

Election Issue! Election Issue! Election Issue! Election Issue!

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION
March - April 2011
Vol. 25, No. 2



Vote! Vote! Vote!
Ballot Inside

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Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. It is not sold by subscription.

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We Honor Founder William T. Norris

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WWW.KWVA.ORG



From the President

William Mac Swain

The new year started with the President making a serious mistake in his "From the President"

message in the January-February Graybeards. I was reminded by a member of Chapter 160 from the Rapid City area in South Dakota that I need to stop trying to change where Fargo is located and to apologize for even mentioning Fargo, since they did not ask to hold the 2012 Annual Membership Meeting. (Fargo is in North Dakota, as anyone who has seen the movie of the same name knows.)

I hereby apologize to all those in Chapter 160 who spent a lot of time in preparing their bid to host that meeting in Rapid City, SD for my serious lack of fact-checking. I hope that the member who called me, Marvin Knapp, will accept my apology now that I have corrected this screw-up on my part.

This issue of your magazine presents the resumes of the candidates for the 4 Directors positions for a 3-year term and Second Vice President for a 1-year term. We did not have a candidate for the Second Vice President position in the 2010 election, and the Board of Directors voted to fill that vacancy for the remaining 1-year term during this election. The Second Vice President position will then be opened again in the election of 2012 for the usual 2-year term.

As the President, I have never shown a preference as to whom I would support, since I believe that is strictly a decision to be made by the membership. I again will work with all those elected. My only comment is that the membership should look at the resumes and ask questions of the candidates directly if they have any.

I will be calling for a Board of Directors meeting in Washington DC during the Gathering that takes place each year in July. We need to have a presence in Washington DC to support the ceremony that takes place at our Monument and also at the National Cemetery on Armistice Day, July 27, where we will remember those who

This issue has many important notifications in it. Look for a flyer for our 2011 Fund Raising project. Each member will receive a letter telling you about the Fund Raiser.

never returned home.

We will also be there during the Korean War Veterans Recognition Act, passed into law in 2009, and during this 1951 60th Korean War Anniversary Year. As a Congressionally chartered veterans association, we also need to be available for any recognition that might be scheduled during this time period.

I normally do not call attention to individuals in my message, but I do want to commend our editor of *The Graybeards*, Arthur G. Sharp, for his continued ability to make this magazine one that we all can be very proud of. Also, I have been informed that our publisher, Gerald W. Wadley, has contracted with the printing company to save us approximately \$6,000.00 in printing costs during the 2011 year of six issues. Both of these gentlemen should be recognized for their outstanding dedication to their assigned tasks.

I will attend the National Memorial Day Ceremony in May at the National Cemetery in Washington, DC, along with our Ceremonies Chairman Thomas McHugh and the Color Guard from Chapter 299. A wreath will be presented at the Tomb of the Unknowns, where an unknown Korean War veteran lies with an unknown World War II veteran and an unknown Vietnam veteran. This is in memory of those Korean War MIAs and POWs still not found or being looked for at this time in North Korea.

It is a great honor to just be able to stand and salute the Tomb as a representative of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

Our Korea Revisit Program has an added feature this year. For you veterans who fought in the Chorwon Valley Area, a pre-trip to the area has been added by the Military Historical Tours Group to

take place before each of the three periods approved for a Korea Revisit Trip. It is an additional cost, since none of the hotels, buses, food or guide expenses are taken care of by the Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA).

The cost has to be paid for by the individuals who sign up. It is the same with the other two side trips after the Korea Revisit to China or Vietnam. The 50% of the costs of the domestic flight to and from the central US airports and the flight to and from Korea are taken care of by the MPVA. Thus, you save on the flight from your home airport over to Korea. I believe this side trip will be a great addition if you were in the Iron Triangle/Punch Bowl/Pork Chop Hill areas.

This issue has many important notifications in it. Look for a flyer for our 2011 Fund Raising project. Each member will receive a letter telling you about the Fund Raiser.

As you know, the dues we collect are not enough to operate and still allow for all the necessary Liability and Multimedia insurance, travel by our Directors and Officers, Financial Audits, and all other budgeted items necessary to meet corporate requirements, as well as payments to our contract workers for our database, website, CPA and the publication of our fine magazine.

I again want to personally "Thank" all the Chapters and individuals who donate funds for *The Graybeards*. Without these donations, your magazine would not be as great as it is. Also, registration information for our Annual Membership Meeting in the Boston area in October and the Korea Revisit Program are included.

William Mac Swain

COVER: 51st Fighter Wing Firefighters prepare to respond to a simulated scenario during Operational Readiness Exercise Beverly Midnight 11-02 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea March. 14. The exercise allows Airmen to demonstrate their ability to complete the mission in simulated chemical environments while executing their primary duties, practicing self aid and buddy care, conduction post-attack reconnaissance and unexploded ordnance sweeps. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Evelyn Chavez)



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From the Secretary



Frank Cohee

Who is "Me?"

Sometimes most of us take certain things for granted. That is what I did when I wrote the article entitled "Scholarships available for direct descendants of Korean War Veterans" that was on page 12 of the January-February 2011 issue of *The Graybeards*.

I asked that the name of the applicant be sent to me. I did include my home telephone number and my e-mail address that includes my name. My name was also at the top of the article right under the title. What I did not do was to identify myself as the National Secretary. I took for granted that all members of the Association knew who I was from reading my "From the Secretary" articles that are in *The Graybeards* and would look at the list of officers that are listed under National KWVA Headquarters on page 2 (back of the front cover).

I was surprised at the number of calls and e-mails asking me where to send the information. Obviously, some members never look at the listing of officers and directors who are elected by them or appointed by the President to run the Association. Incidentally, the names are also listed on the website, www.kwva.org, under List of Officials.

So, if you are a member of the KWVA and have a direct descendent who meets the requirements set forth in the aforementioned article, please send to me, Frank Cohee, KWVA Secretary, 4037 Chelsea Lane, Lakeland, FL 33809-4063, a transcript of the descendent's high school grades and a copy of the acceptance letter from the college where they have been accepted. There is no application form.

New Accredited Chapter

Congratulations are in order for the Association's newest chapter, CID 319, located in Lawton, OK. They have met all of the requirements to receive their charter, which is in the mail. The chap-

ter Commander is Cecil "Bud" Arenz. They have 20 members at this time.

Missing E-mails

Around the first part of March 2011, prior to March 5, I developed some computer problems and had to disconnect my computer to be fixed. If you sent me an email around that time, and you have received no response, please resend.

I get anywhere from 150 to 200 e-mails just about every day. Some are spam, some do not require a response, etc. But, I still usually get more that require a response than I can answer the same day they are received.

I know that there were a few that had not been answered. So, if you have not received a response, please let me know—especially if your e-mail was about the scholarship mentioned above.

Disservice To Korean War Veterans?

To: Gary Noller

I am a life member of the Americal Division Veterans Association (ADVA) and a life member of the KWVA. In fact, I am the National Secretary for the KWVA. I noticed that under ADVA Membership on page 4 of the subject issue there is no mention of the Korean War. This is an insult to the Korean War veterans. Please correct this in future issues.

Frank Cohee
National Secretary, KWVA

From: Gary Noller

Thank you for your message. You raise a good point. I will address your point as a commentary in a future edition of the magazine.

We used to list the members of the 23rd Inf. Div., 1954-56, as Korean War veterans. We now list them as Cold War veterans. We have done research on this topic. Arguments can be made for either designation. There are those who feel that either one of them is not correct, and alternately, either one of them is correct.

Considerations for the use of Korean War veteran:

The 23rd Inf. Div. was active during the Korean War era (per VA definition of Korean War era). Many of those who served in the 23rd Inf. Div. thought that they may end up in Korea if the "hot" war flared up again. The 65th Inf. Regt. did serve in combat in Korea and later was part of the 23rd Inf. Div. order of battle.

Considerations for the use of Cold War veteran:

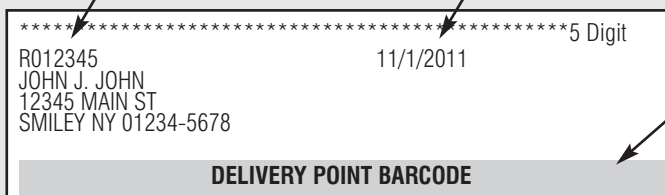
The 23rd Inf. Div. was never in-country Korea and never in combat. The 23rd Inf. Div. was activated to increase the strength of the U.S. Army because of "tensions" in various parts of the world. It was activated after the truce/cease-fire in Korea.

It served in Panama and other locations in the Caribbean and US. It was never fully filled out as a division (HQ, cadre, and one infantry regiment only).

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The 23rd Inf. Div. is sometimes confused with 23rd Inf. Regt. The 23rd Inf. Regt. did serve in combat in Korea with the 2nd Inf. Div.

In short, there are those who believe that a statement that the 23rd Inf. Div. served in the Korean War is an overstatement and does not adequately denote the veterans of the 23rd Inf. Div. or the veterans of the Korean War. I have talked with 8-10 veterans of the 23rd Inf. Div. and they generally do not see themselves as Korean War veterans.

A decision was made a year or two ago to use Cold War as a designation of service for those in the 23rd Inf. Div. in 54-56. I expect that we will continue to use this designation.

Please let me know what you think of this explanation.

Gary

**Recent VA News
Have You Heard?**

VA's Community Living Centers are participating in a nationwide campaign to make nursing homes better places to live, work and visit. VHA and the Advancing Excellence in Long Term Care Collaborative on Feb. 1 signed a Memorandum of Understanding allowing every VA Community Living Center to participate in the Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Homes campaign.

Advancing Excellence is the largest voluntary national coalition working to assist nursing homes to improve the quality of care for residents and work environment for staff. Nursing homes that have participated in this initiative have made faster progress in improving in key areas such as reducing rates of pressure ulcers, improving management of pain, and significantly reducing the use of physical restraints.

VA is considered a national leader in the cultural transformation of nursing homes to community living centers. Twenty-eight national organizations representing nursing homes, health care professionals and direct care workers, quality improvement experts, and consumers are participating in the campaign. www.nhqualitycampaign.org

Frank

Volunteer at a VA Medical Center

By J.D. Randolph

Like all medical facilities, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals, nursing homes, and clinics need volunteers. These volunteers are needed because many hospitalized vets have no family or friends, and they are very far from home.

Volunteers perform a wide range of duties. Some enjoy direct contact with patients, participating in recreational programs and other activities on the wards. Other volunteers assist the VA's professional staff in several ways that involve little patient contact.

Your role as a volunteer at a VA medical facility can be as basic, and as important, as just being a friend to a patient in the trying days of illness and therapy. KWVA VA Volunteer Service (VAVS) volunteers bring a touch of home...a personal contact with the world outside the hospital walls...the feeling that patients are remembered, that they're still a part of the community.

No matter what your inclination may be, there's a volunteer role you'll enjoy. Show our country's hospitalized vets you're grateful for their sacrifices...volunteer today!

If you would like to be a volunteer, visit the closest VA Medical Center and talk to Voluntary Service.

Volunteers Give from the Heart

*J. D. Randolph-Director VAVS
KWVA VAVS National Representative,
972-359-2936, randy9683@sbcglobal.net*

Members in the NEWS



Floyd Hooper

Actually, Floyd Hooper never got to join the KWVA. As we reported in the Nov/Dec 2010 issue, p. 23, his remains were recently identified after being turned over by the North Koreans in the 1990s.

The Denver Post.com included in its 14 November 2010 issue a story by Kyle Clark about Hooper's funeral in his hometown of Stratton, CO. A short excerpt from the article describes the reception the town gave him as he was laid to rest 59 years after he died in a prison camp:

"I am thrilled beyond words. I was just so afraid that he'd come home and there'd be nobody that would remember or care," Marlis Weaver said. "And I cried all the way up Main Street to see the whole town turn out and all the flags. "The ceremony was just wonderful, wonderful." Soldiers from Fort Carson formed the honor guard.

Thanks to Scott L. Defebaugh for bringing the article to our attention. You can read it at: www.denverpost.com/news/ci_16607619

Jerome Kessel

Jerome Kessel had a letter published in the 19 Dec. 2010 Asbury Park [NJ] Press. In it, the writer, who lives in Ocean Township, NJ, reported on his revisit trip to South Korea in which he reported that "We were treated like royalty."

Kessel concluded his letter with a familiar refrain: "I am proud to say that I and my comrades have contributed to the [South Koreans'] success. He served with B Co., 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., 25th Inf. Div., from 1952-53.

Reach Kessel at 65 Rolling Meadows Blvd. S, Ocean, NJ 07712

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2010 – 2013

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Noise versus silence. Sometimes the extremes are tremendous. But, people can perform well under pressure in either environment when there is something at stake.

A few nights ago I spent a night at a hotel in Charleston, SC. My room, 310, was next to 309, whose occupant apparently had a hard time sleeping without a TV on—and with the volume turned up as loud as it would go. Unfortunately, the occupant of 310—me—had a hard time sleeping when the TV in 309 was on, as it was all night.

Okay, you are thinking: why didn't I ask the dude at the front desk to call 309 and ask him to turn down the volume on his TV? I thought about it. But, I conducted an experiment instead. I wanted to find out how much noise I could tolerate.

Mr. 309 had his TV tuned to HBO all night. (It's easy to tell because of the music they play as each new movie starts.) And, it must have been "Blow Up Everything Within Sight Or Hearing Night." Every movie had excessive scenes in which bombs were bursting, sirens were wailing, and people were screaming for the bombs and sirens to stop—as was I!

I figured that eventually Mr. 309 would turn off his TV. Until that happened, I listened to the noise and I began to wonder what it must have been like during the night in Korea. How quiet could it have been for ground troops in the valleys and on the hills listening to the constant roar of artillery, the rattling of small-arms fire, the yelling of Soldiers engaged in hand-to-hand combat, the blaring of horns...in short, the utter cacophony of war? So, the experiment began.

How long would it be before the noise really got me upset enough to wake up the

How quiet could it have been for ground troops in the valleys and on the hills listening to the constant roar of artillery, the rattling of small-arms fire, the yelling of Soldiers engaged in hand-to-hand combat, the blaring of horns...in short, the utter cacophony of war?

folks at the front desk and ask them to intervene with Mr. 309 on my behalf, I wondered. That was an option the troops in Korea did not have. Wouldn't it have been wonderful for them to just pick up a phone, call HQ, and ask everyone to tone down the noise so they could get some sleep? Sadly, they did not have that capability.

I managed to get a bit of sleep during the night, but it was fitful at best. Every time the bombs started exploding, the sirens began wailing, and the characters in 309 started screaming again, I woke up. It reminded me of military exercises I had participated in during my active duty days in which artillery rounds, small-arms fire, and occasional simulated aircraft or naval gun fire explosions occurred. But, those were only exercises, not the real thing. Therefore, they hardly equate to a real battle or a loud TV.

Simulation vs. reality aside, Mr. 309 did not turn off his TV until around 7 a.m., and I did not call the front desk dude for any intercession. My experiment was a success: I learned that a person can survive a night of noise (minus the terror of combat associated with it) and face the next day in relative silence, albeit a little worse for wear.

Now for the silence in the equation. I learned a salient lesson in operating in a silent environment two days later at Parris Island (PI). The United States Marine

Corps Band ("The Commandant's Own") and the United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon performed on the Peatross Parade Deck at PI. (Some of you may recognize that name. Major General Oscar F. Peatross served with distinction in Korea, as he did in WWII and Vietnam.) The Silent Drill Platoon demonstrated that troops can perform as efficiently in silence as they can in extremely loud environments.

The platoon went through its 20-minute routine flawlessly—in absolute silence. The large crowd cooperated by sitting quietly as the Marines flung their 10-1/2-pound M-1s with bayonets attached between and among them. They executed their "rifle inspections" perfectly. Nobody dropped a rifle or a bayonet—or anyone's expectations. The silence was deafening as audience members sat in amazement at the Marines' ability to perform so well without benefit of any oral directions.

(The Colonel in charge of the Silent Drill Platoon told me after the performance that he has witnessed the members perform their routine hundreds of times, but he is extremely nervous before every performance. "I am always afraid somebody will drop a rifle or miss a step," he explained. This was not one of those days he had anything to worry about.)

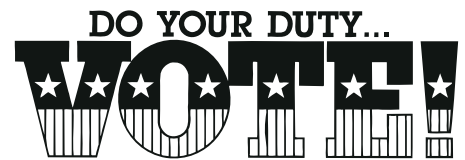
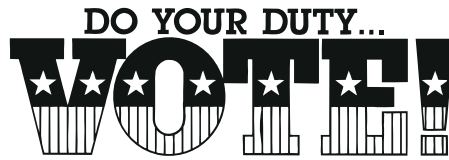
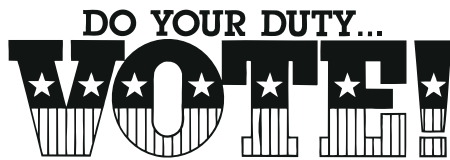
So, what did I learn? I learned that Soldiers—and non-Soldiers alike—can function proficiently in combat and real life under pressure, regardless of the level of noise involved. (Actually, I knew that beforehand. A better word for "learned" might be "reinforced.") But, which is a better environment in which to operate: silence or noise? That is a question I cannot answer.

Maybe I will ask Mr. 309—from whom I hope never to hear again.

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

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

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



ALL MEMBERS

Please complete and return the ballot in the March/April issue of The Graybeards as soon as you receive it. It is one of the few things that KWVA members are asked to do.

You deserve to have some say in the election. That can only happen if you submit a ballot. Your vote will help the Executive Board function with good members.

If you have any questions at all, contact me by phone or email. I will return your calls ASAP.

Read the ballot carefully--and vote. The completed ballot must arrive in Tucson, AZ by 10 June, 2011.

Thomas M McHugh, Director
Chairman: Elections Committee
Chairman: National Ceremonies Committee
Phone: 908-852-1964 email: tmmchugh@msn.com

BALLOT ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE

VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE

CANDIDATES

2nd Vice President

- Jeffrey J. Brodeur
- Larry C. Kinard

Directors

- Richard E. Brown
- George J. Bruzgis
- Louis T. Dechert
- Lewis M. Ewing
- George E. Lawhon
- Luther E. Rice

CANDIDATES FOR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT



JEFFREY J. BRODEUR

This letter is to announce my candidacy for KWVA 2nd Vice President for the one year term ending in 2112. I am a life member (# LR35528) so therefore my dues are paid to present date. If elected, I promise to attend all called meetings and understand that two unexcused absences could result in my removal from office. I am releasing the KWVA

application form for verification of eligible service years.

I have been a KWVA National Officer for 7 years. I spent one year as an appointed officer and 6 years as an elected KWVA National Director. For most of those 7 years, I was the KWVA National Membership Chairman. In those 7 years, despite the thousands of members who have passed on, we have maintained a steady membership of 17,000- 18,000 members. At least 1200-1500 post war Korea Defense Service Veterans have joined the KWVA under my leadership as chairman and most years I had little or no budget. At every annual meeting, we gave out decals, flyers, and posters to the chapters who were in attendance at no cost to the membership. I have helped pass many legislative bills

helping both our Korea War and Korea Defense Service Veterans thus giving the KWVA great exposure as a can do federally chartered VSO. In my 7 seven years as a KWVA National officer, I helped the KWVA obtain federal chartership from Congress which was signed into law on June 28, 2008 by President George Bush. The chapter that I founded has pulled many color guard duties for the KWVA at Arlington National Cemetery, Korean War Memorial and our national convention.

I joined the US Army in 1982 and was honorably discharged in 1989. I served as an infantryman, indirect fire infantryman and scout with the 25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning) Schofield Barracks Hawaii, 2nd Infantry Division (Indianhead) Camp Garry Owens Korea, and 26th Infantry Division (Yankee Division) Massachusetts National Guard. I have deployed to Australia, Japan, the PTA Big Island of Hawaii and did my Infantry training at Fort Benning Georgia.

After the military I worked for the United States Postal Service in Boston and attended University of Massachusetts-Boston where I graduated in 2005 and obtained my Associates Degree in American Studies, Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice, Masters Degree in Applied Sociology and Certificate in Advanced Graduate Studies (C.A.G.S.) in Forensics Services. I am in 2 National Honor Societies.

I envision bringing the KWVA to a higher level. Our Korean War Veterans are aging and we need to get younger Korea veterans

involved in the KWVA. The first KWVA National Convention I attended in Bossier City Louisiana, I was the only post war Korea veteran in attendance. The last one I just attended in 2010, we had 30-35 Korea post war there. I call this progress and hope in keeping the KWVA alive for many years to come. Remember, these veterans are second or third generation Korea veterans including myself. We need to make a presence in Korea where my chapter is actively recruiting. We need to keep the KWVA alive for many decades. Please continue to vote for me.

*Jeffrey J. Brodeur M.A. / C.A.G.S. (LR35528),
48 Square Rigger Lane, Hyannis Ma 02601
Kvamane@aol.com / 617-997-3148.*

LARRY KINARD



This letter is to announce my candidacy for the office of 2nd Vice President. I will attend every called meeting of the Board of Directors and understand that two unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office. I am a Life Member so my dues are paid up through my term of office. I have attached a signed official Application Form which may be

used by the Election Committee for verification of my credentials.

My reserve unit in Midland, Texas was activated in September, 1950 and I served two years on active duty as a 1st Lt. in the U S Army artillery. My duty assignments were Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, Camp Chafee, Arkansas as Operations Officer with the 5th Armored Division and Korea with the 3rd Infantry Division. I was a Forward Observer and Battery Officer with the 39th FA Battalion from February to September, 1952 attached to the 1st ROK Division and I Company, 15th Infantry Regiment during the time in Korea.

I retired in 1993 after 40 years with a large electric utility in Texas. My responsibilities included power plant and transmission management, personnel executive and a national committee chairmanship. As National Chairman of a major electrical committee, I helped develop the national operating policies of all the utilities of the United States. Since retirement I have spent many enjoyable and rewarding hours as a Master Mediator and volunteering for charitable and church organizations in the Dallas/Ft Worth area.

I have been a member of the National KWVA since 1995 and in September 2000 served as one of the founding members of the General Walton H. Walker Chapter 215 in the Arlington/Ft Worth area. It has been my privilege to serve the chapter as Vice President, Tell America Chairman and most recently President for the last 3 years.

In 2006 I was appointed National Tell America Chairman by then President Lou Dechert and continue to serve in that capacity with President Bill Mac Swain. As Chairman of the committee I have worked diligently to revitalize the program and get as many chapters as possible involved. I truly feel that as Korean Veterans

we have an obligation to challenge the term "Forgotten War" by creating opportunities to address groups in our communities, especially the schools, to get the message across that we did indeed have a victory in Korea. I am very proud and appreciative of the veterans in the 92 chapters who have active Tell America Programs and are making a difference in their schools and communities.

If elected, I will be honored to serve with all KWVA Officers and Directors to make our organization one that is respected by the members and all Korean veterans.

*Larry Kinard LR1945, 2108 Westchester Dr.,
Mansfield, TX 76063, 682-518-1040, larry.kinard@yahoo.com*

CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR

RICHARD E. BROWN



I release the Application Form to the Chairman of the Elections Committee for verification that I am eligible to run for the Office as a Director. My name is Richard E. Brown Sr. LR36975 and I am running for position as stated above for the 2011 Election Year. For the past 2 years I was a Director, Chairman of Elections Committee and a member of the reunion Committee. I am

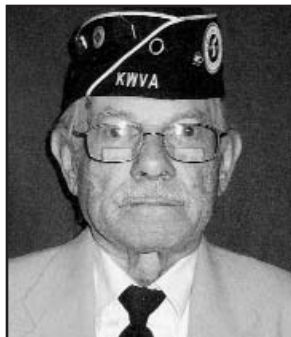
a life member of the following organizations: AFA (Air Force Association), VFW, KWVA, Vietnam Veterans Association. I also belong to the following Organizations: Air Force Security Police Association and a member of the USMC Heritage Foundation.

I served in the USAF for 21 years and retired as a MSgt, E7. I served in Korea with the 6147th Tac Control Group stationed at K47 Chun Chon AFB from 1952 - 1953. I also was stationed at Phu Cat AFB, Vietnam from 1967 - 1968. During my service career I was a member of the American Legion where I served as the Senior Vice Commander for the American Legion Post in Okinawa, and Department of Hawaii Vice Commander. I also was President of the local chapter of the AFA in Allentown, PA. While I was stationed in NYC with the .Armed Forces Police. I was assigned to the Special Ceremonies unit. There I wrote the Parade Orders for ticker tape parades and for military functions at the local Hotels in NYC. I was assigned to train Air Force personnel for Gen MacArthurs Death watch when he became ill while in NYC. I also stood the Death watch for Gen Mac Arthur after he passed away. In Korea I was assigned to lecture AF Pilots on the provisions of the Geneva Convention prior to their combat flights. As stated above I was a Director of the KWVA where my main concerns were for the general membership and if elected again, I will carry on for the general good of the KWVA. I know all the present officers as well. It takes that experience and knowledge of the other Officers. They all know me and my interests in the KWVA. It means a great deal to be experienced in this way to insure your agenda's get passed. Again, I need your votes to insure your concerns are not forgotten and your needs are fulfilled to your satisfaction.

I am a life member so that my membership is paid for the term of Office I am running for. Also, I know if I miss 2 unexcused Meetings, I can be removed from office, Since being a member I have never missed any meetings. You can count on me to insure you are not forgotten.

Richard E. Brown, Sr. LR36975, 2307 Gring Drive, West Lawn, PA 19609-1107, 610-670-2886, rebpi1@comcast.net

GEORGE J. BRUZGIS



I am announcing my candidacy for the office of Director of the Korean War Veterans Association for the years 2011 through 2014.

Military Experience

I entered the army in January 1953 and completed basic training in Fort Knox Armored Center, Kentucky. After training I was attached to the 7th Infantry Division, 73rd Tank Battalion, Able Company, Third

Platoon as a loader on a 32 tank. We were stationed on the front lines (Iron Triangle) until the Armistice was signed on July 27th 1953, at which point we were moved further south. I served in Korea for 15 months before returning to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland as a Corporal, was promoted to Staff Sergeant, and was honorably discharged in March of 1957 after serving two enlistments.

Included among my military decorations are the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, the Korean Service Medal with 1 Bronze Star, United Nations Service Medal, Korean Campaign Medal and Ambassador of Peace Medal from the Korean Government.

Civilian Life

I worked in NYC as an Operating Engineer for the Galbreath Corporation, retiring in 1995 as assistant chief for the Goldman Sachs building. In 1965 my wife and I moved to New Jersey with our 2 children, where we still reside.

Organizations/Activities

- KWVA Taejon Chapter 170 - Member since 1998:
- Quartermaster, Junior Vice Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Commander
- Tell America Program: I along with Chapter Taejon 170, work with several local schools on a rotational system. KWVA Department of New Jersey:
- 3rd Vice Commander 2001-2003, 1st Vice Commander 2003-2007, NJ State Commander (2 terms) 2007-2011 As NJ State Chairman I organized & was Master of Ceremonies on July 27th, for the Anniversary of Korean War Armistice Ceremonies, at the NJ Korean War Memorial, Atlantic City, NJ for 2007 through 2010
- Attended several KWVA National Conventions
- Represented the KWVA at many Korean functions within the NY/NJ area Attended by invitation the Korea Ceremony at the UN with Director McHugh
- Work with both the New Jersey Republican and Democratic

parties on Veteran Affairs VFW Life Member

- I have attended several Ceremonies in Wash DC and proudly presented the Wreath at the Korean War Memorial and Arlington Cemetery.

I have signed the Code Of Conduct. As a Life Member my dues are paid in full.

If elected I will attend all called meetings and understand that 2 unexcused absences could be used for removal from office.

I request your support to allow me the opportunity to continue to represent all Korean War Veterans. I will do my utmost to represent the KWVA.

Always Remember "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

George J Bruzgis LR25474, 230 Legion Place, Haledon, NJ 07508-1420, 973-956-8672, Gbruzgis@aol.com

LOUIS T. DECHERT



This letter is submitted in accordance with the Bylaws of the KWVA, USA, and instructions published on page 8, The Graybeards, Nov-Dec 2010, Vol. 24, Number 6. It is my intent to be a candidate for the office of Director in the 2011 General Elections of the Association.

I am Life Member Number LR27194, and have previously been elected as National President in the General Elections of 2004 and 2006. It is my intention, if elected, to attend all scheduled and called meetings of the Board of Directors and discharge all the other duties and responsibilities of the office of a Director. I understand and will comply with the Bylaw provisions concerning dismissal for unexcused meeting absences.

Specified documentation, a picture, etc., is attached. My mail address, telephone, email, and FAX are listed below.

Statement For Graybeards: It is my pledge to conduct and apply myself, if elected, in a manner that enhances pride befitting a Veterans Service Organization chartered by The Congress, serving all veterans of the on-going war (1945-2011) to establish and defend freedom in Korea and around the world.

I will also dedicate myself to all measures to strengthen the ROK-US Alliance and carry out the Mission of the KWVA, USA:

Mission of The KWVA/USA is:

- Defend our Nation
- Care for our Veterans
- Perpetuate our Legacy
- Remember our Missing and Fallen
- Maintain our Memorial
- Support a free Korea

Concerning experience and qualifications, each member considering the 2011 candidates is invited to examine the official record of my qualifications, experience and results which is available on the official KWVA website: <http://www.kwva.org/update/>

archives_dechert/i_update_080612_dechert_last_gb.htm or pages 3,10-11, *The Graybeards*, May-June Issue, 2008 (available at: http://www.kwva.org/graybeards/gb_08/gb_0806/gb_0806_final.pdf) The KWVA sorely needs a future and a hope to replace the deadly leadership philosophy of drifting off to oblivion. The votes of members supporting a future and a hope for the KWVA and the ROK-USA Alliance will be appreciated.

*Louis T Dechert, Post Office Box 925,
Tioga, Louisiana 71477-0925, USA,
Tel: 318.641.8293, Fax: 318.640.8312, dechert@bellsouth.net*

LEWIS M. (LEW) EWING



In accordance with the Associations Bylaws, I am pleased to have the privilege to submit my name as a candidate for the position of Korean War Veterans Association National Director for the years 2011-2014.

Following my enlistment in the U.S. Army, I took my basic training at Fort Eustis, VA and then advanced Helicopter Maintenance training at Gary Air Force Base in San Marcos,

Texas. I served nearly 18 months in Korea with the 6th and the 13th Helicopter Company's, 45th Transportation Battalion, 8th Army from 1953-1955.

I am a 51 year veteran of the banking industry, starting as a teller in 1959 and retiring as an active officer in 1999 as President and CEO of the Bank of Clarke County and it's holding company, Eagle Financial-Services, Inc. Following my retirement as President and CEO, I remained a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank until December, 2010, when I retired due to an age restriction.

I am a founding member of the Shenandoah Valley Chapter #313, KWVA in Winchester, VA and served as Secretary/Treasurer prior to election to my current position as Commander.

I have served as Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee of my Church, member of the Presidents Advisory Council of Shenandoah University, Chairman of the Lord Fairfax Community College Foundation Board, Chairman of the Dowel J. Howard Vocational School Foundation Board, President of the Chamber of Commerce, President of the Kiwanis Club, Vice President of the Ruritan Club, Scoutmaster and Executive Board Member of the Boy Scouts of America, a member of the Honor Guard for the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a member of the American Legion. Additionally, I served as President and Chairman of the Virginia Association of Community Banks, Board member of the Virginia Bankers Association and the Virginia Bankers Bank. I feel that the knowledge I have gained from working with other volunteers in these and many other organizations will serve me well as a Director of the KWVA.

I am a Life Member of the KWVA (LR36183), therefore my dues are current for the term of office I am seeking and I concur with and have signed the KWVA "Code of Conduct." I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and I under-

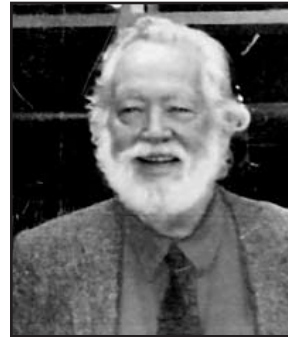
stand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used to remove me from office.

Attached is a completed and signed KWVA Form 4.1-1 Official Membership Application Form which contains information confirming my qualifications for the position of Director and I further authorize the release of the information included in this application for verification by the Election Committee.

I would consider it an honor to be elected to serve with the outstanding group of Officers and Directors currently leading our organization and I solicit your support.

*My contact information is: 310 Clay Hill Drive,
Winchester, VA 22602, (540) 678-1787, lewewing@comcast.net*

GEORGE E. LAWHON



My name is George E. Lawhon. I am a candidate for re-election as a Director of the Korean War Veterans Association, for the period 2011-2014. My dues are current, Life Member # LR18750. I have signed the KWVA Code of Conduct. My motivation to continue to serve as a KWVA Director is that I believe in the KWVA and its mission; and will work tirelessly to improve the

organization where needed, to serve the membership in a constructive manner by working with my fellow Directors.

My conviction and support for the Korean War Veterans Association is expressed in its Mission Statement on the KWVA website <http://www.kwva.org>.

Military Experience

My military, service began with my enlistment on August 1, 1950, in the United States Air Force. Following Basic Training at Lackland AFB, Texas, I then completed the 32-week curriculum at the Electronics & Communications School at Scott AFB, Illinois, as a Ground. Electronics & Communications Technician. I arrived in Taegu, Korea, in June, 1951, and was assigned to the 605th Tactical Control Squadron. When I joined the 605th, the next youngest man was 25! Following that was a year when, like many of you, I was transformed from an 18-year old boy into manhood. I never served in a better outfit, or with a finer group of men. I am proud to have known, served with, and learned from them, all who served with honor and a sense of dedicated duty. Those men showed and taught me what 'duty, honor, country' means.

Civilian Work Experience

Following my Honorable Discharge in 1954 at Patrick AFB, Florida, I worked at Cape Canaveral, Florida for Boeing, as an Electronic Technician and later for The Martin Company (now known as Lockheed Martin) on defense contracts, first as a Test Equipment Design Engineer; later as a Quality Engineer. Presently I hold a current California State license as a Professional Engineer in Quality Engineering, # QU3927, issued July 12th, 1978. I am a working consultant in that field. In the 1960's, I worked at the Kennedy Space Center for Grumman Aerospace Engineering as a Technical Writer, writing test proce-

dures for Apollo astronauts for the LEM (Lunar Excursion Module), on the Apollo Moon Program.

KWVA Service

Shortly after being elected Director in 2008, I accepted an assignment to become Chairman of the KWVA Bylaws Committee. Early on, our committee began work on the 2008/2009 Bylaws/SPM Review Project, which was to clarify and give more definition to the Bylaws, and to rewrite the Standard Procedure Manual (SPM). The revised Bylaws were approved by the Board of Directors, followed by ratification by the Membership on October 26, 2009. The final revision of the current Standard Procedure Manual was approved by the Board on June 1, 2010.

In the summer of 2008, four fellow KWVA members and myself were honored to attend the 2008 Falcon Heritage Forum on the Korean War at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Each of us addressed, on consecutive days, two cadet squadrons. The topic was "Korea: The Unresolved Conflict."

I accept the KWVA Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual (SPM), and will support any effort dedicated to the progress of the KWVA. I will attend and participate in all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that two (2) unexcused absences may be cause for my removal from the Board.

I am dedicated to preserving what has been achieved thus far, helping those who want to implement improvements in a manner that protects the Good of the Order, and hold performance of duty first, ahead of self-interest. I expressed my principles about our duty and obligations to the KWVA in two articles I wrote for The Graybeards. You can read one article on Pages 70-71 (Nov-Dec 2007), the other on Page 9 of the May-June 2010 Edition. If you believe that my goals and standards are in harmony with yours, I respectfully request your support and your vote. If elected, I will continue to work diligently to preserve and protect the KWVA. My performance standards will be the membership's interests; and duty, honor, country.

Respectfully yours,

*George E. Lawhon LR18750, 600 E. Weddell Drive #91,
Sunnyvale, CA 94089-1731 408-734-0305,
george.e.lawhon@gmail.com*

LUTHER E. RICE, JR.



This is to announce my intent to run for reelection to the office of "KWVA National Director" for the period 2011 - 2014. I am a Korean War - Vietnam War veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

I am a native of Aurora, Indiana. In June of 1948, following graduation from high school at age 17, I enlisted in the Marine Corps:

- Attended Boot Camp at Parris

Island, SC.

• First duty assignment was as a member of the Marine Detachment, *USS Mississippi* (EAG-128) March 1949-May 1951. Completed requirements and received Scouting's "Eagle" award during this tour.

• Ordered to Korea (K-3) April 1952 - April 1953 with Marine Air Control Group-2, 1st Marine Air Wing.

• Ordered to Vietnam November 1965 - September 1966 with Marine Air Traffic Control Unit, Marine Air Base Squadron -13, 1st Marine Air Wing, Chu Lai. Was commissioned a Second Lieutenant from the rank of Master Sergeant during this tour.

• Ordered to Vietnam for second tour January 1970 - January 1971 with Communications Company, Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division

• Retired with rank of Captain July 1971 after 23 years of active duty

Included among my personal military decorations and awards are the Bronze Star Medal w/combat "V"; Combat Action Ribbon; Navy Achievement Medal; Korean Service Medal w/2*; and the Vietnam Service Medal w/4*.

Returning to civilian life in 1971 I became a teacher of high school students and subsequently school principal, a position I held at the time of my retirement in 1992. In 1991 I was appointed by the Governor of Indiana to the position of Judge, Aurora City Court. I was then elected and reelected as Judge and remained in office until August 1997. I currently spend my free time volunteering with various "not-for-profit" organizations and staying involved with Veteran Service Organizations. I am a Life Member of KWVA as well as possessing Life Membership in the American Legion; 40&8; Marine Corps League; Disabled American Veterans; and the VFW.

My qualifications for the position of National KWVA Director include, but are not limited to, the following:

• Have served as KWVA National Director during the period 2008 - 2011

• Life member KWVA Chapter #129 since June 1996

• Served as First-Vice Commander, KWVA, Department of Indiana

• Served as interim Indiana Department Commander following the death of the Department Commander.

• Have served as Commander, KWVA Chapter #129 for a period of 10 years.

• Received \$250 from National KWVA for placing third in the national KWVA recruiting contest conducted several years ago

• Proven leadership ability as a Marine and in civilian life

• Education - BS & MS Degrees, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana

I certify, that as a Life Member, my dues are current and will be through the whole term of the office that I am seeking. I will attend each called meeting of the Directors and I understand that two unexcused absences from called meetings may result in my removal from office. I have enclosed a separate signed Official Membership Application Form showing my eligible service years and I authorize releasing the application form for verification by the Nominating Committee. I have read the KWVA Code of Conduct and will abide by its contents.

*Luther Rice - LR 19674, 414 Water St., Aurora, IN 47001,
812-926-2790, lericelj@yahoo.com*

Invitation

2011 Korean War American Veterans Appreciation Event

June 24-25, 2011

Sheraton Premier at Tysons Corner ♦ ♦ 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182
Tel: 703-610-8251

Members of the KWVA and their spouse/companions are cordially invited to the "2011 Korean War American Veterans Appreciation Event." This event is part of a series of Appreciation Events which were held at Orange County, California in 2008 and at Las Vegas, Nevada in 2009 and 2010. This 2011 Event will be co-hosted by Korean American Association of Virginia, World Federation of Korean Associations of Commerce, Korea-America Society, and organized by the Friends of Korean War American Veterans.

In this year, which marks the 61st anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, we like to gather again from across the United States of America and from the Republic of Korea to celebrate and gratify Korean War American veterans.

To freedom-loving Koreans and Korean-Americans, the American veterans are heroes whose courage and sacrifices have had a significant impact not only on Korea, but on the world in general. American veterans saved the Republic of Korea from the shackles of

communism and prevented its expansion, signaling the eventual demise of the communist empire.

Furthermore, the American veterans enabled the Republic of Korea and the Korean people to pursue their dreams of freedom, democracy and prosperity. We, Koreans and Korean-Americans, all will be honored and delighted by your presence at the 2011 Appreciation Event.

Please use the below form to signal your acceptance of the invitation to Friends of Korean War American Veterans.

Due to space restrictions, we will register 700 veterans and their spouse/companions on the basis of the "first come and first served." The accommodation for the one night and two days (dinner and room on June 24, and breakfast and lunch on June 25) will be provided by the Friends of Korean War American Veterans.

We will officially mail to all seven hundred guests the formal invitation with the program and additional information by May 30, 2011.

Information provided by National Secretary Frank Cohee

2011 Korean War American Veterans Appreciation Event — RSVP Form

I accept the invitation and will attend the event with (____) of my family member/companions.

(Please print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

Names of Companions

Relationship

(Please Check one with V)

Army Air Force Marines Navy Other

June 24th's Hotel Room ♦♦ June 24th's Dinner ♦♦ June 25th's Breakfast ♦♦ June 25th's Lunch

June 25th's Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Korean War Memorial

I like to tell my own war story at the 25th's program (Number of narrators is limited to 10-15)

Signature _____ Date _____

You may copy this form or one from the KWVA website, www.kwva.org. Complete this form and mail or email it to arrive by May 10, 2011 to the following: **Young Suk Kim, 7535 Little River Turnpike, Ste. 200A, Annandale, VA 22003**. Phone: 571-205-3905 (You may call the contact person to supply the above information), Email: 625event@gm.tvl.com



Occasionally, we make mistakes in *The Graybeards*. We try to be as accurate as possible, and we apologize for any errors that slip through. We do not have the funds for a fact checker, so we miss a fact or two now and then. Here are a couple clarifications. Incidentally, we rely on readers to inform us of any “misfires” that need correcting. We will print corrections in the next available edition.

EDITOR’S NOTE: *When I write “We apologize...” that is different from the pseudo apologies we often get from some people. We are sincere. “When someone says, “I would like to apologize for...,” that is not quite the same as actually apologizing. “I would like to...” means “I would like to, but I won’t.”*

We say “We apologize” because we not only want to, but we do.

Not the 65th Anniversary

The caption for the cover photo in the Jan/Feb 2011 issue mentioned the celebration in Seoul of the 65th anniversary of the start of the Chosin Reservoir battle. It was the 60th, as Evarist Lemay pointed out.

He attended the event with his 19-year-old granddaughter. He stated that, “The South Korean government made our stay very hospitable.”

Reach Lemay, who served with E-2-5, 1st Marine Division, at 30 Southern Lane, Warwick, NY 10990.

Right Lady, Wrong Name

John Stevens notified us that on p. 40 of the Jan/Feb 2011 issue, column 2¹, center picture, in the caption we identified his wife Jody Stevens as Lynn Woolsey. The lady to whom he refers is indeed his wife Jody.

Author’s Name Omitted

We omitted the name of the author of the story “Life Aboard the Shoveler” on page 20 of the Jan/Feb issue. His name is Adolph C. Polte. Reach him at bissetpolte.yahoo.com.

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

Was There a 19th Division?

On p. 28 of the Nov/Dec 2010 edition of *The Graybeards*, a reunion of the 19th and the 34th Divisions is noted under Mini-Reunions. I served in Co. A, 31st Inf., 7th ID from June 1953 to Oct. 1954. I was not aware that the 19th and the 34th Divisions ever served in the Korean War (6/25/50 - 7/27/53). In fact, I’m not aware that a 19th Div. served in the U.S. Army in any recent American wars. Please enlighten me.

A. P. Bushey, East Longmeadow, MA, abushey3632@charter.net

EDITOR’S REPLY: *The reference to the 19th was a misprint. Apparently, the 19th Division predates WWI, since the 40th was listed as the “old 19” even then. Thanks for being one of the many people to point out the error.*

Buckler’s Clarifications

There was an article in the Sept/Oct 2010 issue reprinted from the Lexington, KY *Herald-Leader* that included an excerpt from Earl Buckler, who was a gunner’s mate on the Navy destroyer Moale. According to the article:

Buckler remembers his ship docking at Pohang, South Korea in deep fog. He gazed toward shore, saw black spots through the fog and realized they were tanks. “I thought, ‘This is it,’ because our ship was in shallow water and we couldn’t turn around,” he said. “But I thought at least I could take one of them with me.” Buckler was about to fire when he was told the tanks were friendlies.

In the subsequent issue, Bob Gilbert wrote in a “Feedback” letter:

If the U.S. Navy allows Gunners Mates like Earl Buckler to open fire at will, without orders, it is no wonder we suffer so many casualties from friendly fires. Planning to fire at “black spots” which turned out to be friendly tanks reveals a lack of training and discipline we can do without.

Buckler wanted to clear up a few discrepancies in the article and Gilbert’s observations. He pointed out that:

- Moale pulled into Pohang in a “regular fog,” not a “deep fog.”
- the destroyer was there because it had a damaged screw incurred when it sailed over a drone parachute cord
- it backed out of Pohang because the water was too shallow for it to turn around
- he would not have been able to “fire at will,” since that was not Navy policy
- fire control would have been monitored by radar, not by a Gunners Mate
- there was no round in his gun, although a loader had one in his hand at the time
- nobody gave an order to fire, which would have been necessary before he could launch a round. The crew did exercise training and discipline.

Thus, the newspaper article included a few exaggerations and the letter writer read a lot more into the account than was actually there.

¹ **EDITOR’S LESSON:** When we are laying out our magazine, we count columns from the left. For example, the far left column is column 1, the next one to the right is column 2, etc. Since there were only two columns on p. 40, column 2 is the one on the right.

Music To Make You Homesick

By (at that time) Sgt. 1st Class Lou Horyza,
3rd tank, 3rd. platoon, Tank Co., 279th. Inf., 45th.Div

For a number of months, starting before Christmas 1952, our units were getting loud recorded music coming from the enemy side of the line. They would play something like "White Christmas" or "I'll be home for Christmas" and then announcing, "G.I. go home to your families, they miss you," "Your mother is waiting for you," or "Your girlfriends loves you and wants you back. Why do you fight for the millionaires? You are 5,000 miles from home for nothing."

Of course, we would get upset. Sometimes, to show our bravado, we would yell back, "Play 'Stardust'," or some other song. That wouldn't do any good. Sometimes someone would fire a weapon in that direction and after a while they would stop.

Around the 1st of March 1953, on "Heartbreak Ridge," they really started laying it on us. So, one day I gathered the two other tank commanders, as we had only three tanks in a position to fire in that direction. I had each one orient his tank to magnetic north with his maps and instructed him that when the music started that night to point in the direction he heard it coming from, take down the azimuth, and plot it on their maps. The next day we would compare maps and put those azimuths on one map. Where the azimuths crossed, that would be the location of the broadcast station. This was called resection, or intersection by sound.

We plotted the location and estimated 2,500 yards out. We posi-

About 10 p.m. that night, as soon as the music started, I directed over the radio—"Fire one."

tioned our tanks to that azimuth, adjusted for the distance, and then waited for the coming night.

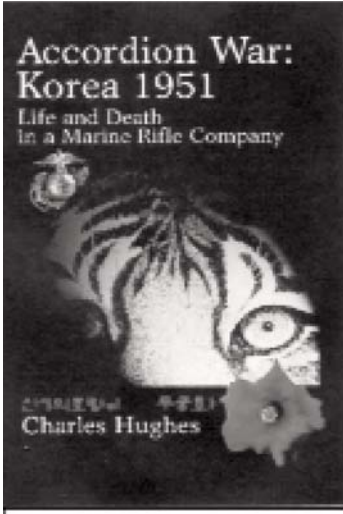
I had told the tank commanders we would fire in unison, three rounds each. The 1st and 3rd tanks would fire white phosphorus; the 2nd tank would fire high explosive. On the next volley, the 1st and 3rd tanks would fire high explosive and the middle tank would fire white phosphorus. Then, on the third volley, we would all fire high explosive on my command.

About 10 p.m. that night, as soon as the music started, I directed over the radio—"Fire one." When the shells hit, we could hear the needle scrape over the record and everything went dead. We never heard that music again.

A loud cheer came up from across the whole front lines, with whistling and clapping. That brought down the enemy fire for a while, but that soon stopped.

We never heard that music or propaganda talk again. To tell the truth, I kind of missed it, especially some of the good dance music that I liked back home.

Lou Horyza, 667 Escuela Pl.,
Milpitas, CA 95035, loupegh@aol.com



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Lt. Col.
Raymond L. Murray
Chosin Reservoir,
December 6, 1950



Major General
Raymond L. Murray

It is good to hear the whole story: Ray Murray was the hero of the Chosin Reservoir, where he saved thousands of Marines by leading a fearful, bloody trek to safety. His story is well known and has been recorded many times; it will be sung for centuries if the universe has any order at all.

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Anyone remember the Haeundae Ammo Dump Explosion?



Army ammo dump provides spectacular fireworks

There was a spectacular Army ammo dump explosion on 16 June 1952. John P. LaPlante was in a good position to take photos of the blast. He procured some material regarding the event from *History of The 6405th Air Support Wing (Materiel) APO 970*. Report for 1 June 1952 to 30 June 1952. Prepared for the Historical Office, 6405th Air Support Wing (Materiel) by : Capt. Joseph A. Buzzell, Far East Air Logistic Force.

“Some of those photos show some of the stuff we were doing there at the time,” LaPlante said. “The photos of the Army dump going up might jog some Army guy’s memories if they were in the unit where that happened.”

He recalled the event lucidly. “If my memory has not failed me, things started popping about noon that day. Sometime later, they hauled us out of our unit, too, as a precautionary measure. I recall seeing a T6 heading that way and suddenly he had that thing on its back to reverse direction. That mental image has stayed, with me all these years!!”

Although LaPlante hasn’t forgotten the explosion, there are a few facts that elude him. “I have no idea what the Army unit was nor its location,” he acknowledges. “But, I think I got the only good photos of that episode.”

He noted that the explosion was not

“I have no idea what the Army unit was nor its location but, I think I got the only good photos of that episode.”
.....John Laplante

ultra devastating. “We were back in operation the next day,” he observed. “And from the note in our yearbook, some of our people went there to help stabilize some of the stuff that had not detonated.”

John LaPlante, 137 Old Tilton Rd., Canterbury, NH 03224-2223, 603-783-4702, canterbrook@me.com

I’d be pleased if the one [photo] of my first “car” was in your selection. A truck similar to that is what I learned how to drive on. ... At 19, I was so wet behind the ears they were still dripping, they were dry when I got home to NH. ... My ANG unit got federalized Feb 1, 1951 and stayed at Grenier AFB (Then) & after until we reverted to ANG status in late 1952. Later the base was deactivated and

eventually became Manchester, NH’s Municipal Airport. (Now Manchester/Boston Regional Airport)

During WW2 it was USAAF Grenier Air Base, a transit base for bombers being flown to Gander AFB and on to the UK & Europe. I can recall many flying over our home on their way overseas.

All for now

John LaPlante



John LaPlante’s first “car.”

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| Fri 28 Oct | Arrival- Registration | Member | \$40..... | X _____ | \$ _____ |
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| Sat 29 Oct | Board Meeting (9:00 AM) | | | | |
| Sat 29 & Sun 30 | Mall Trip (On Your Own – Hotel Shuttle Free) | | | | |
| Sun 30 Oct..... | Memorial Service (9:00 AM) | | | | |
| Sun 30 Oct..... | General Membership Meeting (10:00 AM) | | | | |
| Sun 30 Oct..... | Ladies Brunch (10:00 AM) | | \$16..... | X _____ | \$ _____ |
| Mon 31 Oct | USS Constitution & State House | | \$20..... | X _____ | \$ _____ |
| Mon 31 Oct | Reception (5:45 PM) | | | | |
| Mon 31 Oct | Banquet (6:30 PM – meal choices below) | | \$45..... | X _____ | \$ _____ |

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To receive a meeting refund, you must cancel by October 3, 2011, or before. Hotel reservations or cancellations are to be made direct with the hotel. There will be a \$25 charge for returned checks. Special hotel rate for KWVA members: \$109 plus tax. Registrations accepted after the cut-off date will incur a \$5 administration fee.

Tough Marine and Spiritual Leader

The Luther ‘Lee’ Leguire Story

By Douglas Graves

In November 2008 Leguire and his adopted daughter, Deanna King, were in Seoul, South Korea at the Marine Corps Ball as guests of Major General Frank Panter, then the Commanding General of the Marines in Korea. Leguire’s wartime photograph was on the cover of the program for the Marine Corps Ball at the Walker Sheraton Hotel.

A Marine Corps photographer had immortalized Leguire raising the American flag over the U. S. Ambassador’s residence in Seoul. The photograph, taken just days after Leguire and his fellow Leathernecks had landed at Incheon on September 15, 1950, was sent back to the States where the picture and

“Tough Marine” is a household expression that has been around for a long time and for good reason—a great many tough guys are Marines. And they don’t come much tougher than Korean War veteran Corporal, now Pastor, “Lee” Leguire of Lake City, Florida.

the story made front-page news.

Leguire was at the Marine Corps Ball because, for several years, unknown to him, the Marines have been recounting his legacy to the young Marines at their annual birthday celebration.

In 2007, the Marines invited Leguire to return to Korea. They contacted Military Historical Tours (www.mil-tours.com) of Woodbridge, Virginia to make the arrangements. (Military Historical Tours takes thousands of veterans and their families to visit battlefields all over the world.)

The last time Leguire had been in Korea he had been shot through the right knee when his convoy started taking sub-machine gun slugs, stalling its two and

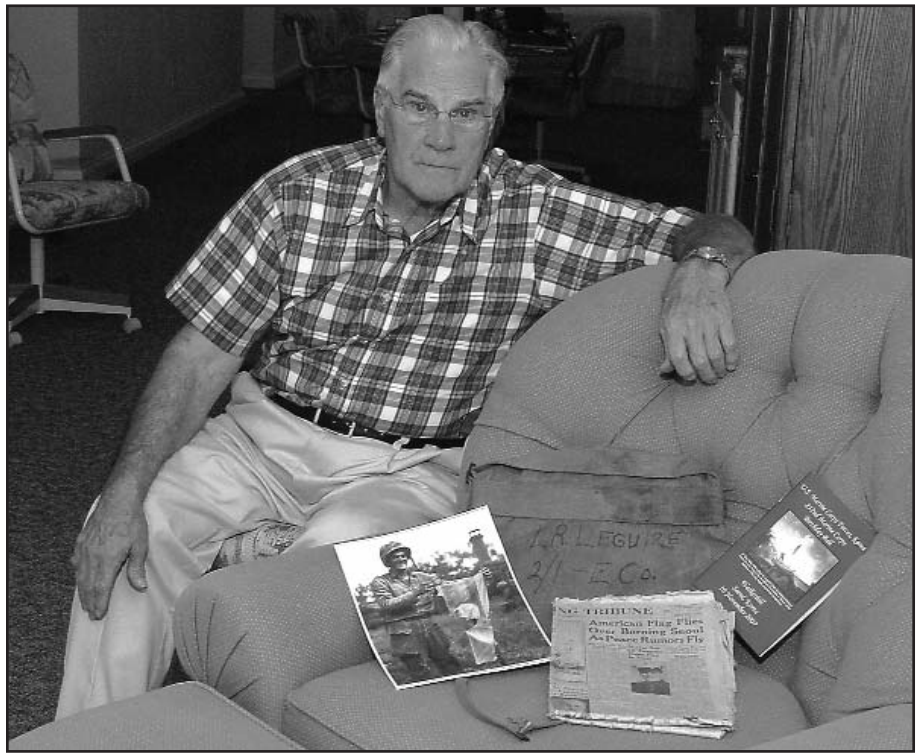
Below: PFC Lee Leguire raised the American flag over the U. S. Ambassador’s residence in Seoul.

RIGHT: Battle tested PFC Leguire proudly shows the North Korean flag that he replaced with an American flag





Pastor Lee Leguire with some of his medals. Included is the “Ambassador for Peace” medal awarded by the South Korean government in a ceremony in Seoul.



Lee Leguire with some mementos from the Korean War. In the foreground is a copy of the Tampa newspaper that carried his picture and the story about him raising a flag above Ambassador John Muccio’s former residence in Seoul. The haversack has Leguire’s unit written on it: “2/1 E Co.”

half ton trucks on a steep, narrow mountain road north of Koto-ri, not far from “Hell Fire Valley.” Just days before they had disembarked from dysentery-wracked amphibious ships that brought them from their victory at Seoul around to the east coast of Korea.

In the coming days, the First Marines would find themselves strung out from Hagaru-ri to Chinhung-ni—villages at each end of a torturous dirt road leading through the mountains to what the Marines would thereafter call the Chosin Reservoir.

“We hit the dirt when we heard the ‘burp guns’ and I shot several of the enemy. I didn’t see the one that got me until after I was shot,” said Leguire. “One of my buddies killed him.” It was November 7. He had been in combat for less than two months.

“I remember looking at my watch,” he said. “It was 1145 hours.” As the firefight raged on, the enemy soldiers killed 4 or 5 Marines who fell around Leguire.

“I kept worrying about the tires getting shot out,” he said. “I thought the truck might crush me.” He lay there under the truck, applying a tourniquet to his leg.

“It didn’t hurt. A Corpsman came by and gave me a shot of morphine, but I never saw him again. After a while I got hungry and ate some C-rations.” While his company fought to gain control of the battlefield, he spent eight hours under the truck surrounded by his dead comrades.

After a bumpy ride through the mountains to the aid station and then a boat trip out to the hospital ship USS Consolation, he started his long road to recovery.

“I can never say too much about the Navy Corpsmen who took care of me and helped me through all of the therapy,” said Leguire. “They were wonderful.”

The next time he came to Korea, he would be in a tuxedo and fêted by a room full of generals and high-ranking civilians. There were enough stars in the hotel ballroom to fill a footlocker. Earlier, South Korean officials had awarded him the “Ambassador of Peace” medal.

But this story of a tough Marine did not start nor stop with the U. S. Marine Corps.

Though he became a prominent clergyman, this future pastor didn’t even like church when he was a boy. “I would

rather take a whipping than go to Vacation Bible School,” he said recently. “I loved God but I didn’t like church.” Only after a communist bullet ended his career as an active Marine did Leguire hear a calling to preach the word of God.

As a boy, Leguire milked the family’s 24 cows twice a day and plowed fields with a team of horses from daylight to dark. Besides giving him a solid set of shoulders, the hard labor of the farm had given him iron-banded fists. Life with his rough and tumble older brothers taught him how to use them.

He left home to escape the drudgery of the farm. Part of the reason he left was because, after trying his best at a chore, his stepfather criticized his effort saying, “Your best ain’t good enough.”

For the next two years, he worked as a laborer at such jobs as loading and unloading creosoted railroad ties. When he was seventeen his mother signed a waiver that allowed him to follow his brother Glenn into the Marine Corps. But, his mother soon changed her mind. Mom and the stepfather wanted him back on the farm.

“Do you want to get out of the Marine Corps,” asked the colonel while Leguire was still in Parris Island. The officer was holding a request for a hardship discharge submitted by his mother and stepfather. It seemed his stepfather had decided that Lee’s best was “good enough,” after all.

“No sir, Colonel,” said the young private.

“Boot camp is going to be hard on you.”

“I can take anything they can dish out, sir.”

“Well,” the colonel said. “We’ll see.”

Private Leguire graduated, and his DIs recommended him for promotion. He got his PFC stripes out of boot camp.

A Mediterranean cruise was good duty for a young Marine in 1949. While he and three buddies, resplendent in dress blues and assigned as honor guards at a diplomatic soiree with French President Charles DeGaulle as a guest of honor, Leguire and his friends noticed the pretty French girls in attendance.

“If we could speak French we could ask them to dance,” said Leguire.

“Well, why don’t you just ask us?” asked one of the young women—in English. She was a translator skilled, as Leguire and his friends later learned, in seven languages.

It was later, in Newfoundland during cold weather training, that Leguire and his friends first experienced the terrain and weather that would test them on the other side of the world the following year.

By 1950 they were back in the States,

where Leguire found garrison duty agreeable. “I liked Camp Lejeune,” he said.

Though he earned a Good Conduct Medal during his time in the Marines, Pastor Leguire relates more than one story about taking direct action in resolving misunderstandings with shipmates. While he seldom drank in the off-duty liberty spots in Jacksonville, North Carolina, he refined the quick fists he had occasionally had to use in European ports. However, he said, “I never started a fight.”

While PFC Lee Leguire was enjoying life in the Mediterranean, the U. S. ambassador to South Korea had reported to Washington in 1949 that North Korean forces were massing on the border. But, Ambassador John Muccio’s concerns were not taken seriously. U. S. planners were more concerned that South Korean President Syngman Rhee would try to make good on his boast that he could retake North Korea.

On June 25, 1950 the North Koreans attacked South Korea. Leguire had no idea that, in a way, his name would soon be linked forever with Ambassador John Muccio.

“When the Korean War started, the Marine Corps had to scramble for enough men to put the First Marine Division together,” said Leguire. “General MacArthur wanted a Marine division. They put us on a train and we were on our way to San Diego.”

The United States forces and their South Korean comrades were fighting

inside the Pusan Perimeter: their backs were to the wall and the North Korean army was kicking in the front door.

After a quick stop in Kobe, Japan to disembark and get into amphibious ships, the Marines headed for Korea. The First Marine Regiment would go into combat without a rehearsal or even a command post exercise. The first time they would be together in one spot was when they hit the landing beach.

Then, on September 15, at Incheon’s Blue Beach, Private First Class Luther “Lee” Leguire stormed ashore with Colonel Lewis “Chesty” Puller, the new commanding officer of the First Marines. Almost completely surprising the enemy, they saw little opposition on their first day.

Operation Chromite, MacArthur’s classic counterstroke, relieved the siege of the Pusan Perimeter and sent the North Korean army reeling back across the 38th parallel. The First Marines headed inland toward Yongdung-po, Seoul’s industrial suburb. The battle for Yongdung-po would be tougher; the North Korean army had decided that the defense of Seoul would start there.

“It was a pretty hot situation,” recalled Leguire, now a PFC in Company E, 2nd Battalion. “One night I was in my fox-hole and it was raining. I had the bazooka that night. A T-34 tank came up the road to within 30 or 40 feet of me. I fired right at him and the turret just blew off.”

PFC Leguire and his M-1 were soon in the middle of the battle for Seoul—house-to-house, barricaded street by barricaded street, with enemy snipers hidden in the ruins. But, even in combat, life can have its quirky moments. “We caught some ducks and carried them strapped to our packs until we found some rice; a Korean woman agreed to cook us a meal of duck and rice,” he recalled.

There, in the final days of enemy resistance in Seoul, Leguire’s unit came upon the former residence of the U. S. ambassador. It had a North Korean flag fluttering from its roof. “We took a few shots at the flag,” said Leguire. United Press Reporter Robert Vermillion was there and wrote the story that hit stateside papers the next day.

“American Marines hoisted the stars



Lee Leguire points to his image in a film showing combat in Seoul.

and stripes over the residence of the United States

Ambassador John J. Muccio in western Seoul today.

“A dirty-faced Private First Class, Luther R. Leguire of Tampa, Florida planted the flag on the porch roof of the building at 3:37 p. m.

“His act symbolized the capture of the Korean capital by United Nations forces only 12 days after they landed on the beaches at Inchon.

“As the Marines watched the flag-raising at the ambassador’s residence, a sniper on the roof of blazing Duksoo Palace . . . fired one shot. As it whistled over the Marines’ heads, they said they were all for ‘getting that S. O. B.’

“But their company commander ordered only one Marine to shoot, since there was only one sniper. The Marine’s aim was true, and the sniper tumbled off the roof.”

By the end of September, the American Forces and their South Korean allies had conquered Seoul, and Leguire would soon be in North Korea. It was there, on a mountain road, that Lee Leguire’s part in the war ended.

During his short time in Korea, he had seen some friends killed and others maimed for life, but he had seen plenty of combat and more. He served with one of the Marine Corps’ legendary giants, “Chesty” Puller; had seen General MacArthur in the field of combat; had used his rifle to good effect; had been nearly killed by errant naval gun fire from the USS Missouri; had back-packed a flame thrower and had shouldered a 3.5 inch “bazooka” rocket launcher to blow the turret off a Russian-made T-34 tank. He had done his part.

When he got out the Naval Hospital at Jacksonville, Florida, jobs were tight. But, through the influence of friends he landed a good job in procurement at the Navy’s Cecil Field. Ironically, Leguire showed his talent for procurement while still in the Marines. North Korea’s cold, Siberian winter had the Marines longing for battles in warmer climes. They did not have all the cold weather gear they needed. Recalling his cold weather training in Newfoundland, PFC Leguire knew what he had to do.

“I told the captain that if he gave me a jeep I would get us some parkas. He OK’d it, and I drove to the Army supply dump. My buddy, Bonham, and I just drove into the Army supply dump. Nobody stopped us or said anything. I just started loading the jeep with parkas,” he explained.

At Cecil Field he worked hard but still maintained his enthusiasm for the Marine Corps by converting his office into an unofficial recruiting office. By this time, he had also committed himself to God.

“It cost me some of my Marine Corps buddies,” he said. “I never really joined any veterans organizations because I didn’t drink or swear. I felt like I made the veterans uncomfortable.”

Over time, Leguire lost touch with the Marine Corps. He was busy building a family and a church—six churches, in fact. The charismatic preacher set a tough pace and a high standard.

It was during the construction of one of these churches that a state politician drove up, got out of his car, and started cursing at the brick masons on the job. He apparently had some prior beef with them. When he refused to stop his tirade, the young preacher physically escorted him off the church’s property and helped him “shove off.”

He also ran a summer camp for the church family on the cypress- and oak-lined sandy banks of the Suwannee River. While by no means a boot camp, he kept every one working hard and playing hard. “We used to run to the gate and back,” said one of the campers, now grown up. “Pastor Leguire would have inspections. It was a lot of fun.”

From his mint condition 1953 Willys Jeep to his matched set of .50 caliber Desert Eagle automatic pistols, he still projects the aura of a proud, tough old Marine. Just as he was squared away in his dress blues at the American Embassy soirée in Paris, he is still neatly pressed, spit shined, and fit.

However, he still has a tender side. Recently a hummingbird, trapped in Leguire’s workshop, hovering high up toward the ceiling, was unable to find his path to freedom through the several open doors. When the exhausted bird finally dropped to the concrete floor and was

unable to move, Leguire carefully picked it up, took it outside, and cooled it with water. After several minutes the revived hummingbird furiously fluttered its wings and buzzed into the high branches of a white pine.

Leguire, 80, is now the pastor of The First Apostolic Church of Lake City Florida. He leads a remarkable assembly of hard-working, well-dressed, well-groomed men, women and children. They are pleasant folks who sprinkle their conversations with “Sir” and “Ma’am.”

However, that isn’t all that makes them unique.

A fifty-person orchestra takes the place of the choir you might find in a typical church. But these, for the most part, are not musicians who learned in childhood. Most learned to play their flute, clarinet, saxophone or guitar since they joined the church. They learn to play their instruments and then to write and sing their own spiritual songs—and they sound great!

“I want them to perform at a presidential inauguration. With a willing mind, you can accomplish anything,” said the old warrior and spiritual leader.



Pastor Lee Leguire in his office.

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Win a \$2,500 cash first prize, an M1 Garand rifle second prize, or a 17" Toshiba laptop computer third prize.

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KWVA's 2011 Fundraiser

Offers Three Eye-Popping Prizes

Lend a hand to your association by buying \$20 fund-raising tickets. Each \$20 ticket gives you a chance to win one of three super prizes. First prize is \$2,500 in cash. Second prize is an M1 Garand rifle donated by Wayne Doenges in memory of Marcos Botas Chapter 133. Third prize is a 17" Toshiba laptop computer.



Lend a Hand

Win A Prize



First Prize



Two thousand five hundred dollars in cash!

Second Prize



A Garand M1 Rifle in Mint Condition!

Donated by Wayne Doenges in memory of Marcos Botas Chapter 133

Third Prize



A 17" Toshiba Lap Top Computer!

To enter this exciting fund-raiser, complete the enclosed order form. Winner announced at 2011 National Membership Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts in October. You need not be present to win.

Department Of Florida Remembers Vets at Christmas

Charlie First, 1st VP of the Department of Florida, and Bob Balzer, Past President of the Department, delivered gifts to residents at rest homes for Christmas.



KWVA members Bob Balzer (L) and Charlie First demonstrate blankets distributed at Christmas

A Lesson For Us All

By Don Rathbun

Recently, my wife Barbara and I visited Korea as honored guests of The Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and the Korean Veterans Association. I was amazed with modern Seoul, now a city of ten million people, skyscrapers, and the latest conveniences and immaculate parks, streets and highways. That is all quite a contrast to the devastation I saw while being evacuated from there in 1953.

As we toured the “Iron Triangle” and the “Punch Bowl,” where some of the heaviest fighting of the Korea War took place, it was interesting to note that the ridges and hill tops that were defoliated by napalm strikes, flame throwers, and shell bursts during the war are now overgrown with trees and other vegetation. The rural people have restored the paddies and rebuilt their villages, many sporting condos and multi-story apartments. Streets and roadways are paved and many landscaped. Korea is now the 10th largest economic system in the world.

While serving as an Army infantryman in Korea I was asked on several occasions, “Why are we here?” At that time I was probably not sure myself, but I answered as best I could.

Upon seeing firsthand the astounding transformation the country has undergone since the armistice of 1953, it suddenly hit me that the freedom the Korean people enjoy today, their high level of living, and their economic successes are due largely to the sacrifices of the thousands of service men and women of the 21 United Nation countries that participated in the Korean War.

The Koreans in general acknowledge the support of these nations, especially the U.S., but the hard-working, tenacious and enterprising people of Korea have done the rest. Now they are truly self-reliant. We have only to look at what has happened in communist North Korea to understand what could have happened had our forces not intervened.

Revisiting Korea was a bittersweet experience. It provided closure to the



Rathbun's revisit (L-R) Dan King, Irvine, CA representing his father Marvin (USAF) POW, 4/12/51-9/9/53; Robert Fuller, Colton, OH, U. S. Army, 2nd Div., 6/52-10/53, Korea; Rear Admiral (Ret.) Yoon, long Ku, Dir. General of International Affairs, KVA, Secretary General, International Federation of Korean War Veterans Associations; Don Rathbun, Cocoa, FL U. S. Army, 7th Div. 1952-1953

question, “Why were we there!” In WWII the reason for U.S. involvement on all fronts was empirically clear. The cause and effect of each war since is less definable.

While I can only guess at the eventual outcome of present conflicts, it seems reasonable to conclude that our efforts are not in vain. In the long term, it will be seen that lives were saved, national economies turned around, and freedom restored to the disenfranchised, poverty stricken and subjugated peoples of Iraq and Afghanistan. That is my hope and prayer.

That is the reassurance that can be obtained by looking at the valiant rebuilding of Korea. That is the lesson for us all. That is the reason why we as veterans so adamantly support our men and women who so admirably fight for freedom around the world.

Hopefully, one day we may receive from Iraq and Afghanistan the love, respect and appreciation as expressed in an official proclamation presented to me and others in our Military Re-Visitation

Tour.

The proclamation titled “Ambassador For Peace” is dated 28 September, 2010.

It is a great honor and pleasure to express the everlasting gratitude of the Republic of Korea and our people for the service you and your countrymen have performed in restoring and preserving our freedom and democracy.

We cherish in our hearts the memory of your boundless sacrifices in helping us reestablish our free Nation.

In grateful recognition of your dedicated contributions, it is our privilege to proclaim you as an “AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE” with every good wish of people of the Republic of Korea. Let each of us reaffirm our mutual respect and friendship that they may endure for generations to come.

Kim, Yang, Minister, Patriots and Veterans Affairs, ROK Park, Se-Hwan, General (Ret.) ROK Army, Chairman, Korean Veterans Assoc.

Reach Don Rathbun at 124 Sonya Drive, Cocoa, FL 32926-8760, 321-433-8246

Gates nominates Thurman to command in Korea

By Gary A. Jones, U.S. Army Forces Command Public Affairs

Biography of Gen. James D. Thurman



General James D. Thurman
Photo credit FORSCOM Public Affairs

FORT McPHERSON, Ga. (March 2, 2011) - Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates announced March 1 his recommendation to President Obama that he nominate Army Gen. James D. Thurman to take command of U.S. Forces in the Republic of Korea.

A native of Marietta, Okla., Thurman currently commands U.S. Army Forces Command, the U.S. Army's largest organization, where he is responsible for the oversight, manning, training, and equipping of 237,000 active-component Soldiers and the training and readiness oversight of 560,000 Soldiers of the Army National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve.

Gates made the announcement during a Pentagon press briefing. If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Thurman would succeed Army Gen. Walter "Skip" Sharp in Korea. Sharp is set to retire after his tour as commander of the 28,500 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea.

The DOD secretary said Thurman has "the right mix of military acumen, strategic vision and diplomatic and interagency skills" needed for command in Korea.

Thurman, who is the 18th general officer to command FORSCOM, earned his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps at East Central University in 1975.

"I feel both humbled and very honored to be nominated by the secretary of Defense to continue to serve our great nation and Army," Thurman said.

In addition to his current command, Thurman also commanded the 4th Infantry Division and Multinational Division Baghdad, during some of the darkest days in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Thurman has commanded at every echelon through an Army corps. He has significant Department of the Army and Joint staff experience and extensive operational combat experience. Besides his command of 4th Infantry Division and the Multinational Division Baghdad in Iraq, his other combat assignments were: battalion executive officer in the 1st Cavalry Division during Desert Shield/Storm from 1990-91; chief of the Plans and Policy Division for Allied Forces Southern Europe in Kosovo from 1999-2000; and chief of Operations (G-3) for the Coalition Forces Land Component Command from 2002-03.

"Until such time that I am confirmed, I will stay focused on my current job, which is to ensure our Army is properly manned, trained and equipped to fight and win our country's battles," Thurman said.

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

Members are invited to help underwrite the publications costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer J Tilford Jones, 6958 Heatherknoll Dr., Dallas, TX 75248-5534. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

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National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

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

Sample order is 4 dozen @ \$12 plus \$3.00 S/H.

Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$5.00 S/H.

Order from: Earl House
1870 Yakona Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950



Make Checks payable to: **Maryland Chapter – KWVA**

Cpl. Frank Smith comes home



(LEFT) Pvt. Frank Smith, fall 1950, in basic training at Ft. Devens, MA

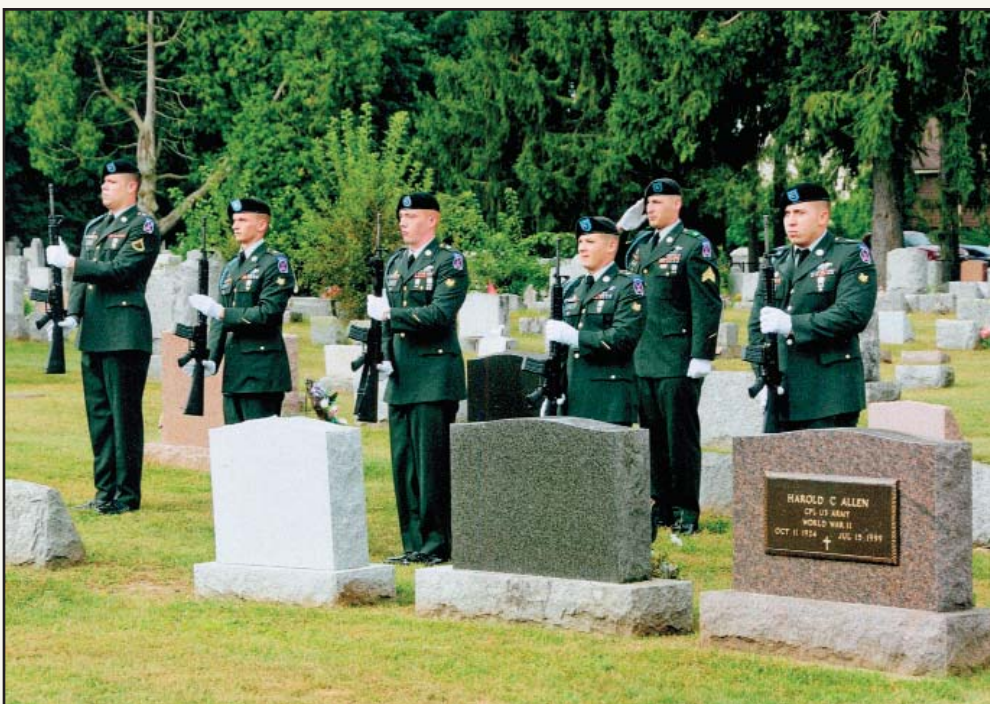
(BELOW) At Frank Smith funeral (L-R) Col. Seunghak Kim, Korean Marines, Paul Yesensky, 5th RCT, 24th Div., Cdr. Pat Perfetti, U.S. Navy, Warner Raymond, 5th RTC, 24th Div. BGen Kookwan Kim, Korean Army, and Cdr. Perfetti's son (in front)

Corporal Frank H. Smith, age 23, Co. E, 2nd Bn., 5th Regt., 24th Inf. Div., 8th U.S. Army, was killed in action July 25, 1951, while fighting on Hill 735 near Chuncheon, Korea. Cpl. Smith was buried with full military honors on September 3, 2010 in a cemetery in North Syracuse, NY, near his parents.

Smith's remains were discovered June 26, 2009 by a South Korean recovery unit and turned over to the U.S. military. A positive identification was made based on his ring, dog tags, dental records, and DNA from his surviving sisters.

Along with closure, the Smith family witnessed a full military honor ceremony at the burial site. In attendance were U.S. and South Korean flag officers, an honor guard unit from the 10th Mountain Division based at Ft. Drum, two men representing the 24th division, New York State police, a musician from Rochester, NY who played Taps on a flugelhorn, members of the Patriot Guard Riders, and over 30 members and the Ladies Auxiliary of KWWA Chapter 105, Central New York, Syracuse, NY.

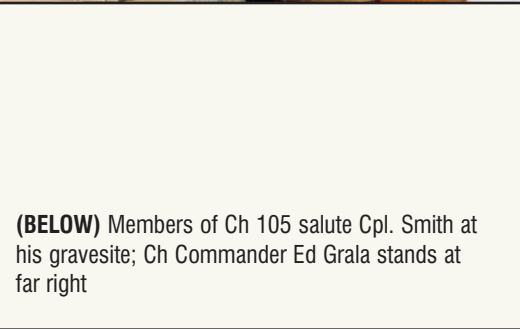
*Jim Low, 114 Wembridge Dr., East
Syracuse, NY 13057,
315-437-0833*



The 10th Mountain Division Honor Guard from Ft. Drum, NY at Cpl. Smith's funeral



(LEFT) BGen Kookhwan Kim presents plaques to Arlene Simms and Marion Chester in appreciation of Cpl. Smith's service in Korea



(BELOW) Members of Ch 105 salute Cpl. Smith at his gravesite; Ch Commander Ed Grala stands at far right



(BELOW) BGen William Rapp, Commandant of U.S. Military Academy at West Point, presents flags to Cpl. Smith's sisters, Arlene Simms and Marion Chester



One of Smith's nephews, Richard Smith, wrote a long letter (see page 31) to a local newspaper to thank everybody for their participation and help in making sure Cpl. Smith received a proper homecoming and burial. No wonder it is so long: there were so many people involved!



(RIGHT) Rest in peace, Cpl. Frank Smith

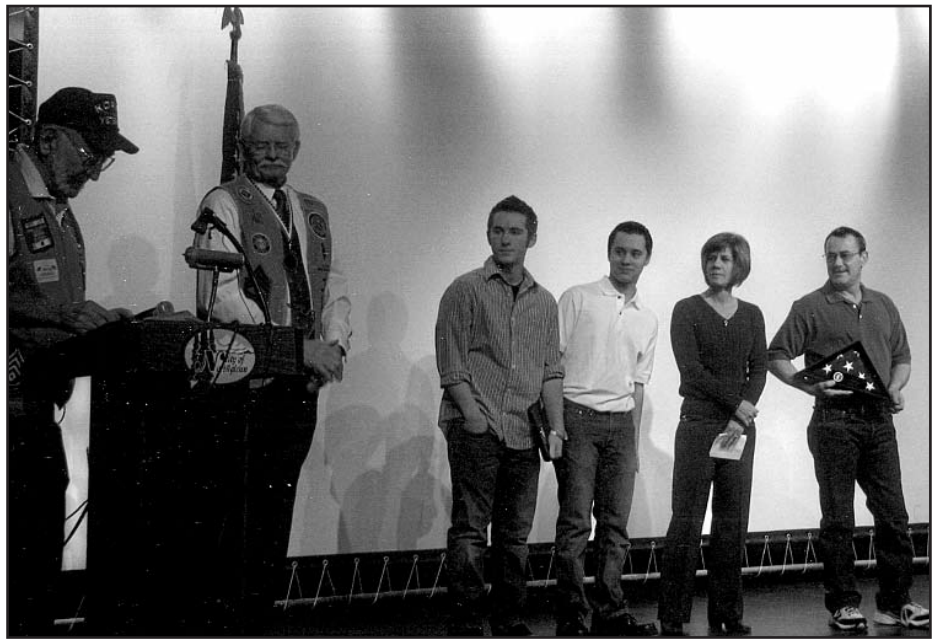
Queen City Chapter Presents 'Proud to be an American'

Compiled from Staff Reports

Beaufort, SC - When a school security guard at the Northglenn School in Colorado attempted to stop junior Jeremy Stoppel from flying the American flag on his pick-up truck in honor of his brother, who was on active duty with the United States Navy, the young man politely declined the request.

Stoppel had driven his truck into the high school parking lot with two 3' x 5' American flags on the back of the vehicle. The guard reprimanded him and told him to remove the flags. Stoppel asked, "Why would I have to do that?"

The guard informed him that the school has a policy of diversity and does not want to offend anyone. Needless to say, that answer did not set well with Stoppel. Eventually, the school officials reversed their stance and apologized to Stoppel. Consequently, Chapter 195 chose the young man as the recipient of



Ken Camell, Bob Brockish, Cal Kiel, Ret GySgt Mix, Ch 195 chaplain Frank Montijo (L-R) at "Proud to be an American" Award presentation

its first "I am Proud to be an American Award," which it presented to him at the North Glenn Recreation Center on 15 January 2011 (see photo above).

Korean War veteran Bill Baldacini explained why Stoppel was selected. "We're trying to tell Jeremy and his peers that they did the right thing and this is a pat on the back for his generation and say, 'Hey, buddy this is your country.' You're the next generation and we want to support you," he said.

The award is presented to an individual who demonstrates his/her patriotism to the principles, rights and privileges inherent to all us.

Read an account of the incident at <http://www.9news.com/rss/story.aspx?storyid=175943>

Thanks to Ken Camell, 3120 Baylor Dr., Boulder, CO 80305, 303-494-2013, CamellK@yahoo.com, and Bill Baldacini for bringing this story to our attention.



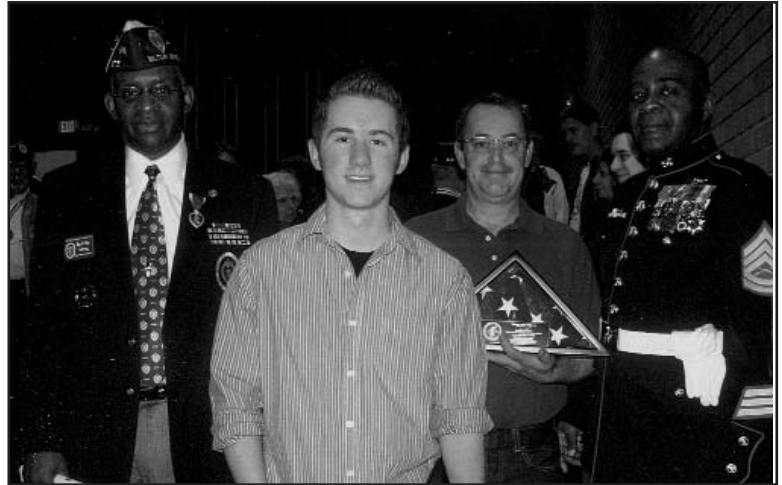
Ken Camell, Past Ch 195 President, Bill Baldacini, Chapter President Ken Giese (L-R) at award ceremony



Ch 195 members and other attendees at the North Glenn Recreation Center

American' Award

Bill Baldacini, Ken Geise, Jeremy Stoppel, his brother, Mom, and Dad (L-R) await the presentation of the "Proud to be an American" Award



Commander of the local MOPH Chapter Roy Ray, Jeremy Stoppel, his father, and Retired GySgt Mix (L-R) at award ceremony

ATTENTION VETERANS

THE "LUCIFER PATCH" IS A MEMOIR OF FIFTEEN MONTHS WITH THE "LUCKY 13TH" HELICOPTER CO. AT HUK-SAN-NI (NOW CAMP STANLEY) IN 1955-56. IF YOU SERVED IN THE WAR OR THE DMZ WARS THAT FOLLOWED, THIS BOOK IS FOR YOU. IT'S YOUR STORY AS WELL AS MINE. IT'S ABOUT WORKING IN SCORCHING HEAT IN SUMMER SURROUNDED BY MOSQUITO-INFESTED RICE PADDIES, AND KEEPING HELICOPTERS FLYING IN THE KNUCKLE-BUSTING COLD OF A SIBERIAN WINTER. IT'S ABOUT THE WARM AND FRIENDLY KOREAN PEOPLE. FROM PAPA-SAN AND MAMA-SAN, BOY-SAN AND MUSUME, YOU WILL REMEMBER THEM ALL. TO ORDER, WRITE BERTRAM L. BRENT, P. O. BOX 338 ASHVILLE, AL 35953. \$24.00 PLUS 2.00 S&H. Bbrent7696@aol.com, OR, CALL 205-594-4565. TO PREVIEW, WWW.LUCIFERPATCH.COM.

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Fallen Soldier honored by military, family

To the Editor:

I would like to thank everyone that turned out to honor my uncle, Cpl. Frank Smith, whose remains were returned to my family this past week after being killed in action during the Korean War in 1951.

Thanks to the U.S. Army, especially Brig. Gen. William Rapp from West Point who came to my uncle's graveside to present a flag to each of my aunts, and Staff Sgt. Matthew MacFarlane and the honor guard from the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum who escorted my uncle with such precision, reverence and honor. I am confident, after meeting these young men, that our military is ready to protect our nation and our freedom in a manner that would make my uncle proud.

My family had the privilege to meet and dine with South Korean Gen. Kookhwan Kim, who expressed the appreciation of the South Korean people for the sacrifice of my uncle and all of our service men and women during the Korean War. Gen. Kim assured us that his government would not stop searching until all of our missing veterans were found and returned to their families.

Definitely not forgotten—special thanks to the Korean War Veterans Association and all of the Korean War veterans that dined with us, came to the funeral, or called to offer their help, prayers and condolences. God bless each and every one of you for your service.

Thanks also to the State Park Police, Onondaga County Sheriff's Office, City of Syracuse Police, North Syracuse and Liverpool Village police departments, the State Police and the Patriot Guard for escorting Cpl. Smith to his final testing place. Special thanks to Chief Ted Botsford from the sheriff's office, Sgt. Bill Galvin from Syracuse PD, Rick Moriarty from The Post-Standard, Ted Corwin from Maurer's Funeral Home, and all of the other veterans, organizations, and friends that have honored this fallen soldier.

We pray that all of our service men and women are returned safely home to their families.

Richard Smith, Cicero

KWVA Welcomes New Chapter

319 LAWTON [OK]

On January, 12, 2011 a new chapter was formed in Lawton, OK. There were 18 people at the first meeting: 8 Korean War and 10 Korea Defense Service veterans—who were also Vietnam veterans.

The By-laws were read and approved and officers were elected:

- Commander - C. Bud Arenz
- Vice-Commander - Aaron Boone
- Sec/Treasurer - Bill Utsinger

The first order of business was to incorporate as a non-profit chapter, and receive our EIN number. This was accomplished by the end of January. The local Vietnam Chapter 751 opened its meeting room for our first meeting.

On 19 February 19, the ten Korean Defense Service veterans received their Korean Defense Service pins in a ceremony held at the Vietnam 751 chapter meeting.

C. Bud Arenz, 2807 Lynn Cir., Lawton, OK 73508



Two members of Ch 319 hold their banner that will be displayed at all their fund raisers



Veterans of Ch 319 receive their Korean Defense Service pins

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

President Robert McCubbins was asked to speak at the first luncheon of the newly formed Korean Meritorious Veterans League in Atlanta.

Gordon Jones, a military historian with the Atlanta History Center, was the guest speaker at our most recent luncheon. With the upcoming 150th anniversary of the Civil War, Dr. Jones (Ph.D).talk on Atlanta during the war was of great interest to those in attendance.



President Robert McCubbins speaks to Korean Meritorious Veterans League members in Atlanta



Gordon Jones speaks at Ch 19 luncheon



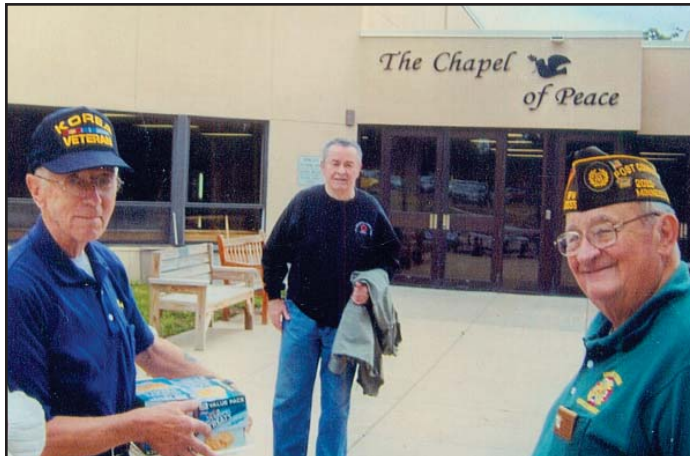
Bob Moore, Tony Martinez, Frank Van Haltern, Ben Malcom, Faye Kahle and David Hwang (L-R) at Ch 19 luncheon

David Hwang, President of the Korean Meritorious Veterans League, drew the winning names for a Samsung TL225 digital camera, donated to our chapter by Samsung Chairman Kun-Hee.

James Conway Secretary/Treasurer,
conatlanta@comcast.net

40 MINNESOTA #1 [MN]

The day started out with a gray overcast and short gusts of wind mixed with drizzle. However, in the afternoon the weather changed as chapter President Ed Valle and his minions started to arrive at the Minnesota Veterans Home on the bluffs overlooking Lock and Dam #1 on the Mississippi River, near the confluence of the Minnesota River, for their annual picnic for Korean War veterans.



Carol Lewandowski, Erv Lewandowski, Dick Ives, Floyd Jones (L-R) at Minnesota Veterans Home event



Wives of Ch 40 members work the chow line at Minnesota Veterans Home picnic

After fifteen years, including shared services with the Vets home, President Valle and member Floyd Jones, the new Commander of Fred Babcock VFW #5555 in Richfield, MN, combined forces for the annual event.



"Dad" Reusbeck (L), Dan Ruesbeck (C), unidentified resident of Minnesota Veterans Home at Ch 40's annual picnic



Lew Webber of Ch 40 helps out at Minnesota Veterans Home picnic

Jones' VFW post, the second largest in Minnesota, with 1,200 members, has helped defray our chapter's costs.

Altogether, 42 people were served lunch. Twenty-six of them were in wheelchairs; the rest were ambulatory.

Erv Lewandowski and Mel Behren were in charge of two groups of volunteers, each of whom was armed with a list of men from different floors to escort to the dining area.

We had two staff VA members, 25 of our chapter members, 2 VFW members, wives, girl friends, and visitors to help with the proceedings. Also, Sara Jones Bakery at 2853 Johnson Street NE in Minneapolis provided their expertise.

Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Ave.,
Saint Paul MN 55105

48 CHORWON [NJ]

We participated in many activities during 2010. Members:

- attended the Korea Veterans Reunion in Washington DC in July.
- presented a red oak tree to the town of Montvale, NJ, in



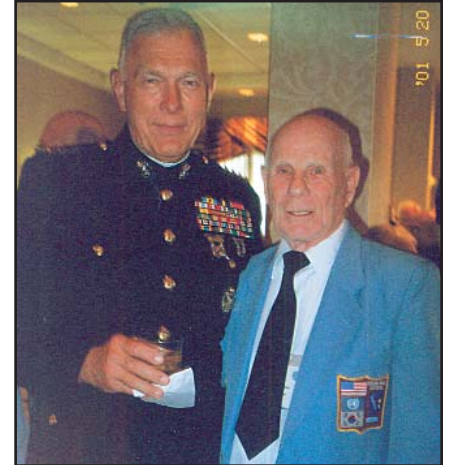
Warren Dartell, Bob Bramley, Win Bramley, Dolores Dartell (L-R) at Ch 48 function



Bob Bramley (L) and Warren Dartell (R) of Ch 48 visit with unidentified South Korean naval attaché



Robert Bramley, Sandy Newman, Alfred J. Thomas (House Manager), John Valerio, Rudy Parciasepe at Ch 48's gift certificate event at Home for Veterans in Garfield, NJ



Larry Morgan (R) converses with former USMC Commandant James Conway



Rudy Parciasepe (Jr. Vice Commander), Bob Bramley (Adjutant), Janis Shaw, accepting check for Teaneck food pantry, Jim Farrell, Commander John Valerio (L-R) at Ch 48 presentation



Warren Dartell, Larry Morgan, Bob Bramley (L-R) at Korean War Memorial

appreciation for letting us use their Senior and Civic Center for our meetings. A plaque at the base of the tree reads, "To the people of Montvale with gratitude: Chorwon Chapter #48 of Korean War Veterans of America, July 29, 2010." (See story on page 43.)

- held their installation at Madeleine's Petit Paris on Nov. 6, 2010. Officers include:
- Commander - John Valerio
- Sr. Vice Commander – Warren Dartell
- Jr. Vice Commander – Rudy Parciasepe
- Judge Advocate – Ed Halvey
- Adjutant (Acting) – Winnie Bramley (who took all the photos in this spread)

- Finance Officer – Ed Fehmian
- Sgt.-at-Arms – Tom Scully
- Chaplain – Larry Morgan
- Surgeon – Bud Schuermann
- placed flags on veterans' graves in Hackensack Cemetery
- served Thanksgiving dinner in the Paramus Veterans Home
- donated \$300.00 worth of Shop Rite gift certificates to homeless veterans
- donated \$1,000.00 worth of food to the Teaneck Armory Food Pantry
- gave approximately \$1,000.00 worth of food to the food pantry in Teaneck, New Jersey in December 2010. The pantry provides the food to veterans and their families.
- gave ShopRite gift certificates to the veterans residing at the Alfred J. Thomas Home for Veterans in Garfield, NJ.

Warren P. Dartell, 211 Hayward Pl.,
Wallington, NJ 07057

49 OCEAN COUNTY [NJ]

On Valentine's Day, February 14th, at the new National Guard Armory, Rt. 539 Manchester, NJ, we paid honor to MSGT Miriam Soto Quinano and her unit, HHC-250 BSB and other soldiers who were deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Her unit was deployed 2008-2009 to Camp Bucco, Iraq.

We presented a plaque to her unit which stated:

"IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY DURING DEPLOYMENT TO CAMP BUCCO IRAQ."

After the ceremony, a lunch was served to all. It included Valentine cupcakes. After lunch, we were given a tour of the new National Guard Armory.

Every three months we send packages of useful items, including goodies, to MSGT Miriam to share with her unit.

Tony Grace, Commander, 34 Cabrillo Blvd.,
Toms River, NJ 08757, 732-240-08757

53 UNION COUNTY [NJ]

Chapter 53 Members Attend New Jersey USMC Birthday Celebration

A celebration in honor of the USMC's 235th birthday was held at Drumthwacket, the Governor's mansion in Princeton, New Jersey, on 13 November 2010. It was by invitation only, and a few members were there to celebrate this most important Marine celebration.

Hundreds of Marines, young and old, on active duty or retired, were together in a sea of red saluting, cheering, and applauding as "Old Glory," the New Jersey state colors, and the famous Marine bright red flag, with its golden anchor and globe, were proudly marched in by the Color Guard, as the band played the Marine hymn.

A clap of thunder rocked the room as the throng snapped to attention and saluted the symbols that they had fought for, bled for, and buried their comrades for.



Tony Grace of Ch 49 and MSGT Miriam Soto Quinano



National Guard members and Ch 49 veterans gather at Manchester NJ armory

With a lump in my throat, I watched battle-hardened veterans standing tall and proud, with tears streaming down their cheeks. How lucky, I thought, that our nation is to have such a Corps of men and women defending our homes, our families, our America.

Jack McGreevey officiated, with the assistance of his aide, Sharon. Many military and civil dignitaries were in attendance and spoke of the heroism of Marines past and present. Among them were BGen James J. Grant, Veterans Advocate, New Jersey State Senator Joseph F. Vitale (D) and former New Jersey State Senator William Gormley (R), and others.

Many medals and awards were presented, and the Semper Marine Detachment played a musical medley. Finally, according to tradition, the birthday cake was cut and the first pieces were given to the oldest and youngest Marines in attendance respectively.

Later, refreshments were served and everybody had a chance to chat with old comrades and take some pictures.

NOTE: The nearby photos were taken by Martin Farricker III.

Martin Farricker, 15 Clay Circle
Brick, NJ 08724

54 THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

We held our annual dinner-dance in December 2010. As the nearby photos attest, it was well attended.

We presented a Blue Star flag to Ashley Lugo for her brother, Nicholas Lugo, who is now serving in the U.S. Navy after completing his basic training on 11 February. Ashley had her parents, Gail and Ruben Lugo, put the flag in the front window of their home to remember their family member who is proudly serving his country.



Fred Connolly, Ashley Lugo, Gil Stead, Andy Jackson, Commander of Chapter 54, at presentation of Blue Star flag



Andy Jackson (L) and Fred Connolly at Chews United Methodist Church



A room full of Ch 54 members and guests enjoy their annual dinner-dance



Christmas, 60th Anniversary, and creative icing make Ch 54's cake too artistic to eat—or maybe not



Attendees at Ch 54's annual dinner dance have a lively conversation before dinner. (L-R) Mrs. Alma Keys, Fred & Marie Connolly, Mrs. Elizabeth Jackson, Mr. & Mrs. Gil Stead, Mr. & Mrs. Stan Levin

Fred Connolly and Andy Jackson presented the POW-MIA ceremony in memory of the Korean War Veterans at the 23rd annual prayer breakfast hosted by the Chews United Methodist Church, Glendora N.J. Approximately 175 veterans, family, and friends attended and congratulated them on their presentation.

The two members were invited to do their presentation at next year's breakfast.

Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net

55 NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

Every year at our holiday party we install the new officers for the coming year. This year we had a special guest, a young man named Grant Harley, of Hicksville, NY.

Grant took upon himself—with help from his mother and grandmother—a project to help the veterans at Northport VA Hospital. He put together 80 toiletry kits and 80 pairs of socks for the veterans.

Our new officers are:

- Commander - Howard Plattner
- 1st Vice - Don Zoeller
- 2nd Vice - Hank Nowicki

- Director - Arnie Barletta
- Director - Bernie Hoffman

Robert O'Brien, 408 Fifth Ave., Cedarhurst, NY 11516



Commander Howard Plattner, Ch 55, and Grant Harley



New officers of Ch 55 (L-R) Bernie Hoffman, Arnie Barletta, Hank Nowicki, Don Zoeller, Howard Plattner, being sworn in by Bob O'Brien



Outgoing Ch 55 Commander Ray O'Connor (R) and his successor Howard Plattner

58 MONROE COUNTY [NY]

We enjoyed a special Christmas Holiday Party this year, since we planned a combined party with the Korean American Community! Treasurer Paul Wurzer, 2nd Vice President Roger Hill, and Past President Frank Nicalozzo met with Mrs. Byoung

Baek of the Korean American group (she is also a Chapter Associate member) and Mrs. Patty Ornt of the Korean Adoptive Parents group and put together one of the best parties we have had!

Emcee Roger Hill kept the program running smoothly, welcoming our guests, National 1st Vice President James Ferris and Cayuga County Chapter Secretary Joe Casper, the Adoptive parents group, and Dr. Choi, who digitally recorded all the events!

After a delicious buffet supper, we enjoyed music by Korean young ladies on violin and keyboard. This was followed by a lovely Korean student who performed two classical arias, accompanied by a talented keyboard player. Mrs. Byoung Baek then had all the Korean ladies who were in native dress in a performance of 'Silent Night' in both English and Korean.



Emcee Roger Hill, Mrs. Byoung Baek, Frank Nicalozzo (L-R) at Ch 58's 2010 Christmas party



Beautifully dressed Korean ladies and adopted children lend grace to Ch 58's Christmas party



Ch 58 members P. Ciavarrri, F. Stefano, P. Fantigrossi, G. Eisele, J. Vogel, J. Casper, Jim Ferris, P. Wurzer, E. Penrose, R. Hill, F. Nicalozzo, S. Olgerts (L-R) attend the Ch 58 Christmas party

Next, she had all our Korean War vets up and singing ‘Jingle Bells,’ after which she presented each of us with a ‘Thank you’ DVD, plaque and calendar, which had been very generously supplied by the Consul General’s office in New York City. She then read a special “Thank You Letter” from the Consul General in which he expressed regrets that he could not attend in person and offered his country’s generous thanks for our assistance during the Korean War.

To close the program, Mrs. Baek had all the Korean ladies and our members up and singing “Arriang,” a fitting closing for a very well planned Christmas Holiday Party!!

Joe Vogel, 1st VP, joebirdv@hotmail.com

60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

Lincoln Orogio has been named the chapter’s “Member of the Year.” He is the first recipient of the Sergeant Donald C. Porter USMC Memorial Award given by the chapter.

Gene Corsale, ecorsal1@nycap.rr.com



Lincoln Orogio (L) and New York State Assemblyman James Tedisco show the first Sergeant Donald C. Porter USMC Memorial Award

Jane Rydzynski and Lincoln Orogio display his “Member of the Year” Award



A portion of the Ch 60 crowd that turned out to honor Lincoln Orogio

95 IMJIN [IL]

Early Celebration of Veterans Day in Anna, Illinois

Several veterans participated in Veterans Day festivities at Anna, Illinois, on 7 November 2010. The celebration was held at the Anna Nazarene Church, in the city at which the Illinois State Veterans Home is located.



Members of Ch 95, reps from a veterans motorcycle brigade, and personnel from the Veterans Home at Anna, IL Veterans Day commemoration



Chaplain Bill Cummins, Vice Commander Russell Klein, Secretary Edgar Goodwin, Public Relation Chairman Bill Juergens (L-R) of Ch 95 by battlefront Christmas tree

A Veterans Day commemoration ceremony was held at the church, during which a check in the amount of \$3,000 was presented to the Veterans Home by our chapter. The money is to be used in the purchase of a shower lift. This will aid the residents of the home at shower time and save the backs of the attendants.

The church served a bountiful meal to the veterans. Everyone had a good time.

Korean War Veterans Battlefront Christmas Tree

We displayed our battlefront Christmas tree at the site of our monument in Swansea, Illinois. The tree is erected annually in honor of deceased chapter commander Kermit Holtgrewe, who actually experienced a battlefront tree in Korea.

The tree shows the results of simulated napalm burns and is adorned with C-ration cans, dog tags and chains, bits of tinfoil, and anything a soldier could scrounge.

The tree represented extreme hardship under wartime conditions while maintaining the Christmas spirit. We encouraged people to stop by to view the display and to thank: veterans and active military for their service.

Bill Juergens, P. O. Box 211, O’Fallon, IL 62269

105 CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

The annual Christmas Waltz at Wal-Mart with the children of service members stationed in Afghanistan was held on December 18, 2010. This is a joint venture with our chapter and DAV Chapter 30, both in Syracuse, New York.

The in-house McDonald's supplied breakfast for all before we set off on the shopping spree. Each veteran and child walked a cart through the store and shopped for Christmas gifts for their parents and siblings.

The highlight for me this year was the number of children talking on cell phones to parents in Afghanistan while we shopped. It blew me away to think about how we would wait for mail from home while in Korea.

Jim Low, 114 Wembridge Dr., East Syracuse,
New York 13057, 315-437-0833



Jack Allen and Jim Low of Ch 105, Vince Bova of DAV Ch 30, and Terri Scanlan, 174th Fighter Wing Family Program Coordinator (L-R) at Christmas Waltz at Wal-Mart in Syracuse, NY

121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

Members and widows of veterans received medallions from the President Synghman Rhee Memorial Association for the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War.

Member Baesuk Lee, MD (Ret) presented the medallions at the annual Veterans Day dinner.

Robert McGeorge, 3296 Blueacres Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45239



Swinging medallions abound at Ch 121's Veterans Day dinner



Members of Ch 121 display their medallions

126 TRI-STATE [OH]

Even though our ranks keep getting smaller, we stay as active as we can.

Last spring we started our year by selling "Forget-Me-Nots." We did fairly well.

We marched in Memorial Day and Fourth of July parades and enjoyed picnic/meetings throughout the summer.

Posting Colors on Veterans Day and holding a great Christmas party finished out our year.

We are looking forward to a better year in 2011.

George Piggott, President, 3720 Root Ave., NE,
Canton, OH 44705



Ch 126 members sell "Forget-Me-Nots" in Rochester, PA (L-R) Mike Kilcoyne, Dan Gallagher, Leonard Husk, George Germusa



Leonard Husk of Ch 126 ties down the Korean Flag on the chapter's float in the 2010 Memorial Day Parade in Midland, PA



Geordie Griffith of Ch 126 and friend occupy one of Geordie's jeeps in the Midland, PA Fourth of July Parade



Jim and Dorothy Stelts wait for mess call at Ch 126's July 2010 picnic at Chester, WV



"Posting Colors" - Lindy Malignani, Mike Kilcoyne, George Piggott, Dan Gallagher, Leonard Husk, Ed Peters (L-R) of Ch 126 on Veterans Day 2010 at high school in Wellsville, OH

180 CENLA [LA]

We recently assisted a shut-in Korea War veteran in obtaining the Louisiana Governor's Honor Medal—an award presented to every Louisiana veteran. Donald R Hebert, of Sulphur, LA, served in the Korean War as a member of Headquarters Battery, 8th Marines, USMCR. He attained the rank of Corporal.

Donald and his wife Doris heard of Louisiana Governor Jindal's policy of honoring veterans and wanted a Korea War veteran to make the award. They contacted Curley Faulk, who also lives in Sulphur, for assistance. They were concerned

because Hebert has terminal cancer and some timely actions would be required to present the award at their home.

Faulk, the Sergeant-at-Arms for Chapter 180 and a Command Sergeant Major, Retired, 3d Infantry Division, contacted Past National President Lou Dechert about providing assistance. Dechert had recently been elected Chairman of the Louisiana Veterans Coalition.



Sidney J Rosteet (Ch 180), Doris Hebert, Donald R. Hebert, Curley Faulk (L-R)

The award was sent to Faulk. He and Korean veteran Sidney Rosteet, a new member of Chapter 180, along with a Vietnam veteran, visited the Heberts on March 3, and presented Corporal Hebert the medal on behalf of the State of Louisiana.

CSM (Ret) Faulk is also Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment, 7th Infantry, under US Army Regimental Combat Arms System.

Jesse Campos, Commander, jesse_sf65@yahoo.com

188 SOUTH LAKE COUNTY [FL]

We made a donation to the Department of Veterans Affairs to be used for the new Fisher House in Orlando, FL. The house will be part of the new VA hospital at Lake Nona, FL.

The Fisher House provides comfort and support for the needs of family members of veterans receiving care at the hospital.



Commander Carl Hogue of Ch 188 presents a check to Sandra Placenan for Fisher House



The Clermont, FL, Fire Department's flag

The Clermont, FL Fire Department raised a flag for our annual Veterans Day celebration and car show. We have been a proud sponsor of this show for nine years.

The Citrus Tower Cruiser organization co-sponsored the 2010 show. Parts of the proceeds from the show were donated to Fisher House, Mt. Hope Lodge in Tampa, and scholarships for students at South Lake High School.

Don Krolak, Secretary, P.O. Box 121708,
Clermont, FL 34712

209 LAREDO 1950 [TX]

We participated in Laredo's annual International Grand Parade and Festivities in February.

Pete Trevino, 2005 Guerrero, Laredo, TX 78043



Ch 209 members pass in review at Laredo parade



The message is clear at the Laredo festivities: "Freedom is not free"



Is the flag bearer carrying a telephone pole at the Laredo parade?



Representative from Ch 209 greets the crowd in Laredo International Grand Parade

289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

Since our December meeting was cancelled due to the weather, the "2010 Chapter Member of the Year" plaque was presented in January to Fred Himelwright by former Commander Robert Shelton.

Then, during the meeting, our speaker was Col. Jerry Duncan (Ret.) who gave a background of events leading up to the Korean War and factors involved in the war and afterwards. He then presented the chapter with a U.S. flag which had been flown over the DMZ, a UN certificate of authenticity for the flag and a United Nations Command Armistice Commission medallion.



Past Commander Robert Shelton (L) and Member of the Year for Ch 289 Fred Himelwright



Lewis Perry, Francis Thompson, Larry Sally (L-R) of Ch 301 at the Upcountry History Museum in Greenville, SC

Past Commander Robert Shelton (L) and Col. Jerry Duncan (Ret.) at Ch 289 meeting



Ralph Yelton (L) and Col. Jerry Duncan (Ret.) at Ch 289 presentation

Col. Duncan recognized member Ralph Yelton as the oldest paralyzed veteran in the country today. He gave him similar items to those given to the chapter. Sixty years ago this May Ralph received the wound that caused his paralysis. Ralph responded with thanks.

Carol Shelton, cshelton37663@yahoo.com

301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

On November 6-7, 2010, the Upcountry History Museum in Greenville, SC hosted displays from several groups in honor of Veterans Day, including our chapter.

Three members, Lewis Perry, Francis Thompson, and Larry Sally helped staff the tables for this two-day event.

Nell A. Thompson, Secretary,
P. O. Box 6903, Greenville, SC 29606

312 ANTIETAM [MD]

Chapter 312 Hosts Lunch Social

We hosted a lunch social for neighboring chapters in Maryland and Virginia on February 2, 2011. Approximately sixty KWVA veterans from Shenandoah Chapter 313, Col William E. Weber Chapter 142, and Antietam Chapter 312 attended the lunch event, which was held in Hagerstown, MD in between snow storms throughout the region.

Although the snow may have hampered attendance, the KWVA members who did attend swapped many stories, shared ideas about their activities, and generally had a good time getting to know one another.

There was no formal agenda - just great camaraderie. The American Legion Post 211, which sponsors Antietam Chapter 312, served up a great buffet for all to enjoy.

During the get-together, Col Bill Weber brought a DVD on the national Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C., to show the gathering and spoke briefly about future renovation plans at the memorial. By the time the gathering broke up, enthusiasm was high for getting together again in the spring.

We hope other chapters around the country hold similar events to foster greater camaraderie among KWVA members.

Les Bishop, Secretary, P.O. Box 868,
Funkstown, MD 21734



Members of Ch 312, Pete Callas (L) and Pat Patterson, at Hagerstown meeting



Secretary Les Bishop (L), Commander Wayne Winebremmer (C), and member Bud Johns of Ch 312 enjoy camaraderie at gathering



KWVA veterans from different chapters share stories at get-together in Maryland



Annelie and Bill Weber with Bill Scott (R) from Ch 313, Shenandoah at Hagerstown



Neither snow nor sleet interrupts chow time at Ch 312's Hagerstown get-together

Chapter 48 Donates Tree

Compiled from Staff Reports

Park Ridge, NJ - Chapter 48 donated a Red Oak tree to the Town of Montvale, New Jersey in 2010. The chapter uses the Senior Community Center for its monthly meeting.

The plaque under the tree reads:

**TO THE PEOPLE OF MONTVALE
WITH GRATITUDE
CHORWON CHAPTER 48
OF
KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF AMERICA
JULY 29, 2010**

Hopefully, the tree and the friendship between chapter members and the town will grow simultaneously.



Commander John Valerio of Ch 48 thanks people of Montvale, NJ (L-R) Ed Halvey, Ed Fahmian, Mark Napoletano, George Peters, Larry Morgan, Peter ("Bob") Masco, Bob Bramley, Wayne Morrison, Rudy Parciasepe, Leo Savas, Tom Scully and son Kevin Scully



Several guests and dignitaries at the Ch 48 tree presentation (L-R) Marco Napoletano, George Peters, Ed Halvey, Ed Fehmian, Assemblyman Bob Schroeder, Walter Bilz (partially hidden), Councilman Salvatore Talarico, John Valerio, Bob Bramley, Montvale Mayor Roger Fyfe, Wayne Morrison (who passed away recently), Leo Savas, Harold Auletta, Rudy Parciasepe, Tom Scully and son Kevin



Montvale, NJ Mayor Roger Fyfe (Center, L) thanks John Valerio for tree as Ch 48 members applaud

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

30 - INDIANA CHAPTER ONE [IN]

Chapter member Dale Parish has now extended our Tell America program. He was asked by our local access TV station to produce a show honoring all American veterans. The new title for this TV series will be "The American Veteran."

Dale had his first program on 13 January 2010, with Bud Mendenhall acting as co-host. He has many more interesting guests and programs planned. Dale plans

to cover many topics about all veterans and their experiences.

We are proud that Dale has taken on this endeavor and we wish him well.

Lynn Shady is still working on our original Tell America program. Members have visited many schools and shared numerous stories with the students.

Mary Anna Roemke, P.O. Box 15102, Fort Wayne, IN 46885



Dale Parish, Bud Mendenhall, Carl Fowler (2nd VP), Ken Roemke (Commander) of Ch 30 (L-R) at "The American Veteran" show

54 - THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

We receive many letters from students to whom we have presented "Tell America" lectures. Here are just three out of hundreds.

These are from students at Pennsauken High School,

New Jersey. We talked to about 800 students that day. Apparently, we left quite an impression on these students.

Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net

Dear Captain Jackson, and group of Vets

I just wanted to thank you for coming in and speaking to us on Tuesday. I really enjoyed listening to all of your stories. You showed that you were there, you made it, and you were there for the right people that you had helped and then the North Koreans did have me go away. I know you made me not only a hero, but also to become the enemy that the world is at.

Thank you again for your time, we really appreciate it.

Sincerely,
Bob Crawford

Dear Korean War Vets

Thank you for taking time out of your day to visit with us and share your amazing stories. I will never forget the story about the little girl with long black hair in the village. The video was extremely educational and gave me a real insight as to how the war really was. Your detail accounts and information really truly provided me with something special that I will remember for the rest of my life. You truly did your job then, and continue to do it now by sometimes first hand knowledge of the Korean War to future generations. I am thankful and grateful that I was able to meet you, THANK YOU!!

Sincerely,
Rochelle Hockel
Mrs. Snyder's 2nd Period
US History Class

Letters of appreciation from students

138 - AKRON REGIONAL [OH]

We are preparing for the 2011 Tell America Season. William Niebuhr, chapter President, has contacted nine high schools in the Akron area for permission to present Tell America to their students. A favorable response has been received from seven of the high schools contacted.

In 2010, we presented Tell

America to over 1,636 students in seven high schools participating in the program. The Chapter members presenting the program are Bill Niebuhr, Sonny Cool, Dick Hudak, Frank Thomas, John Stiles and Don George.

Carl L. Canon, 4512 Conestoga Trl., Copley, OH 44321



Members of Ch 138 at TA presentation (L-R) John Stiles, Sonny Cool, Bill Niebuhr and Dick Hudak. The other men are school personnel.



Don George, John Stiles and Dick Hudak of Ch 138 (L-R) at TA presentation with school personnel

169 - KWVA OF LAKE COUNTY [FL]

When I became President of our chapter two years ago, I began looking for areas where we could make a difference in our chapter and in our community. That turned out to be Tell America, which our chapter had never implemented.

Getting started was difficult, as

was making that first school contact. Member Ted Morford arranged for us to visit Holy Trinity School, Fruitland Park, FL, in October 2009. It went very well, although only three members participated.

Our next venture was in response to an invitation from a local AmVets

Chapter to go with them to Carver Middle School in November 2009. That went even better; our member participation grew to six. Each of us met with an individual class, a format that we all liked.

Our 2010 effort remained limited. We began in February by going to St. Paul Catholic School in Leesburg, where we met the combined 6th through 8th grades as a single entity. That worked well, too. We received sixteen neatly written thank you notes.

We followed that by joining with one of our members who had been involved with the creation of the Adopt a Kid/Adopt a Vet program at The Village's FL Veteran's Memorial. In November 2010, we made our second visit to Carver Middle School, again at the invitation of our friends in AmVets.

We began our 2011 TA program by again visiting St. Paul's Catholic School. Our Chapter's TA Team grew to seven; we had lost some of the original members, who were quickly replaced with new ones. We tried something new (to us) at St. Paul's; we offered prize money to students for their essays answering: "How has the Korean War affected your rights and freedoms as an American, and how did the KWVA presenters today help you in your understanding of the Korean War?"

The following week we did our

first high school presentation to three classes at the Air Force Junior ROTC program at Leesburg High School. That was outstanding!

We have encouraged our members who conduct chapter fund drives to emphasize Tell America at their tables; this has met with mixed success. That brings us to the present. We have some more schools and a boys and girls club in line; these will be new to us, which means we are still expanding our scope. We are trying to entice more of our members to participate.

In general, students seem to be very interested; I believe that most of their teachers are as well. I have no idea how many students we have reached. In early 2010, I began creating a Chapter 169 website, <http://cid169.kwva.org> (which is hosted on the KWVA server).

When I visited Carver School in 2009, I noticed that as I was describing Korean War era aircraft to her class, the teacher almost immediately projected a picture of it on the screen! This led me to recognize the advanced technologies in our schools, and to think of using our chapter's website for making presentations. I did this at my next presentation at Carver, and I also projected my story at this year's St. Paul appearance. Both were well received.

Also a part of Tell America Program was our "Guardians of

Freedom Celebration" held November 2010. Here we had 18+ feet of table exhibit space, with a good complement of mostly Korean War era exhibits. We need to utilize some of that exhibit with our classroom TA effort.

One other thing I have done is to appear on LakeFrontTV, Channel 22, during which I talked about Korea and what it meant and means, and publicized our chapter and its activities, especially, Tell America. I did not utilize the Association's assistance in our efforts, although I watched what was being reported. But, I prepared our own tri-fold brochure about the Korean War, which we sometimes hand out, and which some other KWVA units have downloaded and borrowed.

What I want to do next is to develop a series of "electronic brochures" reflecting different perspectives of the Korean War. The

advantage of the electronic brochures is that they can be viewed online, used for presentation directly from the site, downloaded and printed as needed, and can be updated as the need may warrant. We have not used videos, other than to link them to our website.

What is unique about CID 169's Tell America Program is the use of the Internet and our chapter's website as integral components of our presentation. That is still evolving and a lot of content development and training of our Tell America team will be needed before it really begins to be effective.

What else do we need? We always need money. And God knows, we need more time!

*Tom Thiel, President
352-357-3943,
kwva169@gmail.com*



Members of Ch 169 conduct fund drive

More ➤

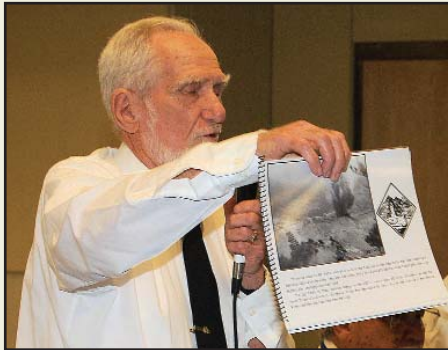


Ch 169 and TA presenter at Carver Middle School in November 2010



(LEFT) A student from St. Paul's Catholic School, Leesburg, FL. asks Chapter 169's Tell America team a question

(RIGHT) Dick Pfahler of Ch 169 telling his story about the Orphans of Fushi-to Island near Inchon, South Korea, and the USS. St. Paul to 6th through 8th grade students at St. Paul's Catholic School, Leesburg, FL



Members of Ch 169 meet with individual class as part of Tell America program

313 – H. EDWARD REEVES [AZ]

We gave a presentation at the Mile High School in Prescott, AZ as part of its 2010 Veterans Day observation.

*Charles B. Stohr, 2094
Summer Breeze Dr.,
Prescott, AZ 86303*



Presenters from Ch 313 (L-R) Jim Johnston, Pete Buscaino, Ben Allen, Chuck Stohr



Ben Allen and Chuck Stohr provide background of Korean War as they stand in background at Mile High Middle School in Prescott, AZ



Tell America presentation at St. Paul's Catholic School in 2011 by Ch 169



Monuments and Memorials

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

Ormond Beach, FL



Above, Gene Swarbrick of Ch 189 (L), Mark Chew (C), Bob Balzer of Ch 173 at Ormond Beach sculpture dedication, At right Bob Balzer demonstrates height of Ormond Beach sculpture



A sculpture dedicated to Korean War veterans (1950-53) was unveiled recently in Ormond Beach. The sculpture was chosen from over 200 entries throughout the State of Florida. The finalist was Mark Chew.

The project was completed in two years in a partnership with Ormond Beach and the Ormond Memorial Arts Museum.

The sculpture represents an eternal flame constructed of stainless steel in a tropical garden setting.

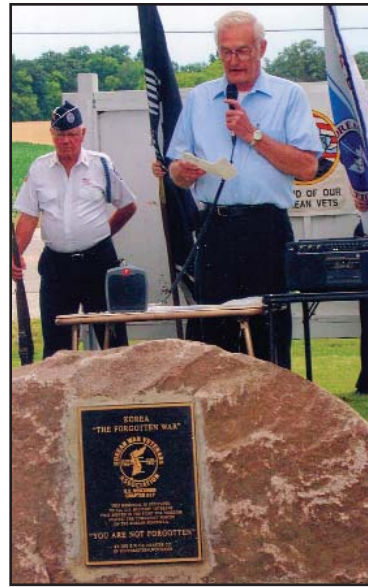
Bob Balzer, 811 Orangewood Ave., DeLand, FL 32724, 386-822-9068

Racine, WI



Chapter 227, Southeastern Wisconsin, recently completed installation of a memorial in the VFW Park in Kansasville, WI. Our main speaker was chapter member Grant L. McMillin, who

The KWVA Memorial at Racine, WI



spent 33 months as a POW in Korea.

We currently have seven memorials dedicated in southeastern Wisconsin.

*Jim Becker, Sec/Treas.,
3709 Candle Ct., Apt. 3,
Racine, WI 53402,
262-681-6459,
Jbecker625@wi.rr.com*

LEFT: Ex-POW Grand L. McMillin of Ch 227 speaks at Racine Memorial event

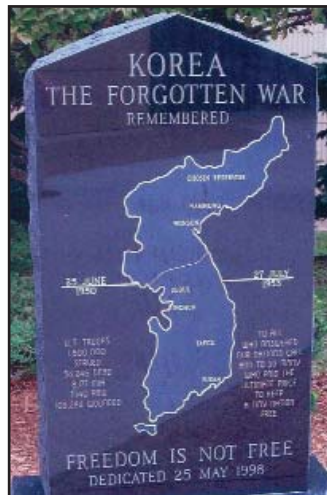
BELOW: Boy Scout Javon Rommel leads Pledge of Allegiance at Ch 227's Memorial dedication



Sterling Heights, MI

Crowds gathered at the Sterling Heights, MI Korean War Veterans Memorial on Veterans Day, 2010.

*James E. McCarthy, 2nd Vice
Commander, 2159 Parliament,
Sterling Heights, MI 48310,
586-264-4223*



The Sterling Heights, MI Korean War Veterans Memorial

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

Baker Btry., 981st FAB., 40th Inf. Div.

Several members of Baker Battery, 981st Field Artillery Bn., 40th Inf. Div. got together in 2008. Among them were Eugene Aviles, Chuck Vacca, Bill Ramos, Walter Smith, Raul Ramos, and Mike Loftus.

Mike Loftus had an officer's tent in Korea during his stay in the Kumwha sector in 1951-52. "I can't imagine how I rated an officer's tent," he said. "I had a 3/4" plywood floor in it—borrowed from one of my 3-ton trucks."

There was also a "Ventura City Limit" sign in the sector. As Loftus recalls, it was "borrowed" from Ventura, CA, which was the home of the National Guard unit that was federalized on 1 September 1950.

Reach Michael J. Loftus at 3779 Loma Vista Rd.
Ventura, CA, 805-642-1848



Members of Baker Btry., 981 FAB, 40th Inf. Div. at 2008 reunion (L-R) Eugene Aviles, Chuck Vacca, Bill Ramos, Walter Smith, Raul Ramos. (Photo By Mike Loftus)



← Mike Loftus' tent in Korea

How far to Ventura?



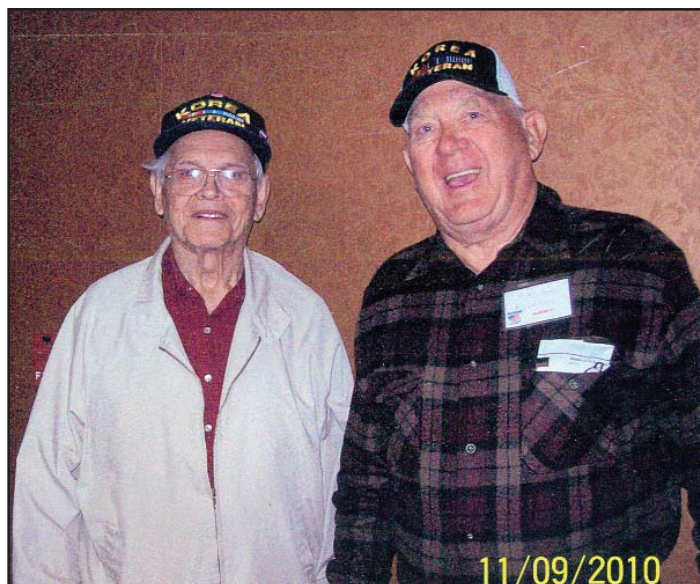
Converse/Reine

Richard Converse and Charles Reine met at the Korean War Veterans program at Branson, MO last year. Branson celebrates veterans each year for a week in November to coincide with Veterans Day.

Both men were truck drivers in Korea during the war.

Reine noted that it "Was so good to meet with the various veterans and hear their stories."

Charles C. Reine, 19516 Benjamin Rd.,
Warsaw, MO 65355



Richard Converse and Charles C. Reine at Branson, MO

KWVA Decals



Courtesy of KWVA Recruiting Task Force Committee.

These decals are round and measure a full four inches in diameter, in full color, and adhesive backed.

- Prices are:
- One (1) each decal @\$3.00
 - Two (2) each decals @\$5.00
 - Twelve (12) each decals @ \$25.00

(Plus postage, NO handling fees)

To order, contact Jamie Reynolds, Membership Administrative Assistant, P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407, Tel: 217-345-4414, email: membership@kwva.org

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:

www.KWVA.org

194th Eng. Combat Bn.

Members got together in 2010 for their sixth reunion. They will meet again October 2-6, 2011 at the Tropicana Express in Laughlin, NV. (See Reunion list for details.)

Charles O. Havey,
715 West Saint Moritz Dr.,
Payson, AZ 85541,
928-472-6956,
cshavey@msn.com



BELOW: 94th Eng. Combat Bn. wives (Front, L-R) Jan Mysinger, Jean McKinney, JoAnn Minter (Back, L-R) June Rathbun, Betty Flick, Shirley Havey, Norma Boyer



ABOVE: 94th Eng. Combat Bn. reunion attendees (Front, L-R) Bill Minter (UT), Joe Chambers (CA), Bobby Flick (NC), Garold Dick (ID), Vern Rathbun (ID), Chuck Conner (OK). (Back, L-R) Bill Alexander (CA), Ray Mysinger (TX), Dan Kennedy (KY), Chuck Havey (AZ), George Gant (OR), Warren Boyer (OR), Gerry McKinney (IA).

Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet

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

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Reunion Calendar: 2011

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902 or email it to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

MAY

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Assn., 4-7 May, Dulles Airport, Washington DC, Crowne Plaza Hotel. POC: CWO Baker Herbert, 330-887-5539, USCGW64@neo.rr.com

H-3-7 Marines, Korea (1950-1955), 4-8 May, Mt. Pleasant, SC, Holiday Inn. POC: Bob Nichols, 727-392-2886, jarheadh37@tampabay.rr.com, or Ed Parungo, 919-414-7468 or 919-876-8091, Parun3@aol.com

67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (all units) 9-13 May, Lancaster, PA. POC: Holly Faux, 570-698-5543, fauxhr@gmail.com

73rd Tank Bn./73rd Armor, 11-15 May, Pigeon Forge, TN. POC: Curtis Banker, 4 Westcott Rd., Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940, 518-643-2302, curt0742@hughes.net

Army Counterintelligence Corps Veterans, Inc (ACICV), 15-19 May, New Orleans, LA. Hotel Provincial. POC: Bill Ward, 425-881-0306, billward21@comcast.net

JUNE

3 Bn./34th & 2 Bn./21st Inf. Regts., 24th Inf. Div., 14-17 June, West Des Moines, IA, Drury Inn & Suites. (Any 24th Inf. Div. personnel are invited). POC: Robert D. Wegner, 3990 W Ave., Manning, IA 51455, 712-653-2234, bwegner27@yahoo.com

Tank Co., 179th RCT, 45th Inf. Div., 20-24 June, Chattanooga, TN. POC: Johnnie W. Baker, 615-498-8329.

JULY

USAF 1503rd Air Transport Wing, Pacific Division (1944-1966), 14-18 July, Amery, WI. POC: Bill Teichman, 4338 5th St., East Moline, IL 61244, 309-796-2084, billsal@mchsi.com

91st MP Bn., 289th, 58th, 512th, 560th, and 563rd Companies, 54th Trans. Co. (U.S. Army), Pusan (1952-54), 26-28 July, Frankenmuth/Birch Run, MI. POC: Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail, Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718, robsimoncondo@charter.net

Korean War EX-POW Assn., 31 July-7 Aug., Norfolk, VA. POC: Bill Norwood, 909 Whisperwood Trail, Cleveland, TN 37312, wnorwood909@charter.net

AUGUST

I-3-1 (Korea), 24-28 Aug., Quantico, VA. POC: Susan Woodward, 22 Waterhouse Lane, Chester, CT 06412, 860-262-1334, Suzie11111@aol.com

Second Indianhead Division, 24-29 Aug., St. Louis, MO. All former or current 2 ID veterans welcome. POC: Bob Haynes, 224-225-1202, 2idahq@comcast.net or 2ida.org website

SEPTEMBER

424th Field Artillery Bn. (Korea, 1950-1954), 8-10 Sept, Burlington, NC. POC: Catherine Michael, 336-228-1664 or Robert Highlands, 717-243-8705, rehigh@juno.com

14th Inf. Regt., 25th Inf. Div., (Korea), 8-11 Sept., Rochester, MN, Best Western Soldiers Field. POC: Ron Sandvig, 3796 McKnight Rd., White Bear Lake, MN, 651-429-2935

10th Inf. Div./8th Cav. Regt., 9-11 Sept., Branson, MO. For veterans of infantry training at Ft. Riley, KS, Nov. 30, 1953-Apr., 1954 and/or who served at Camp Crawford and Camp Wittington, Japan 1953-1956. POC: Alan Sanderson, 319-283-4043, a.wsanderson@q.com, or Steve Bosma, 408-270-1319

630th Engineers Light Equipment Company, Korea, 11-14 Sept. (Site to be determined). POC: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072 (636) 285-4402, ogvccv@att.net

84th and 62nd Engineering Construction Battalions, 12-15 Sept., Dubuque, IA. POC: Carol Nelson, 401-738-0693, cen21255@verizon.net

Veterans of VI Corps; Seventh Army; 6th Army Group; 3d, 36th, and 45th Infantry Divisions; 1st Allied Airborne Task Force; 1st Special Service Force (1944-45) 13-24 Sept., (family members, friends, and military historians are welcome). Reunion/Tour of Southern France invasion beaches (ANVIL/DRAGOON) and Rhone Valley area of operations. POC: Wilson A. Heefner, 7205 Park Woods Drive, Stockton, CA 95207-1409, 209-951-4748, w.heefner@comcast.net

USS Hornet (CV-8, CV-12, CVA-12, CVS-12), U.S. Navy/Marines, 14-18 Sept., Washington, DC, Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Alexandria, VA. POC: Carl & Sandy Burket, PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, 814-224-5063, hornetcva@aol.com. <http://www.usshornetassn.com/>

USS Montague (AKA 98), 22-25 Sept., Kansas City, MO, Embassy Suites. POC: F.C. ("Fred") Machado, 5445 S. Blythe Ave., Fresno, CA 93706, 559-266-2978, fcm@unwiredbb.com, or Bob Raftis, 2025 Timbercreed Dr., Marion, IA, 319-377-5815.

25th Inf. Div. Assn., 25 Sept.-1 Oct., Honolulu, HI. POC: Sarah Krause, P.O. Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031, TropicLtn@aol.com, website at www.25thida.org

OCTOBER

194th Eng. Combat Bn., 2-6 Oct., Laughlin, NV, Tropicana Express. POC: Bob Sanford, 432 Walnut Hill Rd., Woonsocket, RI 02895, 401-766-8262, BobLorSan2@aol.com or Charles O. Havey, 715 West Saint Moritz Dr., Payson, AZ 85541, 928-472-6956, cshavey@msn.com

Veterans of the Korean War (All branches welcome), 4-7 Oct., Virginia Beach, VA. POC: Floyd Newkirk, 757-340-9801, fnewkirk1@cox.net, www.VKWR.org (website)

58th Fighter Association, 4-9 Oct., Savannah, GA (Includes WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and all units of the 58th Fighter Group, 58th Fighter Wing, and 58th Fighter Bomber Wing). POC: J. Kupferer, 2025 Bono Road, New Albany, IN 47150, jkupferer@insightbb.com

USS Meredith (DD434/726/890) 11-16 Oct., Jacksonville, FL. POC: Richard Kutschbach, 1071 Marietta Rd., Chillicothe, OH 45601, 740-774-3894, dk62@roadrunner.com, www.yourmeredith.com

D-2-7, 1st Marine Div. (Korea), 12-16 Oct., Quantico, VA. POC: Ric Barron, P.O. Box 96, Hamburg, NJ 07419, RicBD27@gmail.com

151 Combat Engineer Bn., 13-16 Oct., Lebanon, TN, Comfort Suites. POC: Jack & Ruth Cato, 212 S Maple St., Lebanon, TN 37087, 615-444-9273, rmcato@charter.net

Army Security Agency Korea (asakorea.org), 19-23 Oct., Columbus, GA, Doubletree Hotel; tour of Ft. Benning included. POC: Ron Klein, 706-563-4218, klein_ron@charter.net. If not a member of ASA Korea, application at www.asakorea.org.

92nd Armored Field Artillery Bn. (Korea), 23-26 Oct., Branson, MO. POC: Guy McMenemy, 12027 Westover Dr., Cypress, TX, 281-469-2819, bravecannons@sbcglobal.net

USS Rendova (CVE-114), 27-30 Oct. Ft. Myers, FL. POC: Dick Garthwaite, 704-573-4472, dickgarthwaite@webtv.net

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Dignity Homeless Veteran Burial Program Honors Chapter 78

ST. LOUIS (Feb. 22, 2011) – There are more than 150,000 homeless veterans in the U.S., many whose remains are unclaimed at their death risk burial in paupers' graves. Through the Dignity Memorial® Homeless Veterans Burial Program, over the past 10 years more than 900 veterans haven't been among them.

The Jefferson County Council presented a proclamation to Chapter 78 Commander Wilbert Sexauer, representing the chapter in honor of the 10th anniversary of this unique program on March 7. The chapter was the first group to offer support to the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program.

Approximately 20 members have attended each of the more than 80 services held at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery as part of the program. Commander Sexauer insures the attendance for the services. Member Joseph McMahon organizes the pallbearers, Rev. Carl Norton sings the Navy Hymn, David Christian signs, Chaplain Waverly Weaver gives the closing prayer and the Gold Star Mothers of America receives the American

The chapter was the first group to offer support to the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program.

Flag that is later presented to an organization in honor of the deceased veteran by name.

The chapter has 34 members, including many skilled musicians. Two members, Kenney McKalip and Lester Wall, spent 33 months in the same North Korea Prisoner of War Camp. Both say that if it wasn't for the support of the others they would not have survived.

They wrote a song while prisoners, titled "Prisoner of War," that they sing, and they play their musical instruments at military events.

"The Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program is a cooperative effort designed to ensure that veterans who are

homeless, indigent and have no family receive the honors in death that their service in life merited," said retired Maj. Gen. Bill Branson, national coordinator and co-founder of the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program and member of Chapter 78. "We're honored to be able to give these servicemen and women the dignified military services they deserve," he said.

Currently available in 35 metropolitan areas across the country, the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program has provided burial services for more than 900 homeless veterans since the program's inception in St. Louis in 2000. For more information, visit www.DignityMemorial.com.

The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade

By Tom Moore

The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade (Reinforced), commanded by Brigadier General Edward A. Craig, was activated on 7 July, 1950, deactivated, and then assigned to the 1st Marine Division on 13 September, 1950.

While engaged in the battle to hold the Pusan Perimeter, the brigade traveled more than 380 miles in less than a month while moving to attack positions. The Brigade fought in three major engagements and numerous small unit actions.

The Brigade was short of men, and the three battalions were made up of only two companies, instead of the usual three companies each. From Chingdong-ni to Sachon, to both battles of the Naktong, the Marines fought against a numerically superior enemy. Yet, they did not fail to take their assigned objectives.

In these 33 days of combat, the Marine Brigade met, defeated, and largely destroyed the 83rd Mechanized Brigade, three regiments of the 4th North Korean Division, and a brigade of the 9th North Korean Division.

Casualties inflicted on the enemy by Marine ground and air attack were approximately 3,400 killed, 9,600 wounded, and 69 captured. The Brigade encountered and destroyed eight enemy tanks, eliminated large numbers of enemy weapons, and captured many of their vehicles.

Despite this remarkable combat record, the Marines sustained heavy losses. The second battle of the Naktong cost the Marines 220 casualties. Of them, 39 Marines and Navy Corpsmen were killed in action. In total, the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade battle sustained 149 KIA, 14 DOW, and 9 MIA. Another 730 were wounded in action, and 1 died of disease. That was a total of 903.

"Freedom is not free." It certainly wasn't for the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

Jefferson County
BE IT PROCLAIMED:
Whereas, The Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program was developed and implemented at the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in the spring of 2000; and,
Whereas, The Korean War Veterans Association Missouri Chapter 3 from Jefferson County was the first to offer support and help. Approximately 20 members have attended each of the 81 services at Jefferson Barracks and served as pallbearers; and,
Whereas, The St. Louis Chapter, with the help of committee members, has implemented 35 new Chapters from coast to coast with nearly 1,000 services for homeless and forgotten veterans; and,
Whereas, The Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program is organized and managed by veterans for veterans with special needs; and,
Whereas, This program was designed as a safety net for veterans lost in the community, left with the medical examiner, unclaimed by family and for whom no one will assume responsibility; and,
Whereas, Commander Wilbert Sexauer recommends attendance. Joseph McMahon organizes the pallbearers. Rev. Carl Norton sings the Navy Hymn. David Christian signs. Chaplain Waverly Weaver gives the closing prayer and the Gold Star Mothers of America receives the flag that is later presented to an organization in honor of the deceased veteran by name. Always remembered; and,
Whereas, Dignity Memorial funeral providers sponsor the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program and provide the services at no cost to anyone;
Now, therefore, I, (name), (title), do hereby proclaim (date), to be:
**KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION MISSOURI CHAPTER 3 SUPPORTS
DIGNITY MEMORIAL HOMELESS VETERANS BURIAL PROGRAM DAY**

In Jefferson County, Missouri.

(signed)

(Name), (Title)

Jefferson County, Missouri

My revisit to South Korea took place from 9/29 to 10/2 2010. I added an additional 2 days to the Iron Triangle, which is along the DMZ and was my location for 16 months .

My impression of South Korea today is completely different from what it was during my stay there from April 1953 to August 1954. It is a country whose people have high morals, are industrious and religious, maintain strong national pride, and strive to pass on their culture and traditions to succeeding generations.

The country has grown and prospered over the past 60 years to an extent that I would have never imagined. It is a testimony of their work ethic and desire to succeed under the guidance of their leaders. They proved that, with the initial assistance given to them, anything is possible with dedication, hard work, and goals set and accomplished.

As a 22-year-old lieutenant in the 75th Field Artillery Battalion, which was attached to the IX Corps, I was instructed to explain periodically to the troops the reason for our presence in South Korea. I really didn't know the answer, and I suspect that those who gave this order were a bit hazy on it as well, since they didn't offer any direction.

Korea Revisit

By Pete Genovese

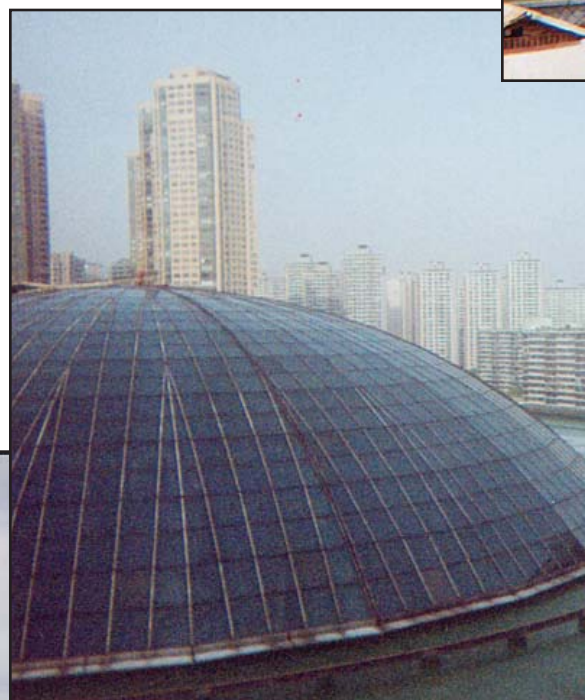
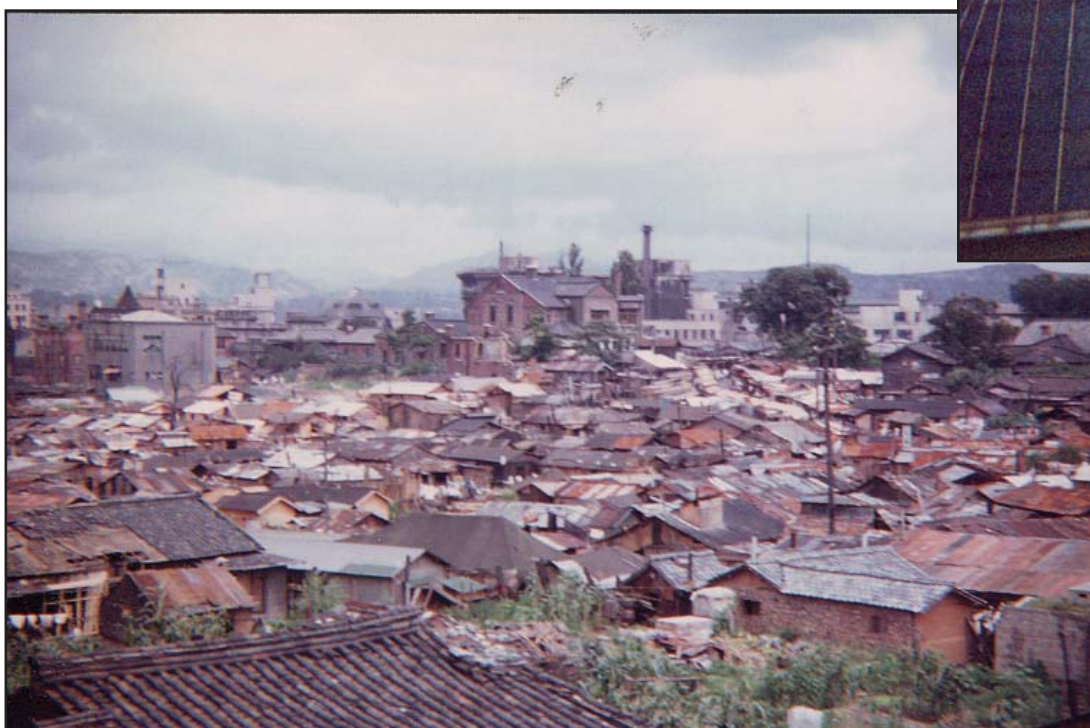
I leaned heavily on the meaning of democracy versus communism and hoped that I was convincing. Today, as a result of my revisit, I can see the results of our labor and sacrifices. I am proud and pleased that I was able to make my small contribution toward saving this country from communism. The quality of life and the opportunities that are prevalent there today bear witness to this, and are especially obvious when compared to the conditions in North Korea. The South Korean people and their government are well aware of this and they are eternally grateful.

The transition is amazing. It was coinci-

dental that during the week that I was there, they celebrated the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Seoul. All the UN troops present were assembled on the palace grounds. Knowing that the celebration would be lengthy, they had special caps made and presented to us.

Each country had a military band perform on the stage. As each one played their national anthem, their flag was raised. They brought in many students of all ages to witness this event, which took about four hours. The president of the country and several high ranking South Korean military personnel addressed the gathering and expressed their gratitude to all the nations that were involved.

Pete Genovese, 746 Fringed Orchid Trl., Venice, FL 34293-7258, 941-492-4171



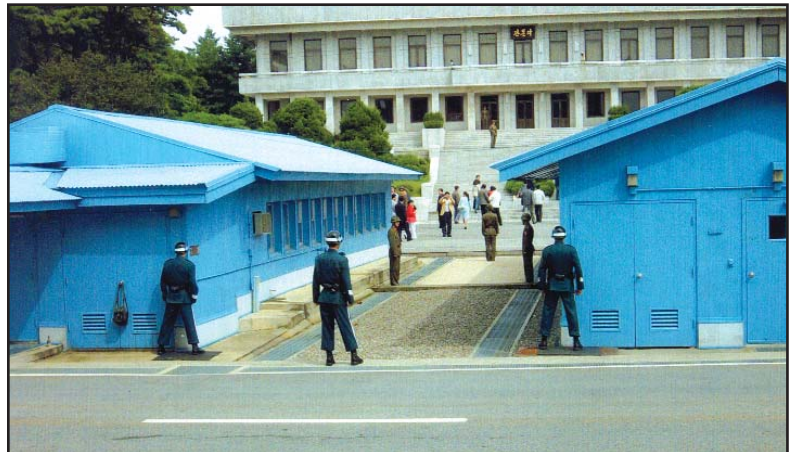
Left, Seoul skyline in 1953 was mostly houses. Above, The Seoul skyline in 2010; the houses have grown into apartment complexes



At left, Seoul in 1953. Below, Another view of Seoul in 2010



Below left, the Bridge of Freedom in 2010, aka The Bridge of No Return, over which exchanged POWs walked. Below right, Guards at Panmunjom, Camp Bonifas, in 2010. Note the North Korean guards facing each other. Why? If one makes a move to go to the south side, the other will shoot him. The building on the other side shows visitors from China and Russia entering



By: Donald J. Farinacci

The killing by North Korea of 46 South Korean sailors in its March 2010 torpedo attack upon the Cheonan and four more South Koreans in its recent artillery attack upon Yeonpyeong Island, evokes a sense of déjà vu each time I speak in public about my relatively recent book, "Truman and MacArthur, Adversaries for a Common Cause" (Merriam Press, April 2010). Some of the parallels between North Korea's aggression of 1950 and that of 2010 are striking. The following are most notable:

1. MOTIVATION:

1950 – Kim Il-sung, the Soviet puppet dictator installed in North Korea by Stalin in 1945, was consumed by the desire to unite the two Koreas by force of arms. In 1949, he told his patron, Joseph Stalin, that he wanted "to touch the South with the point of a bayonet."

2010 - Current North Korean dictator, Kim Jong-il, son of Kim Il-sung, is also publicly committed to reuniting the North and the South by force. His regime's popular slogan is "Reunification is at the ends of our bayonets."

2. INTEREST IN AMERICA:

1950 - In 1950, prior to North Korea's invasion of South Korea, there was virtually no connection between the American psyche and Korea. In post-World War II America, politicians and public alike were almost exclusively concerned about the Soviet threat to Western Europe, the loss of China to the Communists, the development of the atomic bomb by the Russians and alleged internal subversion by the American Communist Party and its "fellow-travelers."

2010 - There is still relatively little connection between the Koreas and the American psyche. Today, the overwhelming foreign policy and national security concerns of Americans are Islamic Jihadism, including al Qaeda, and the threat of Islamic terrorist attacks upon the United States.

3. MILITARISM:

1950 - By the beginning of the Korean War, June 25, 1950, Kim Il-sung had consolidated his power in North Korea by the use of police power and fear; and had turned North Korea into a militaristic, totalitarian state.

Crisis in the Koreas

Chilling Parallels Between 1950 and 2010

2010 - North Korea is still a warlike and militaristic state governed by a hard-line Communist regime. Kim Jong-il is every bit as much the Communist dictator as his father, Kim Il-sung. And, the absolutist dynasty will continue with Kim Jong-il's anointed successor, his son, Kim Jong-un.

4. ORIGINS OF HOSTILITIES:

1950 - Kim Il-sung organized and supported a communist-dominated insurgency that started a guerilla war in South Korea in April 1948, more than two years before the actual invasion. Also, in the years leading up to the outbreak of full-scale war, North Korea made numerous aggressive incursions across the 38th parallel into the South; and multiple border skirmishes ensued.

2010 - Similarly, in recent years, Kim Jong-il has incrementally escalated North Korea's aggressions against the South. North Korea initiated a naval skirmish with the South in the Yellow Sea, near Yeonpyeong Island in 1999. It again engaged South Korea in a naval skirmish in 2002, killing at least four South Korean sailors. In 2006, it conducted an underground nuclear test, after an elaborate program of producing plutonium for nuclear weapons. Previously, it had shot down a South Korean airliner, killing all on board. In 2009, it fired missiles over the Sea of Japan. That same year, it conducted another nuclear test and declared the 1953 Korean War armistice invalid. Very recently, it put on display its modern, state of the art, uranium enrichment centrifuges. And 2010 has seen its attacks upon the South Korean naval vessel, the Cheonan, and upon Yeonpyeong Island.

5. ECONOMIC COMPARISONS:

1950 - South Korea had a largely agrarian

economy but the stark poverty from which the nation suffered under Japanese rule until August of 1945 had been significantly diminished during its five years under U.S. influence. North Korea, on the other hand, was destitute and impoverished.

2010 - South Korea, with vast assistance and support from the United States, has become a thriving capitalistic nation with a robust economy. North Korea's economy is crippled by its xenophobia, isolationism and the vast expense of building a military state. Its people are still impoverished. It would like to solve its economic problems by reunifying the two Koreas under North Korean rule.

6. INFLUENCE OF COMMUNIST CHINA:

1950 – Although North Korea was a satellite of the Soviet Union, China wished to protect North Korea as a vital buffer which would keep the U.S. and its allies away from China's borders and to gain favor with the Soviet Union, in the hopes of securing its assistance in defeating Formosa (now Taiwan) and thereby unifying all of China under communist rule.

2010 - China's main interest is in maintaining the viability of North Korea as a nation to prevent its economic collapse. It is only by maintaining the stability of North Korea that China believes it will have the necessary buffer against U.S. troops stationed in South Korea. It believes such a buffer to be necessary to protect its borders and its position in the Yellow Sea, where China wishes to maintain a 200-mile offshore trade and shipping monopoly.

In summary, the disturbing parallels between the two Koreas then and now should dispel the notion that North Korea's steadily escalating provocations are designed merely to gain economic concessions from the South and diplomatic concessions from other world powers. The conditions which led to all-out war on the Korean peninsula in 1950 are still extant and unmitigated.

Donald J. Farinacci is the author of Truman and MacArthur, Adversaries for a Common Cause (Merriam Press – 2010), recipient of the 2010 Silver Star Award in History from the Military Writers Society of America.



Last Call

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

ALABAMA

ROY L. BURKS
JAMES E. HYDE
JACK T. PRETTY
GORDON R. SHEWMAKE

ALASKA

GLADSTONE A. SHAW

ARIZONA

FREDERICK GOLDING
ROBERT E. LUSK
MARLENE O. WELDON

ARKANSAS

HARVEY M. FINE

CALIFORNIA

JOSEPH ASARO
LAWRENCE BANDACCARI
FRANK L. BARCELLOS
WILLIAM BIGARANI
PAUL BLYTHE
IRVIN BOXER
HARRY BRATT
DEAN BUCK
NEIL BURGAN
WILLIAM H. BYRON
MAURICE S. DUVAL
RICHARD GILMOUR
GEORGE GOLDING
JON HEICH
WILLIAM KLUFT
MATTHEW KRILETICH
LILLIAN LEUTZ-AULT
JOHN MACAULEY
STEVENS MANNING
RICHARD MCCULOUGH
ROBERT MCINERNEY
EDWARD MURPHY
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ALFRED HENRI PEPIN JR.
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HUGH W. ADAMS
LINDSEY P. HENDERSON
EUGENE T. LEDDY
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ESTEBAN CORPUS PADUA
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PHILIP BURCHILL
WILLIAM A. DAVEY
WALDO E. DAVIS
ROY H. FRY
JOACHIM J. 'JOE' GIGER
FRANK GREENAN
EDWARD L. LUTON
HARLAND A. MENDENHALL
JOHN B. PECK
R. KENT PRATT
JAMES O. SALLADAY
ROEDGER G. SEIPP

INDIANA

RALPH L. BOLING
WARREN M. BROWN
WAYNE A. WILEY

IOWA

MILTON RAASCH
DONALD E. ROEDER
IRVIN P. WEBER

KANSAS

THOMAS J. BOTTER
O. J. BROCK JR.
CHARLES F. EDLER
JOE MORELAND
ARIE VAN RYN

KENTUCKY

HENRY L. 'LEON' BELL
KENNETH B. COLEBANK
KANGELO B. CONZACHI
W. B. STILES
STUART M. WARREN

MARYLAND

JOHN J. BOGDAN
ERNEST W. BRAITHWAITE
RAYMOND BROWN JR.
FRANK R. BUCHANAN
JOHN M. BUSKY JR.
JOHN WALTER DANOWSKI
TONY S. DATTILIO
WILLIAM R. DIDOMENICO
MAURICE LEE EVANS
JOHN H. FOERTSCH
JOSEPH R. GUTKOSKA
ROBERT F. HAIFLEY
DONALD ELLSWORTH HAINES
ROBERT W. HEFLIN
JAMES A. HOLECHEK
JOHN A. HUNDT
MILTON M. KAUFMAN
EDWIN R. KINSEY
VINCENT J. MATASCUSA
HENRY N. MATTHIAS
ROY E. MCGHEE
EDWARD K. MERRIKEN
JOHN D. NOSSICK
MARVIN LINWOOD OATES
JOHN B. O'BRIEN
ARTHUR P. PARKS
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NOLAND GREGORY
ROBERT J. WAGNER

NEVADA

ROBERT PRATT
FRANK E. ROJO
WILLIAM E. WARD

NEW HAMPSHIRE

JAMES HOOD
JAMES ROY

NEW JERSEY

JOHN ABBOTTS
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RAYMOND A. DUGER
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JOSEPH C. KEDZIORA
FRANK M. MALHIOT
ROBERT P. MCKNIGHT
GILBERT K. NERSESIAN

Continued on page 61

Raiders Honored



The "raiders" assemble at Ft. Bragg

By J. E. "Buck" Ballow

On July 14, 2010, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the Raider Company (8245 Army Unit) better known as the GHQ 1st Raider Company and the X Corps Special Operations Company, was honored by the U.S. Army Special Operations Command by the placement of a paving stone at the command's Memorial Plaza. The installment ceremony was officiated by LTG John F. Mulholland, Commander, USASOC, and former Raider Jamie E. Lee (LTC, Ret).

With the onset of the Korean War in June 1950, it was quickly realized that the topography of the Korean peninsula lent itself to behind-the-lines, commando-style raids. Unfortunately, there were no commando or ranger units available.

The U.S. Army Ranger units of World War II had been deactivated, and the Special Forces and Special Operations

During the siege and the battle to relieve it, SAG, including the Raiders and the SAB [Special Attack Battalion], suffered 10 killed and 40 wounded. But, the enemy force left 395 of their men dead in the fields.

units were a thing of the distant future. Also, the Eighth Army required all combat troops available with the Far East Command. The Ranger units in the United States were ordered reactivated, but it would be quite some time before they were ready for deployment in the theater of operations. One Ranger unit, the Eighth US Army Ranger Company (8213 AU), was formed and began its training in Korea. It, like the other Ranger units, was not yet available.

To meet the immediate need, a call for volunteers to form a provisional raider unit went out within the occupation

troops assigned to GHQ Headquarters and Service Group, the major support element of General MacArthur's General Headquarters (GHQ) in the Tokyo area. There was no lack of volunteers, as 125 men and 6 officers were selected to form the unit.

The volunteers were shipped to Camp McGill, Japan, where they underwent rigorous physical training and training in combat operations, hand-to-hand combat, beach reconnaissance, demolitions, and the sea-borne assaults by launching of rubber boats from surface ships and submarines.

On September 13, 1950, as part of General MacArthur's Operation Chromite plan for the invasion of Korea at Inchon, the unit was put ashore near the west coast city of Kunsan from the Royal Navy's frigate, HMS Whitesands Bay. It was supposed to be a quick, deception operation designed to keep the North Koreans from guessing when and where General MacArthur's forces would strike.

Unfortunately, the North Koreans were alerted and the Raiders had to withdraw under heavy enemy fire. In the raid the unit lost three men: Lieutenant James Clance and Corporals John Maine and Raymond Puttin. While withdrawing from the Kunsan beach, the Raiders joined the invasion task force and went ashore at Inchon as an independent unit of X Corps.

Their principal assignment was to clear the Kimpo peninsula of enemy forces and protect the western flank of the Marines as they swept towards Seoul, the capital city. For their participation in the Inchon operation, the Raiders were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation by the Secretary of the Navy.

The Raiders moved into North Korea with the X Corps and were assigned anti-guerilla duties, long-range reconnaissance patrols, destruction of road blocks and ambushes, and the insertion and extraction of Korean intelligence agents. Those duties kept them constantly on the move.

In late November 1950, they were sent westward to make contact with the Eighth U.S. Army on the Taedong River, which served as the boundary between Eighth Army and X Corps. The timing was bad, as the Chinese picked this time to enter the war in full force. The Raiders were pulled and headed north to conduct outpost duties and the job of protecting the roadways as the Army and Marine force units made their way from the Chosen Reservoir to Hamhung and Hungnam along snow-laden hills and valleys and icy, slick roads.

With the withdrawal of X Corps from North Korea, the Raiders were airlifted to Pusan on December 14, 1950 and assigned the mission of heading north to clear the area around Andong, the future

site of the X Corps Headquarters. Fate again intervened.

As they moved north, they learned of a strong guerilla force entrenched on Mount Sinbul, near the southeastern city of Ulsan. The Raiders, along with Special Attack Battalion (SAB), a ROK unit also a part of the Special Activities Group (SAG) (8227 Army Unit), the Raiders parent organization, were dispatched to eliminate this threat to the area. The stronghold consisted of five mountain-top strongpoints. The combined Raider and SAB attacked and eliminated four of the strongholds and forced the enemy to flee the remaining one.

The unit then conducted daily patrols throughout the X Corps area, resulting in almost daily contact with enemy elements. In early January 1951, the Communist forces began their New Year offensive, with the 10th North Korean Division penetrating the United Nations line. They headed for the central mountains of South Korea, from which they hoped to conduct large-scale guerilla activities and pose a threat of possible direct attacks on the X Corps Headquarters.

Aware of this threat, X Corps directed SAG to send a force northward to make contact with the enemy force. The Raiders and SAB were assigned the task and headed for a small town known as Changt'o, northwest of Andong.

Upon arrival, the units set up defensive positions, the SAB in an old stone fort in the area and the Raiders in a small schoolhouse. They learned they were now surrounded by two regiments of the 10th Division, who quickly attacked, hoping to quickly annihilate them. But, the Raiders and the SAB stubbornly held their positions.

For the next two days they fought off more than a dozen banzai style attacks by the much larger enemy units. The siege lasted for three days, until it was lifted by reinforcements from the SAG, who fought their way into the perimeter.

During the siege and the battle to relieve it, SAG, including the Raiders and the SAB, suffered 10 killed and 40 wounded. But, the enemy force left 395 of their men dead in the fields. The 10th Division, soundly mauled by this action,

moved eastward, where they ran headlong into the 1st Marine Division north of Andong. In the battle now known as the Pohang Guerilla Hunt, the North Korean unit was further decimated and was never again a viable combat unit. Again, for their gallant actions, the unit was commended by LTG Ned Almond, Commander of X Corps.

The Raiders returned to their routine activities of daily short- and long-range motor and foot patrols, intelligence gathering, ferreting out guerilla units and sympathizers, and making frequent contact with armed enemy groups of varying size.

In March 1950, it was decided to deactivate all ranger type units in Korea, as it was felt that too much skill and leadership was centralized in these small units. The Raiders received their deactivation date of April 1, 1951. Many members of the unit were transferred to other units in Korea; the members who had come from GHQ were returned to their original assignments.

The unit quietly returned to Tokyo in the middle of the night in full battle array, laid aside the weapons and battle gear, had a good meal, showered, and slept on comfortable beds for the first time in months. The following day they donned their regular military uniforms and quietly returned to their old jobs or another of their choice, if they so desired.

Sadly, with the deactivation of the unit and the quiet return of its members, memory of the unit faded. In fact, it almost disappeared from memory. In the ensuing years, only a brief mention of them was made in a few books, mostly telling the history of the Marine Corps in Korea. They were truly the forgotten unit of the so-called forgotten war.

With the placement of this stone, their story is known. They have received the recognition they so richly deserve. Now, the Raiders take their place among all the other small, gallant special units, from all of our country's wars, who served so quietly and so valiantly.

Contact "Buck" Ballow at
83 Roundtable Rd., Springfield, IL 62704,
217-546-7168,
jearl_ballow_247@comcast.net



Recon Missions

Robert M. Henry

My brother, PFC Robert M. Henry, was listed as MIA on 11 July 1953 near Chongjamal ("Pork Chop Hill"), an outpost in what is now the western DMZ. On 12 July 1954, Robert was listed as KIA - Presumptive Finding of Death. At that time, he was given the rank of CPL by the Department of the US Army.

Robert was serving with I Company, 3rd Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division.



CPL Robert M. Henry et al

The photo above pictures my brother's basic training unit. It was taken 24 October 1952 at Ft. Devens, MA, months prior to his deployment to Korea. He is in the last row, 2nd from the right.

If any of your readers recognizes anyone in this photo, please contact me:

Patricia Henry Arnold, 107 Iron Ore Lane, Barren Springs, VA 24313, 276-766-3545

G Co., 279th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div.



I would like to hear from any G Company, 279th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div. members from the November 1952 period during which the nearby photo was taken.

Allan Ceriale,
9094 W. Brookview Ct.,
Boise, ID 83709

Waiting for the trucks to take us back up front (G. Co., 279th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div.)

32nd Inf. Regt. Basketball Team

The nearby photo features the 32nd Infantry Regiment basketball team members, who were winners of the 7th Division Championship for the year of 1950. This was approximately six months before hostilities began in June of 1950.

Lt. Ray Bloom, who was our coach and a starting forward, was killed in action near South Mountain (Nam Sam) while on a reconnaissance mission the morning after an attack by the North

Koreans on positions of the 2nd BN 32nd Infantry. He was a West Point graduate and a platoon leader with E Co., 2nd Bn., 32nd Infantry Regiment. I was also on that mountain the night of the attack in late September of 1950, but with a P & A platoon of the 2nd Bn.

Two other persons on the team, Freeman and Wilson, I did see in country, but I have no other information on them.

Other personnel in this picture of our team may still have been with the 32nd Regt. during the time of our entry into the Korean War, or may have been assigned to other Army units prior to our landing at Inchon in September of 1950, due to the need for experienced personnel early in the conflict.

Maybe some returned to the United States prior to the war. I did hear that Lt. Finley returned to the 187th Airborne at the start of the war, but I can't verify it. If anyone who is in the picture is still around and who sees this, I would like to hear from them.



The 32nd Infantry Regiment basketball team

Also, if anyone recognizes anyone in the picture and could add any information about them, I would appreciate knowing about it. This is just a little of the past that I thought would be worth sharing.

Incidentally, I heard that Lt. Bloom received two Silver Stars in the ten or so days before he was ambushed. I cannot verify the medals, nor can other people who have done research on the

awards. But, remembering him well, I have no doubt it is true.

If anyone can verify or refute the information, I would appreciate it.

David Gray, 618 Bickley St.,
Colorado Springs, CO 80911, 719-390-8635

Where did the 0835 Ordnance go?

I have been trying to find out where the 0835 Ordnance went when they left Fort Benning GA in late 1950. They flew out of Ft. Benning's air field. I thought that they went to Korea, but now I don't think so.

I would appreciate any information about the unit's destination.

Jimmy Krysztoforski, 10 Bittersweet Pl.,
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054, 856-222-4626,
terrykriss@comcast.net

Bloody Ridge, 5 September 1951

I would like to know if there is anyone left from that beat-up platoon of fourteen men I led up to the peak of "Bloody Ridge" on Wednesday morning, 5 September 1951 in Korea.

I was Acting Platoon Leader at the time.

Elton F. Wischmeyer, 116 S. Columbus St.,
Montgomery City, MO 63361, 573-564-5028,
9th Inf. COC, 2nd "Indianhead" Div.

My Two Uncles

I have a photo of two of my uncles from Detroit, Michigan, in their Korean War uniforms. I would like to identify their uniforms to possibly learn what Army units they served in. It appears that one was with KCOMZ.

Joseph Martin,
Romeoville, IL,
IllinoisGenie@gmail.com



Joseph Martin's uncles

Carl Rowell

I was in the U.S. Army serving TDY with the Air Force in Ange Yang Yee, south of Yong Dong Po. I was in Seoul and then Ascom City, where I was with the 129th Aid station. We served many branches and units, including M.P.S. Ordnance, Signal. We also worked with 4077 Mash. They were all great guys everywhere.

I helped rescue 223 troops from a plane crash in Hon River on 23 of Dec. '56. Some were on their way home and some on R&R. It was an awful time for everyone.

I was sent to the 121st Evac Hospital and was in ICCU unit. If anyone remembers these times, call me at 815-961-0831. I live

in Rockford, IL.

I render a special salute to all men and women who served in those hard times of the 1950s in Korea and to all our military now serving everywhere. God bless you all. You are ALL heroes!

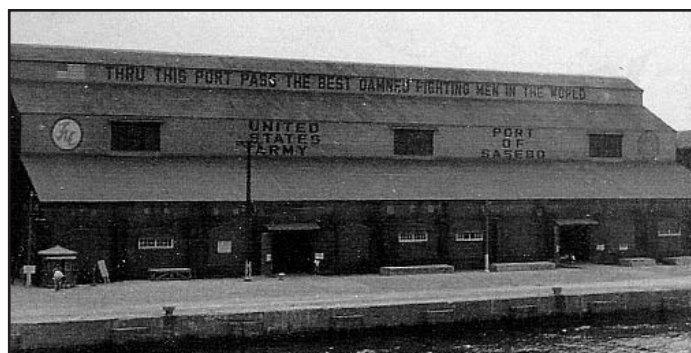
Four Friends from Rockford, IL

Four friends—and Korean War vets—from Rockford, IL got together recently to reminisce. They include Frank Reagan, Carl Rowell, Truman Turner, and Adrian Dickson. Here are their stories in case anyone wants to get in touch with them.

Frank D. Reagan, P.O. Box 604,
Byron, IL, 815-234-5355



Frank Reagan, Carl Rowell, Truman Turner, Adrian Dickson (L-R)



Welcome to the Port of Sasebo



The Bleakness of Korea

Continued on page 61



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ALABAMA

R042973 DAVID M. THOMPSON
LR42913 CHARLES F. WATERS
LR42964 ASHBEL H. WHITE

ALASKA

R042800 JOSEPH S. CHURCHILL

ARIZONA

R042891 PAUL R. BELOUD
R042922 HAROLD J. JAY' DIETRICH
LR42901 SEYMOUR EVANS
LR42837 JERRY C. FISCHER
R042944 DR. ROSS L. MAGEE
A042912 MARGITTA H. MCKINNEY

ARKANSAS

R042834 FLOYD L. BRANTLEY
LR42811 ERWIN A. COOK

CALIFORNIA

LR42799 STEPHEN D. ANDERSON
R042926 GONZALO A. BONILLAS
A042961 LARKIN D. COCKRILL
R042785 RALPH E. DE LA VEGA
R042932 JACK R. ERICKSON
LR42866 EDMOND H. GEE
R042927 GIL A. PEREZ
R042852 ROBERT H. REED
R042968 JOHNNIE L. STARK
LR42910 RONALD G. TODD
R042784 WILLY R. WENNBERG
A042829 DAVID P. WHITMORE

COLORADO

R042780 GEORGE BRANDT
R042831 STANLEY J. GALLOWAY
R042880 JAMES L. KENFIELD
R042860 ELMER L. KENNER
R042905 WILLIAM C. SHIREY
R042781 TED S. WILKIN

CONNECTICUT

A042842 PETER J. ORENSKI

DELAWARE

LR42918 RONALD MARSHALL

FLORIDA

R042951 FLOYD R. BENCI
R042966 LLOYD G. BONDURANT
R042817 HENRY J. BUHLINGER
R042786 ERALDO CICCARELLI
R042779 JOSEPH J. COLOSIMO
R042824 RICHARD J. DERSE
A042870 DENNIS M. DIXON
R042972 ANDREW F. DYCKSON

R042881 ROBERT J. ESTES
R042960 JOHN W. EVERETT
LR42841 BILLY J. FORD
R042954 ELIZABETH J. FOX
A042819 DORA M. FRIERSON
R042816 WILLIAM E. JACKSON
A042871 DORIS A. JOHNSON
R042909 ERNEST L. LANCEY
R042962 JOHN R. LEAHY JR.
R042903 GEORGE A. MAXIN
LR42818 CARL A. NEFF
R042807 FELIX F. PADOVANI
R042787 DONALD G. PORRETT
R042872 PAUL SAMIOS
R042915 MANUEL B. SARDINTA
R042853 JAMES R. SCHULTZ
R042949 EARL P. SONNER
R042813 EDMUND J. STEPNOWSKI
R042814 RICHARD H. TAUNTON
R042887 JOHN P. WALKER
R042970 KURT L. WEIL
R042933 LAWRENCE M. WHITE

GEORGIA

R042797 RAYMOND E. COLGLAZIER JR.
R042942 DALE B. HANSON

HAWAII

R042862 JOHN Y. OTA
LR42921 GEORGE SHIN

IDAHO

R042884 WILLIAM K. TAYLOR

ILLINOIS

R042920 LARRY V. BUSS
R042794 ROBERT E. COOK
R042890 JOSEPH DIFRANCO
R042892 WALTER E. GARLAND
LR42948 JAMES D. HAMRICK SR.
LR42809 ROBERT G. PETERSON
R042804 RONALD P. VINCER

INDIANA

R042832 NORMAN BRITTON
A042793 ELEANOR M. STEWART

KANSAS

R042863 DONALD R. ANTHOLZ
R042943 MILTON E. FUTHEY

LOUISIANA

R042911 ANTOINE J. BRIGNAC
R042883 JOE W. CASKEY
R042878 ALLEN J. ST PIERRE SR.

MAINE

LR42868 HAROLD L. HUBBARD

MARYLAND

R042822 ED M. DOZIER
R042808 JAMES E. HINDMAN

MICHIGAN

LR42945 RICHARD W. ALLEN
R042783 KENNETH A. AMLLOTTE
R042877 JOSEPH G. BISHOP
R042833 JAMES R. DOUGLAS
R042893 WILLIAM B. GILL
LR42957 CLYDE C. HISHOK
R042971 ARTHUR L. LOREN
R042854 BARRY R. MOYER
R042950 CHARLES W. PANNETT

MINNESOTA

R042844 HAROLD C. JACKSON
R042861 THOMAS E. LEBO
R042952 ROBERT RIEBEL

MISSOURI

LR42864 ROBERT C. KETTLER
LR42855 HAROLD E. VESTAL

MONTANA

R042923 JACK J. N. PRICE

NEBRASKA

R042924 ROBERT C. RUNNER

NEVADA

R042820 LINDSEY R. BREWER
R042931 NEAL G. GOUDSWAARD
R042850 DICK A. MUNSON
LR42885 ROY P. SEMMENS
R042803 HOWARD O. SIELOFF
R042856 JOHN A. WARMOUTH

NEW HAMPSHIRE

R042929 RICHARD E. ANGWIN
R042898 JOHN J. CALO
LR42790 DONALD R. CARON
R042801 MARCEL J. G. COUTURIER
R042802 PHILIP A. DARGIE
R042848 GEORGE R. DEZIEL
R042867 EDMUND S. FOLEY
R042798 KATHLEEN M. GOODRICH
R042828 PAUL F. HARRIS
R042874 ROBERT I. LEISTER
R042882 ROBERT L. MAXWELL
R042859 JOHN F. MCHUGH
R042888 JOSEPH J. MERRILL
R042930 FREDERICK L. PRATT
R042947 ALBERT A. SCALES

R042889 PAUL E. SCOTT

NEW JERSEY

R042900 WALTER AMOS
R042843 CLARENCE H. DAVIS
R042935 RONALD B. EVANS
R042782 PETER J. KOSCO
R042815 ANDREW J. SKOVVAN

NEW YORK

R042965 JOHN J. BURKARD
R042846 CARL P. CACACE
R042821 VINCENT L. CARACCILO
R042896 BENJAMIN CUOZZO
R042895 ROBERT A. D. GREGORY
R042825 GEORGE KRAUSS
R042849 FRANK O'CONNOR
LR42963 BERNARD G. PERRY
R042894 NANCY WEISSMAN

NORTH CAROLINA

R042919 HAROLD D. WAUGH

OHIO

R042902 ELWOOD C. FANKHAUSER
R042792 DONZIL R. HALL
R042916 ROLAND G. HUTCHINS
R042835 RAYMOND J. JAMESON
R042873 JOHN D. LATELL
A042875 YOUNG JIN LEE
R042845 WENDELL WILLIAMS

OKLAHOMA

R042826 AARON E. BOONE
LR42865 AVIS H. GOAD
R042940 GERALD D. GREEN
R042827 ARVEL G. HAMMACK
R042938 CALVIN A. HAYES
R042928 BARRY L. KOREN
R042936 JERRY P. ORR
R042939 ROGER S. PHILLIPS
R042830 NATHANIEL WASHINGTON

OREGON

A042969 MARY B. GIFFORD
R042934 ALFRED I. JOHN
R042839 LEILAND R. MOON
R042838 HENRY G. NUSSBAUM
R042840 DONALD J. SCHIELEIN
R042897 JOHN D. STEVENS

PENNSYLVANIA

LR42836 DONALD T. DOUGHERTY
R042967 EBERT L. RAUHAUSER

RHODE ISLAND

LR42795 JOSEPH N. BELLEVILLE

R042946 FRANK B. RICCI

SOUTH CAROLINA

R042876 KYNNE F. CROWE

LR42858 MARION W. MIDDLETON

A042851 CHARLES F. OSGOOD

SOUTH DAKOTA

LR42847 TONY O. BAAN HOFMAN

LR42925 VANCE S. SCHAUER

R042959 LLOYD J. SCHULTZ

R042958 THOMAS H. WOLF

TENNESSEE

R042975 RICHARD D. CAHILL

R042805 ROBERT HARMON

R042869 ARLEN W. HENSLEY

R042974 JAMES M. VISAGE

TEXAS

R042953 JOHN G. AUSTIN

LR42796 OTHAL D. COOPER

R042937 BOBBIE J. COUCH

R042899 STEVE L. DITMORE

R042907 BERNARD H. FEIGELMAN

R042904 J. D. GULLEY

R042955 PATRICIA K. JETTON

R042778 WARREN D. SMITH

UTAH

LR42917 ROBERT J. HANSBERRY

R042914 LAMAR W. TERRY

VIRGINIA

R042956 GERALD V. EGGLESTON

R042812 RUBEN A. JOHNSON

LR42791 JULIUS E. JONES

R042857 DEWEY M. MCLEAN

R042823 CHARLES H. PATTON

R042810 RICHARD W. SMITH

WASHINGTON

R042886 WILLIAM P. SCHACHT

WEST VIRGINIA

R042788 CHARLES K. HUNT

R042806 JOHN R. MITCHELL

WISCONSIN

R042908 MELVIN E. INGRAM

R042789 VINCENT G. PICKARD

R042879 CHARLES N. WAITY

LR42941 DONALD F. WICK

NON-US

A042906 CHANG OH 'YUBILL' KANG

R042777 CAPT CRAIG ARNOLD

LAST CALL from page 55

THOMAS J. PETERS

WILLIAM A. SPOSA

MILTON F. ZANE JR.

NEW MEXICO

ALEJANDRO RUIZ

NEW YORK

CARMINE P. BIFALCO

MIRIAM COHEN

JOHN C. CORDATO

ARA DAGLIAN

RAY A. DELAP

WILLIAM E. ESPOSITO

DONALD R. FISHER

CHARLES A. GIULINI JR.

JOSEPH R. HAACK

EDWARD E. KNAPP

RICHARD A. LEWIS

ROBERT W. MCGARRITY

HOWARD L. MILES

MARVIN MINOFF

JOHN S. OLIVARI

DAVID D. PHELPS

CHARLES D. REIB

THOMAS F. SHARPE

HARRY C. VANZANDT

NORTH CAROLINA

MADISON ANDERSON

VERNON L. FORE

BARBARA E. 'BOBBIE' GOVE

STEPHEN C. GRAVIER

CHARLIE T. KEETON II

NORTH DAKOTA

WAYNE FULLER

OHIO

WILLIAM J. ALLRUTZ

DONALD E. BROWN

DALE F. DAMAN SR.

DAVID B. DEVEREUX

EARL E. DIEHL

ROBERT S. GEBELE

KARL W. LYNN

JAMES E. MITCHELL

RAYMOND B. RAY

BENJAMIN P. WEBER

PAUL YURICEK JR.

OKLAHOMA

NORMAN C. SHERWOOD

OREGON

ROBERT J. DUEBER

ALFRED C. JONES

PENNSYLVANIA

PETER F. BACK

THOMAS V. FRANCIONE

JOHN J. HEIST

PHILIP S. HROBAK

WILLIAM A. JENSEN

BENCE C. LOONEY SR.

RHODE ISLAND

LOUIS A. ST PIERRE

GEORGE L. SUTCLIFFE

SOUTH CAROLINA

MARVIN J. SNOW

SOUTH DAKOTA

ALVIN SAXTON

DONALD M. WEBER

TENNESSEE

DAVID HAWKINS

CLARENCE D. SHELTON

WILLARD M. SHORT

TEXAS

RUSSELL W. CUNNINGHAM

RICHARD M. LOVE

JAMES F. MALONE

UTAH

GRANT HAWKES

VIRGINIA

WILLIAM W. ARNOLD

PHILLIP E. BOWEN

RAYMOND B. LEBER

WASHINGTON

MARIO DEMITCHELL

RALPH M. 'MICHAEL' KARR

CHARLES WEISS

WEST VIRGINIA

WALTER EDWARD THOMS

WISCONSIN

JACK F. BOGENBERGER

NON-US

AMANCIO ERGINA

LAWSON MARTIN

UNKNOWN

JAMES PAYTON

GUIDO POLO

RECON from page 59

Adrian Dickson, SFC

My time in Korea was Sept. '51-Mid Aug. '52. It included Chorwon, Mundung-ni, Punchbowl and Yanggu-Kumhwa. I was assigned to the 7th Div., 31 Inf. as a tank mechanic and I also retrieved disabled tanks.

Reach Adrian Dickson at 4150A Packard Pkwy., Rockford, IL 61101-9547, 815-963-8079

Sgt. Truman Turner

I was born and raised in Knobel, AR, and went into service in May, 1951. I trained in Ft. Hood, TX, with the 1st Armored Dump Truck Co. I was assigned to 7 trucks and 6 men. Our primary job was to keep the roads open to the front line. We worked in the Kumwha and Chorwon Valley. Christmas of 1952 and the winter of same was very cold there.

I am proud to have served in Korea and of the Memorial in Washington DC, as well as the local Memorial here in Loves Park (suburb of Rockford), IL. I presently reside in Rockford, IL.

The church I serve in as Pastor of the Seniors has three other Korean vets as members. We have good fellowship.

I left Sasebo, Japan, May, 1953 to travel to San Francisco, CA. In April, 1953, I was released from Camp Chaffee, Ark. My wife and I have 3 children, 8 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

I welcome anyone to contact me: Truman Turner, 2412 17th Ave., Rockford IL 61108, 815-229-0041 or 815-319-2235 (cell).

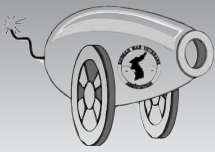
The "Dentist"

Someone must know who "Dentist" was at Point Oboe, Korea, 1951/1952. Beautiful voice, all business, sent us off on our missions and greeted us warmly on our return.

Come on! There must be someone who knows who he is.

I think he may have been a Marine, but I'm one airman who never forgot him!!

Daniel Keohane, SuzDan2@comcast.net



Feedback/Return Fire

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

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902. E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 563-6149. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

Father Lewis Felhoelter

I thank Charles Roddy for his article about Father Felhoelter. We cannot do enough to remember the heroic efforts of men such as him. (His actual name was Herman G. Felhoelter.)

The correct date of his death, incidentally, was July 17, 1950, not July 16, 1950, as noted in the "Editor's Note." The correct date was published on page 143 of the "U.S. Army Korean War-South to the Naktong, North to the Yalu," published by the Center of Military History, U.S. Army, Washington DC, 1961, edited by Roy E. Appleman. However, it happened on the morning of July 17, 1950. I was there.

Approximately 60 men volunteered to carry 20 stretcher cases in our retreat from a roadblock. There were 40 of us who carried the 20 stretchers. The rice paddy trails leading upwards to the east were not wide enough for more carriers and the nightfall made the path difficult to navigate. The other volunteers served as relief when we got tired.

We finally stopped for the night, as we were exhausted. During the night some of the men fled. In the morning there were about a dozen of us able-bodied men who had not left. Chaplain Felhoelter asked us to move the wounded to a level spot under some trees for shelter and comfort. Then he told us to leave him with the wounded and report his situation and location to those in charge when we reached our own lines.

I did not want to leave him. At that moment one of the wounded said, "Don't leave me."

Father Felhoelter spoke softly and comfortingly to him and he quieted down. Finally, we said our "good byes" and "God be with you" and trudged down the hill in a southeasterly direction.

I don't know the details of how he was killed. But, I do know that when we had gone about a mile down the trail we heard loud and continuous firing of burp guns and rifles. I assumed that's when Father Felhoelter was killed. Our troops didn't get back to the vicinity of Tuman-ni until September of that year, so how can we really know the truth of how he died?

Father Herman G. Felhoelter was a man of God. His love for his fellow man was revealed under trying circumstances. I will never forget him for his sacrifice and courage. I will always remember July 16, 1950 and July 17, 1950 as examples of the statements "War is hell" and "Man's inhumanity toward his fellow men."

Kenneth A. Tashiro, IPW Team, 19th Inf. Regt., 24th Inf. Div., 876 Curtis St. #1206, Honolulu HI 96813

Drummed Out

We asked in the Nov/Dec 2010 issue about when or if the quaint old military custom of "drumming out" miscreants ended. Here is what we received.

Life Magazine

From *Life Magazine* (20 April-1962) Photo & Story.—It is believed the last U.S. military drumming-out ceremony was at Norfolk, Va. A 20-year-old Marine convicted of larceny was forced to go through the ordeal. Then, Marine Corps Commandant General David M. Shoup abolished the custom in April 1962. The custom was to have been dropped by all U.S. forces at the start of World War II.

At Virginia Military Institute, cadets who are convicted of honor code violations are removed from the school, and a formal announcement of the former cadet's offense is given in the morning, after the corps is awakened by drums.

Thanks to Tom Moore for submitting this item.

A Teaching Experience

I was a young airman stationed at Limestone Air Force Base, which was later named Loring Air Force Base, Limestone, ME. I remember well one "drumming out" event, which took place during December 1954.

It was very cold and snowy. The individual was presented before a squadron formation. A legal officer read the charges and special orders directing the "drumming out" and discharge. If the individual had any chevrons/stripes, they were torn off. Any ribbons were removed and the shoulder epaulets were cut off.

The assembled squadron formation was given an "About Face" order, and turned away from the individual. He was placed behind an Air Police jeep, with a lone drummer behind him. The disgraced airman was required to walk approximately two miles to the main gate. There, he was given his belongings and escorted out the gate.

The ceremony was very somber, and a teaching occasion—especially for us new and young Airmen. This was the only "drumming out" I ever witnessed, but I believe they were common at that Maine Air Force base.

I remained in the Air Force for the next twenty years. I never experienced or heard of another "drumming out" event. I don't believe such an event would be allowed in today's society.

Lewis D. Metz, 33 Stoney Brook Ln.,
Danville, WV 25053, 304-369-2824

Not Fit To Be In The Corps

In April 1947 I was with my brother-in-law, Marine Sgt. Dale

Whitney, ready to enter the main gate of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California. A lone male stood in a Marine uniform, which was stripped of all vestiges of the service—and I mean all: buttons, stripes and chevrons were gone. The stitching was visibly hanging.

A few paces behind him was a Marine in full uniform with a marching snare drum.

The drum beat tempo matched the walking pace of the disgraced soon to be ex-Marine.

As soon as the man was off base, the drummer broke the drumsticks and tossed them at him.

I asked Dale what was going on. He said, “The SOB did something to disgrace the uniform and was not fit to be the Corps,” and that “Whatever he did was a court martial offense.”

I have never forgotten that day.

Richard Newton, 7273 San Miguel Ave.,
Lemon Grove CA 91945

There Is Such A Thing As An Ex-Marine

I was the company commander of an engineer company at Camp Talega/Pendleton around 1958-60. My First Sergeant told me that a Marine was being released from the base brig and was to be discharged with a bad conduct discharge (BCD).

I had the company gunny form the company. When the soon-to-be ex-Marine arrived, I approached him. Using a razor, I cut off every part of his utility uniform that had a Marine Corps identification (shirt pocket, buttons, whatever). Then, I instructed the Gunny to give the order.

The Gunny commanded, “About Face.” The company did so, turning its back on the individual. He was then loaded onto the jeep and taken to the Christinitos gate and ejected from the base.

Now I hear people, including our current Commandant, saying that anyone who went through PI or San Diego or Quantico is still a Marine. (“No former Marines,” he is quoted as saying.)

I say this fellow is an ex-Marine. He made a decision to disobey his orders, duties and responsibilities and paid the price. Some might argue that, having paid the price, he should in effect be pardoned and allowed to call himself a Marine.

James L. Murphy, 2405 Tierra Dr.,
Los Osos, CA 93402

“Drumming Out” Is Nothing New

I can't help you with a more recent “drumming out” example, but I have one that I found out about when I was researching an article I wrote about my great-grandfather's unit in the Civil War, the 1st Maine Cavalry Regiment (Volunteer).

The 1st Maine went into winter (1862-1863) quarters near Belle Plain Landing, Virginia. It was named “Camp Bayard” in memory of a brigade commander killed at Fredericksburg, Virginia, but they soon named it “Camp Mud.”

In January they received (4) months back pay. Troopers received \$32 dollars per month (owners of horses received \$31 dollars per month) which helped morale, but the Maine men were surprised at how cold and snowy winter was in the south.

During monotonous picket duty they began bantering with the rebel pickets, each side shouting out the names of their side's victorious battles. In April, on a particularly raw day, they were

called out for drill late in the afternoon, grumbling as they mounted. After a few exercises, the brigade formed a huge triangle on the parade field while a blacksmith's forge was hauled out in the middle and fired up.

Colonel Judson Kilpatrick, their new Brigade Commander, addressed them, saying they were assembled to witness a scene he prayed God they would “never be called on to witness again.”

An order was read by which two men from “K” Company, 2nd New York Cavalry, were to be punished for the crime of desertion. The prisoners were branded on their left hips with the letter “D.” The guards then marched them, bareheaded, around the inside of the formation as drums beat loudly and finally escorted them off the parade ground and out of sight.

According to a 1st Maine witness, Sergeant-Major Edward P. Tobie, it was a “farce!” No one was either frightened or satisfied. The Maine men thought that justice required the deserters be shot.

Peter W. Cuthbert, Col., U.S. Army (Ret), P.O. Box
695, East Moriches, NY 11940, colpwc@optonline.net

A Reminder from John O'Malley

It seems to me that your request for “drummed out” troops information is very similar in nature to the request I made in my letter which appeared in the Sept/Oct 2007 issue of the magazine.

I had an inquiry in that issue stating I was part of such an incident. It is fully explained and I think that it is just what you are looking for. Here is a copy of the letter.

Does Anyone Have a Photo of this Event?

During 1955, while I was stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington, I went TDY to the Post Stockade (Main Post) for several weeks. One of my duties was to march a “former soldier” to the Main Gate.

I marched behind him on the center line down the roadway with a loaded carbine at Port Arms. The soldier, who I was told had been dishonorably discharged, was provided with a bus ticket, black suit, white shirt, black tie and shoes—all purchased by the Army in Tacoma, Washington.

This event must have been publicized in the post newspaper or in other ways, as the streets we marched on from the stockade to the Main Gate were lined with spectators, and oncoming vehicles pulled to the side of the road.

I was wondering if any members remember this event and may have a news article or a picture from the day. Can anyone help me?

John O'Malley, 126 Wildwood Terrace, Shohola, PA
18458, 570-296-4074, jpo714@ptd.net

Waving to Soldiers—and Becoming One

Your multi-part series about Fr. Kapaun and the horrible conditions of surviving on little food and intense cold is remarkable.

My uncles have a ranch 10 miles from Vandenberg AFB, but during the Korean War it was Camp Cooke. In one of your magazines was a photo of a soldier next to a Camp Cooke sign where he attended Communication School. When there were convoys during the Korean War, I would go to the highway to wave to the soldiers.

Little did a 7-9 yr-old realize what hell would confront many of them. These troops sure made it easier for me when I served in Korea decades later.

Gene Zandona, ezandona@gmail.com

Bonus Updates

Thank You from the "Pine Tree" State

I joined the Navy on May 29, 1951, in Portland, ME, and was discharged on April 26, 1955, in Jacksonville, FL. The State of Maine sent me a certificate thanking me for my nearly four years of service.

There was NO bonus from Maine.

Richard H. Leighton, 23 Edgewood Drive,
Guilford, CT 06437, 203-457-0860

Idaho No

I was drafted into the Army from Idaho in 1951, and served in Korea in 1952-53. Upon my discharge, I returned to Idaho. Idaho did not pay any bonus to Korean War veterans.

Dennis A. Tate, 317 Westview Dr.,
Missoula, MT 59803

Wisconsin

I have lived in Wisconsin all my life. Here is what happened to me regarding a state Korean War bonus.

I was discharged in October 1953. I bought my first home in 1957. The mortgage totaled \$8,000. (Wow!) I had to borrow half from a lending institution and the other half from the State of Wisconsin—at 2%.

That amount from the state was for \$4,000, which I consider a State of Wisconsin bonus.

Harry Boll, 243 Misty Meadows Ln.,
Menasha, WI 54952, 920-722-0112

Not a Happy Anniversary

In the past years, around May, Aberdeen Proving Grounds opened many of its facilities to the public. One of the most popular was the fire demonstration at the "range front."

Weapons systems, tanks, antitank vehicles, small arms, troop maneuvers, etc. were demonstrated, using blank and/or live ammo. One of the big features of the show was setting up and firing the "Atomic Cannon," using a conventional projectile, which impacted several thousand yards down range. It was "billed" as an Atomic Cannon and may be similar to the one claimed to have been sighted in Korea. The APG Museum may be able to shed some light.

Last summer I took my cousin, Barbara Santora, and her husband and son to the APG Museum. They were visiting from Fairbanks, AK. It was extremely hot, so Barbara and I sat under the shade of the nearest tree. I don't recall seeing the Atomic Cannon, but the German WWII cannon "Anzio Annie" was still there.

Barbara's dad, my uncle, is the late Lt. Colonel Bert Santora. Bert landed in Normandy in June 1944, soon after the initial invasion, as a 31-year-old 2nd Lt. of the 80th Blue Mountain Inf. Division that became attached to Patton's Third Army. His initial introduction to WWII Europe was viewing the bodies of many good young men, still on the Normandy beach.



"Anzio Annie," taken in 1990



"Atomic Cannon," pictured in 1960

Five and a half months later he, as a Major, was wounded near the German border. The date was 27 November 1944. Six years later, to the date, 27 November 1950, he was taken prisoner by the Chinese near the China/Korea border. He served 33 months as a POW, and was released in August 1953. Barbara, his first born, was born a year later in 1954.



American POWs repatriated in August 1953. Bert Santora is in front row, first man on left.

The APG Cannon may be similar to the one "seen" in Korea.
Richard Santora, 207 East Heather Rd.,
Bel Air, MD 21014

Clint Eastwood

During a Lexington, KY Korean War veterans meeting, I was interviewed by a local news reporter about my service in Korea. The reporter jokingly asked me if I had seen Clint Eastwood at Heartbreak Ridge during the campaign. I had not seen Mr. Eastwood and said that I hadn't.

Besides myself, there were hundreds of soldiers participating in the campaign, most of whom I did not know personally. However, I do know that Clint Eastwood has been very specific to mention publicly that he was not in Korea during the war.

It appears my comment fired up a three-ring circus as one Korean infantryman did not get the word that movies are often fictional. I'm glad to see that there are veterans who research first before commenting on things unknown to them, as evidenced by the plethora of letters you received in response to one pundit's remarks.

Joseph M. Brown, Co. G, 2 Bn., 38th Inf. Regt., 2nd Inf. Div., sherrylbrown56@yahoo.com

Picture IDs

I have some information about a few photos in the spread on pp. 30-31 of the Jan/Feb 2011 issue:

- "Three Korean Women" - They are actually Japanese women photographed in Japan

- "Korean Funeral" - It is some kind of a political rally. The large white sign in the middle speaks of "Inchon Workers Cop," although it may be separate from the marchers.

Funeral procession people do not wear headbands and sashes.

- "Footprints in the snow" - it looks to be a Japanese temple.

- "The building is sited perfectly for this picture" - It's Japanese, not Korean, architecture

I enjoy looking at the old Korean pictures. I lived through the Korean War and saw it firsthand.

Yong Jones, 10 Grace Ct., Bangor, ME 04401

Atomic Annie and the CIB

There were two articles in the January/February 2011 issue that I found very interesting. One was the spread about "The Atomic Cannon," pp. 14-15/64 and 65. I was in Korea during most of 1952 as an Infantry Advisor assigned to I ROK Corps as a Sergeant Major, and I never heard anything about "Atomic Annie," the 280 MM cannon.

The second article was "What the CIB means to Me," by Joe Langone. I agree with Joe on his understanding and recognition of it. I agree that the CIB should be awarded to those who were in combat.

I know of many soldiers who were in combat but, because of their assignments, did not qualify for the CIB. I happened to be one of those men. Since I was assigned to a South Korean Army unit, and not to an organization of a regiment, brigade size or smaller, and not assigned an infantry Military Occupational Specialty (MOS), I did not qualify for the CIB as an advisor.

I am quoting this explanation from a letter from a board review from the National Personnel Records Center as a reply to my situation. In addition, there is an Army regulation that states you must have 30 days continuous combat service unless one

received the Purple Heart with less than 30 days. Battle participation credit alone is not sufficient.

I am just trying to point out that there are many men perhaps who should have been recognized in some way for being in combat, but who were not assigned to a recognized fighting unit such as transportation corps, Quartermaster outfits, engineers, etc. Some of these outfits had to be there at a certain destination first to provide support such as bridges, airfields, roads, supply...and it goes on and on.

I spent 24 days shy of 7 years service in the United States Army, which include WWII. I respect and know what those men endured while in combat. I also respect and pray for those men who are still considered MIAs and those who never had a chance to return to their country.

Joseph A. Langone, wear the CIB as often and as proudly as you can.

Frank A. Imperato, 621 Huntington Dr., Downingtown, PA 19335

Nothing Atomic About These "Pieces"

I served with the 40th Div. Arty. Hq&Hq Btry. Msg. Ctr., August 1952 to August 1953. During this period we moved 4-5 times, starting from Kumwha Valley. Later, we went back there after other moves in areas of the north and northeast.

On one occasion I was with a motor messenger in a jeep when we came to an area with a very large "piece," not the usual 105 or 155 we were used to. (The nearby pictures show the size of the projectiles, one of which has a helmet on the tip.)



A 280mm cannon in Korea



280mm projectiles (note the helmet on the second round from the left)



"Fingers to your ears"



A 280mm hauler



A pretty imposing weapon



It took more than one man to fire this weapon

We learned that two tractors pulled the piece, and that it took about a day to set it up for firing. We also found out that there were three of the guns in Korea, one in each Corps area.

The cannon could fire shells eighteen miles with pinpoint accuracy. They were firing once or twice a day, but with 280mm regular powder, not atomic at this time. The crew told us all this.

I am not sure when the photos were taken. During most of my "visit" to Korea we would send our undeveloped film to Hawaii, after which the developed photos were sent to our U.S. homes. Once I returned home I placed the pictures in an album with some sense of order.

Robert A. Palmrose, 2415 E Street, Eureka, CA 95501

The 280mm Comes Full Circle

I was stationed in Camp Barbara, Korea, several miles north of Camp Casey, from January 1958 to February 1959. I directed the fire of our two 280mm guns. We only fired HE, and only into the Imjin River firing range. We never fired at any enemy.

One of the guns in "A" Battery, which was stationed in Munsan-ni, had been the gun which was tested in the U.S. desert with an atomic shell just to be sure it worked. That gun was called "Atomic Annie." The last I knew it was sitting on the ground at the Fort Sill [OK] Museum.

The guns weighed 80 tons apiece. They were suspended between two prime movers for transportation to firing positions, where they were lowered onto a circular base plate. If leveled accurately, the guns could be traversed 360°.

"C" Battery had two guns. They were stationed at Uijonbu. In all, our battalion had six guns. I understand there was a battalion of 280s stationed in Germany at about the same time.

Our guns had been stationed in Okinawa prior to my assignment to "B" Battery. I am sure they were used as a deterrent to North Korean military ambitions. However, some time after I left Korea both parties signed an agreement to remove all atomic weapons from Korea. That was when "Atomic Annie" went to the museum.

I would be interested in hearing from anyone who was with our battalion at the same time I was.

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

Atomic Bullets

While reading the feedback section, I noted the comments on "the atomic cannon." I took basic training at Ft. Ord, CA in the spring of 1952 with the 6th Inf. Div., 63 Inf. Regt. Co. 'G'. One day, while on a field of instruction, the cadre carried out what they said was an "atomic bullet." They carefully took it out of a metal box and loaded it into an M1 and fired it down field. There was a big explosion at the point of impact...we were all amazed.

It was a 'light hearted' moment when they told us afterward that the explosion was actually the result of explosives planted earlier. Perhaps some other readers who took basic at Ft. Ord remember this incident.

Reading the latest of the 2d Indianhead Division letters, I noted a "Revisit Korea" article. I noted that one of the places they would visit was the "bowling alley." Perhaps some of the readers will remember the "bowling alley" also. It was a straight shot up

to the MLR and “Little Gibraltar.”

I bowl in a Sr. League and tell some of the other bowlers that I spent time in a bowling alley in Korea.

Richard Jenkins, kjenks@amnix.com

When Two Good Units Meet

I served With the 1st Bn., 5th Marines in Korea. At the start of the second Chinese offensive we went up a ridge. About half way up we met the Princess Pat’s Regiment of the Canadian Forces. They passed through the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and left the ridge. We had more men and could cover the whole ridge.

Anyway, when two good outfits come together there are always a few cat calls and hollering. This time was no exception.

They were an excellent unit. As I learned later, they received a unit citation for saving UN Forces keeping the bridge open.

Paul L. James, 64 Lilly Lane, Red Creek NY 13143

The Marine’s ... Is In a Sling

This is to comment on the Jan.- Feb., 2011 issue of *Greybeard* magazine.

First, we Marines are honored that you chose a Marine for the front cover. There is a problem with the picture. Every Marine who ever carried the 1903 or the M1 (Garand, to Soldiers) knows that the rifle sling must be checked before every activity to be sure it is tight, not sloppy like the one in the picture.

The photographer, a Non-Commissioned Officer, as indicated by the article, was not doing his job by not inspecting prior to taking the picture.

On page 50, top left, the Marine in uniform is introduced as Sgt. instead of GySgt. In the article he is identified as a Gunnery Sergeant, which is correct. I believe the writer could have avoided this by checking his copy prior to printing.

On page 63, bottom right: (USMC was not happy), 3rd paragraph says he has a friend who is a USMC Command Sergeant Major. Sorry, writer, that term is an Army Rate, NOT MARINE CORPS. A Sergeant Major is a Sergeant Major regardless of his assignment. The one and only difference is one Marine at a time who is the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.

Robert E. Glausier, Captain, USMC (Ret),
3 Potomac Street, Boonsboro, MD 21713

Were There Worms in “The Bomb?”

Dr. Hubert Lee has reopened a dormant can of worms when he contended in the Jan/Feb 2011 issue that the Koreans blame Pres. Truman for preventing the unification of Korea. Absent an actual poll, I believe this is mostly a reflection of Dr. Lee’s bias.

“If only Gen. MacArthur had been allowed to carry out his military strategy to smash the communists by using the bomb (emphasis mine),” he says, “there would be only one Korea today.” “The bomb” can only mean the atom bomb.

As I see it, if Truman had not acted without hesitation, as he did in responding to the North Korean invasion of June 25, 1950, Koreans would be living in a unified country, but they would be virtual slaves, like their countrymen in North Korea today, under a criminal communist regime.

Let’s examine MacArthur’s grand strategy. He sent UN forces on their way to the Yalu despite repeated warnings from Red

China that it would trigger its intervention. He advocated bombing China’s industrial centers, blockading China’s coast, assisting Chiang Kai-Shek to invade the Chinese mainland, and even bolstering UN forces with some of Chiang’s men.

Additionally, MacArthur sought carte blanche use of the atom bomb in North Korea to destroy its industrial base and even to lay a field of radioactive wastes across the enemy’s supply lines.

General Ridgway, who whipped a demoralized Eighth Army into shape after the Chinese appeared to be invincible, and who was an admirer of MacArthur, says in his book *The Korean War* that had not Truman fired MacArthur he would have been “derelict in his own duty.”

Truman, Secretary of Defense Marshall, the JCS, and our allies were unanimous in their belief that MacArthur’s agenda was not only impracticable but carried the risk of bringing the Soviet Union into the war.

MacArthur cannot be denied credit for at least two spectacular successes: the Inchon invasion, which relieved pressure on the Pusan perimeter, and the manner in which he put a devastated Japan on a democratic course to become a modern industrial power.

But MacArthur’s downfall resulted from his arrogance and pomposity and his conviction that he was infallible. He may have been a demigod to the Japanese, but to the administration and those responsible for our armed forces he suffered from delusions of grandeur that led to his frequent acts of insubordination.

Dr. Lee undoubtedly reflects the views of Syngman Rhee (long since deceased). But Truman hardly deserves vilification by the South Koreans. On the contrary, there should be statues to our former president throughout the republic

Bob Hall, Bellingham, WA, rdhall1925@yahoo.com

Picture ID

I was thumbing through my July/August 2010 issue of *The Graybeards* when I recognized a picture in “Can you identify the photo” section. One of the pictures seemed familiar. I took a look through one of my albums and came up with the same (or similar) one. I am sure that I took it while we were waiting to board the *USS Howtz* for the journey home from Korea to the good old United States in late October 1953.

Some of the first prisoners released by the North Korean came back on the *Howtz*. We were not allowed to associate with them,



Where was this taken?

and they were secluded somewhere on the ship. One prisoner did break ranks, and ran back to where he started from, so I have no idea of what happened to him.

Oh, well, that was a long time ago, as I will be 81 years old on April 11th of this year. Not as lean or mean, but still a Marine.

Arthur M. Cheek, 1501 85th Ave. N.
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Cheek served with 1st 4.5 Rockets, USMC, 7/6/52 to 7/26/53. He extended for three months and went back to Ascom City.

Incidentally, the name of the ship may not have been Howtz. I cannot find a record of a ship by that name. Can anyone provide the correct name?

Serving Under One Flag

I could not agree with you more about the lashing out. Upon graduating from high school, my two best friends went into the Marine Corps. I almost went with them, but spent two years in the National Guard in Ansonia, CT. I was only 15 at the time, so I decided on the Army.

One of my friends went to Korea with the 1st Marine Division. The other was assigned to a Navy base in Florida, where he spent his whole tour. I did two tours in Korea with the 24th Inf. Div. and the second tour with the 40th Div.

After the war was over, one of my friends got married to a girl he met at Parris Island. He asked me and our other friend to be in his wedding party. We never talked about the one who served at the Navy base; it was his assignment—the luck of the draw.

My youngest son joined the Navy and served on the USS Midway. I now have a grandson in the Air Force. He served with a demolition unit in Afghanistan.

I spent my young life on the Milford, CT Police Department. I joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary and never had a reason to talk anything but good about all our services. I stand and salute all branches of service as they march by. We did all serve under one flag.

Angelo Quadarella, R.R. 6, Box 6709,
Saylorsburg, PA 18353, shirleyq@ptd.net

If Only Marines Could Earn the CIB

I am so pleased to see an editor with the back bone to capitalize Soldier, Sailor, Airman, and Marine. I have been calling attention to the fact “Marine” is a common noun to all sorts of editors. A few use the AP style guide as an excuse. From journalism school in college, I learned not to depend on the AP for accuracy in facts as well as grammar. This advice came from the head of the department.

Other editors just ignore my calling attention to basic errors in grammar, supported by such as the New York City Public Library, the foremost research library in the U.S., or the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, et al. Your style at least gives equal recognition to all services.

The only other editor that agreed with me was editor of *On Post*, a publication of the Army Historical Society, concerning stories and art work of the U. S. Army only. General Abrams Jr. concurred with the editor regarding the change.

I am brainwashed Infantry, though. It is the queen of battle and the closer of all wars. I am a veteran of “Frozen Chosin.” At the time, I was an NCO, never having earned a CIB until then. What a relief!

I have a great deal of respect and display proper courtesy when listening to any tales of derring-do from other branches, but if they are not Army or Marine Infantry, they’ll never know what it is like. In that connection, I wish Marine Infantry could be awarded the CIB once they are in battle. Then, I could identify them as Infantrymen, and shake their hands.

So many just say they are “Marines,” and you can’t tell if they are diesel mechanics, A&E techs, cooks, supply personnel, etc., because they always say they are trained Infantry. Baloney! Infantry training/combat is always all weather, all terrain, day and night. Can’t be done now and then or not any longer.

The Marines have over a hundred MOSs at last count, so they can’t all be Infantry.

Walt Larsen, Captain, USA (Ret), 8912 S. Oxford
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LARJOWAL@webtv.net

Did the Transportation Corps (TC) Have Weapons?

EDITOR'S NOTE: The below writer is responding to Philip M. Campbell, whose story, “Life on an LCU: Inchon, Korea, October 1952 to August 1953,” appeared on page 22 of the Jan/Feb 2011 edition.

I just read your story in *The Graybeards*. What a surprise! I was a platoon leader in the 933rd AAA AW Bn., the unit that “defended” Inchon from February through August of 1953, and my platoon was scattered mostly around the outer tidal basin. My platoon HQ was a stone’s throw from the inner basin where you worked. We could have easily bumped into each other.

I remember the air raid you mentioned. We were watching a movie in the battery mess hall. We heard the bombs explode, and all the lights went out. Everyone scrambled to get to his duty station. For some reason I never knew, many soldiers fired their carbines into the air. It was crazy!

I high-tailed it back to my platoon Hq, then headed out to my best gun crew, located on a nearby hill on the other side of the MSR. We fired at “Bed Check Charlie” and were later told that he crashed about ten miles away.

After the excitement was over, I set up a tripod on top of my little shack and started shooting pictures of the spectacular fuel dump fire miles away. Scores of 55-gallon drums exploded and were tossed hundreds of feet into the air. There were no casualties: one bomb started a small fire, but it spread rapidly and could not be controlled. One of the other batteries lost a gun position.

From what I recall, the TC troops were not issued rifles. We carried carbines and were not allowed off the compounds without them. (We never needed them.) Shortly before the armistice was signed, the brass feared repercussions from the South Koreans because many did not like the terms. At that point, the Transportation Corps people were issued arms. Am I correct?

Ben Raphael, LTC, USAR (Ret), 727 Art Lane,
Newark, DE 19713, (302) 368-3969,
benraphael@msn.com

Re “Memories of K-13 Suwon, Korea” in the February issue of “Graybeards,” by Harry Bauser

I, too, was at or near K-13 from October ‘52 until about March ‘53, when I was shipped north. I was with a New York National Guard Battalion stationed in the hills surrounding K-13. This unit had four batteries of four 90mm M2s, plus quite a few quad 50s and even more single 50s, as well as a headquarters battery.

As I was a Ballistic Meteorologist, I had a bird’s eye seat to some remarkable events. Our Met Section operated from about the highest point in the area. Every four hours for an hour, 24 hours a day, for that whole time, I had to stand on the top of that hill with a theodolite and track balloons. Of course I also had time to look around to see what was going on every fourth hour.

In October of ‘52 the engineers were still building the strip—also 24 hours a day. At night the area was aglow with their work lights as they literally moved mountains and made a long flat plain on which they put the landing strip. Sometime around the first of the year the strip was complete enough to bring in the planes - and they did.

One group of American F-80 Shooting Stars came in first, followed shortly by South Africans in Sabrejets. It was not unusual to see 5 or 6 pairs of fighters take off at the same time. Sure was noisy, though.

Also remembered was that Thanksgiving I was able to take a shower in the USAF facilities with a truckload of my buddies. The next day the USAF commander called our Battery Commander and told him that showers would no longer be available to the Army as we were “too dirty.” My next shower was in late March at my next assignment.

There could have been something else going on, though, because that December saw an IG Inspection of our battalion. Within a day the CO and the XO were relieved of duty and sent stateside. Things didn’t get too much better in the remaining time I was there. The unit designation was quite forgettable.

On the “Bed Check Charlies:” After being transferred north to the Han River Valley, we also had some night time visits from single engine airplanes. Because we could listen into the Air Defense communications, we learned that our jets could not catch them (too fast) but that Corsairs, probably Marines from Pyongtek, could—and did. Later, I saw one of the downed Chinese planes. It was a single engine, two-seat, open air biplane.

I was told that the guy in the rear seat just tossed mortar shells over the side when he saw a good target. Don’t laugh. As someone reported in this last issue of Graybeards, they blew up a fuel dump in Incheon one night with these low-tech machines.

Stan Jones, stanley.jones1@comcast.net

Did 1st Cav Lose Its Colors in Korea?

Jeff Schogol, with *Stars and Stripes*, has advised us that he recently wrote a story debunking the myth that the 1st Cavalry Division lost its colors in Korea. He provided this link to the story: <http://www.stripes.com/blogs/the-rumor-doctor/the-rumor-doctor-1.104348/did-the-1st-cavalry-division-lose-its-colors-1.132899> Or, go to www.stripes.com and key in the search term 1st Cav colors.

Sook Gets Soaked

By Yubill C.O. Kang

More than half a century ago, around 1955 or so, just after the Korean War ended, my family was still taking refuge in Taegu, southern Korea, after fleeing from the north. My mother, a devoted Christian, always encouraged us to go to church, even under those awful circumstances. I remember that the church we used to attend was on the top of the hill, and we had to walk such a long distance (or it seemed so as we were so young) to get there.

One Sunday morning, my sister Sook (8 years old) and I (3 years old) were on our way to Sunday school. We had just reached the main road and we were holding hands tightly with each other. We were just about to cross. We hesitated for a while, and we saw an American GI jeep closing in fast in the near distance.

All of a sudden, my sister, who was a bit unpredictable then (and still is), suddenly yanked my hand hard and started to run across the road. I had no choice but to be dragged by her. I heard a shrill shriek from the jeep. We jumped into a stream that was running by a bank, absolutely full of fear.

I sensed instantly that we were in big trouble for daring to cross the road at that instant. I hurried to get up from the shallow water. I was soaked through and through, as was Sook. I stood up, petrified and dripping wet.

I looked up the bank and saw two GIs peering down and shouting at us. They were apparently as frightened as we were. One of them came down, lifted me, and put me down on the bank. Then, I saw that the jeep had turned completely around due to the sudden braking, which explained how urgent and panicked they were.

The two GIs were saying something to us in English. Then, one of them stroked my head, went back to the jeep, and left. Of course, I never knew who they were (they might be current members or might have been of KWVA) and never understood what they were saying to us. But, I sensed that they, after all, were very gentle and tried to comfort us.

I was only 3 years old but I still remember it vividly and it has remained with me all these years. I was too young to understand the whole situation and what was going on in the country at the time but I knew, vaguely, that they had come to help us.

During that period we used to sing a rude song that mocked Kim, Il-sung, the so-called “Great-Leader” of North Korea, and about the invasion of the south. I was always singing that song without realizing the meaning of the words.

That was probably the only song I knew. People used to ask me to sing it often, and they always had a good laugh. I still can recite it with the tune and the whole verse.

I thank God everyday for what the U.S. and its people did for me and the Koreans—at least half of the country, the south. I also thank God everyday that the U.S. and its people uphold world peace and the lives of innocent people with such courage and bravery.

Yubill C. O. Kang, Middlesex, England, y.kang@sky.com

FATHER KAPAUN

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Wichita [KS] Eagle ran an eight-part series on Father Kapaun in December 2009. Deputy Editor Tom Shine graciously offered to let us reprint the series in its entirety. We will do that in serial fashion, since the series is too long for us to include in one issue.

We offer our deep gratitude to writer Roy Wenzl and Deputy Editor Shine for permission to reprint the articles.

This is Part VIII and the final chapter of our continuing series on Father Emil Kapaun. The Wichita Eagle (Kansas), December 13, 2009 Sunday

Part 8: Former POWs say his miracle was providing them hope

BYLINE: ROY WENZL; The Wichita Eagle

No one needed to tell the POWs about sainthood.

"We knew in the camp that he was a saint, while he was still alive," Funchess said. "It was obvious."

But canonization by the Vatican is a matter that baffles some soldiers. They saw him do heroic things that didn't seem to fit what the church asks about.

The Vatican asked whether Kapaun lived a life "above reproach." Soldiers grinned at this, recalling Kapaun swearing at Comrade Sun.

The Vatican wanted to know whether the sick he saved ever recovered "immediately."

No, they said. It took time.

The church seemed to be looking for upper-case, biblicalized miracles, like raising Lazarus from the dead.

The POWs never saw that happen in Pyoktong.

What they did see, Funchess said, were the sorts of lowercase miracles that all of us could do if only we had Kapaun's character and grit.

By that definition, Miller said, "That man's entire life was a miracle."

Was it a miracle, Miller asked, when Kapaun shoved his executioner away?

"I was sure that guy was going to shoot both of us," Miller said. "We were in the middle of a battle. It was a miracle that he did not shoot us. Isn't that a miracle?"

The POWs say Kapaun saved hundreds

of lives — dozens on battlefields, hundreds in the camps by stealing food, making pots to boil water, picking lice out of armpits. The lice were so thick, Funchess said, that they'd bleed a man to death in three days if he let them feast.

By any standard, Funchess said, saving hundreds of lives in those conditions is incredible. The Pentagon estimates that 1,200 to 1,600 of the 3,000 to 4,000 POWs who passed through Pyoktong died that first winter.

Skeptics of miracles could ask: If miracles really exist, if Kapaun really was a saint in the making, why did at least 1,200 men die beside him when Kapaun himself was praying to God every day to spare their lives?

But the men who saw him there say that while he didn't save all, he saved hundreds. How many saved lives are enough?

Some questions from the church puzzled the old soldiers, who tried to be diplomatic about it.

When Moose McClain, in a 2003 video interview, told Archbishop Philip Hannan of the New Orleans Diocese that he'd watched Kapaun virtually raise POW Chester Osborne from death by cradling him in his arms and praying in a hut one day, Hannan asked whether his recovery was "immediate."

"No," McClain told him.

The church also asked these men whether Kapaun won converts to Catholicism, which would be another



Fr. Kapaun

feather in Kapaun's sainthood cap if the church could find it.

Yes, they said. Some men converted. But the broader answer is not so simple.

Osborne, according to his granddaughter Laurie Uhlman, came home from the war and told people he'd survived imprisonment because of Kapaun. But he did not convert until 1974, more than 20 years after Kapaun revived him.

Bob Wood, who helped carry Kapaun to the Death House, studied Catholicism when he got back home, but did not convert.

"I never found anyone in the church who could match up to Father Kapaun," he said.

Funchess stayed Methodist, Miller a Baptist.

McGreevy, born a Catholic, stopped going to Mass years ago after reading about sex scandals and cover-ups involving priests. McGreevy, still devout, could not bring himself to join any other faith.

So in his home in Maryland, he built a shrine. He acquired a small replica of the statue of Kapaun in Pilsen, set it beside his favorite chair, leaned Kapaun prayer cards against it and prayed to his old mentor every day.

The questions from the church, and the 58 years it took for the Vatican to assign an investigator, puzzled POWs like Miller.

"If I could talk to the pope, I'd tell him that if he doesn't give sainthood to Father Kapaun, he might as well close up the

whole thing and never give it to anybody else ever again.”

Should people believe in miracles? Are there really saints?

Kapaun’s friends don’t know the answers to those questions. But they say they know what they saw.

They saw death surround them; they saw little reason for hope. But Kapaun preached about hope until the day he died and made many of them believe in hope, too.

Kapaun’s greatest miracle, Dowe said, was persuading people to believe in hope.

“That kept a lot of us alive,” Dowe said. “When your life is so marginal, little things mean a lot.”

Some of the men he saved did not necessarily believe in miracles; some of them did not even believe in God. But they believed in Father Kapaun.

.....

When they heard the news this October, former POWs felt their skin tingle. The outgoing secretary of the Army wrote Tiaht that he recommended Kapaun for the Medal of Honor. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, concurred. “I’m glad they are doing that for him,” Dowe said when he heard the news. “He sure did a lot for us.” The recommendation will go to Congress, and to Secretary of Defense Robert Gates.

Gates happens to be a graduate of Wichita’s East High School, located five miles from St. John’s Chapel at Newman University, where Kapaun was ordained in 1940.

If Gates and Congress concur, the recommendation will go to the president.

.....

With other saints, there was a transforming crisis.

Saul the Persecutor became Paul the Apostle when a blinding light struck him down on the road to Damascus.

Augustine slept with women; Francis of Assisi partied until dawn; they became saints only after lives of self-loathing and crisis.

But no one who knew Kapaun ever saw a road to Damascus moment. Hotze, after a decade of study, is sure Kapaun was born whole.

“Everybody I talked to said he was the same way as a boy,” Hotze said. “In

school when he finished his lessons he would look how to help other students complete their work. That was the same guy on the battlefield and in prison camps. He just felt compelled to help.”

Kapaun reached his 34th year having done nothing remarkable. He grew up milking cows near a tiny, anonymous town. Fellow soldiers like Jerome Dolan, an 8th Cavalry doctor, said he looked utterly ordinary except in battle; Kapaun had a slight build, a high-pitched voice.

The one recording of his voice is a sermon delivered on Armed Forces Radio two months before he went to Korea. It reveals a voice of high pitch, with the inflections of a rural Kansas farmer, but with a Slavic flavor, with some consonants trilled or clipped off the way some elderly Czech speakers in Pilsen still say them today.

His life until 1950 seems so quaint. The truth is that until the 8th Cavalry Regiment landed on a beach in Korea in July 1950, Kapaun lived a quaint life.

But starting that day, his reckless courage in battle became legend. Joe Ramirez, who fought with the 8th Cavalry all the way up the Korean peninsula, said he and many other soldiers saw Kapaun save wounded soldiers while running through gunfire from rifles, machine guns and sub-machine guns.

“Guys used to say, ‘That man is crazy,’ ” Ramirez said.

American soldiers always tried to rescue their wounded, Ramirez said, but Kapaun would go farther out into enemy gunfire than anyone else dared.

He was kind as well as brave. Dolan said that he and other GIs in a battle one day came upon a North Korean lying in a ditch, holding what looked like a grenade. The GIs wanted to shoot him, but Kapaun stepped forward and held out a canteen.

For a long time, the Korean stared at him as Kapaun gestured with the canteen. Finally, the Korean surrendered. Kapaun had been the one man who saw he was thirsty and hungry.

Raymond Skeeahan, a captain in the 8th Cavalry’s medical unit, remembers Kapaun arguing with an officer in mid-battle one day. GIs were preparing to assault a hill full of North Koreans and machine guns.

Kapaun pestered the commander: “Is this necessary? Isn’t it kind of dangerous to attack this hill?”

The officer listened, postponed the attack — then watched the enemy retreat without a fight.

Skeeahan, a part-time photographer, took the iconic photo of Kapaun in vestments saying Mass on a battlefield, the blanket-covered hood of a jeep serving as an altar. Skeeahan remembers the date: Oct. 7, 1950. Kapaun was captured 26 days later.

“I remember his kindness,” Skeeahan said. “I saw him one day with a canvas bag of apples he’d found; he took them to an orphanage.

“None of us ever saw him nod off. We wondered when he slept.”

Dolan remembered that Kapaun, before he was captured, had preached forgiveness when forgiveness seemed impossible.

“The Pacific Stars and Stripes had published a picture of men from the 5th Cavalry Regiment who had been captured, tortured and executed,” Dolan said.

“After that atrocity, some of our troops were ready to retaliate in kind. I remember Father’s sermon at the time — that as Christians and as Americans we would betray our heritage if we took revenge on the wounded or on prisoners.”

.....

On Oct. 18, Chase Kear and his family rode to Pilsen and visited the church where Kapaun grew up, where he served as altar boy, where he celebrated his first Mass.

The stone font where he was baptized stood near the altar. Morning light streamed through stained glass, shining through faces of angels.

After Mass, people talked, touched Chase’s hand.

They ate lunch in the church basement: roast beef, cake and Czech kolaches.

Edmund Steiner, 93, one of Kapaun’s boyhood chums, sat a few feet from the Kears. He said he and Emil went to schools run by nuns who whacked bad boys on outstretched palms with a wooden ruler. Not once did Kapaun get whacked. The others got hit all the time.

“He never did anything wrong.”

There was something oddly wonderful

about Emil, he said.

“All of us, we would swear and say bad words, but we never swore around him.

“It wasn’t because he told us not to do it. It was because there was something about him. We couldn’t swear around Emil.”

Outside, as Steiner talked, Chase walked alone to the statue where Kapaun had his left arm around a soldier with a lower leg wound.

Kapaun’s right hand was outstretched.
.....

In Pulaski, N.Y., the month before, Herb Miller, who still limps from his wound, told visitors that he had spent a lifetime since Unsan trying to know why Kapaun saved him.

Miller had not become a saint, after all; he had become a calibration technician in a bearings factory in Syracuse.

“I get choked up sometimes thinking about it,” he said.

“Maybe God and Father Kapaun saved me for another reason.”

After the war, he and Joyce adopted a girl and a boy. Those kids turned out real good, Miller said. He loves them; they love him.

“Maybe I was spared so that those two little kids could have a Dad. Was that it? I don’t know.

“I’ve thought about it every day since. “Why me?”
.....

At the Kapaun statue, Chase Kear stood still, morning sun rising over nearby treetops. In the year since he came back to life, Chase has asked himself the same questions that have plagued Miller for 59 years. Why he’s alive. What he’s meant to do now. He has no idea. It bothers him. Do miracles exist? Chase believes they do. He believes in God. And like the old soldiers, he believes in Father Kapaun. At the statue, Chase looked up at the bronze face staring down at him. The face has Kapaun’s wide-set eyes, the cleft in his chin. Chase looked into his face for a moment. Then he reached out and touched the hand of Father Kapaun.

Contributing: Travis Heying of The Eagle. Reach Roy Wenzl at 316-268-6219 or rwenzl@wichitaeagle.com

The War I Remember

By Don Childs, Sr.

EDITOR’S NOTE: This story and the following response originally appeared in The Watch on the Rhine, the newsletter of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, U. S. Army, date unknown.

On the evening of November 26, 1951, the Chinese overran the 15th Regiment on Hill 355. We, the 7th Regiment, were in reserve. After being on line for six weeks, at 1:00 a.m., we were loaded on trucks and headed north.

It was below zero and the trucks were unheated. I remember how very cold we all were, as they took us along the twisting, winding, mountain road. We could hear the thunder of artillery in the distance. We glanced at each other, but no one spoke a word.

Two hours later, the trucks stopped. We unloaded and began the two-day walk through the rugged mountain terrain. It was slow going and tempers were short. When we reached the base of Hill 355, we were ordered to wait until dawn before climbing the hill. At dawn, the big guns became silent, and we began to climb.

When we reached the summit, we encountered something I’ve never been able to erase from my memory. There were dead G.I.s and Chinese soldiers strewn here and there all over the area. To my right, lying face down, was a soldier severed at the waist. To my left was another one, sitting with his head bowed, against the hill, in a destroyed bunker. In his jacket pocket was a letter from his mother. His mom was hoping he would soon be home. Oh, how I wish I’d kept that letter!

When I returned from Korea, my thoughts were continually on that sergeant. I wanted to get in touch with his parents, to let them know that he did not suffer, as he had died instantly; however, my mind was in no condition to do any research. As the years went by, my condition didn’t improve.

About six years ago, my wife, Alberta, suggested we drive to Sedan, Minnesota, where the G.I. had lived. We mistakenly drove to Soudan, Minnesota, up in the Iron Range, only to find the town deserted.

At a luncheon last July, I shared my

thoughts with a friend, Keith Kramer. He volunteered to do research for me. He contacted several agencies, and with Mary Retola at the Veterans Administration in Glenwood, Minnesota, he struck pay dirt.

Their records had an Elmer Bradanger, Staff Sergeant, killed in Korea, November 26, 1951, on Hill 355. He lived in Sedan, Minnesota, west of Minneapolis. His parents, now deceased, were notified December 12, 1951. Mary also gave Keith the name of a sister, Evelyn Swenson, of Glenwood, Minnesota.

So, after 59 years, I had a conversation with his sister, Evelyn. She thanked me for calling. I thank Keith for stepping up to bat for me!

*Don Childs Sr., 2307 Mailand Rd.,
Maplewood, MN 55119-5525,
651-731-5237*

Finding Floyd

Floyd Herbig wrote the following in response to Don Childs’ article entitled “The War I Remember,” which appeared in the October *Watch*. Don served with the 7th Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company B, on Hill 355. “I was also a member of Company B, 7th Regiment, and everything he spoke of was true, he said.

“I remember so well the hard time we had to reach the crest of Hill 355. Also, there were elements of the 15th Infantry Regiment, and British and Canadian troops were committed for control of this vital hill.

“I spent a long time on Hill 355, from 26 November 1951 to April 1952, when we were relieved by the 1st Korean Division. I believe I remember Don Childs Sr. and would truly love to locate him. Can you help me find his home address so that I can contact him?

With deep thanks for any help you can give me, I remain 1st Sgt. Floyd Herbig, U.S. Army Retired.”

[Note: we have helped these two Korea veterans make contact with each other. They spoke on the phone in late October. Both were very pleased to make contact, and Don Childs called to thank me for putting them in touch with each other.]

*Floyd Herbig, 1607 Camp Ave.,
Rockford, IL 61103-6303,
815-965-2692*

My Very Small Role in the History of Atomic Warfare

By Dick Payne

After serving as a Navy Hospital Corpsman in Korea with the 1stMarDiv. in 1953, I was assigned to Baker Med. Co., 2nd Med. Bn., 2nd Mar Div, Camp Lejeune, NC. While I was there, the battalion Chief Petty Officer told me he had a special duty assignment for me.

I was to take a field ambulance with a Marine driver and report to the USN Port Commander at a certain pier in Wilmington, NC. He said he did not know what it was about, but we were not to tell anybody where we were going. We were to stay until we were told to return.

I was instructed also to prepare a medical kit with supplies for possible accidents—splints, battle dressings, etc.—including morphine syrettes, which Corpsmen normally did not carry in the US. I was also told to draw a .45 from the armory with spare magazines.

I wondered what I could do if there was an atomic accident. I would probably be vaporized...

The Marine ambulance driver was told to take his M1 with bayonet and several bandoliers of ammo. We were ordered to take a week's supply of C-rations and given a cash advance so we had money. We received permission to sleep in the ambulance and to bring back receipts for any money we spent.

As we rode to Wilmington, the ambulance driver and I speculated about what we were getting ourselves into. I knew it was very unusual for a Hospital Corpsman to carry a loaded weapon in the U.S.

We found the pier and reported to the Naval officer in charge. He asked what we were doing there, so I relayed what little we had been told. He said they were load-

ing a U.S. Army atomic cannon artillery unit for duty in Europe—the first to be shipped there. And, he related, since Camp Lejeune was the closest military base with a large medical facility, as a courtesy, they had notified the base because there was the potential for accidents—atomic and otherwise—and problems with protesters against the use of atomic weapons.

He noted that he had not requested any direct assistance, but since we were there we might as well stay until the ship sailed.

We stood by and watched the ship being loaded. I wondered what I could do if there was an atomic accident. I would probably be vaporized like everybody in the dock area. As to protesters, the Marine ambulance driver and I seemed to be the only ones with loaded weapons. Were we expected to hold off any angry crowds that might burst through the gates?

Continued on page 79

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Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE Assigned Membership Number: _____

**KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00
MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00**

Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

**Ages up to and through 35 years of age:.....\$600 Ages 36 through 50 years of age:\$450
Ages 51 through 65 years of age:\$300 Ages 66 years of age and older:\$150**

Please Check One: **New Member** **Renewal Member (# _____)**

Please Check One **Medal of Honor** **Regular Member** **Regular Life Member** **Associate Member**
 Ex-POW **Honorary** **Gold Star Parent** **Gold Star Spouse**

(Please Print)
Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle/Maiden Name _____
Street _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Phone: (____) _____ Year of Birth: _____
Email _____ Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # _____

All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable

Unit(s) to which Assigned Branch of Service
Division _____ **Army**
Regiment _____ **Air Force**
Battalion _____ **Navy**
Company _____ **Marines**
Other _____ **Coast Guard**

Dates of service:
WithIN Korea were: *(See criteria below)*
From _____ To _____
WithOUT Korea were: *(See criteria below)*
From _____ To _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership," complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" form on next page.]

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1, persons who make application for membership and qualify under one of the categories listed below, are required to fill in the appropriate blanks, sign in the space provided below and attach this page to the completed membership application form on previous page.

Check One

- Medal of Honor: I am a Medal of Honor recipient and the date on which it was awarded was: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- Ex-POW: I was held as a Prisoner of War at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present,
From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- Gold Star Parent: I am the parent of : Name [print] _____, who was
() killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War
on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- Gold Star Spouse: I am the spouse of: Name [print] _____, who was
() killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War
on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- Associate: I have a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association and agree to accept the terms and conditions set forth in its charter and bylaws.
- Honorary: I was elected as an Honorary Member of the KWVA by a vote of the Board of Directors
on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes indicated is true and correct."

Signature: _____ Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

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

Section 1. Qualifications of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

A. Regular Members.

1. **Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, is eligible for membership if:
 - a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or
 - b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
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 is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
4. **Gold Star Parents.** Any parent whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
5. **Gold Star Spouses.** Any person whose spouse was killed in action, missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

B. Associate Members.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular Membership; and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

C. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

D. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

Christmas 2010

56 - VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

We marched in the annual Christmas Parade once again.

David Lopez, 3850 W 180th Place, Torrance, CA 90504



Flag carriers from Ch 56 in Christmas Parade (L-R) Fred Tepesano (American), Henry Aguilar (POW/MIA), Manuel Adame (California)

Ch 56 members prepare for Ventura County Christmas Parade (L-R) David Garcia, Henry Aguilar, Manuel Adame



"Driven to Parade" are members of Ch 56: Back seat (L-R) Henry Guevara, Henry Aguilar, Commander David Lopez (Front, L-R) Everett Baca, David Lopez



The Ladies of Laredo (L-R) Mrs. I. Ramirez, Mrs. Pete Cantu, Mrs. Jorge de la Garza, Mrs. Hector Castaneda, Tina (Second Row) Lupita Jaime, Catalina Reyna, Cecilia Sanchez, Dora Rosell, Mrs. Salvador Sciaraffa and Nancy Leyendecker



Second shift of Ch 209 Christmas party attendees (L-R) Reynaldo Reyna, Hector Castaneda, Nico Nanez, Ernesto Sanchez (Second Row) Pete Cantu, Salvador Sciaraffa, Arnoldo Gutierrez, Eduardo Botello

209 - LAREDO 1950 [TX]

We held our annual Christmas party, which was well attended. We had a great meal and sang Christmas carols

Everyone left in a happy mood.

Pete Trevino, 2005 Guerrero St., Laredo, TX 78043



CH 209 members at their 2010 Christmas party (L-R) Adalberto Jaime, Roberto Ramirez, Mrs. I. Ramirez, Pete Trevino, Ricardo Garza (Second Row) Hector Castaneda, Salvador Sciaraffa, Eduardo Sanchez, Arnoldo Gutierrez, Jorge de la Garza, Hector Garza, Dave Leyendecker, Ernesto Sanchez

256 - NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

About 40 members and guests gathered for our annual Christmas dinner on 18 December 2010.

James E. McCarthy,
2159 Parliament Dr.,
Sterling Heights, MI 48310



Members and guests at Ch 256's Christmas dinner



299 - KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA [MA]

We held our annual Christmas party on 4 December 2010. About 72 members and guests showed up for great food, KVA Challenge coins, outstanding speakers, KVA coffee mugs, and British Korea Veterans Assoc. bookmarks given out from our friend and member Alan Maggs of the BKVA Durham Light Infantry. It was a great time and we appreciate all who attended and volunteered.

One eleven-year-old young lady, Michaela Bouchard, read to the audience an essay that she had written (see back cover). Michaela is a student at Sacred Heart School in Haverhill, MA. She did such a wonderful job reading her essay that we feel strongly about sharing it with all veterans.

When we come across young people like her it's so enlightening, given the direction so many youngsters are headed today.

Otis Mangrum, KVA 299 Color Guard Sgt/
Sgt at Arms, sito1945@yahoo.com



Korean Consulate Deputy General of Boston addresses crowd at Ch 299's Christmas party



The attendees at the KVA Christmas Party

APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PEACE CAMP FOR YOUTH (PCFY) TOURS

(UPDATED 01/16/11)

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____

KWVA Member, # _____ Expiration Date (Exp date) _____

NOTE: If you have not yet received your membership # from KWVA please insert "applied for."

List all your addresses, (seasonal/if more than one per year) and dates of residence, no P.O. Boxes.

1. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Dates _____

2. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Dates _____

Phone # _____ Fax _____ E-Mail* _____

*- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES

Korea Revisit Only

Veterans Passport# _____ Exp Date _____ Date of Birth (DOB) _____

Companion Name/Relationship _____ DOB _____

Companion's Passport# _____ Exp Date _____

NOTE: If you do not have a passport with 6 months validity after last date of return to USA and have applied for a new one, please insert "Applied for" in the space provided and contact MHT when you receive it.

Veteran's Korean Service Information (Both Tours)

Branch of Service _____ Unit _____

Period of Service in the Korean Theater (month/year) from _____ thru _____

Veterans / family member signature _____ Date _____

Complete and mail this form along with the \$450.00 deposit / service-fee per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted within sixty days of tour departure.

(PCFY) Peace Camp For Youth (Only)

Grandchild: Last Name _____ First _____ DOB _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail¹ _____ Passport #² _____ Exp Date _____

NOTES: 1- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES 2- If no passport put Applied for in this block and call in when received.

Credit Card Authorization:

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Master Card or Amex \$450.00 Per Person,

The amount of \$450.00 Per Person Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date: _____ please include the 3-Digit code on back of card _____

Name as it appears on the Credit Card _____

Korea Revisit related material please send to:

KWVA Revisit Korea Program

C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS

13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202

WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285

Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501

Fax: 703-590-1292

E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com

www.miltours.com

Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the **Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul)** in 1975 for the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War to express the **Republic of Korea (ROK's)** government's gratitude to Korean War veterans and their families also to show them the bountiful results of

their sacrifices and devotion.

MPVA's Eligibility Requirements

Korean War Veterans who served in or supported ground, naval, or air operations in the Korean Theater between June 25, 1950 and October 15, 1954. **Family members** of deceased or disabled Veterans are eligible to participate in the "Korea Revisit Program." An eligible applicant is allowed

to bring a family member or friend as a "travel companion."

Expanded Eligibility

- 1) For the 60th anniversaries (2010-13) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2006 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)

2) Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as **Veteran Representatives**.

Benefits & Schedule

Free hotel accommodations for the veteran their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and the National Cemetery.

Peace Camp For Youth (PCFY) Program for Grandchildren of Veterans

Purpose is to express the sincere gratitude of the Korean people and to build a network for future collaboration among **Families of Korean War Veterans**. Grandchildren must be at least 18 years old.

Benefits & Schedule for (PCFY)

Same as the Veterans tour with an extra day of events and subsidizes are per person, with no companions.

Sundry Notes

1. The MPVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
2. Participants are required to have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after return to the USA.
3. Neither MPVA Seoul nor MHT Virginia U.S.A is responsible for any loss of or damage to personal or other items; medical expenses, injuries or loss of life due to any accident of any nature during the tour.
4. Hospitalization, Evacuation and Trip Cancellation Insurance is required by MPVA for all veterans, companions or veteran representatives. Insurance costs are included in the admin service charge for Korea only.
5. Transportation costs to/from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The Korean government is now subsidizing airfare for persons traveling with the MHT administered group.
6. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, first-served" basis.
7. Use of frequent flyer miles or other "free" transportation is allowed, but the administrative service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance and administration.

FLASH

REVISIT KOREA NEWS

FLASH

KOREA –KWVA's PEACE CAMPS FOR YOUTH

- 1st Camp — (July 2 - July 9, 2011) 15 seats available
- 2nd Camp — (July 23 - July 30, 2011) 15 seats available

For the 60th Anniversaries of the Korean War, the ROK Government started this special program for the grandchildren of Korean War veterans. The primary purpose of the "Peace Camps" is to:

Strengthen - cooperation with young generations.

Deepen - the understanding of the Korean War, and its effects on the world.

Provide - an opportunity for younger generations to experience Korea and its people.

Eligibility is simple:

Participants must be grandchildren of Korean War veterans and attending college/university

Participants cannot have visited Korea before on a funded program.

Financial support:

All expenses paid in Korea. (Six (6) nights - Seven (7) days): this includes hotel, meals, and ground transportation.

50% roundtrip group airfare, economy - both domestic and international.

Special Note:

The 2011 quotas and dates just arrived from Korea. Based on experience, this is a very special program for our grandchildren and the slots will go fast, since only (15) quotas are open per date. If you're interested, you **MUST** call or Email us ASAP for a brochure and application.

KWVA Peace Camps for Youth c/o
Military Historical Tours
13198 Center Point Way, Ste 202
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193-5285
webmaster@miltours.com
800-722-9501
703-590-1295

ATOMIC from page 73

I do not remember how long we were there, but no accidents occurred and we saw no protesters, although they may have been kept outside the gates of the pier.

As the dock lines were unfastened, and the ship prepared to sail, the Naval officer waved good-by to us and we returned to Camp Lejeune. Thus ended my small part in the history of atomic warfare.

The article in *The Graybeards*, Jan-Feb, 2011, on "Atomic Annie," citing the 256th F.A.B.N.'s deployment to Germany in November 1953, reminded me of my involvement in, I assume, the same event.

*Dick Payne, 6319 89th Ave W,
University Place, WA 98467,
rlpaynewa@yahoo.com*

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Michaela Bouchard reciting her Veterans Day essay (Seated, L-R) Nat. Dir. Art Griffith; Don Christian (KVA Associate member, D-Day survivor, recipient of the Legion of Honor-Chavalier Level); U.S. Army Colonel Paul Bricker, Guest Speaker, former 82nd Airborne Div Aviation Commander; Ch 299 member Robert F. Griffin (standing)