had a charter membership of 180 members. Those charter members and donors had brought in an income of $18,000.

Continued on page 39
Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

Korean War/cold War Document Family Research

December 3, 1997

U.S. Negotiators Meet With North Koreans in New York

U.S. and North Korean negotiators are meeting in New York City this week to discuss continued efforts to account for American servicemen missing in action from the Korean War.

The U.S. team, lead by Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Affairs J. Alan Liotta, intends to plan the framework for U.S. operations in North Korea during 1998. This Department of Defense team met with the North Koreans in 1996 and 1997 and reached unprecedented agreements on joint remains recoveries and joint archival reviews.

In addition to these two broad areas of agreement, the team will seek access to the known American deserters living in North Korea in an effort to resolve alleged sightings of Americans there.

As a result of the 1996 agreement, the remains of an American soldier were recovered in July of that year. He was identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

The remains of what are believed to be six other soldiers were recovered during the three joint operations conducted in 1997. The forensic identification process is underway now at the Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii.

During the last 1997 operation, the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office persuaded North Korean officials to invite representatives of family and veterans groups, as well as two national media organizations, to observe a joint excavation and to visit the military museum. In addition, U.S. investigators conducted the first-ever sustained review of Korean War archival information located in Pyongyang.

December 10, 1997

Agreement on 1998 Operations in North Korea Reached

In New York U.S. negotiators, led by Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense J. Alan Liotta, reached an agreement with the North Koreans covering 1998 joint accounting efforts for American missing from the Korean Conflict. Primary agenda items for the negotiation session were: 1) resolving questions regarding the possibility that live Americans remained in North Korea following the war, 2) increased access to archival holdings, and 3) expanded remains recovery operations. This meeting between the Americans and the North Koreans follows the successful completion of three joint recovery operations in which the remains of six Americans were recovered, and the first-ever visit by an American archival research team to the national war museum in Pyongyang.

Mr. Liotta continued to press the North Koreans on the issue of live Americans in Korea and for access to the four Americans known to have defected to North Korea since the 1960s. The North Koreans maintained their position that no American prisoners of war are in their country and continue to deny requests for interviews with the American defectors. However, we continue to stress to the North Koreans that they must address American concerns on this issue.

The North Koreans have agreed to further archival reviews of their holdings. They previously permitted a team of five American researchers to examine documents and exhibits of U.S. war materiel in the national war museum in Pyongyang. The North Koreans will allow another team of archivists to return to the museum as well as permit entrance to the People's Grand Study Hall, a repository of governmental holdings.

A considerably expanded scope of joint recovery operations was also agreed upon. Five operations will be conducted, beginning in April 1998 and continuing through October. The sites to be investigated are in Kujang County and near Kaechon City. In late 1950, units from the 2nd Infantry Division were withdrawing southward and approximately 1,700 soldiers were lost.

To enhance the recovery efforts, American and North Korean experts will meet in technical talks to exchange search information prior to the actual operations. Tactical maps of the area, archival documents, forensic technical and other information directly bearing on the search activities will be exchanged to better utilized time in the field. Midway through the year, American and North Korean experts will convene to re-evaluate the process to optimize future operations.
New Officers being sworn in by Jack Edwards, National Director. (L-R) Walter Oldenburg - 2nd Vice Pres.; George A. Colom, Jr. - Secretary; Carl Malachowski - 1st Vice Pres.; Joseph P. Marino - President; Father H.A. Vermilye - Chaplain; Walter L. Dugan - Treasurer. (Congratulations to all. — Ed.)

Northwestern Michigan Chapter

KWVA Northwestern Michigan Chapter, Traverse City, Michigan at their October Dinner Meeting presented their President Peter P. Brown a Plaque of Appreciation. (L) Chapter Secretary Bob Leden makes the presentation to President Brown who is serving his third two year term as president. (This surely shows great respect for President Brown from the membership. — Ed.)

PFC. Stanley A. Gogoj Chapter 38 of Pennsylvania

Ceremonies take place at this memorial site called Penn’s Landing in Philadelphia on all holidays relating to veterans. The small white, blue trimmed with sloped topped on right is a memorial to the Korean War Veterans of Philadelphia. (This is what I assumed after reading many documents, photos and letters from Chapter president John J. Plenskofski) Many of the photos show the graffiti that is put on this memorial and the surrounding area. (We thought we had problems here in Baltimore) Many people take many hours cleaning and painting this area for ceremonies. It was stated in the papers mailed to me that 597 men from the Philadelphia area and 2,333 men from Pennsylvania died during that war. As usual there were photos of a beautiful Vietnam Memorial.

Due to the above described problems many veterans, citizens, businesses and the Gogoj Chapter are supporting a group called Philadelphia Korean War Memorial, Inc., chaired by Lt. William M. Barnes that are accepting donations for the new memorial. This memorial when completed will cost over $930,000. Donations are needed to complete this long over due project.

The Gogoj Chapter address is: P.O. Box 2188 Warminster, PA 18974. Make your checks payable to: Philadelphia Korean War Memorial, Inc.

(John, I could not print all that was sent to me this time. Will use some in a later issue. I also could not even show your artist rendition of the new memorial. I do look forward to getting updates and eventually a photo from Dedication Day. All Korean War Veterans have a friend in Pennsylvania. We thank you John and the Memorial team. — Editor)

Moving? Please notify The Graybeards of your change of address. KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210-1806. Attn: Membership Secretary.

Represented above are four of the six chapters that I am aware of in the State of Massachusetts. The Greater Lowell Chapter may now be named PFC Joseph R. Quellette Chapter. Chapters not shown are: Lopes, Jr./Ferris Chapter and Central Massachusetts Chapter. They all assembled for Flag Ceremony at the State House on September 15, 1997. (KWVA is proud of the members in Massachusetts.—Editor)

Lt. Richard E. Chronan Chapter of Florida

The Lt. Richard E. Chronan Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association presented a check and a medal to Rudy St. Louis, a student in Ms. Sears class at Atlantic Community High School in Delray Beach, Florida. Rudy St. Louis, who is now a senior, won the winning essay on the Korean War. A significant part of his winning essay revealed the recognition and understanding of the contributions and sacrifices of the servicemen and servicewomen of our American armed forces during the Korean War and the part our United Nations allies participated in stopping the advance of communism. The post meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:30 PM, at the South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Rd., Delray Beach, Florida. For further information, please call Mort at 561-998-2451.

Harold Wachsmann
561-477-0537

(Another great Chapter doing good work.—Editor)
Oregon Trail Chapter

Help us build Oregon's Korean War Memorial

The Oregon Korean War Memorial is to be developed within a new 5.5 acre Town Center Park in the City of Wilsonville, Oregon ($2.675 million park development and joint use building to be funded by the city of Wilsonville and Clackamas County TDC). Groundbreaking May 1, 1998.

Dedication July 27, 1999 on the 46th Anniversary of the Armistice of the Korean War.

Officers

- President - Don Cohen
- 1st Vice President - Carlos Manriquez
- 2nd Vice President - Chuck Creamer
- Secretary - Sonya Manriquez
- Treasurer - Mary Gifford
- Chaplain - Chuck Ponder
- MIA/POW Officer - Fred Liddell

Committee Chairpersons

- Budget & Finance - Mary Gifford
- Community Education - John Donnelly
- Publicity - Everett Coffman
- Reunion / National Revisit - Don Burton
- Memorial Committee - Don Cohen
- Nominations - Larry Streeby
- Quartermaster - Sonya Manriquez
- Editor - Clint Huffman

(Veterans do super things, for they do remember. Editor)

Imjin Chapter of Illinois

"Working a List"

After offering to help establish new KWVA Chapters in southern Illinois with Illinois President Ed Musser, I inquired if there was a “Master List of Members” in the area in question and was pleased to learn Nancy Monson, Membership, could supply me with a computer printout. She sent it to me right away. This will not only assist us in locating people in the designated areas but it has opened up a whole new world for me.

Here is what I have found out after calling at least 23 names on this list that are in our Chapter area:

1) I have learned a member died and no one notified the National. He was carried as a delinquent member.

2) One person moved to another state and as of this writing did not change his mailing address.

3) A large number did not know there was a local Chapter or where meetings were held. Some were never told.

4) Six members not affiliated with a Chapter were in arrears and were sent Renewal Applications and have shown interest in being a member again.

5) Twelve that were only National were asked to belong to our Chapter and as of this writing 4 have sent in their $5.00 Chapter dues and one who lives in Illinois and belongs to a St. Louis Chapter is thinking of transferring to our Chapter. The remaining 7 showed interest in being in our Chapter also.

6) Two men lost interest and are no longer members in the KWVA. Nancy will be notified of their changes to help her keep her records up to date.

Just going over this list proves to me we have a lot of orphan members. We can easily increase our Chapter membership by 10 to 15 additional people and we do need new members and should work to keep them informed. I am relatively new to the KWVA and am not informed what we have and available from the National. One is “Do we have a ‘New Membership’ Chairperson?” Another is “Do we have an enrollment program?” There are many local newspapers that will put in their paper under “Local Notices” for meeting and a name and phone number to call to sign up for membership. There is usually no charge for Local Notices. That is the best price of all. This computer list from Nancy has been very rewarding to me and might be of benefit to others in their own territory. It is not easy and takes a lot of phone calls as you can imagine but the results are worth it and I will be pursuing this effort for some time for I wish to contact each and everyone I can on our list. I was asked to write this letter and I wasn’t sure how other people would take it. As long as I feel in my heart it is for the good of the KWVA and its members I am happy to comply with their wishes. Good hunting and good luck.

Sincerely,

John Kronenberger
Treasurer/Membership Chairman

Officers

- President: Harry Reine
- 1st VP: Wayman Milam
- 2nd VP: Ross Milliat
- Secy.: Marvin Donaldson
- Treasurer: John Kronenberger
- Director: Billy D. Gray
- Director Jim Denham
- Director Jack McKean.

Appointments

- Chaplain: Bill Cummins
- Representative Directors to State: Jim Denham, Billy D. Gray
- Parliamentarian: Paul Schlachter
- Historian: John Kronenberger.

(Thank you John for the letter and good advice for all chapters. Nancy Monson is the National Membership Representative. —Editor)

Missouri Chapter No. 2

New Elected Officers:

- Commander - Nathan Riley
- 1st Vice - Frank Rice
- 2nd Vice - Al Lemieux
- Adjutant - Paul Wolfgeher
- Judge Advocate - Bob Rhoades
- Finance Officer - Hugh DeWitt

(Good luck to all and the chapter. Editor)

Publish your events...

The KWVA has over 138 Chapters and Departments in the United States. We want to hear from all of them!

Editor, The Graybeards
Ohio Remembers...

The State of Ohio Korean Veterans Memorial is located in Riverbend Park on the north bank of the Great Miami River in Dayton, just east of the Riverside Drive bridge. Five lighted flagpoles fly the flags of the United States of America, the Republic of Korea, the United Nations, the State of Ohio and the Prisoners of War/Missing in Action.

A thirteen-foot-tall granite statue represents all of the armed forces of the United States. The memorial also honors the significant contributions of women in the armed forces during the Korean War, and describes the ten major campaigns of the war. In front of the statue are granite memorials with the names of those men from Ohio who lost their lives during the Korean War. A well lighted 475-foot All Veterans walkway leads to the main memorial.

On the right side of the walkway are the names of the 8,182 missing in action. These names are etched in granite and are listed by state. It is believed that this is the only memorial in the continental United States with a complete listing of these heroes. The left side of the walkway displays individual bricks purchased by persons or organizations to honor those who served from the Civil War through Desert Storm.

Building a memorial...

On December 21, 1988, a group of five Korean veterans gathered to begin planning a memorial to the servicemen and women involved in the “forgotten war.” In 1990, the City of Dayton provided land and a $10,000 grant which was matched by Montgomery County, to help get the memorial started. The Ohio House and Senate approved House Bill 7 designating Dayton as the site for the Ohio Korean War Veterans Memorial and All Veterans Walkway. With land, start-up capital and a state resolution in hand, the veterans group now began soliciting funds from private foundations, veterans organizations, corporations and individuals.

Volunteer labor from the Dayton Building and Construction Trades Council and donated materials allowed construction to begin. The completion of the memorial is a tribute to total community support; cooperation and contributions of the labor unions; veterans and veterans’ organizations; city, county and state politicians; corporations; foundations; and private citizens who joined together to make this permanent tribute a reality. On September 9, 1995, the Ohio Korean War Veterans Memorial and All Veterans Walkway was dedicated to honor those forgotten for so long, and those who gave so much.

25th Infantry Division meets in Kansas City

Lobsters of the 25th Infantry Division’s 90th FA Bn (155mm Howitzers) met in Kansas City, 11-14 September, to celebrate their Seventh Annual Reunion. Over 160 men and their wives were present.

The men served their tours of duty between 1949-50 (Nara and Kyoto, Japan), and Korea (1950-53). It also includes those men who took the Battalion back to Hawaii when the Division was returned to Schofield Barracks.

Next year the Battalion will hold their reunion in San Francisco, California.
Andrew Lucas, President
2139 Ora Drive
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701
501-442-4612.

(We assume many shown above are KWVA members, we know Andrew Lucas is and we welcome your letter and photo. We hope the reunion notice in the Graybeards helped in notifying some of those shown above and all veterans of the Korean War remember the heroic deeds of the Artillery and the support given to those that needed your help. Have a good reunion in 1998 and we will again announce the dates and contact person. Why Lobsters? —Editor.)
The Burning of the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion Colors

By Arden A. Rowley, Asst. Historian

I well remember the night of 30 November 1950. I was a member of Company A. The 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion was part of the 2nd Infantry Division and the United Nations forces that pushed the North Korean Army back to the Yalu River in North Korea. It was the fall of 1950 that the Chinese Communist Army entered the war and began an offensive which pushed UN forces back south from the Yalu.

Orders were given by the Eighth Army Commander for the 2nd Infantry Division to fight a rear guard action to enable the other divisions of the Eighth Army to break contact with the Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) by withdrawing south of the Chongchon River. On 30 November the one major unit that still was in contact with the CCF in the Chongchon valley area was the 2nd Infantry Division. Extreme enemy pressure eventually forced the 2nd Division to conduct a retrograde movement southward, the 2nd Engineers were assigned a position just in front of the 23rd Infantry Regiment, and became the next to last unit in the withdrawal order.

By 29 November the CCF had established a fireblock in a mountain pass south of Kumo-ri and established firing positions on the mountain ridges along a six mile stretch north of the fireblock. When it came time for the 2nd Division to carry out its retrograde movement it had to run a gauntlet of heavy enemy fire along the withdrawal route.

Late afternoon of 30 November the 23rd Infantry Regiment suddenly left its position at the rear of the division and moved west to Angus then south at Shinny. When the 23rd Regiment pulled out post haste on the Angus road about four miles northwest of them, the 2nd Engineers were the northmost 2nd Infantry Division troops still in position. They were also now wide open to attack from all CCF now pouring south across the Chongchon River.

The division directed the 2nd Engineer Battalion to fight as the division's rear guard to delay the enemy while the division regrouped to the south. From the 25th to the 30th of November the 2nd Engineers had fought tenaciously alongside infantry troops. Now on 30 November they were alone. Lieutenant colonel Zacherle, 2nd Engineer Battalion Commander, organized the defense and the battalion fought valiantly against overwhelming numbers of Chinese troops. Despite many casualties, they successfully defended the division's rear in the retrograde.

By the evening of 30 November 1950 the engineers were severely depleted and separated from the rest of the division and capture was eminent. Colonel Zacherle ordered all usable equipment destroyed so it would not fall into enemy hands. As night fell he personally ordered the burning of the battalion colors to prevent it's capture and possible display as a war trophy by the Chinese Communists. Later that night, the battalion was overrun. Lt. Col. Zacherle, Major Fry (Bn. Exec), most of his staff and 482 soldiers of all the companies of the battalion were either killed or captured. Over a six day period the 2nd Engineer Battalion shrank from 977 men to less than 416. Despite the great losses the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion was rebuilt and continued to be a fighting force throughout the remainder of the Korean War.

Lt. Col. Zacherle and the 330 officers and men captured with him were held by the Chinese Communists as prisoners of war. There were 117 who survived the brutality of captivity and returned home at the end of hostilities in August and September of 1953. For several years now, at dusk, on a chilly evening of November 30th, the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion stands at attention in their compound known as Camp Castle. In the presence of the battalion and distinguished guests the Battalion Commander orders the Executive Officer to burn their colors held in reverence by the Battalion Command Sergeant Major. The purpose of this annual ceremony is to commemorate the actions taken by the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion on the November night in 1950.

(Thank you Larry Streeby and Arden A. Rowley for a story of heroism 47 years ago and the remembrance your remaining men continue through this special ceremony.—Editor)

Members & Friends
Acvedo, F J Lausier, P A
Airhart, R Lavin
Barlas, J A Maciejowski, R
Britton, J Mairose, A
Cent, L I Mancini
Clawson, T Metz, Dean
Cook, K B Morga, P G
Costain, J E Pakkal, G B
Edwards Reeder, D E
Gillen Speas, M
Goss Tarylor, Jr
Hems, J R Van Cott, D
Hendry Viscusi, F N
House, E Westfahl, R F
Johnson, R Wahlhauper, W
Kuhn, P J

Organizations:
Dept. of Ohio
KWVA of Central Ohio
Hocking Valley Chapter
Maryland Chapter

In Memory of:
Sgt. Donald Burdett -KIA 3/31/52

Looking for anyone who knew Cpl. Milton J. Kasarda, MIA in Korea, November 26, 1952 while with Medical Co. 38th Inf. Regt. (I assume 2nd L.D.) He was a close friend. Contact: John Gonos, 69 Sylvanus Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 Tel: 717-824-0808.


Looking for my half-brother, P.F.C. Mack Church, Co. C 35th Inf. Regt. 25th Div.). KIA September 27, 1950 between Chonju and Chinju. Was with Regt. one month. Contact: Frederick “Butch” Maisel III, 3708 Cassen Road, Randallstown, MD 21133, Tel: 410-922-7321.

Rudolph H. DeSilva Post 1 of Massachusetts

The Naming of a Chapter

Rudolph Herbert DeSilva was born on March 1, 1924, in Taunton, Massachusetts to Manuel and Blanche (Sachse) DeSilva. He graduated from Walker School in 1938 and from Coyle High School in 1942. In April 1943 he enlisted in the army. After completing basic training at Camp Blanding, Florida, he received his commission as second lieutenant after finishing O.C.S. at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. During World War II he served in Europe with the 36th Infantry Division, earning the Purple Heart Medal and Combat Infantry Badge.

Returning to civilian life in 1948 he became a salesman for Swift & Co. On April 17, 1948, he married Rose F. Silva. The marriage produced a daughter and three sons. He re-entered the active military in September 1949 (from 1946 to 1949 he had been a member of the Massachusetts National Guard) with the rank of captain, was sent to Korea the following August and assigned to artillery service with the 7th Infantry Division. After the landings at Inchon he was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor.

On December 4, 1950, he was captured by the Chinese at the Chosin Reservoir, remaining a prisoner-of-war until Operation Big Switch. While a POW, he taught English to Turkish fellow prisoners-of-war and, in turn, acquired an elementary knowledge of their language. After returning to the States, he often visited Turks whose war injuries required hospitalization at Walter Reed Hospital.

After an assignment at Ft. Riley, KS, he served as an artillery commander with the 10th Inf. Div. in Germany from 1955 to 1958. While in Germany he was promoted to major. Already fluent in Portuguese, the language of his ancestors, he began a formal thirteen-month study of the Turkish language at the army language school in Monterey, California. In 1964 he escorted a U.S. military unit to Turkey, serving as an interpreter. Prior to this, he had been assigned to South Vietnam charged with sending daily reports to the Pentagon.

He retired in June 1966 with the rank of Lt. Colonel. In 1968 he received a B.S. degree with honors from Southeastern Massachusetts University and was then employed by Robertson Factories until 1972 when he became mayor of his native Taunton. In 1977 he was elected Commissioner of the Taunton Municipal Light plant, but died on December 9, 1977, before taking office.

(Bob Simmons and his chapter have celebrated their 10th Anniversary on Dec. 6, 1997. Thanks Bob for telling us the history of your chapter. I could not print it all but I thought telling the story above would do for now.—Editor.)
Time Capsules

By Richard Coate

As a result of the publication of my article, As Times We Shared Together Pass In Review in the July-August 1997 edition of The Graybeards I have had, after forty seven years, the good fortune to come into contact with James E. Martenhoff, the AP photographer who took the original photo of the rifleman in silhouette in Korea which would attain a unique place in Cold War history.

Neither of us could have envisioned that the story behind the photograph of that rifleman in silhouette would still have relevance in the last decade of the millennium as we approach the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war.

During our lengthy phone conversation and a follow-up letter he gave an account of a columnist who was ordered back home by a press association because the public didn’t care about the war. They did not want him “risking his neck.” His services would be of greater value back home. Martenhoff comments, “Many of us felt down at that – the way you guys felt later. We were risking our necks – you can’t make war pictures 10 miles behind the front – and it was a let down.”

Though I didn’t mention it during our talk, a copy of my 23 May 1952 letter to Life Magazine in which I referred to “the forgotten war of Korea” was included in the story, The Unidentified Soldier In The USO Poster which General R. G. Stilwell read in 1989.

Little over a year after our early March of ‘51 encounter I read an article in Life about an incident on the Ohio State Campus which prompted me to write a letter to the magazine. For good reason, the phrase “the forgotten war of Korea” is now associated with the story of the Korean war rifleman in silhouette. Not only does the letter to Life attest to my own outrage at what we Korean War Vets confronted when we rotated home, it captures the climate of the times in which it was written, Spring of ’52. The reader will note that I have not corrected the misspelled words.

5011 ASU Replacement Center Camp
McCoy, Wisconsin

23 May 1952

Editor, Life
9 Rockefeller Plaza
New York 20, New York

Dear Sir:

We commend LIFE’S recent pictorial review of the “Panty Raiders” or exploitation of the Spring activities of the young American intelligentsia, who naturally enough, turn their thoughts to flights of fancy in fulfillment of Spring festivities. …a pattern in keeping with the traditions of American University Campus life.

The question arises. …Are not the “draft exempt” or those prone to legal evasion of the draft, who enjoy the “privileged sanctuary” afforded by the college campus, by fortunes of heritage and will of our President, making a ridiculous spectacle and farce out of the program itself?

Excellent food for thought. …One wonders what the G. I. in the “forgotten war of Korea” might mull over when witnessing the deprived example set by fellow citizens – the Panty Raiders – so-called men who were deferred from participation in the military service for academic pursuits. These intelligent fellows (whom we would welcome as comrades in arms) are flaunting their legal exemption in the eyes of the American public. One also wonders if these intelligent fellows are aware of the ridiculous position into which they have put themselves. A representative example of today’s American collegiate attitude? In keeping with the times?

The bloomer commandoes will no doubt deserve wide coverage in their annual year books, billed as “The Panty Brigade” – a wonderful time had by all. …while others are dying in some dirty hole in defense of Democracy. We appreciate the spirit and co-operation of those who flaunt their privileges and question a program which coddles individuals who are shirking their fair share of responsibility in fighting to defend Democracy.

Sincerely, Cpl. Richard E Coate

[Co-signed by two other enlisted men.]

When The Columbus Dispatch, Columbus, OH published my article in the April 22, 1990 edition under the banner heading, OSU Graduate Remembers ‘The Forgotten War,’ it was accompanied by an enlargement of the AP photograph by James E. Martenhoff. However, this editorial included relevant information not included in the letter to Life: “The dorm upon which these ‘bloomer brigadiers’ made their raid had been my wife’s residence during our courtship days prior to my induction. The reader can appreciate why I considered such conduct as ‘depraved’ at that crucial point in our nation’s history. It was, however, symptomatic of a nation that had turned its back on those who were making the supreme sacrifice.”

In that editorial, written to solicit funds for the KWVM to be situated in our nation’s capital and membership to the KWVA, a key paragraph captures the mind-set of the nation at the time it was written. It is especially pertinent now since times have changed; we now have a Korean War Veterans Memorial in our nation’s capital and numerous smaller ones in cities throughout the nation. It reads: “I have become an active participant in the funding drive led by Stilwell for a Washington memorial to those who served in a war I remember all too well, even if most Americans do not.”

Both Martenhoff and I were honored when his AP photograph was used on the 1993 revised printing of the 1990 Korean War Veterans Association History [Turner Publishing Company] THE FORGOTTEN WAR...REMEMBERED. In the cover story I wrote, “Martenhoff had no way of knowing that the soldier in his photo would survive the war only to put the photograph to great use in 1990 honoring the military service personnel who served in the forgotten war of Korea.” If he’s still alive, it is my wish that we will meet again. In that chance encounter early March of ’51 we made quite a difference.”
I often wondered what Martenhoff thought when he, like myself, spotted the photograph almost 14 years later in the USO posters and other public service advertisements. I still retain a vivid recall of the circumstances under which we met. After spending a grueling night in a crater hole along the banks of the Han, our squad's listening/observation post, I was emotionally drained and physically exhausted. Whatever his rationale in selecting me from a platoon of men I do not know. Very few words passed between us as I struck the pose. An actor prior to induction, I was well aware of the dramatic effect he was aiming for. Moving back to the interior of the house, he assumed a crouching position, framed the riflemen in silhouette in the doorway of the house against bright morning light, adjusted his focus and exposure and clicked the shutter. Not until I saw the actual photograph could I appreciate what he had done; he had achieved a perfect juxtaposition of my figure against the features of the wintry and rugged Korean terrain. A faint wash of light on the figure resulted in a classic example of photojournalist combat art, destined to have lasting impact.

Neither of us could have envisioned that the story behind the photograph of that riflemen in silhouette would still have relevance in the last decade of the millennium as we approach the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War.

On Sunday, October 5, 1997, I fulfilled my wish to “meet” Martenhoff again. After Ron Freedman, who resides in Punta Gorda, Florida, read my article about my former Company Commander, Stillman Hazeltine, As Times We Shared Together Pass in Review, he contacted Vince Krepps, the editor of The Graybeards, proclaiming that he knew Martenhoff. Vince contacted me on Sunday October 4th; though Freedman purchased copies of The Graybeards, he also made a generous contribution. Next day I contacted Freedman who informed me that he had forwarded several copies to Martenhoff. He gave me Martenhoff's number, but not before he read a letter he had just received from the former AP photographer expressing his appreciation for the copies. I was all the more eager to make the call.

I spent the better part of an hour talking to the man who took the photograph in '51, which would, in the ensuing decades, create a series of confrontations of past against present, always a reminder of a vow I made beside the corpse of a buddy, one among the field of dead heroes beside Battalion aid below Hills 487-477. I would do everything possible to conduct my life that I be worthy of survival. I would make a difference in the way I lived as they had made a difference in the way they died.

Though Martenhoff was aware of the photo's history through 1965, he was not aware that it had been re-introduced by me in early 1990, for use in the funding drive for the KWVM in Washington and the solicitation of membership for the KWVA.

I had already viewed many of his photographs as they exist in the AP files in World Wide Photo Library in NY, but was unaware that he had been given an extensive write-up in The New York Journal American in 1951. Many of his photos appeared in the book, BATTLE FOR KOREA, The Associated Press History of the Korean Conflict.

Arriving in Korea shortly after Seoul fell to the Chinese, he replaced a cameraman named Frank Noel, who had been captured by the Chinese. Quite the raconteur, he gave me a number of colorful accounts of his exploits in Korea.

“I was a passenger in the rear seat of a F-80 Shooting Star and shot those pictures of a bombing mission on Inchon. The AP set it up.” He went on regular infantry patrols, GIs or Marines, participating in a couple attacks. On March 17th, in advance of the Han River Crossing, he, the sole cameraman with 13 correspondents, paddled across the Han in rubber boats... “and the Lieutenant told us before we left we were on our own.” He had no proof the Chinese had left Seoul, it was only a rumor.

“I followed a big Texas Sergeant who led four ROK soldiers into Seoul while the other newsmen held back. The ROK's threw a few ‘insurance' grenades into caves on eroded hillsides on the edge of town but otherwise it was quiet. No sign of a single human being. The sarge sniped and pooped into Seoul, running across streets, waving me across next, then on street by street, corner by corner. I had my Speed Graphic in one hand and a cocked .45 in the other. When we got downtown Seoul the stuff hit the fan. One weeping woman grabbed my hand, kissed it, held on, wailing, wouldn’t let go. I never saw such a sight in my life. You don't forget something like that. It was St. Patrick's day, 1951, I believe. The 18 of us — five GIs and 13 newsmen — 'liberated' the city.”

“I think that Texas Sergeant was Third Division 1st & R. He tucked a flare pistol into his belt before we took off. I asked one of the ROKS about it. He said, ‘He liked to shoot the Chinese in the belly with it.'”

“People POURed out of hiding. Thousands of them! We were mobbed.... It was the only time in my life I had such an experience: there were 13 newsmen and five GIs, four of them ROKS, ‘liberating’ Seoul. THAT tale was never told! As we walked back, (with a single Chinese prisoner actually a deserter) we saw the first troops coming in. They brought up some landing craft, DUK'S and the like and were coming across the river. I suspect it was mostly Third Division guys... Incidentally, next morning a truck hit a landmine on the beach we were using.”

“Fotogs carried pre-addressed envelopes with forward instructions. I got to an airstrip and handed the package to a pilot headed for Japan. The AP got them overnight and radioed the best to New York. I was tickled pink.” Martenhoff left Korea in August of 1951; he, along with his AP colleagues left quite a legacy. The book, BATTLE FOR KOREA, The Associated Press History of the Korean Conflict, a copy of which he mailed me, is testament to that. It is the best photographic account of the Korean War I've ever seen.

The events leading to my contact with Martenhoff attest to the importance of The Graybeards as a binding force in the lives of Korean War veterans. Many in the association would never have had the opportunity to contact their former comrades-in-arms had it not been for articles published in our newsletter.

Though eight years would elapse since my first article, What The KWVA Means To Me appeared in The Graybeards, few know that my membership in the association was triggered by the story that Stilwell read. The reader can appreciate why Martenhoff and General Stilwell are now intertwined in the story I now associate with the riflemen in silhouette.

In his letter to me, though the general proclaimed he could not gauge the impact my story would have upon publishers and the general population, he recognized the universality of the story I associated with the photograph of the symbolic unidenti-
On June 25, 1990, the 37th anniversary of the truce signing, some of these too long suppressed stories were published by the targeted newspaper editors.

great and small — by the growing army of supporters for the Korean War Veterans Memorial. That army, 80,000 strong, includes people from every walk of life — artists, advertisers, teachers, students, famous journalists and little known authors, large veterans’ organizations and small auxiliaries. To read the list of contributors is to experience the dedication and determination of a people committed to paying high tribute to those who, like yourself, gave fullest measure in war-torn Korea more than three decades ago. Your own contribution, “The Unidentified Soldier in the USO Poster,” is clear evidence of one who ranks high among them.

We are all shaped by a combination of inherited values, environment and experience. In my case, I cannot see how any, save a fringe few, could read your story without responding to the clearly voiced call to remember — a call which echoes in content and intent, that projected to the American people as the why of the Korean War Veterans Memorial. I cannot gauge whether your story will evoke that genre of reaction from publishers and general population who, in the not too distant past, termed Korea a “Forgotten War.” Whatever, the true value of your work will be measured by the assuredly positive response of those who were there, who knew at first hand the selflessness and suffering of fellow men fighting on inhospitable terrain for dimly perceived objectives — men who can really appreciate the pain of an author valorous enough to experience it all again — and, again, for the benefit of others. I salute your courage; I admire your initiative.

Please accept warmest wishes for happiness throughout the holiday season and much success in the new decade of the ’90s.

Sincerely,

[signed]/Dick Stilwell
General R. G. Stilwell, USA Ret.
Chairman, Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board

Had James E. Martenhoff selected another enlisted man as his study of a lonely soldier in a faraway land this strange chronology of events would not have happened. I could never have fulfilled my vow the way I did.
The primary objective of the KOREA 2000 Committee is to ensure that the message resounds loud and clear that “Freedom is not Free.” The armistice that ended the armed hostilities in July, 1953 on the Korean peninsula, is credited with the beginning of the end of Communism. We do not celebrate war, we “commemorate” the great sacrifices made by Korean War veterans and their dedication to the cause of freedom throughout the world.

General Davis appointed Colonel Warren H. Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret), the Executive Director to manage the project. Colonel Wiedhahn is a 1950 Korean War Veteran. Mr. Robert Hansen, the Executive Director of the former Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board (KWMAB), who worked so long and diligently for General Dick Stilwell, USA (Ret) (now deceased) and General Ray Davis, for over ten years in planning and building the Korean War Veteran Memorial, is acting as a senior advisor/consultant to the committee. Mr. Hansen’s knowledge and experience are invaluable to the success of this major project.

For more information write to:
KOREA 2000 Committee
4600 Duke Street, Suite 420
Alexandria, VA 22304

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From the Cover…

The following letter was sent to me by a proud son, Edward J. Benfold. Mrs. Benfold did her duty well and we thank her for all Korean War veterans. Like her and son Edward we will always be proud of and remember Edward C. Benfold. —Editor

Dear Mrs. Benfold,

This is a most difficult letter for me to write. First because of the tragedy which befell your husband, and secondly because you don’t know me. Let me tell you how and when I met your husband. Ed was attached to A Co. 3rd Marines, 3rd Marine Division, and we were lucky enough to have him in our platoon. When he first moved his belongings into our hut, I noticed that his jacket bore the name Benfold and my name was Benford. It seems that we were forever and always getting each other’s mail etc., and the close similarity of names was the subject of many jokes.

We of the company, all came to know him as a very capable corpsman and a wonderful person who was never too tired to attend the most minor blister or cut of the men given to his care. We knew him as a man who not only knew his job as a corpsman, but as a man who knew as much about the rugged life in the field as we marines who were trained in this practice.

It was with a heart heavy with regret that I read the paper yesterday and learned of your husband’s death. Mrs. Benfold, I want you to know that you have all of my sympathy and that my prayers will always include you and yours.

It is truly a great tragedy that you and your son should be forced to face life alone because of a war such as the one we are now fighting, but Mrs. Benfold, you and I are still young and the long bitter road of life, with its many pitfalls, still lies before us. Keep your chin up and take this as much in your stride as possible.

I want you to be proud of your husband, for he was a very brave man. When he died, he did it as a hero, fighting against all of the corruption that a communist government stands for. He died upholding all of the principals that make it possible for us to select our own religion and speak with a free tongue. He died fighting to keep our country a free and decent place for his son to grow up in.

Be proud of him Mrs. Benfold and teach your son to be proud of him for he was a very brave man and God will take care of him. I offer my salute to him and all of his comrade corpsman. They are all doing a wonderful job.

God bless you Mrs. Benfold
Sincerely
Steven R. Benford
On October 20th, 1997 the Tell-America Committee of the Nassau County Chapter No. 1 participated in the Long Island Council for Social Studies annual meeting and convention at the Marriott Melville Hotel. The event was attended by over 600 social studies teachers from all over Long Island.

The KWA booth at the Long Island Social Studies Council Conference: Shown are Irwin Braun, John Quinn, Al Ratner and Jack Loercher.

The Chapter was given a free booth and gave away different pieces of literature about the Korean War. In addition, the Committee made dozens of contacts with social studies teachers for future presentations. They had the opportunity to talk to many of the teachers about the war and its importance. Except for a tiny minority of teachers, most know nothing about the Korean War era. For example: President Harry Truman desegregated the military in 1948; and the Army would be the first branch of the military to implement desegregation in the Korean War (1950). This event forever changed American military history. An extremely important milestone. How many textbooks mention this fact? None! Zero! How many teachers know these facts? None! But that is only the tip of the iceberg of a lack of information about the Korean War. From a study that was conducted by the Tell-America Committee, we found that the average textbook had 49 lines of text devoted to the Korean War. About a page and a half. What it comes right down to is that we have a big job to do in a few years. But it can be done. Participating in the event were Irwin Braun, John Quinn, Al Ratner and Jack Loercher.

(I thank Nassau County Chapter members, those named above and Sheldon Swirsky, Editor who responded also with photos and story after I saw it in their Chapter newsletter. A great job men telling our story and remembering our war. —Editor)

Dear Vince;

I am enclosing a sample of the sympathy card developed by the Central Ohio Chapter and now used by all the chapters in Ohio (Without the Central Ohio imprint, of course). The card itself, as you can see on the back, was designed and produced by Norman Swartz. We feel it is one of our sad duties to console the families of our departed brothers. This started as a thing for chapter members, but we have a gold star sister who has volunteered to send these to the bereaved of all Korean veterans whose obituaries appear in the Columbus newspaper. Mary Fran Sciulli is the brother of Donald Sweetal of Pittsburg who was killed on February 14, 1951. He was an SFC with the 13th Engineers of the 7th Division. She is one our most treasured members (Not an associate). She feels this gesture honors the memory of her beloved brother and we quite agree. It is hoped that you can find space in the next issue to feature this card and the story about this activity. Perhaps it will inspire other chapters to contact us if they think they would like to obtain copies of the card with their imprint.

Cordially and fracternally
Skip Rittenhouse

(Skip is a KWVA National Director and I thank him and the Central Ohio Chapter for bringing this to our attention. Other chapters may wish to start this program. Skip’s address and telephone is on page 2 in the Graybeards. I would be remiss if I did not mention the great deed being done by Mary Fran Sciulli. She not only honors her brother which I understand, but she also extends her heart out to others that are grieving. Thank you Mary and thank you Norman Swartz. You both have big hearts. —Editor)
A Letter from Jack E. Jones.

Jack wrote a letter and included a photo from a newsletter. I would love to show the photo but newsletter photos do not copy well. I will try to describe what I see, and also convey Jack's message.

The photo has a caption saying "Forgotten War" Veterans Remember. The story attached is as follows:

Ready To March

Participants in what is billed as the first Pennsylvania Korean War Veterans' Reunion line up near the athletic field on the campus of Pennsylvania College of Technology for a parade Saturday. The one-day reunion was expected to draw several hundred veterans to Williamsport. The day's events included the parade and a memorial service, speeches by various military officials and a luncheon. The primary focus of the reunion was the camaraderie among veterans of the "Forgotten War" that saw American troops sent to Korea to fight communism. As the veterans' flag shows, thousands were killed.

(Thank you for the article and letter Jack. Please next time send a photo too. The article did not give names, but they were all sharp and good looking Korean War Veterans. Jack was with Co. C, 5th Eng., Combat Bn. 36th Eng., C GP. Editor)

Rather appropriate to write today. No mail tomorrow, Veterans' Day. I'm sending copy of this to Vince Krepps. I'd be glad to do a piece or whatever for the magazine, but haven't the foggiest idea what I can say that would interest veterans. One small thought: What if I sent in a short piece recalling the day a bunch of us realized the war was going to be forgotten? I believe I told you the anecdote briefly in a previous letter.

Hal Boyle was a fine writer, an AP columnist. He tried hard to get the GI's story told in personal terms. Sort of a letter day Ernie Pyle, although Boyle had been a correspondent in World War II and got such a following they made him a columnist after the war ended. I'd known him before Korea, slightly. Anyway, it was at Taegu where most media outfits had their HQ's. Writers and cameramen were always coming and going. The AP and other wire services had "offices" there and even a bureau chief. Hal had received verbal orders to return home and ignored them several times. Finally the General Manager (top dog) wrote him a personal letter. Hal read it to a group of us one night. It was very depressing. Hal was ordered home because it had become abundantly evident the public had no interest in the war, and found it uncomfortable. They didn't really want to read about it. Editors around the country were beginning to sense this. The war was moving off the top of the front page. The AP saw no point in Hal taking chances when the story was no longer that important. It was a very sobering moment. We all went back to work. I didn't ask to go home. I stuck it out.

But when summer came—and I'd only been asked to go over for six months—then I said I wanted to go back to a wife I missed very much. So I was overseas only seven months, most of that time in Korea. It wasn't unusual. We "rotated" too. In fact one of the few times I enjoyed my job was when I was told to take a new guy and show him the ropes. I had a ball. Didn't take my camera out once for a week or two. I remember driving around Taegu with him one day, showing him the sights, and I went down into that certain part of town. Korean hookers hanging out the windows and whatever. Two or three young Korean girls, teenagers, came running out in the street and I slammed on the brakes, waved, and roared out, "Wanna go for a ride? Pile in!" I knew I'd been overseas too long when the new guy turned to me in horror and said, "you aren't going to let those girls get in the jeep with us, are you?" I was "going Asiatic..." I think the old China hands called it. And it was getting to be time for me to go home. Best regards, Jim Martenhoff.

(Thank you Jim for the letter and we hope you will find more to write about and maybe a few old photos. Jim was part of Richard Coates first story "As Times We Shared Together Pass In Review" and also the latest one "Time Capsules." I think you are being too modest by giving your duties such little press. The veterans of Korea and all wars thank all writers and photographers for telling the stories about our war. Editor)

A Few Donation Notes and Letters

Many of you donated in memory for all lost in our war, for support of the Graybeards and the KWVA. It is hard to only select a few letters for all deserve recognition and we try to do that by listing names. The following few brief words from letters are worth mentioning for they were made in memory of others and the names were given in the message. We thank all of you for your support.

I am enclosing a donation and a poem written by me in memory of my Platoon Sgt. Gordie LeVahn 2nd I.D. 38th Regt., Co. C. KIA 9-13-52.

We met in Korea you and me was in that land death set you free, I remember when I died my friend an incoming round your life did end.

Tears blurred my vision when you were killed upon that hill your blood was spilled. Brought back home you now sleep alone date of death upon your stone.

The years have come and gone it seems they just flew by, It's called America's forgotten war in which my friend did die.

Cpl. Tom Lyons

I am enclosing a donation in memory of two deceased members of 3657 ORD. M.M. Co. Cedar Rapids, I.A: Glen Travis and Robert Meyers

John M. Koenen

Please turn to LETTERS on page 39
Veterans Services

J. Norbert “Skip” Reiner

New events occur, data one outlines in preparing input for THE GRAYBEARDS must be set aside for more urgent, newsworthy developments. Two recent meetings at the VA caused this.

“One VA for Customer Service.”

Very interesting topic! Be attentive those who are experiencing VA referring you from office to office ad infinitum to resolve questions or arrange medical care. Frustrating! The VA appears dis-functional, dis-unified, disorganized, and unresponsive to veterans.

The VA wants to change to a more “customer oriented” image. It is the “One VA” goal for better customer service. The two perspectives are (1) Customers and (2) Internal VA. The general concept is a Veteran-centered Information Technology Vision and Architecture initiative based on solutions which will avoid problems and expedite service. You will be able to contact the VA from your home computer, if you are on-line. A veteran can update his file, determine immediate status of claims, and seek assistance and information on questions he may have. Answers will appear on your screen. You will be able to converse with the VA on-line from anywhere in the continental U.S.A. or the world. VA officials call this a one stop customer based delivery system.

The VA will keep data current. Review any documentation you input for accuracy. This gives the appearance of being an excellent concept and wonderful system. Recall the hassle to arrange medical appointments in several clinics to get complete care in one visit. Just get “on-line” transmit you requirements, and request all appointments be made in one day. A date and time schedule will appear in matter of minutes or seconds. You must confirm acceptance of the schedule. Print the data or place it in your schedule file. Sounds great! When will it be activated?

Testing is estimated to take 10 years. The veterans population peaked in 1990 and is declining steadily. WWI vets are very thin in ranks. WWII vets are approaching the same condition. When I visit Arlington National Cemetery I avoid casting my eyes on the markers and headstones. Why! The period of service inscribed on them in too many instances is Korea. Information available from the National Cemetery System relates 400,000 headstones and markers were delivered last year. This includes replacements and those for eligible dependents. Not all veterans take advantage of having a government headstone provided. Why is the VA embarking on such a project now? How many veterans are in dire need? Shouldn’t a major effort be towards geriatrics? The cost is in the millions.

A primary aspect of this presentation really alerted me. A direct quote “One VA Legacy System is considered the authoritative copy of records of all veterans identification and basic eligibility determination data this is needed by multiple lines of business.” Translation: the VA will obtain a means of garnering all records from your personal physician(s), financial data, insurance history (claims), credit data, etc. My question, “This is a “Big Brother” approach. Under what authority do you (sic VA) have the right to collect or demand such information?” Answer, “We don’t. We will go to congress to get legislation passed on this.” Do you want a data bank containing every minute aspect of your life on file? Hackers could review this and use it to their advantage. No thanks, I believe federal and state governments control too much of our lives and this is a “1984” concept. Big Brother would really control us!

Conclusion: The concept and theory is excellent relative to expediting the process and service to veterans. This is late and quite expensive to initiate such now with a dwindling veteran population. Can this be refined and accelerated? We question the Big Brother aspect prevalent among Administration appointees and certain federal employee followers. More later!

VA’s Participation in ChampuS and Tricare Programs.

Veterans! Study this. Retirees! It effects you in states where Department of Defense (DoD) medical clinics are closed. This meeting and presentation kept me wide awake. Following is a concise summary of the gist of the study made by Price Waterhouse for the VA.

Premise: All who served on active in a military branch are veterans. Career military are provided medical care, likewise their spouses and children. This guarantee continues upon retirement. What happens when the DoD medical facilities are closed? Where can these veterans receive medical care? Some are now receiving it at VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) and Clinics.

What effect will this have on the veteran (the non-career soldier [TNCS])? How can the VA benefit? Does this interfere with TNCS veteran? Is the VA employing pediatricians? Gynecologist? Obstetricians? Physicians who treat female and children maladies? And et cetera, et cetera!

According to the Price Waterhouse survey all of the above questions were resolved positively. The VA will get more dollars from such care which will remain with the VA and not be returned to the U. S. Treasury. This will attract more medical school interest, which “should” result in better medical schools “training” their students at VAMCs. In general the Veteran patient “should” receive excellent treatment. Care given to women and children (non-veterans) will “enhance and never” prevent excellent treatment for a TNCS veteran. Vets received even better care where Champus and Tricare patients were involved. They appreciated the children and females in the waiting rooms. Vets were given priority over all others? Does this apply to both female and male TNCS veterans? Do you recall a male TNCS vet requiring a pediatrican or gynecologist?

We all agree, as a result of the dismantling of our military forces, the career personnel must be given the proper care and treatment required to maintain a prepared fighting force. This care must extend after retirement as provided by law and in general agreements with those who choose to continuously stay prepared to protect our nation. There are some existing agreements between the DoD and VA regarding the above concept and practice.

VAMCs are under used. Many wards are vacant because of the modern medical treatment methods and the limited confinement policy. DoD is slowly being dis-man- mened by the current Administration. We must protect our active duty soldiers, veterans and retirees. A compromise is the order of the day. Let the experimentation con-
tinue. We need more results. I am skeptical as former VA worker. Why did the VA employee Price Waterhouse when they have VA personnel who perform such surveys and investigations? Was a premise established at the onset to meet a particular conclusion? How and in what format were the interviews and surveys conducted among the veterans? Were the questions manipulative among those asked of TNCS veterans? How many of the doctors questioned were veterans? The Price Waterhouse team did not have a veteran. Two females concentrated on children and female issues and would interject the TNCS vet was given priority and so forth. We agree active duty and retiree personnel and their families must be given medical care. For the retirees and families, let them subscribe to an option long requested, the Federal Health Benefit Plans program. No conclusion at this time. Let us wait and see.

**Notice to July Convention Attendees**

*...From The Korean War Veterans Armistice Day Coordinating Committee (KWVADCC)*.

The KWVADCC is a subsidiary of the Korean War Veterans Foundation (KWVF). Both charted non-profit organizations KWVADCC conducts ceremonies at both Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) [prior to the being of KWVA] and now the Korean War Veterans Memorial, KWVADCC has permits to conduct activities on The Mall & ANC. Funding is from donations and wallets of a few KWVF members, who are chairmen of the KWVADCC. $400 of the chair fund is redirected as a result of a “97 incident for added U.S. Park Police. 145 of the 200 chairs available are reserved. More portajohns and a larger public address system are required in ‘98. Please bring and/or purchase collapsible compact stools or chairs. Parking is nil. Use your bus, the KWVA charted busses, or the Metro. For information consult The Grebeards or write to KWVADCC, 6632 Kirkley Ave., Mclean, Virginia 22101-5510. Make donations payable to KWVF, 1801 Saw Mill Run Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15210.

**‘98 Reunion Attendees’ Note Bene**

When visiting Washington, D.C. have two picture identifications. A minimum of one plus a credit card is acceptable in certain instances. Security is extremely high in some areas of the government and you may be rejected from entering a government building just for cause. A security barrier and magnetometer checks may be imposed if the President or Vice President decides to accept an invitation as a guest to visit the ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

**More Guidance for the ‘98 Reunion Attendees**

Marshals will be present at both KWVA activities and the ceremonies. Follow their directions. At the Korean War Veterans Memorial they will assist the Department of Interior personnel, Park Service Rangers, and the U.S. Capitol Park Police. At Arlington National Cemetery support will be provided by the U.S. Army Military Police and Honor Guard Members. Heed them. The primary hotel and overflow provide security personnel who have retention power until the Fairfax County Police arrive. You will find the metro-Washington D.C. area very keen on security. The news media has given information on the incidents which cause this phenomenon. You may not see them but they are about for your protection. This is what makes the metro rail system safe and clean for visitors and passengers. You will have a safe memorable time because of the security blanket which covers Washington, D.C. and its environs.

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**Face to face with history**

Veterans visit Milwaukee High and share war experiences. Marching music, excited cheers and rhythmic clapping from the bleachers threatened to loosen the rafters of Milwaukee High School’s gym. More than 400 men and women in their 70s and older filed into the school gym, and it sounded as if the 1,400 students on hand were raucously cheering a winning team. In a sense, they were. The old-timers were veterans of World War II and Korea. Most of the veterans visited classrooms in the morning and mingled with the students during a long lunch hour. They were sharing their memories as part of Living History Day, a special event that Milwaukee High students paid for themselves. The daylong event concluded with a World War II-style USO show, held in the flag-bedecked, crepe-paper-streamed gym. There was a live band, Norman Leyden on the clarinet and songs done Andrews Sisters-fashion by the String of Pearls trio.

This was the school’s second Living History Day. Under the program, veterans come to the school and share their war stories with students. “I wish every high school in the country would do this,” said Donald R. Pullen, a veteran of the 1st Marine Division’s retreat from Korea’s Chosin Reservoir in December 1950.

He was among the 30 percent of the 15,000 men who got frostbite. “I was scheduled for a second angioplasty this week but got it put off to do this,” Pullen said. “It was great to see their faces when we were telling our stories, and I can’t believe all the work they put in.” Students decorated every classroom with World War II and Korea memorabilia — posters from the war, photos from books and magazines, posters the students made, flag replicas, crepe-paper streamers. “To be honest, I knew almost nothing about the Korean War,” said Lisa Holm, a junior escorting a group of veterans. “I wasn’t involved last year when we did Vietnam and World War II. But it was so great, I had to volunteer this year. You learn so much by talking with them for just a few minutes.” Near the cafeteria, hobbyists in uniform displayed and explained the equivalent of a medium-size military museum: rifles, pistols, ma-

*“The first thing I learned was not to wear the big red cross on my helmet, because they were favorite targets,” Don Barton told one classroom. He was a U.S. Army medical corpsman and then a prisoner of war in Korea for 21/2 years. “Medics weren’t supposed to fire weapons, but we did,” Barton said.*

Please turn to HISTORY on page 33
Minutes of the 1997 Fall KWVA Executive Council Meeting

November 15, 1997

President Pappas called the meeting to order at 9:00 in Conference Room B of the Sheraton Premier Hotel in Tysons Corner, Virginia.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Ken Cook led the assembly in prayer.

Martin called the roll and the following were present: Pappas, Adams, Edwards, Gryger, Rittenhouse, Van Ort, Danielson, Moga, Barton, Cook, Coon, Martin and Clawson. The following were excused: Benjamin, Schilling, and Traumonte.

The following new directors introduced themselves: Rittenhouse and Edwards.

Others attending during the sessions: Vincent Krepps, Sherman Pratt, Warren Wiedhahn, and Stan Myrda, CPA.

Van Ort expressed dissatisfaction with previous published minutes. He would like the minutes to be corrected to reflect that he was present for the Executive Council session. He should not be marked absent.

Van Ort: stated that having an Executive Session is illegal.

Pappas: Executive Sessions are not illegal.

Van Ort: In Albuquerque moved that any votes taken prior to meeting would be considered meeting.

Discussion: The Bylaws state that if you have a vote by mail at the next meeting you have to sign a resolution that this was accomplished.

Van Ort: Were proper procedures followed with respect to the appointment of Vince Krepps as Editor of The Graybeards?

Pappas: Yes.

Consensus: Maybe a card acknowledging receipt should be sent with such correspondance.

Motion: Coon moved that approval of Albuquerque minutes be delayed and asked that Van Ort review minutes and write out his suggestions for alterations and present them in the morning for revisions. Clawson seconded. Approved with one abstention.

Discussion regarding the minutes and whether or not they should be verified? Rittenhouse: Minutes are not properly verified. They are a summary of actions.

Pappas: The Albuquerque Minutes were sent out and corrections were asked for. They were not corrected.

Van Ort: Pointed out Bylaws regarding resolution:

Action: Barton abstain. Unanimous approval.

Rittenhouse: Asked that minutes be made available to chapters and that they be condensed in The Graybeards.

Pappas: The minutes for this meeting will be summarized.

Graybeards Report by Vincent Krepps

Krepps addressed and thanked the Council for the trust in naming him Editor of The Graybeards. He stated his intention to try his best to improve upon his first issue which had been put together rather hurriedly. There were a number of unanticipated problems with the first issue and these will be ironed out.

Advertisement of the Korean War Educational Grant: Should be addressed in the next issue.

Publishing materials which are negative will be avoided, even if it means passing the editorship along to someone else. Received strong support for stand in "Editor's Pen." Dirty laundry does not belong in newsletter; rather, it should tell the stories of the heroes of the Korean War.

Cost of publishing the newsletter has been reduced several thousand dollars. Advertisement in last issue and future have added to the income. Extra copies were sold having thus far netted $243.00. Future advertising the availability of extra copies will bring stronger response. Donations in support of the newsletter have been very good.

Krepps gave all the credit to our great membership and thanked Council for honor of editorship.

Questions: Can chapters reorder copies?

Answer: Yes.

Skip Rittenhouse: Adequate supply was always provided for starting chapters.

Answer: I understand that was stopped.

Rittenhouse: Think we should put a price on the cover.

Gryger: I do not want to see Graybeards go back to what it was.

Edwards: I am one of those who expressed dismay with the first issue and have since reconciled my feelings on this.

Rittenhouse: I concur with Mr. Morris (who had suggested more careful proofreading) in a sense. It is not a personal thing. I would like to see things grammatically correct. I believe Graybeards should have professional proofreading.

Clawson: We took a look at Mr. Morris’ letter and there were over 100 errors in his letter.

Krepps: I would like to point out again that the July-August issue was prepared in a hurry. We will try to do better with future issues.

Motion: Clawson moved acceptance of the Editor’s report and commended him for his efforts in producing an issue so quickly. Edwards seconded. Carried unanimously.

Finance Report by Acting Treasurer Jim Martin

A written report was presented. At present, there are no accurate figures for QM inventory. Stan Myrda and Ken Cook will establish the value of the inventory.

October 31, 1997, bank balance was $31,881.61. There are outstanding bills in the amount of $21,881.38.

Discussion ensued regarding life membership. Graybeards, etc., and their effect on cash flow. It was pointed out that cash flow will improve as of the first of the year with the inflow of 1998 dues.

Van Ort: I would suggest that we look at other institutions of banking. Treasurer was instructed to look into other banks.

Treasurer: I have done this and was unable to find a better deal.

Edwards: I would suggest that we look into credit unions.

Myrda: The association partnership is not FDIC insured, the bank is FDIC insured.

Moga: Can we get these reports monthly?

Treasurer: Yes. I will do this.

Van Ort: Did you include $17,100 for the Education Fund as one of the liabilities?

Treasurer: No. I have no bill for this.

Motion: Coon moved, second by Clawson, that the financial report be accepted. Carried unanimously.

President Pappas declared a 15 minute break. President Pappas reconvened the meeting.

1997 Reunion Report

On behalf of 1997 Reunion Chairman Tod Cornell a report was presented by Clawson.

Clawson: Two days after the reunion all of the bills had been paid. A report was to have been sent to President reconciling meeting income and expenses and this has not been received.

Chairman Cornell has asked that the CPA submit a form for correct reporting of reunion income and expenditures.

Pappas: There were 167 in attendance at the banquet.

Clawson: It appears that refunds are all that need to be taken care of with respect to expense. Also payment to the recording secretary has not been resolved.

Consensus: There is a need to tie down procedures for reunions in general.

Clawson: It is hoped that a final report will be completed by December 15.

Rittenhouse: Circumstances such as those experienced in connection with the 1995 and 1996 reunions should not happen again.

Pappas: Another place we lose money is registration. All who attend a function of the 1998 reunion will pay the registration fee. No matter if it is only one function—everyone will pay. This will apply to any and all functions. Anyone who wishes to attend only the Board Meeting will not pay the registration.

Clawson: Being the case, there will be a need to spell out what constitutes the registration fee. I believe the members will not object if they feel the charge is justifiable.

Appointment of Treasurer

Pappas: Presented the name of Edward P. Markart (Virginia) to serve as Treasurer. If the Executive Council approves, he will be the treasurer. Mr. Markart’s credentials were read.

Discussion: Mr. Markart’s credentials were discussed along with the need to produce a manual of procedures for the guidance of the office of
Minutes of the 1997 Fall KWVA Executive Council Meeting

Consensus: There is need for the appointment of a Bylaws review committee.

Eduards: I would suggest that Peter Palmer, who has had considerable experience in developing bylaws, be appointed Bylaws Committee Chairman.

Motion: Edwards moved the appointment of Peter Palmer as Chairman of the Bylaws Committee. Seconded Gryger. Edwards and Gryger withdraw the motion.

Motion: Cook moved that Tod Cornell be reappointed as Chairman of the Bylaws Committee. Barton seconded. Roll call vote: Yes 5, No 3, abstentions 0. Passed.

Motion: Barton moved that Edwards be appointed as Bylaws Chairman. Cook seconded. Carried unanimously.

ROK Medal

John Kenney discussed the ROK Medal which had been authorized for all who served in the Korean War. The United States did not have authority to award this medal. The U.S. Army was asked to further consider this. Qualified veterans for this medal are those who were in Korea or those who directly supported the Korean Troops. The usual procedures were pursued in urging that action be approved. A bill went through Congress on May 8, 1954, which gave proper Congressional bypass to the acceptance of such awards from foreign nations. Included among those medals was the RKWSM.

Around 1995, KWVA became aware of existence of this medal and existence of the authorization or lack of authorization. Much correspondence ensued. Everyone writing to everyone. One action officer in Awards Branch whose standard of response was "NO" was unable to find that it was ever offered or was ever accepted.

Various people have served in this capacity. Currently this position is filled by Ms. Arlette White. She has been writing these communications. She gave Kenney the information that "the lawyers are working on it" and also the name of someone in the Office of the Secretary of Defense where final approval will generate. Kenney has contacted the person in the Pentagon who also tells him that they need a Department of Army directive. Kenney again called Ms. White, who again said, "the lawyers are working on it."

Kenney will go back to White on Monday in an attempt to further resolve this matter.

Pappas: Reported that he has heard nothing further from the Republic of Korea in response to his letter.

Kenney: I will report back in February if the Executive Council wishes me to continue.

President Pappas recessed the meeting at 12:00 for lunch.

Members reconvened at 1:00 p.m. for a closed Executive Session to discuss our financial status with CPA Myra.

Motion: Clawson moved the end of the Executive Council closed session. Seconded. Carried.

Delaware State Meeting

Morga: Director Gryger, Andy Lynch and I were asked to meet with the Delaware Chapters in an effort to help alleviate some of the problems between the three chapters. Several attempts were made to set up a meeting date with a meeting resulting on the 18th of October. Eighteen members were present. There were representatives present from all three chapters. The meeting went well. We were encouraged to continue. The meeting ended with the decision that the three chapters will decide what they would prefer and report to me. The following appeared to be their options: may want a new election; may want to wait until February election; may want to put in a new state president or keep present one. It may be that the old charters will need to be rescinded and if they have new election whoever becomes commander will be given a charter.

After the meeting adjourned, about 10 of the men went out to socialize together. They tentatively plan a meeting for December 10th.

George Geoff, Nick Tosques, and Bill Couch were introduced from Delaware Chapter #1.

George thanked members of board for their assistance regarding this matter.

It was reported that the Commander told the members of the board to stay out of State of Delaware. However, if the individual chapters wish to invite national board members, they are welcome to do so.

Gryger reported on the situation and asked that the board be patient in an effort to allow the chapter to work on the matter, hopefully progress will be made at the December 10th meeting. The state has three chapters and there are about 65 to 75 in each chapter. Three officers from each chapter will attend the December 10th meeting. They may work things out for themselves and they may ask for further National assistance. The Executive Council is requested to wait and see.

Pappas: Chapters 1 and 2 charted under one corporation and chapter 3 is charted under another corporation.

Coon: As it takes two chapters to form a department, chapter 3 cannot exist as a part of the department as it is individually a corporation.

Pappas: reviewed the establishment of Department of Delaware.

Consensus: Since one of the departments has only one chapter charted under the Department of Delaware and this does not meet requirements, the state charter should be pulled. It was the consensus to wait and see what the men
in Delaware work out at their December 10th meeting.

Raffle

Martin: With respect to the raffle of an M-1 rifle, it is the intent to purchase 125,000 tickets at a cost of $5.027. Chapters will receive raffle tickets for their members to sell and 10% of the raffle ticket sales will be retained by the chapters.

Every member will receive two books of raffle tickets. There will be five tickets in each book and the books will sell for $10.00.

Gryger: It is illegal to sell raffle tickets.

Pappas: This is not a raffle it is a donation.

Discussion: Several suggestions were made: six tickets to a book, cost of the tickets increased from $5.00 each to $10.00 each, etc. Different manners of distribution were also discussed.

Martin: It was cheaper to get five to a book rather than six and it was felt that we would sell more if offered at $2.00 per ticket. The $5.027 price includes the total cost of printing, mailing, etc.

Martin: The rifle with case will cost around $1,800. There will be three drawings: The first winning ticket would have a choice of the rifle, a pistol or a $500 bond; the second winning ticket would have a choice of the two remaining items and the third winning ticket would receive the remaining item.

Motion: Coon moved approval of printing and distribution of donation tickets. Barton seconded. Carried unanimously.

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library

Cook: The mission of the Museum and Library is to collect, research, care for and interpret Korean War information and artifacts for Korean War veterans, their descendants, and the general public. The Museum and Library will provide for the preservation of such material and for its accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to all who wish to examine and study it.

Robert Kenney is chairman of this organization and Cook is vice-chairman. It is a not-for-profit corporation in the State of Illinois. A copy of the bylaws was distributed and the corporation has approximately 100 members as of this date.

Much enthusiasm has been expressed by the public and the various units. The corporation currently has three acres of ground. There is a meeting to be held next Tuesday (November 18th).

The involvement of the national KWVA is endorsement only.

Observation: There is a Korean War Veterans Memorial Library/Museum Committee listed in The Graybeards. This is now a defunct committee and should it be deleted from The Graybeards listing.

Pappas: This will be done. A letter has been received from Historian Paul Edwards in which he states he will not contribute to efforts to form Museum/Library in Tuscola. Edwards is not in favor of this and will discourage others from supporting the endeavor.

Korean War Veterans Association Action Committee

This committee was formed by Alexander, Hadden, Linegan, Hancock, Glazzy, and others which has been requesting money under KWVA letterhead.

Myrda: Legally, if they are not registered, there would be no tax deduction allowance in this instance.

Pappas: The membership will be informed that this committee is using the national name and letterhead and that it has no approval from the Board or attachment to the National KWVA.

Clawson: Do we have total access to name KWVA?

Barton: As a matter of interest, there is also a Korean War Veterans Alliance.

Gryger: Did we have logo copyrighted?

Pappas: I have done this personally. KWVA will soon own this. This had not been properly done in the past.

There was a meeting at Dover Air Force Base which was attended by various KWVA members. At this meeting a request went out for a $20 donation for the newsletter publication. Six hundred and eighty dollars ($680) was collected.

Rittenhouse: Why can’t these energies be used to do something constructive? The solution to stopping this type of activity is raising new members. New members are oblivious to this type of stuff. They don’t want to hear it.

Motion: Coon moved that the meeting adjourn. Clawson seconded. Carried unanimously.

Pappas adjourned the meeting at 4:15.

November 16, 1997

President reconvened the meeting at the Sheraton Premier Hotel, in Tyson's Corner, Virginia, in Conference Room B, at 9:00 a.m.

Morga lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rittenhouse offered the prayer.

Motion: Coon moved that approval of the minutes of the Executive Section held in Albuquerque be removed from the table. Clawson seconded. Carried unanimously.

Secretary read the change to those minutes requested by VanOrt as follows:

Request the following corrections to minutes of 25 July, 1997, Albuquerque, New Mexico, to reflect the following amendment to the minutes: “Cancel paragraph 1 and paragraph 2, page 4, of the Minutes of the Executive Council on 25 July, 1997.” The reason for the change is: (1) a quorum was established at 8:40 a.m., and (2) t executive session canceled and regular meeting conducted as per Article III, Section 2B of the KWVA Bylaws, and that further attendance taken was not required.

Motion: Coon moved acceptance of amendment as read by the Secretary. Barton seconded. Carried unanimously.

Motion: Coon moved acceptance of minutes of the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Executive Council Meeting as amended. Barton seconded. Carried unanimously.

Martin called the roll and the following were present: Pappas, Adams, Edwards, Gryger, Rittenhouse, Van Ort, Danielson, Morga, Barton, Cook, Coon, Martin. The following were excused Benjamin, Schilling, and Tramonte.


Membership List Exchanges

Pappas presented requests for membership lists from the following: Warren Wiedhahn (for Military Tours), Korean National Tourism Bureau, AmVets and Skip Reiner (for use of the Korean Embassy).

Consensus: It was felt that these requests might be helpful.

Rittenhouse: The motion approving such use should state that use is restricted and for use only once.

Motion: Adams moved that the request from Military Tours for the KWVA mailing list be granted and such mailing list will be used only once for a mailing related to the Revision Trip/Korea 2000. If provided on mailing labels any charge will be paid by Military Tours. Clawson second. Carried unanimously.

Discussion: Manner of producing lists—if on computer disk there would be no charge.

Motion: Gryger moved that the request from AmVets for an exchange of membership lists be approved. Such list to be used only one time for membership promotion. If mailing labels are provided, the costs would be reimbursed by AmVets. Danielson seconded. Carried unanimously.

Pappas: Read Korean Tour Bureau letter requesting membership list. Intended use of the list was not clear.

Motion: Edwards moved that this request be tabled. Coon second. Carried unanimously.

Motion: Barton moved that the KWVA membership list be provided to Reiner for use of the Korean Embassy. Coon second. Carried unanimously.

Edwards: Suggested that chapters be provided with lists of their chapters on disk. Departments could then reproduce and provide to chapters within their state.

Adams: We would like to have membership list for Education Committee use.

Motion: Coon moved that the Education Committee be provided with mailing labels for membership use in connection with committee activities. Edwards seconded. Carried unanimously.
Minutes of the 1997 Fall KWVA Executive Council Meeting

Membership Report
Magill read membership report which indicated that as of November 2, 1997, there were 13,713 on the mailing list.
Dues reminders were mailed throughout the year in an attempt to get those not on the calendar year schedule to adhere to this policy and response has been good.
As a result of Executive Council action to request reinstatement of members who became inactive during the years 1995 and 1996, approximately 200 have reinstated with resultant dues of approximately $4,800.00 (some opting for life membership).
Coon: Didn’t we have a Life Membership certificate?
Pappas: We could not afford to carry through with this.
Martin: We have been asked to print certificates for auxiliaries and we would like to secure permission to do this.
Discussion: All Korean War era veterans are eligible and we must get this word out.
Rittenhouse: No matter what you do, those who were not there will not be as interested as those who were in Korea. The good news is that we haven’t come close to enrolling all those who were there. We need to concentrate on demographic areas.
Gryger: In New York there are a tremendous number of Korean veterans. We need to concentrate on getting members there.
Coon: Distribution of newsletter to the local newspapers has developed a good rapport with them allowing us much publicity.
A list of newspapers by locality is available from the membership office.
Pappas: What kind of response have you had from your membership in VFW?
Discussion: Some have reciprocal members.
New York picked up 20 members as a result of holding our meetings at the VFW. Others reported no good response.
Edwards: Graybeards is the biggest recruiting tool.
Motion: Rittenhouse moved that the name of the membership committee be changed to membership and chapter formation committee. Coon seconded. Carried unanimously.
Danielson: How many departments do we have.
Answer: Ten.
Danielson: We have some areas where we do not have departments where we have enough chapters to develop one. Can we encourage department formation in these areas?
Rittenhouse: Department formation is difficult.
Clawson: We had a department rebate program wherein seed money would be provided for use in recruiting members. There was much duplication and it was an almost impossible situation. They did not even want to be bothered with the paper work for this seed money. We should look at how the word department is used in KWVA. Example: basically set up to get membership.
Rittenhouse: Importance of department. Two types. Some are recallitarian. Every chapter formed by department falls into the line. Problems exist where chapters are older than the departments.
Edwards: In Florida we found that after there were many chapters on board in the department, it created interest on the part of the older chapters. Every chapter is on the board and has their views represented.
Coon: A good source of funds is the Department of Veterans Affairs. Many states have funds to grant to chapters.

Quartermaster Report
Cook will work on inventory accounting system. There were 54 books on consignment from a publishing company. We found 53 of them and returned them.
Edwards: How are consignment orders coming?
Cook: There has been no problem with collecting money.
Cook: In the past eight months we have ordered two items: overseas hats and patches.
Question: Have quartermaster materials been sent to Dixon Poole?
Magill: Some material was sent to Dixon Poole. To date only books. This was done in an effort to carry out intent of board to get out of inventory business.
Adams: Has he paid the amount of the inventory?
Martin: Have we received any money from him?
Magill: No but he will provide this.
Magill will discuss this matter with Adams before making any further commitment to Dixon Poole.
Discussion: We need to find someone and get out of the quartermaster business. We had on paper over $100,000 tied up in inventory. Our ultimate objective is to get out of this business. Retail price approximately $140,000.
The Executive Council will discuss this further at a later date.
President Pappas declared a 15 minute recess. President Pappas reconvened the meeting.

Public Housing Home Ownership Test Program
Morga introduced Nicholas A. Caruso, from Wilmington, Delaware.
Mr. Caruso outlined a pilot program to eliminate government waste, vacant units and supply much needed housing for the low and moderate income not to mention the severe problems created by vacant units such as drug dealings, rodent infestation, etc.
Approval from the Housing and Urban Development Department must be obtained to proceed with the pilot program and correspondence has been initiated to secure this approval. Mr. Caruso passed out literature explaining the program.
Pappas: Summarized as follows: Mr. Caruso is asking for KWVA backing to try a pilot program in Delaware. The program would secure HUD grants to fund work, it is a work program wherein veterans can learn trades and do the work. Caruso is asking for endorsement of a resolution to assist in receiving permission to proceed with a feasibility study.
Danielson: What arrangements have been made with the VA?
Caruso: None yet. We must obtain HUD approval before going too far.
Adams: Who is paying your expenses?
Caruso: HUD will.
Danielson: Who will introduce this concept to Congress?
Caruso: I believe it will take Congressional action. Letters have been sent to various Senators, but have not as yet received a response. We must get an audience with HUD to determine feasibility.
Pappas: How much money do you think you will generate?
Caruso: The profit will come from the sale of the houses. If the houses are bought for $45,000 and sold for $55,000, we must negotiate with HUD the distribution of any profits. The mortgages will be held by private concerns insured by HUD.
Danielson: I don’t see any problem in granting our endorsement of such a pilot project, providing the profits support veterans benefits, i.e., homeless, hospitals, etc.
Caruso: We first need HUD approval to do the feasibility study.
Clawson: Are you in need of a sanction from KWVA to proceed with this?
Motion: Morga moved that we endorse the pilot program by adopting the resolution set below. Gryger seconded.
Whereas: The forming of a revolving housing trust fund to aid the public housing authorities in accomplishing the task of eliminating vacant units, provide home ownership, increase the property tax base within the community.
Whereas: Funding for the project would be a five million dollar grant from HUD to the PHA with additional grant donor funds into the fund to be invested in Treasury Notes, and 15% of the donor funds invested in the stock market. Fund to be managed by the project manager and the board of directors of the donor grants.
Whereas: The savings to be determined by HUD’s formula savings to be addressed to increased medical care for all veterans and their spouses. A year test medical program as to the feasibility to be held at the Elsmere VA Hospital, Wilmington, Delaware.
Whereas: Any changes per attached mutual agreement as directed by HUD attorneys.
Whereas: This resolution is endorsed by the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

Action on Motion. Carried unanimously. The following abstained: Adams and Coon.

1998 Reunion Report

Pappas: The Sheraton Premier at Tyson’s Corner, Virginia, has been selected for the 1998 Reunion. There will be a 10:00 a.m. memorial service on the Monday, July 27th. The permit for this function has been secured. We have reserved a block of rooms.

General Raymond A. Davis, of the “Korea 2000” planning committee, is inviting all 21 nations at this hotel to kick off the year 2000 and 2003. General Davis plans to go over in June and is then going to send a letter to all 21 nations for the kickoff. They should be in the same hotel.

Adams: How many rooms in this hotel?

Pappas: Over 500.

We have secured the rooms for $84. Parking will be complimentary. Hotel has granted these special rates for KWVA for July 23rd thru 28th. There will be a registration fee of $35 per person. This will apply to any and all who attend any number of functions. There will be no registration fee charged for a member who wishes to attend the meetings. The registration form will outline all functions.

Discussion: Several felt that the $84 room charge was too high and others felt that it was not considering the area.

Rittenhouse: I am very displeased with the fact that it is very inconvenient to get to the memorial. I would have preferred something more accessible to the memorial.

Clawson: No matter where we are, we would have to shuttle people.

Adams: We have handicapped people who will need assistance.

Clawson: That will be provided for by the committee.

Coon: We need handicapped vans.

Gryger: In New York they provide Coast Guard busses for us. Can’t we get the same thing in this area?

Rittenhouse: I believe this hotel was a poor trade off; saving money on hotel room and no way to get to the memorial.

Edwards: Have arrangements been made for the overflow?

Pappas: Weidhahn will be here later to explain.

Morgan: Is there a minimum?

Pappas: There will be a payment if we fall short.

Morgan: What does the registration fee include? We need to be more careful in negotiating for better deals on rooms and such matters.

Answer: Printing of programs, tickets, flowers, decorations, badges and holders, salary, costs involved for guests, amplification systems, etc.

Kessler Offer

Passed out offer for the opportunity to have Korean War Veterans endorsement of credit card.

Pappas: Benefits are: for every new card issued KWVA will receive $1.00, $1.00 for each renewal, $2.50 for each retail transaction. We will receive a quarterly report. They will place an ad in newsletter. They will put the logo on the card or the memorial (this may not be permissible). What do we want?

Edwards: We could set up a table at the convention?

Pappas: Good idea. We can get it ready for approval at the February meeting.

Motion: Adams moved that negotiations be conducted with Kessler regarding the proposed KWVA credit card and their agents have a table at the reunion to receive applications. Seconded Barton. Carried unanimously.

President Pappas recessed the meeting for 15 minutes.

President Pappas reconvened the meeting.

Flags

For the record, Cook wanted members to know that he has the following flags: U.S. Flags, POW Flag, National KWVA Flag, 1995 Dedication Flag, and the Korean National Flag.

Korea 2000

Warren Weidhahn spoke regarding Korea 2000 and the Revisit Program. He introduced the following persons: Colonel Hanratty, Colonel Hansen, and Barney Barnham.

Korea 2000 will be the most significant thing since the memorial in securing recognition and appreciation of Korean War veterans. The United States will recognize Korean War veterans in 2000-2003.

VA statistics show that only 30-40% of veterans belong to veteran associations. So where are the other 60%? They don’t feel a need to work in the military organizations. There are 10 organizations that have Korean War veterans.

50TH Anniversary Commemoration of the Korean War

Col Hanratty, of the Department of Defense and Assistant to General Kicklighter, who was Executive Director of WWII Commemoration activities spoke to the group.

Hanratty: We are looking for partnership to see that America acknowledges the Korea War efforts. We need a better understanding of the war. The purposes of the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War are:

1. Identify, thank and honor the veterans of the Korean War, their families, especially those that lost loved ones.
2. Provide the American public with a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons, history, and legacy of the Korean War.
3. Inform future generations of the United States military’s contributions to the Nation in maintaining world peace and freedom through preparedness and involvement.
4. Demonstrate the benefits of United Nations forces engaged in preserving the peace, freedom and prosperity of the Republic of Korea.
5. Ensure commemorative events strengthen and unify the bonds of friendship and relationships throughout the world.

A list of proposed commemorations was presented. These will be revised and updated as more input is received.

Each year Memorial Day services are put on by PBS on the Mall. These services should recognize the Korean War no later than 1999 hopefully by 1998.

There are various entitlements in this partnership. The most popular item of the World War II commemoration entitlements was the flag that was created for a banner.

Several designs for a Fifth Anniversary Korean War banner. One flag contained a (tagu) United Nations colors, the words “Freedom is not free,” and the dates 1950-1953 & 2000-2003. Another banner was shown with the Korean translations on it in addition to English. It was pointed out that this is not a replacement for the United States flag but as a symbol for Korean service to be used in conjunction with the Stars and Stripes.

The Department of Defense is ready to roll with these commemorations.

Clawson: We considered a time capsule at one time. Could there be a time capsule in connection with the 50th anniversary?

Hanratty: This could be done as one of your projects. The government will work with the KWVA and with the Korean government to accomplish the things that we want to get done in Korea.

Sherman Pratt: We are all impressed with this message. It would be most appropriate if more of the membership could hear this proposal. Could this proposal be presented to our general membership meeting?

Pappas: This is already scheduled.

Korea 2000

Weidhahn: The Korea 2000 Committee has worked with Colonel Hanratty for the past several years. I see this as a wonderful healing opportunity.

Weidhahn related his experiences on his recent visit into North Korea.

Next year it is hoped that the number of recovery teams into North Korea can be doubled. Korean War veterans are anxious to return to North Korea because of the number of comrades left over there. We commemorate where we lost them. Now there is a relationship.

Barton: Were they asked about the missing soldiers?

Coon: We understand that most of bodies from Chosin were returned.
Minutes of the 1997 Fall KWVA Executive Council Meeting

Wiedhahn: Many of the veterans who will be returning will be able to more accurately pinpoint grave locations.

Revisit Trip

Wiedhahn: The POWs will be given priority on this trip but they will be given a date before which their application must be received. This will prevent the bumping that has taken place in the past and the resultant complaints.

We must wait until after the elections in Korea before it is possible to make many of the decisions. By April things could begin to firm up.

Good of the Order

Motion: Moved by Edwards that an invitation be extended to all Presidents of Chapters and Departments to attend the Executive Council meetings at their own expense. This would allow them to obtain the workings of KWVA first hand. Coon second. Carried unanimously.

Motion: Danielson moved that a method of recognition be established for those who have done special things.

Nick asked for permission to purchase Judge Cunningham a plaque for his outstanding contributions in assisting KWVA with legal advice through the financial maze we have endured.

Danielson presented Parliamentary guidelines and asked that all read them.

Danielson presented information regarding war injuries, cold feet, and other disorders and asked that all read them.

February Executive Council

Various dates were discussed. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Premier in Tyson’s Corner, Virginia. Tentative dates were set for February 28-March 1, 1998.

President Pappas adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

HISTORY from page 27

chine guns, packs, survival gear, mess kits, ration packs and other mementos from all services and from several countries, including those of wartime enemies.

Some experiences were unavoidably grim. “The first thing I learned was not to wear the big red cross on my helmet, because they were favorite targets,” Don Barton told one classroom. He was a U.S. Army medical corpsman and then a prisoner of war in Korea for 21/2 years. “Medics weren’t supposed to fire weapons, but we did,” Barton said. “When we got surrounded on May 18, 1951, I got a casualty’s rifle and used it. They kept coming, and we kept shooting them down. But we ran out of ammunition, and they just walked up and took our weapons out of our hands.” Some experiences were lighter. Wearing his World War II sailor’s jumper, former Pharmacist’s Mate 1st Class Walt Erickson held up a coconut for a class to see. “I just put some stamps and an address on this 54 years ago, and the post office got it to my dad in Spokane,” he said. On troopships and transports, Erickson crossed the Pacific Ocean 12 times and the Atlantic 27.

“It’s so different to hear about the war from people who have been through it than to read it in a book,” senior Sarah Foy said. “A book can give you facts, but these guys tell about their feelings.” Her sister, Becky, a freshman, said “this makes it so real. You realize that history could happen to someone you know.”

Keith Richardson, in fact, was Sarah’s age—17, and a Benson High junior when he joined the Marines. “I told my parents that if they didn’t sign the consent form, I would run away from home,” Richardson said.

“The kids ask good questions. Most had heard of Korea, but none had heard of Chosin. We told them about the human wave assaults and about the camaraderie that got us through.”

His zeal got him to the Chosin Reservoir and a 70-mile running battle in a blizzard.

Portland has a large number of Chosin vets organized as The Chosin Few because a Swan Island Marine reserve unit was mobilized for Korea. “We have been treated excellently,” Richardson said. “The kids ask good questions. Most had heard of Korea, but none had heard of Chosin. We told them about the human wave assaults and about the camaraderie that got us through.”

Herb Breshers tells a class about his experiences on the escort carrier USS Kitkun Bay when a kamikaze mission hit it in the 1944 Battle of Leyte Gulf. The ship survived the war, but not peace. In 1946, it was decommissioned in Portland: “It was scrapped and made into iron skillets.”

Ken Buckles, the faculty member who organized the event, recruited the veterans by scanning The Oregonian for stories on wartime experiences and veterans reunions—including the June 1994 series that listed scores of D-Day participants. He called them, and many who were willing to participate had other names to recommend.

“This is such a great thing for our school,” Foy said. “The media never does anything about us unless it’s bad, like the racial tension a couple of years ago. It was just on TV that we’re supposed to be like a gang recruitment center, which is so not true. We’ve never heard of it, but it’s on TV, so people think it’s true.” For the event, nearly all male students wore slacks and many had neckties. Young women’s wear ranged from party dress to ankle length gowns.

“We ask them to dress up for the day to honor our guests,” Buckles said. “They are truly glad to do it.” In addition to decorating the halls, classrooms, cafeteria and gym, the students also cleaned up the school, made minor repairs and did some touch up painting. “Students raised more than $8,000 in just four weeks to pay for this,” Buckles said. “One girl signed over the paycheck from her after school job. Others went door-to-door asking for donations, or they just donate their allowances.” The lunch for the veterans was paid for out of the students’ $8,000. “They didn’t need to tell us to take out nose rings and wash the purple out of our hair,” said Foy, who needed to do nothing. “We would do it anyway out of respect for all these gentlemen have done. “Buckles noted the inevitable. “These heroes are a resource that is fading fast,” he said. “I called some guys who participated last year, and they had passed on.”

(I do not normally print a story from a newspaper but this was so heart warming I had to print it. This is a “Tell America” event at the highest level. Anyone in Oregon and especially the parents and faculty of Milwaukie High students must be very proud. We are proud of our veterans from Oregon and the Oregon Trail Chapter. I envy all of you. Thank you Don for a superb story. —Editor)
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Memories of life as a POW 35 years later

By Sidney Esensten, M.D.

Continued from September–December, 1997 Graybeards

Sidney Esensten, M.D., is a family practice physician who was Chief of Staff at Fairview Hospital, MN in 1977 and 1978. The following is a written adaptation of a talk about his experiences as a Korean War POW that he gave at Fairview Riverside Hospital on November 21, 1985. Dr. Esensten now resides in Edina, MN.

Then we had what was called angioneurotic edema. This would simulate our wet Beri-Beri in that men would get swollen legs, swollen scrotums, swollen abdomens, and pleural effusion. On July 6, 1953, three men were taken to the Chinese hospital with the idea that they had wet Beri-Beri, and they were taken there to die. On July 10, two days after they heard that they were negotiating the end of the war, two of these men returned completely free of all fluid. Imagine, scrotums as big as they were, fluid, ascites, pleural effusion. They received no therapy whatsoever from the Chinese. All they had to hear was that negotiations were starting and maybe they’d go home, and that gave them a tremendous morale boost and they lost their angioneurotic edema.

Then there was another peculiar disease we had that made us all afraid that we were abnormal. We lived with life and death so peculiarly that all of us laughed about death and kidded about dying. As more and more people died, the stimulus of the fear of death increased, which was what the Chinese wanted as part of their indoctrination program. We could not dig in the frozen ground to bury our dead. Instead we laid them on the next hill from our camp. We covered them with rocks in order to keep the Korean dogs from chewing them up. The Chinese ordered that we put them on the next hill where we could see them from our camp. As the number of rock mounds increased, the stimulus of fear of death increased. When there were enough mounds, the Chinese felt we would then be ready for indoctrination. All of us began to adopt an attitude toward life and death that we might as well joke about dying because we were not going to get home. We wondered if we did get home, whether we would survive in our society. Every time we would get some new people, we did our usual crazy things and showed our crazy attitudes. These new people began to wonder whether we were abnormal. All the new people would come to me because I was the doctor and say “Doc, are these people really as crazy as they seem?” But in a couple weeks they were just as crazy as we were.

Now I want to describe the only major operation that we did during this period. We finally found one Chinese doctor who said he would help us operate on one of these infected fractures. This was in January of 1951. He got us two ampules of penicillin sodium, 60cc of ether, and two other 500cc of bottles of 10 percent glucose in saline. With this we were going to try to do a mid-thigh amputation. We also had two ampules of morphine that I had hidden inside my boot. And men used to carry morphine in little toothpaste-like tubes, only it had a little needle on it. You just pulled the top off and injected and squeezed it. This was for the sake of speed. You never ever bothered to take their clothes off, it went right through their clothes. I happened to have two of them in my pocket when we got captured and I hid them in my boot and the Chinese never found them. We also had two ampules of adrenalin 1:1000. With the dull scalpel that they gave us, the two hemostats, a bone saw, a bone forceps, some cotton thread, and a rusty old wood rasp that I borrowed from a Korean farmer, Dr. Anderson and I attempted to do this operation.

With an infected leg, the best operation is a guillotine operation where you just cut it off, by sawing right through. For that you need the ability to put traction on the skin and muscle, and be able to change dressings every day in order to pull the skin and muscles down over the stump. But we didn’t have that, so we elected to do what is called a fish-mouth closure where we put the longer anterior flap and the smaller posterior flap so we could have the bone covered. We put the flap to the extreme posterior so that if he lived he would be able to wear a prosthesis. Our operating room was one of these seven feet by seven feet rooms with one little carbide light. We took whatever sheets we had and draped them across the room because there was mud on the ceiling and we didn’t want mud falling into the wound. I started the anesthesia because I was the only one of us who had ever given any anesthesia. I started the anesthesia with IV fluids. But we didn’t have any tubing to go with the IV fluid so we took an old stethoscope and we used that tubing and attached it to the bottle. It was very easy because this was Chinese glucose and saline and they had it in a flask. We just had to break off the end and attach the tubing onto the bottle. The Chinese got us one needle that we put in the far end of the tubing, and that was our IV fluid. So I started the IV fluid, gave him the pentothal, and put him to sleep. The Chinese doctor was supposed to handle the pentothal and give it to the patient whenever I told him to. The first time I told him to, however, he forgot to unclamp the tubing after he injected the pentothal. Before we knew it, the patient was moving and we found out that we had a big clot in the one needle we had.

I finally unclipped the needle with a piece of wire and by that time he was in shock and I couldn’t get another IV started. I then began to give him drop ether. I’d give him a few drops of ether with one hand, and help Dr. Anderson with the other hand, and that’s the way we operated. Finally, in a couple of hours, we ran out of drop ether. By that time, the patient was in complete and total shock. It took us seven hours with our two hemostats. We had to clamp and tie, clamp and tie, and cut. After he was in complete shock we didn’t have any trouble cutting arteries, because he didn’t bleed. We cut some of the main arteries in his leg and he didn’t bleed at all. Finally after seven hours we sawed up his flap, a very beautiful flap we thought. Then all we could do is hope that he came out of shock and lived. We ran out of adrenalin long before. We had to take care of him at night in our PAR, which was the same room we operated in.

The Chinese wouldn’t give us a flashlight to see during the night, because they were afraid I would signal our planes flying over us all the time. When he moaned and groaned, I had to guess how much morphine I gave him or turn him over and take care of him the best I could in the dark. Surprisingly enough, he lived. He had a beautiful flap. Though he had two little stitch abscesses which cleared up very easily, he had a beautiful stump that could fit any prosthesis. Dr. Anderson and I were
very proud of this. The only trouble was that he died of starvation three months later.

At that time the Chinese were doing another operation in the prison camp called the “chicken liver operation.” This consisted of taking a piece of chicken liver about an inch in diameter, soaking it in a weak penicillin solution for 24 hours, incubating it at 37 degrees centigrade for 24 hours, making a small incision in the right anterior cheek and inserting the piece of chicken liver subcutaneously. This was done on 52 men all of whom were dying, were in moribund condition, and wouldn’t eat. All 52 men lived. They were going to die because they wouldn’t eat. The important aspect of this operation was that the Chinese gave them a tremendous build-up before surgery.

The first patient was forced to have the operation. He was told that if he didn’t have it they were going to send him back to his quarters and, of course, he would die. What did he have to lose? He had the operation, and the minute he came off the table they put steak and eggs in front of him. This is the first time he had ever seen food like this in nine months. After the big propaganda because they’d show records of people in China and Russia and so forth who had this operation and how important it was, he gobbled up the eggs and steak. So, they had the next man they wanted to do the operation on talk to the first one. They showed how well he was and how he was eating and this is how they proceeded. Everyone got to talk to the person ahead of them and see that they were alive. Everyone one of them got this propaganda and the steak and eggs, and fortunately they all lived. Once they began to feel better and eat, their morale got better and they had a feeling they might live. About that time, the negotiations for peace started. They all heard about this, so between their eating, getting their strength back, and gaining weight, plus the fact that they might go home there was a tremendous impetus to stay alive. The usual course of events after the operation was that the material sloughed out in about two or three days, but two of the men had calcium laid down in this piece of chicken liver. They are still walking around with two calcified foreign bodies in their chest. The Chinese claimed this operation to be a great Russian discovery and some of the material we read said it would cure syphilis, tuberculosis, cancer, malnutrition and was a panacea for all diseases. We read this in the English printed Chinese and Russian papers that we got as part of our indoctrination. One Chinese paper even added to the long list that it would cure pregnancy, which I thought was very good. At one of the meetings with our Chinese interpreter, I asked him to obtain for me some information about this chicken liver operation which I had heard about, and he looked at me and said, “Doctor, you are not here to study medicine, you are here to study Communism. When America is liberated, all the American doctors will have to go to school to learn who to save and who not to save, those who are for the people and communism and those who are against the people and are reactionary.”

Things got better then, and, by early summer of 1951 we finally got to take our clothes off. That was the first time we had our clothes off in six or seven months, or longer. Imagine what our clothes looked like, they were falling apart.

acid. He would feed the dog and collect gastric acid, then he would feed the dog and ring a bell at the same time. Eventually, he would just ring the bell and the dog, thinking he would get food, would respond by pouring out gastric acid. Therefore, with his conditioned reflex he could guarantee a response by the dog. He could guarantee that a certain stimulus would get a certain response. In converting this to communist indoctrination theories, the Chinese believed the same thing could happen with people. Their stimulus, of course, was our fear of death, starvation, and malnutrition. In other words if we didn’t behave or agree to their philosophy, they took away whatever little food we had, and denied us what little medical care we had. As more and more people died, and the stimulus of the fear of death increased, we thought it wouldn’t be harmful to listen to their indoctrination program. By the time they started our indoctrination program they had broken us down to the point where none of us could think beyond four-letter word invectives and none of us were strong enough to walk across the room to say anything to try to resist. At that point they thought we could accept foreign ideology. We would accept it until we were physically and morally broken down to that point.

The same indoctrination program has been practiced on all the people in any country in which communism has taken over, including East Europe and China, Viet Nam, Laos, Cambodia and Afghanistan. They also made it worse by separating all the young soldiers, the privates, the Plc.’s, the sergeants, and the corporals, from the officers. The reason for this is that most of us officers were college graduates, some of us had taken courses in political science and knew something about Marxism. But these young kids were barely out of high school. They didn’t have any idea of political history, political economics or anything. The Chinese used Ph.D.s in political science to indoctrinate these kids. How could these young kids argue against these political Ph.D.s? Some of us officers gave them a good run for their money, but the kids couldn’t do anything. So, there they were, they had to listen and believe. The indoctrination program consisted of lectures, reading material, and discussion groups constantly from when the sun came up until it set. This happened every day, from March 1951, until negotiations were
finally settled July 27, 1953. There were four main topics:

1) The wonderful life in Russia and China under the Communist regime. But, they forgot to mention the 15 million Chinese the Communists killed in the first year they took over China.

2) Political economy and Marxist philosophy. I really enjoyed this because I could sit and argue with them because I knew something about this subject.

3) America was decadent and there was nothing good about America. We didn’t have democracy in this country - all we had were slums. No one had cars and houses. No one had nice living. The few times we did get some mail (in those three years I got seven letters from my wife, and my wife got eighteen letters from me) our wives would send pictures of our homes and our cars and we’d show them to the Chinese guards. They’d be impressed until finally they told the company commander about it. But the next day they wouldn’t look at pictures. They’d shake their heads in disbelief. We did have some people who understood Chinese and got from them that the Chinese commander told them the American government had sent these letters as propaganda — these cars and homes and so forth didn’t really belong to the wives of the men, they were just being used for the pictures and then were taken back from the wives after the picture was taken. And of course, the Chinese peasant soldiers believed them.

4) Germ warfare — the history of the Far East, of course, includes recurrent plague: cholera, typhus, and smallpox. The Chinese were claiming the Americans were dropping germs that caused all these epidemics. I’ve already told you of the decimation of the Chinese forces from typhus and smallpox. The Chinese actually tried four American airforce officers for dropping germs. They even brought in scientists from Sweden, Denmark, and Communist countries, as well as judges from the same countries, who came over to look at their displays of sick animals. The rats and other animals running in the fields were contumaciously killed, so they had multiple pictures of dead animals. All of these “intelligent scientists” accepted this propaganda. In the United Nations, there was a lot of harangue from these scientists about how America was dropping germs. To give you an idea of some of the thinking, there was a man named Wilfred Burchett who was an Australian newspaperman who wrote for the French Daily Worker. He wrote, “There is no question in my mind that America has committed germ warfare because one day I was driving my jeep through North Korea and there on the top of the hill where there weren’t any trees, I heard an American jet going over. I couldn’t see the jet but I could see his contrail (you know, jets fly about 35,000 to 40,000 feet and you can’t see them but you can see the white vapor that comes out behind the engine). Twenty minutes later I saw this little leaf come down out of the sky. I picked it up and I took it to the laboratory and I had it examined and sure enough it had bugs on it.” This was printed in the Daily Worker newspapers that were distributed throughout the world. The only thing wrong is that Mr. Burchett doesn’t know anything about science. If he knew that when a man who weighs 180 pounds bails out at 40,000 feet he has to freefall to at least 10,000 feet or he will freeze to death. He hopes he can freefall in that time to open his parachute before his hands freeze. A grown man falling then would float down from 10,000 feet by parachute. The Air Force officers we had who had some theories in survival training, told us about this and calculated it would take them 20 minutes to drop from 40,000 feet to the ground. That’s a 180-pound man versus this little tiny leaf that supposedly dropped in twenty minutes.

July 1951 to September 1953

Life during this period gradually improved. Negotiations were going on in Kaesong and every time it seemed like they were getting closer to settling the war, our level of food improved. Every time things were going badly for the Chinese at the negotiating table, our food got worse. But, overall our general living conditions improved. We were able to get enough DDT to keep from getting lice, we were allowed to build bath houses so we could keep clean, and we were given some padded clothing that the Chinese wear in winter. We had one suit of padded clothing, as well as one suit of summer wear. We were given several sets of undershorts to wear. We were also given several pairs of stockings. We also got soap, one bar per person once a month beginning in 1952. During this period, the indoctrination program was now limited mostly to meetings. They brought in multiple books and were constantly bringing in Daily Worker newspapers from San Francisco, New York and Paris, as well as English translated Communist papers from Russia and China. Most of the books they brought in were Communist oriented, and some of them were even by Americans, who were fellow travelers, and described how terrible life in the United States was. In 1952, they divided the camps again. Instead of one main camp we had four to five camps and the officers were moved to their own separate camp which was about 15 kilometers from Pyoktong. We were set up in a school house built by the Japanese. Instead of having a little tiny seven by seven feet room, we had big expansive school rooms with 40 people in them instead of 12 to 15 in a little tiny room. As time went on, we were allowed to get some wood and finally were able to make bunks for ourselves instead of sleeping on the floor. We did not have a problem with lice anymore. We were able to have some control over the cleanliness in our own living areas, which was the job of the medical officers. There was still problems with attempts of coercion by the Chinese. We were being called over for interrogation and indoctrination on a one-to-one basis, although some group indoctrination still continued. They felt that the continued supply of newspapers would be helpful to us. The school grounds were big enough to have a playground. We were allowed to exercise and even could play baseball. We made a baseball out of rubber heels on our boots as a center core, and then we took some of the leather from our boots, stitched the leather around the rubber interior and sewed it together so it was round and looked like a softball. We then carved a bat out of a log, and this was our first attempt at playing baseball. By the time 1953 came around the Chinese had begun to provide us with regular bats and balls. They also provided us with volleyballs so that we would be able to exercise on a regular basis. Because we had more food and we could exercise, less of our day was spent in indoctrination. We had time for ourselves and with improvement in these conditions our strength began to return a little bit so we could indulge in sporting activities. The hardest part of this period was the constant disappointment we felt when it would look like it might come to final agreements and something would happen which would throw everything off. The negotiations would get broken off and the stagnant war,
just above the 38th parallel, would continue. More people would be killed and there would be more prisoners. Up until September 1951, the struggle for survival was so great that it, plus daily constant indoctrination, occupied all of our attention. In the last two years the acute stress of survival was gone, and therefore life tended to be a little more boring.

Most of us were bored to death because we were not utilizing our talents as physicians, except that the men would still come to us with their problems — even though we had no tools or medicine to give them. I was the senior medical officer because I had graduated from medical school about four years before the other doctors who were with me.

Incidentally, there were nine American doctors captured, four died in captivity, and five of us lived to go home. The other doctors had just come out of their internships. I was the only one who had been in practice. I had been in the service before that and was called back as a reserve officer. As I was the senior medical doctor and was hot temper, I always used to get in trouble with the Chinese. So, they decided to pick on me. In June of 1951, they were going to put me on trial for purposely killing all the soldiers, because it would look bad for the Chinese when it came out at the end of the war that so many Americans had died. They claimed I didn’t give them medicine, I didn’t give them food, and I didn’t give them penicillin. They wanted me to produce a confession that I killed all these men, but of course I wouldn’t. As a result . . . well, I won’t go into what they did to me. That’s not important. In Chinese and Russian intelligence dossiers, I’m listed as a capitalist, warmonger, and imperialist. It’s the title I’m proudest of because when America is liberated, as the Chinese interpreter told me, I won’t have to worry about going to school because I will be one of the first to be exterminated, and I’m proud of that! For 1,011 days of captivity, all we kept hearing was that Communism was going to destroy the United States. I still believe they will make an attempt to do so. In April of 1953 we had what was known as “Operation Little Switch.” “Little Switch” was supposed to be a transfer of sick and wounded. We transferred from the United Nations forces 5,000 Chinese and North Koreans back to them and they transferred 600 United Nations soldiers from our prison camps. Even though we were much sicker (I refer you to this book I told you about, “Captives Korea”. If you read about the treatment their prisoners got, people in today’s hospitals don’t get treatment as good as those Chinese and Korean prisoners got), we transferred 5,000 people back, and they gave us 600. The problem was that being good communists they only sent back 300 sick and wounded. The other 300 were people they felt they had indoctrinated to Communism. When the first American prisoners came back they told all the newspaper people and made speeches about how wonderful the Chinese and Korean communists were and what great treatment we got and all the good food and nice living quarters we had. In fact, they formed a group called the American Ex-POWs for Chinese and American Friendship. The American people began to feel that all of us had turned to communism. As a result, when the rest of us came home we were segregated as communists. We went from the communist prison camp, across the demarcation line into American hands, and were put on helicopters and flown to Inchon where we were segregated in another prison camp. We went from the barbed wire of North Korea to the barbed wire of Inchon. They didn’t allow anybody to come to see us. They then put us on ships. You’ve heard of slow boats to China, well this was a slow boat because it took three weeks to go from Inchon to San Francisco. They segregated us on the ship because in the first ship they sent back there were fights between the normal rotating troops that came back and the prisoners. All the normal rotating troops thought we were communists, and they hated our guts to think we had turned to communism. We were segregated on the ship. When we got home they immediately shipped us back to our homes and then separated us from most journalists. It wasn’t until I got home and found out how bad things were that I began to make some speeches about our living conditions. Finally we began to make people understand that very few prisoners had become communists and we were the most ardent anti-Communists.

Many things happened after we got home. The fear of abnormality took hold. When we got back to San Francisco many of us had our wives come out to meet us. We spent about five days in San Francisco. We were all afraid to leave each other. We were afraid we were abnormal. We were even afraid to know what our wives would think about us. So it took five days before we all had the courage to leave and go home. Then we had the problem of our relationships with our wives. After all, absence doesn’t make the heart grow fonder and none of us knew what to expect. Among men who returned, many were impotent. They had not had intercourse for three to three and a half years, and yet they couldn’t even get an erection because they were so fearful of whether or not they were normal, whether or not their wives loved them, and whether or not they were going to be able to survive in a marriage. But after a couple of days and a few drinks again at of the Mark Hopkins Hotel, things got straightened out.

What are the chronic changes of POW life? Many of us did have permanent damage from our POW life, and I’d like to quote something from Veterans’ Administration material which compares men who are age 44 to 64 among non-POW veteran and among ex-POWs. In heart disease, 9.7 percent of Americans in that age would get heart trouble, 25 percent of returning POWs would get heart trouble; cancer, 1.3 percent of the normal population, 15 percent among POWs; diabetes, 4.4 percent as compared to 9 percent; ulcers, 4.5 percent as compared to 35 percent; arthritis, 14.8 percent against 20 percent; cirrhosis of the liver on the basis of malnutrition, of course there were none in the normal population, but 35 percent of the POWs had cirrhosis of the liver from malnutrition. We are now beginning to see some of our POW friends dying of cancer of the liver due to their nutritional cirrhosis. We Korean POWs have an organization which meets every two years. During the course of my youth, I was supposed to have been trained as an Orthodox Rabbi. My mother died when I was very young and so did my father. My grandmother had a dream that I was going to be a rabbi. Well, I was the first rebel that ever existed, and I changed after I got into college. My POW friends knew this story, so when we needed someone at one of our reunions to give a memorial service, I was elected. This was our 25th year since our release. We called it the week of freedom. We didn’t have any chaplains in the group. (We had five chaplains who were captured: one British Anglican minister and four American — one Catholic and three Protestant ministers.) The four Americans died, and the one Anglican minister is still alive.
and doing well. Anyway, they asked me to
give the sermon at the Air Force Academy.
Many of you have been to Colorado
Springs and have seen the beautiful chapel
they have there. There's this little Jewish
man standing up on the altar giving a ser-
mon. I was scared to death because all the
cadet corps of the Air Force Academy
and my friends were there listening to my
sermon. I'd like to read part of the memorial
service that I gave that day. It was Septem-
ber 17, 1978, 25 years after we were rele-
ased. Remember, at the start of this story
I stated that I wrote it as a memorial to the
almost 3,000 Americans who died in Ko-
rean POW camps.

"We are here today to remember our
fallen friends. These friends who unfor-
nately passed from our sight in view of the
hardships under which we lived. The man-
ny, many young men covered by rocks on the
hillside of Pyoktong, those buried at the
Bean Camp and various other sites where
we were allowed to place our dead. In this
solemn hour when we consider the swift
flight of years, our thoughts turn to those
whom Thou hast taken from our midst. Oh
Heavenly Father may the lofty message and
the tender memories of this service
strengthen and soften that we may meet
every task, and every test with firm
and courageous faith. Man is feeble and perish-
able, but they laid plans are subject to dis-
appointment and failure. Scarcely ushered
into life he begins his pilgrimage to the
sepulcher. Through trial and suffering he
has been to the darkness of the grave. Unfor-
unately for some this was a very short lived
exodus. For those of us who survived our
years of internment and are now celebrating
our week of freedom, remember many of
the young men who never had a chance
to live, to enjoy, or to ever feel the begin-
ing of their fondest hopes — their fondest
hopes having been dashed in death.

All has been ended for those whose bod-
ies remain in North Korea, for death fully
terminated their combat, it stopped their
grief and their joys, their success and their
failure. One by one these men passed along
the road of life and then disappeared from
our view. Most of us felt that we would also
be walking the same path to the doorway of
the grave. However, for some unknown
miracle, some of us are still here to remem-
ber those who passed from our sight. Today
we memorialize the spirits of our dear ones
who are gone from this earth, hopeful that
the Lord will keep His faith with our friends
in death as in life and know that when those
of us who are here walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, Thou will be with us.
At this hour of memorial we recall the
loving memories of our friends who have
perished through the cruelty of the oppres-
sor. Not punished for any individual guilt,
but without discrimination, they were
driven in multitudes along this road of suf-
ferring, pain and pitiless death. Their very
presence on earth was begrudged them for
they brought to the mind of our atheist
captors the recollection of Thy covenant
of mercy and justice. For no sin of theirs did
they perish, but because they were a symbol
of a society which was completely foreign
to our oppressors. They have died as the
martyrs of bygone days because they stood
for liberty and democracy. They lie at rest
in nameless graves and resting places in far
off fields and mountains and are lost to the
eyes of revering kin and friends, yet they
shall not be forgotten. We take them into
our hearts and give them a place beside the
cherished memories of our own love, they
now are ours. We hope that these our
friends, martyrs, nameless to most every-
body but us, shall not have suffered in vain.
Almighty God we thank you for the gift of
memory which unites us here with those
who have been left behind. This hour of
memorial bids us to be mindful of the
supreme hour which will call all of us to the
realm of eternal rest and gather us to our
friends. We remember all of our loved ones
who have already reached the goal we are
attending, we think of the days they were
with us and rejoice in the blessing of their
companionship. They are near us even now
though many years have passed over their
graves. Remember with reverence those
whom death has taken from our midst dur-
ing our ordeal. We name in our hearts all
our friends and buddies at this memorial
service. As the departed whom we now
remember have entered in the peace of life
eternal they still live on earth in the acts of
goodness they performed in the hearts of
those who cherish their memory. May the
beauty of their life abide among us as a
living benediction. May the Father of peace
send peace to all of us who sit here today
and to the families of those who were left
behind, and comfort all the bereaved
among us."

This has been a long story, and I hope
not too boring. I would like to close with a
poem written by a young air force sergeant,
a gunner on a B29 shot down in late January
of 1951 who finally joined us in Pyoktong
in mid-February of 1951. Because he was
late in coming into the camp his death
figures are a little bit different than those
that I told you. This is the poem, it's called

"A Time To Remember."
Not a bugle is heard
Not a funeral beat
Nor even a drum sounding retreat
As over the ice the corpses were carried
To that hill where our GIs were buried.
Six feet by two feet by one foot deep
In a Korean hill they sleep.
Both young and old
Perhaps one wonders "why"
These sixteen hundred had to die.
No little white crosses to bear their names
But they were not buried in shame
Although they lie in unknown graves
They were the sixteen hundred American
brave.
There were no useless caskets to enclose
their breast.
Only GI clothing for their last rest.
All colors of men black, brown and white
Now sixteen hundred faded lights.
A pill, a powder or medicine of any kind,
May have saved them from that yonder hill.
Those sixteen hundred now lying still.
In their illness, tossing and turning
Most of them knew there would be no
returning.
Some went easy, but most in pain
Did these sixteen hundred die in vain?
For those of us who may go back to enjoy
life's fill,
They will be there on that lonely hill,
Forgotten by some, yet remembered by
most,
They will be the "sixteen hundred in their
last post."

Page 38
The Graybeards
KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL
GRANITE WALL MEMENTO

This beautiful commemorative is a tribute to you, as a Korean War Veteran, or your family member, who fought in the Korean War. The memento is an authentic piece of the "Academy Black" granite, quarried in California and fabricated in Minnesota, used to create the mural wall of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. Each piece is numbered with a brass plate and includes a certificate of authenticity.

The granite piece is a full 3½" x 6" x 1½" thick. The front has a high polish finish with the text hand-screened in durable epoxy ink. It can be stood on edge as shown or placed flat on the 4 felt dots which are attached to the bottom.

The wall plaque contains the same striking granite piece as above, recessed into a 7" x 9" x 1" deep piece of satin finished oak. The back is slotted for easy hanging. This plaque will add beauty to any home or office decor.

Each piece is gift boxed for a high quality presentation.

Net proceeds to fund KWVA projects and programs.

Have your local engraver add a personalized plate for your next awards presentation.

---

Korean War Veterans Memorial
Dedication, July 27, 1995

This is an authentic piece of "Academy Black" granite used to create the mural wall for the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Presented to
Recipient's Name

---

SPECIAL
20%
DISCOUNT!

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St. Paul, MN 55113

Telephone: (612) 639-0561
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TOLL FREE: (800) 732-2611

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<td>Granite Memento / Oak Wall Plaque in Gift Box</td>
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These prices reflect a 20%
Special Discount.

Minneapolis Residents Add 6.5%
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AK, HI & PR Residents Add/1 5.00; Rural AK Add/1 2.50

Shipping & Handling Charge (Allow 4 Weeks For Delivery) $3.95

ORDER TOTAL $______

☐ Enclosed is my check for the amount listed above.
Make Check Payable To: REBCO Inc. (Allow 2 additional weeks for delivery.)

☐ Please charge: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

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Name as it appears on card: ____________________________

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TURNER PUBLISHING COMPANY
Salutes Korean War Veterans

Korean War Veterans Memorial
Commemorating the dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial, this book contains a vivid, complete history of the Korean War, from the invasion of South Korea by the North Korean People's Army on June 25, 1950 to the intervention by the Chinese Red Army. The book also contains 29 unit histories detailing combat actions in the Korean War, biographical sketches of Medal of Honor recipients, and a published roster of more than 58,000 of those killed in action or missing in action during the "Forgotten War." Also included is a comprehensive description of all aspects of the design, development, and completion of the Korean War Veterans Memorial.
388 pages, 9" x 12" hardbound, $39.95

1st Cavalry Division - Korea
An unabridged reprint of the original 1953 book produced by the Division documenting the history of the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea from June 1950 to January 1952. Each unit is represented with a narrative of combat action and crisp photo reproductions.
304 pages, 8" x 12" hardbound, $49.95

7th U.S. Cavalry in Korea
This historical account was written by Ed Daily, a Korean War Garry Owen veteran and former POW. It is the story of an ordeal sustained by the flesh and blood of United Nations, American, and Republic of Korea soldiers, not to mention the innocent and defenseless refugees. Superior photos, maps, casualty lists, military symbols, weapons glossary, and the roster of the 7th U.S. Cavalry Association.
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The Chosin Few: North Korea: November-December 1950
From the "Frozen Chosin" to the 15,000 soldiers who spent two weeks fighting their way out of a trap set by 120,000 Chinese troops. Experience the famous battle through the eyes of the veterans who were there. Breathtaking photos, an in-depth history of the battle, and first-hand personal accounts detail every aspect of the campaign fought in the frozen wastes of the Chonjin Reservoir. Biographies of 1,200 veterans detail the lives of those who survived. Includes an index and roster.
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Fighting on the Brink: Defense of the Pusan Perimeter
This encyclopedia chronicles the Pusan Perimeter campaign providing a clear insight into occupation in Korea, Japan, and Okinawa prior to the war. With an historical text written by BG Uzial W. Ent (Ret.), this book details the strategies and actions of the troops, yet offers the personal side of this story through individual accounts of the soldiers who were there. This is the definitive history of the Perimeter and is a must for any Korean War history buff.
432 pages, 8.5" x 11" hardbound, $49.95

Turner Publishing Company is the world's largest military veterans association publisher having published more than 400 titles. Ask about our multiple order discounts and our 56-page full color catalog $2.00, which includes a redeemable coupon towards your first purchase. Mention this ad and receive a 20% discount on titles of the Korean War.

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All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of the those listed below. May they rest in peace.

Illinois
* Leroy A. “Seabags” Seabury
* Oliver W. Spaulding
* Edgar Thomas

Maryland
* Donnal R. Smith
* Kenton L. Coulter

Pennsylvania
* Irving O. Morse, Jr.
* Ernest I. Hughes

Ohio

West Virginia
* W. Edward Thomas

Attention KWVA Members


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: Amos Camp, 7828 Rebel Drive, Annandale, VA 22003.
Suggested donation: $1.00 per copy, plus $2.00 shipping. Include check with order payable to KWVA.

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 issues of Graybeards each year.

MUSEUM from page 12

Following a mass mailing to members of the 3rd Division during the week of Christmas, the membership was increasing rapidly with each mail delivery. Income from charter members is paying for general operating costs (no salaries), and helped establish an Endowment Fund and Building Campaign Fund at the First State Bank of Tuscola. Until the year 2000, five percent of all dues goes into the museum’s Endowment Fund to perpetuate its educational programs and the facility. After 2000, ten percent of the dues is allocated to the Endowment Fund.

Clyde Fruth of Freeport, Illinois (ph. 815-233-0242) has been named national chairman of the marketing campaign to raise funds for the museum. He is seeking veterans throughout the United States who would be willing to supervise these efforts in the district in which they live, and then report back to him. In the meantime, all dues, offers of artifacts, correspondence, phone calls, queries, and requests for information should be routed to one central location: the office of Lynnit Sommer, Secretary, Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, c/o 700 S. Main, Tuscola, IL 61953. Lynnit is also the director of the Douglas County Museum, which is the sponsoring museum for the Korean War Museum. She can be reached at the museum 217-253-2535, at home 217-253-4620, or by e-mail.

How you can help: (1) Join (2) Pass the word along (3) Offer to help Clyde Fruth (4) Send rosters, no matter how large or small, to Lynnit for mass mailings (5) Remember that 100,000 Korean War veterans are dying each year - there is no time to waste in establishing your museum!

LETTERS from page 25

I am sending a second donation in memory of my brother who died after returning from the Korean War: Sgt. Alfred E. Bell
I also wish to make this donation in memory of my cousin who was killed in action in the Korean War: F.C. John Coulton

Charles R. Bell
Dear Korean War Veterans, Family and Friends,

General Ray Davis, former Commandant of the Marines, a Lt. Colonel in Korea, recently summarized the characteristics of veterans:

- gallantry in combat...
- compassion for victims of war...
- support of families and communities at home...
- constant patriotism and loyalty.

Over two years ago, Monumental Productions began production on a documentary on the Korean War, to be based on the experiences of, and photographs, film and memorabilia of the veterans themselves. Since that time we have been flooded with materials, suggestions, leads, contacts, stories, pictures, films and recordings relating to veteran’s experiences in Korea. General Davis’ comments have certainly been borne out for us by the Korean Veterans. Over and over everyone at Monumental has been struck by the grit, courage, sacrifice, hardship, brotherhood, determination and ingenuity exhibited during the Korean War, and the generosity, encouragement and cooperation given to us in this project. Now, KOREA, Remembering A Forgotten War, a documentary film in 12 parts, as seen and told by those who were there, is completed. Monumental is proud to have been a medium for the voices of the Korean War veterans. It is truly a remarkable story.

Much of the assistance and encouragement Monumental received in support of our effort came through newsletters and magazines such as the GRAYBEARDS. We now hear that the GRAYBEARDS magazine is threatened, and the KWVA faces some serious viability problems. Monumental wishes to support and assist your organization, both because of your encouragement to our project, and because it is clear that the KWVA was started to meet a need and clearly responded to that need among those who fought in Korea. Monumental Productions has therefore agreed to make a donation to the National KWVA general treasury, from the proceeds of sales of our film documentary through KWVA membership and GRAYBEARDS. Monumental will make the contribution outlined below from the proceeds of the sales price of the Korean documentary series sold from December 1, 1997 through December 1998.

What this means is that a sale of 650 series, for example, will result in a donation in excess of $10,000 to the KWVA. Thus in purchasing a documentary, not only will you be receiving a special veteran’s commemorative numbered edition of the film and a cherished family memorial, but you will be helping your organization. Over the course of the next year, Monumental hopes to work with KWVA to establish a program for the donation and distribution of our film documentary series in libraries, schools, veteran’s hospitals and other locations where the Korean War experience can be made known to a larger general public.

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Since its founding by Bill Norris and his friends, the KWVA has been a driving force in creating the National and many State Memorials to the Korean War Veterans. Please accept the support of all of us at Monumental Productions in keeping your organization going and your voice heard.

To place your order for the Veteran’s Numbered Edition of KOREA: Remembering A Forgotten War, please call toll-free 1-800-595-1945, and be sure to mention The GRAYBEARDS!

With gratitude for your assistance in our project and best wishes to your organization, Monumental Productions.

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Reunions

February 1998

March 1998

USS John W Weeks (DD-720) March 1998 Hickory, NC, Contact: Dick Pervorse, 3700 Olds Rd, Sp 65, Oxnard, CA 93033. Tel: 805-488-3258

April 1998

772nd MP BN, 3rd annual Reunion to be held in Perrysburg, OH, April 30 to May 3, 1998. Contact: Joel C. Davis (Hdq's Co.), P.O. Box 342, Luckey, OH 43539. Tel: 419-833-1613.


May 1998


USS Willard Keith (DD-775) Years 1950 and after Mid May 1998 Charleston, SC Contact: Charles Knickerbocker, Jr., 129 Bradbury Rd., Brookhaven, PA 19015. Tel: 610-872-1755.


June 1998

Korean War Marines 1950-1955 Overseas or Stateside and their spouse, all Units including FMP Corpsmen, Doctors, Chaplains, June 4-7, 1998 Location: Convention Center, Sioux City, Iowa, Contact: Glen Callaghan 112 N. 8th Street, Mapleton, IA 51034. Tel: 712-882-1824.


USS President Monroe (AP104), June 4-7, Virginia Beach, VA. Contact: Raymond J. Marek, 2330 Cemetery Rd., West, Virginia Beach, VA 23463. Tel: 757-425-3622.

The USS Davison, DD618/DMS37, in service 1942 to 1949, will hold her annual reunion June 10-13, 1998 at the Charleston Hilton in North Charleston, South Carolina. Contact: Roy Dewald, 313 Mt. Allen Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055. Tel: 717-766-8739.


Engineer Aviation Units, SCARWAF, Special Army with Air Force personnel, especially from Korea. June 24-27, 1998, Springfield MO. Contact: Jim McCoy, 4216 65th St., Des Moines, IA 50322-2814. Tel: 515-276-5345.


USS Goff (DD-247) June 1998 Hickory, NC Contact: Houston Evert, 52 Warwick Rd., Stratford NJ 08084. Tel: 609-783-7574.

August 1998

USS Davis (DD-937) Aug 1998 Newport, RI Contact: Carl Ross 6410 Sun Country Dr. New Port Richey, FL 34653. Tel: 813-847-0247.


September 1998

ASA in Korea: 1950-1960, 3rd Annual Reunion, Sept. 17-20, 1998 in Madison, WI. Contact: Landa Cleary Travel @ 1-800-515-2632 ext. 3 for information.


October 1998


USS Charles R Ware (DD-865) October 1998 Wilminton, NC. Contact: Michael Gaeta, 151 Edgemont Terrace, Sanford, NC 27330. Tel: 919-499-6706.

(In reading other magazines I see that they charge for reunion notices. The above reunions listed come from many sources. I hesitate to ask a member or a supporting organization of KWVA National to pay for reunion notices. Since we are in need of support at this time, I think it is appropriate to ask you to send a minimum donation of $1.00 for each reunion notice. Again, this request is not mandatory. —Editor)
Advertising Contract Agreement

For the information of members, organizations and companies wishing to place advertising with The Graybeards

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, six issues per year January/February; March/April; May/June; July/August; September/October and 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 agreement. Copy must be camera-ready and meet the quality standards as determined 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: ________________________________________________ Phone ______
City ____________________________ State ______ Zip ______
Signed ____________________________ Contact Person ______ Date ______

Make checks payable to: KWVA
Send with your remittance to: Vincent A. Krepps, Editor, 24 Goucher Woods Ct., Towson, MD 21286.

Advertising Rates

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Color
Black and second color earned rate plus $650
Black and one match color earned rate plus $850
Four-color process earned rate plus $1,200

Other charges
Inside front cover, back cover and inside back cover will be quoted upon request.

Mechanical Requirements

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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.

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Solicitor: _________________________ Date ______

Send all copy together with this contract to: Vincent A. Krepps, Editor, 24 Goucher Woods Ct., Towson, MD 21286-5655
The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

K.W.V.A. Regular Annual Dues — $15.00  Associate Membership — $12.00

Life Membership: Up to age 60 — $150; 60-65 — $100; 66-70 — $75; Over age 70 — $50.

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Please Check One:

☐ POW  ☐ REGULAR MEMBER  ☐ LIFE MEMBER  ☐ ASSOCIATE MEMBER

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Unit(s) to which Assigned: Branch of Service

Division ___________________________ ☐ Army

Regiment ___________________________ ☐ Air Force

Battalion ___________________________ ☐ Navy

Company ___________________________ ☐ Marines

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Dates of service within or without Korea
(see criteria below)

from _________ to _________

Make checks payable to:

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P.O. Box 10806
Arlington, VA 22210

Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210 (Telephone: 703-522-9629)

Credit Card # _________________ ☐ VISA  ☐ MASTER CARD

Expiration Date _________________

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Name of Chapter (if applicable) ____________________________

MAKE 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 the 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 Korea (September 3, 1945 - June 25, 1950), within and without Korea (June 25, 1950 to January 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, 1955 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 for membership. Ninety percent (90%) of members must be United States Veterans, ten percent (10%) may be other.

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.
The Fighting Ships

There’s a roll and a pitch, and a heave and a pitch,
To the nautical gait they take, as the white toothed combers break.
For they’re used to the cant of decks that slant,
To the thrill of the turbines might,
On plates that hum like a beaten drum,
As the knife bow leaps through the briny deep,
With the speed of a shell in flight.
Oh the scorn is quick for the crews that stick,
To the battleships steady floor,
For they love the lurch of their own frail perch,
At fifteen knots or more.
They don’t get much of the drills and such,
That the battleship sailors do,
For they sail the seas in dungarees,
And the words they hear are “turn to.”
They needn’t climb at their sleeping time,
To their rack that swats and bumps,
For they leap like mad into a narrow pad,
That quivers and bucks and jumps,
They love the sound of the seas that pound,
On the half inch plate of steel,
As they close their eyes to the lullabys,
Of the creaking aides and keel.
They’re a lusty crowd that’s vastly proud,
Of the slim gray craft they drive,
Of the roaring flues and humming screws,
That make her a thing alive.
They love the lunge of her surging plunge,
And the murk of her smokestacks too.
As they sail the seas in dungarees, For they are the ships crew.

Author Unknown

(Thanks to Kimber L. White (Lt., USNR). From USS Foss (DE59) booklet, from which I intend to do more stories. —Ed.)