



# Korean War Ex-POW

## ASSOCIATION®



*The Forgotten War June 1950 - July 1953*

**Died: 36,568**

**Wounded: 103,284**

**MIA: 8,177**

Founded in 1976 by William K. Norwood

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### President's Message

*Fred Liddell*

Denver has come and gone much too fast. The Denver Tech Doubletree Hotel was a real great place. Food was good, the banquet meal was even served hot, I had people tell me. The rooms were great; our daughter next door to us had her bed turned down, chocolates on the pillow and soft music each night. They even gave out hot chocolate chip cookies as you checked in. The hotel staff was great to work with.

The raffle went quick and well after a microphone problem. Next year will go even better, Frances says. Many thanks to all who brought treasures for the raffle. And a BIG thank you to all the ladies who manned the tables, they put in some long hours and brought in \$3,365.00, **thanks again ladies.**

St. Louis, Missouri, is next and I hope they're roads are repaired between now and next July.

From Denver, we travelled to Reno, Nevada, then on to Klamath Falls, Oregon, then to Portland, Oregon, and finally Tacoma, Washington. Almost one end of the country to the other. We returned home in a hurry as our daughter, who was our driver, received word that her daughter was in an auto accident and in the hospital. All seems well; she has/had a

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### Korean War POW/MIA Report (JPAC)

*Our friend, Phillip A. O'Brien, OSD-DOMO submitted the following update on recovery and identification work.*

Dear Friends. We've all come away from a wonderful reunion. I'm especially happy to hear that Elliott Sortillo is back up and around. I had to leave Denver a little early to take care of a few things for my Mother, but she is doing very well and sends her best to all of you.

Now to follow-up on recent conversations. We've had quite a few questions on who and where and how many, with respect to missing men in the Korean War. Please let me give you my best numbers as of right now, 22 August 2008. These should prove useful, as we continue to discuss:

- 8,056 missing men
- 2,034 prisoners of war (POW)
- 1,784 killed in action (KIA)
- 4,140 missing in action (MIA)
- 98 non-battle deaths (NBD)

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## Sick Call

Mary **Fenton**

Nicholas **Tosques**

Dennis **Young**

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## Taps

**BATCHELOR**, Claude J., died 2/17/08. He served with E. Co. 8 Cav. I Cav. Camp 5.

**BRAMANTI**, Joseph F., died 8/13/08. He is survived by his wife, Lucy; daughter, Denise Bramanti-Spencer; sons Peter, Joseph, Robert, and Christopher; one sister, one brother and 14 grandchildren. He served with G. Co. 23 Inf. 2 Div., Camp 1.

**DARROW**, Kenneth R., died 10/20/98. He was survived by brother Paul R. Darrow. He served in the USMC, Camp 4.

**MAKUA**, Richard K., died 2007. His wife and daughter both died less than a year after Richard. He served with HVY MTR Co. 31 Inf. 7 Div., Camp 1.

**MERWORTH**, Mary Jo, died 8/2008. She is survived by her husband, Lee Merworth.

**MINTER**, Donald I., died 7/17/07. He is survived by one son. He served with A Btry. 503 FABN, 2 Div., Camps 5 & 4.

**PHILLIPS**, Walter E., died 01/2007. He is survived by a daughter. He served with I. Co. 5 Cav. I Cav., Camp 1.

**THOMPSON**, Jackie R., died 12/18/78. Camps 5 & 3.

**WHITE**, Buster B., died 6/24/04. He served with F. Co. 38 Inf. 2 Div., Camps 1 & 4.

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## Chaplain's Corner

Norman Hale, Chaplain

*Hello to all my friends and families!! It was great seeing all of you in Denver. We also missed the ones that did not make it this year, but, hopefully we will see you next year. My daughter and son-in-law, Kipp and Tammy Merritt really enjoyed being with us and seeing all of you.*

My prayer to day is from Matthew 9:21 "If I may but touch His garment."

Master, We thank Thee for the ministry of those who have been able to touch our lives helpfully because their lives have first been touched by Thee. Make each one of us an able minister of Thy grace by causing us to be more patient bearers of Thy burden. Whatever we may be privileged to do in the service of our fellowmen, let us not fail in helping those to whom we minister to become better acquainted with Thee each day. In Thy name we pray, Amen.

May God Bless You ALL!!

## This and That

**A MOST SINCERE APOLOGY:** I want to give a deepest most sincere apology to all Korean war POWs, those that are still living, those that have passed away since repatriation, and those that died while in the camps or on their way to a camp.

I just finished reading "Remembered Prisoners of A Forgotten War" by Lewis H, Carlson. I am a retired AF survival instructor and I am still in touch with survival and POW related things. I have read books on Andersonville during the Civil War, various books about the Japanese, Vietnamese and German POW experiences and marches. I have never read anything more horrendous as what you men went through. I am truly sorry for the way you have been treated. God bless you all and thank you for your service. Jim Everman

**THANK YOU:** About two weeks ago I received a card with get well wishes from many members. I was on the phone with Elliott Sortillo and mentioned that I would like to thank the members for their support and thoughts in the newsletter. I would appreciate it if you could find a spot in the next newsletter for my and Elliott's thank you and appreciation to the members. We're getting there. Thanks, Ray Unger  
*(from editor: you are welcome, Ray. We're all glad to hear you're on the mend).*

## Contributions

Joe and Catherine Klein, Dick and Treva Raby, Dallas Mossman and Lloyd Pate for the Andersonville Association plaque.  
Arden Rowley for Association Operating Funds

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## Korean War POW/MIA Report (JPAC)

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We refer to KIA, POW, and NBD as “states of knowledge,” because companions saw these men, remembered them, and reported them. Those men listed as MIA are less certain. Most are believed to be battlefield deaths, or nearby, but we are reasonably certain that some were POWs, for a few days or even a few weeks. All of the MIA cases have now been closed out with Presumptive Findings of Death, to let the families get on with their lives. But we still continue our research, looking for reliable answers.

The biggest problem is that when you are falling back in front of a much larger enemy force, you lose men in patrols and rear guard actions, often without witnesses. The same is true of POWs in winter, men die along the wayside or are left behind in villages. Camp 5 during that first terrible winter was an especially bad case. The North Koreans did not turn over control of the camp to the Chinese until April 1951, and the North Koreans kept very few records, as far as we can tell. So we know that the number of POWs is low against the total number of missing men, we just can’t “prove it up” on a name by name basis.

Where are the missing men? We’ve been tracking this, and have had some success. Please have a look at these numbers:

8,056 missing men  
5,556 North Korea  
972 South Korea  
292 off shore  
1,236 in possession

The call between North and South Korea is very rough, for many battles fought later in the war were along ridgelines within the present Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). Sometimes, within a group of 25, I’ve simply had to say, 12 + 13. But this should average out. The number of losses off shore is also tricky. Many aircraft flew single ship missions, or were seen to head for open water after being damaged, and no one saw exactly where they went down. So once again, I’ve tried to judge among possibilities.

Finally, the number of unidentified men in possession, as stated here, is low. There are 861 official Unknowns from past burials. But the number of more recent returns from North Korea, either by the other side or in our joint recoveries, is based on caskets. And very often we’ve found that there are additional portions, which we’ve had to “rearticulate” and sample for DNA. So, in working terms, the number still in North Korea should be about 200 lower, and the number in possession, about 200 higher. But that will ultimately resolve itself, as more and more men are identified in coming years. More on that story next time . . .

Best to all! Phil O’B

## Korean War Project Update

We have been able to keep the KWP online despite the frivolous lawsuit by Mr. Price. All the day to day legal issues are being dealt with by Hal separate from our work for the KWP.

Daily work for the KWP has been impacted and we apologize for the interruptions, delays and general confusion.

Those of you who are new to the KWP are learning that Hal and I are stubborn and determined to continue our online work for veterans and their families.

The KWP has sold out of our “I Remember Korea” bumper stickers. We will not be reordering for that program due to the steeply increased costs of USPS mailing and declining orders.

The website continues to be free for all to use. Your support has made that a possibility! Thanks to each of you who have helped to underwrite our work.

### Keep us in the Loop

If you move, no longer wish to receive the newsletter, or if you are going away for the winter, **please** notify Tim Casey or Jack Chapman.

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### Website

The website for the Korean War National Memorial is located at <http://www.nps.gov/kowa>

## President's Message

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concussion. The air bags on the car did not deploy even though it was a front end crash.

Nick Nishimoto and his side kick, Francis Yasutake made the reunion, dialysis and all. April 5 to 11, 2009 is POW day in the Punch Bowl, of course there's the picnic and a tour of Joint Pacific Accounting Command (JPAC) plus other niceties in Hawaii.

Peggy Sullivan sent me a list of surviving spouses that she sends letters to that were returned to her, unable to forward. If you can help with these addresses get in touch with Jack Chapman or me. We need to keep in contact with them: Mrs. Wn Hinkle, Beverly Krobath, Dorothy Chappell, Mrs. Leroy Sykes, Mrs. Bradley Irish, Jean Gavula, Betty Harris, Mrs. Robert Ashpole, Mrs. John R. Worley, Sylvia Natera, and Moreen Love. If you recognize any of these names, please help us get a current address for them.

If you do not wish to receive the newsletter anymore or you move or become a snow bird, please give us a change of address. If you have and would like to receive your newsletter via email, please let us know. I have over \$200 in postage for returned newsletters this past year.

**Please help us cut down on our postage expenses.**

Looking forward to Andersonville in September, Hawaii in April and St. Louis in July/August 2009. Hope to see you at one or all of the above mentioned doings.

## Information Needed

**IRA V. MISS:** Beverly Dinterman is trying to get some information on some men who were with her cousin in the Korean War. There were some men who were with him when he died and was buried: John Henry Vertner, James E. Hodges, John Lester Tyler and Billy Joe Harris. They were in HQ Company, 3rd Bn, 38th Infantry Regiment and became P.O.W.'s on 13 February, 1951, near Hoensong. She doesn't know what camp they were in. She's doing this for her cousin, the sister of Ira Miss. Catherine is up in age and wants to find out some things from these men.

**Chaplain Kenneth Hyslop:** John Charles Hyslop is looking for information regarding his father, Capt. Kenneth Hyslop (Chaplain), serving with the 19th Regiment, HQ and HQ Co, 24th Division. With the rest of the 19th he left Beppu, Japan, on 1st July 1950. He was captured near Anju, N Korea on 4th November 1950, and is reported to have died of mistreatment and starvation on 12th December, 1950.

Anyone who may remember anything about him would be helpful, he know's very little, and is trying now to discover anything he can, especially about his days as a P.O.W.

**Korean War Documentary:** Larry Cappetto, producer of a documentary on American Wars is looking for veterans to interview for another documentary. His first documentary included interviews of Soldiers and Marines who fought at the Chosin Reservoir. This documentary, **Lest They Be Forgotten**, was aired on PBS and can be ordered at <http://veteranshistory.org>

**US Liaison Officers:** Retired Col. Ali Denizli, from the Turkish Army, also a representative of Turkish Korean Veteran Assosiation is doing research for a book about the Korean War. He has all the Turkish documents about the Korean War, but is looking for what US liaison officers and other US personnel have to say about the Turkish soldiers. Here is some info that he has supplied:

When the Turkish Government decided to send a brigade to the Korean War, an advisory group was attached to the Turkish Brigade. This group was called "The Turkish United Nations Brigade Advisory Group." It was composed of five US officers: Col. Gumby; Lt. Col. Viver; Maj. Munson; Capt. Michael J. Lorenzo; and an unknown.

The Brigade was sent to South Korea on 17 October 1950. It was assigned to Eighth US Army command, the Ninth US Corps, the Second US Division command, and the 25th US division. Anyone who served with or was interned with Turkish soldiers are encouraged to provide your recollections.

You may contact any of the individuals listed her with information through the association or at [webmaster@koreanwarexpow.org](mailto:webmaster@koreanwarexpow.org)

## Reunion News

**Treasurer's Report:** As I travelled the great distance from Tennessee to Denver, Colo (some 3200 miles) I began to question why I would torture my ole body in this manner, but upon arriving at Denver and witnessing all the broad smiles, the hugs and handshakes, made me realize that it was definitely worth all the effort. All those who were unable to travel or did not make an effort to attend the reunion this year certainly missed a good one. The host hotel was excellent and the staff most efficient. In fact, some of us discovered new found friends among the staff while we were there.

Our hospitality bar certainly was a lonely place this year with no "barley pop" or other alcoholic beverages. Our net proceeds from the hospitality bar were only \$333.00 compared to at least \$1200.00 in the past. Oh well, it was definitely less work and no one became intoxicated on Pepsi Cola.

The hospitality space was much too large during Sunday through Wednesday, but the place filled Thursday and Friday nights, especially on Friday night during the dance. The band, which included Donald Petersen's two sons was super. The dance floor was filled until after midnight. I heard many favorable comments about the band.

Once again the raffle activity was a great success; thanks to Frances and her crew. Those ladies did a fantastic job and they are to be commended for all their efforts. The net amount generated from the raffle was a whopping \$3,365.00. Great job ladies. We must not forget all those who contributed items for the raffle. Thank you all.

Carlos Lugo, assisted by Bo Bolinsky, Debbie DeMarais and others broke the record for a one time 50/50 drawing with a whopping \$1,378.00 total. Harry and Louise Brunelle was the lucky winner of one half this amount. We greatly appreciate those who made the 50/50 drawing a success.

Our membership was once again very generous with their donations. The total amount donated before, during and after the membership meeting was 3,855.00. This amount along with the funds from hospitality activities should pay our bills during the coming year. Many thanks to all those who contributed to our cause, both financially and otherwise.

Thanks to the generosity of Joe and Catherine Klein, the Andersonville commemorative plaque is a "done deal". They stepped up and wrote a check to fund the entire cost of producing the plaque and the marble base, mounting the plaque to the base, transporting the plaque to Andersonville and placing the plaque at the designated area. This plaque, which is dedicated to those we left behind in Korea, is something we can all be proud of and we thank Joe and Catherine for making this possible. After the plaque has been installed, we must arrange a dedication date. Your input regarding the selection of a dedication date is requested.

*Bill Norwood, Association Treasurer*

## Reunion Highlights

Bryan Darrow, nephew of expow Kenneth Darrow (USMC, Camp 5, deceased) and his chapter of the Rolling Thunder Motorcycle Club was on hand to escort the two tour busses going to the Flying W Ranch.

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21 members of the Weber family attended the reunion. Those in attendance were:

Janet Schupbach & husband Chuck, daughters Andrea & Michelle  
Cheryl Weber & husband Mike McGonegle, daughters Jamie & Lindsay

Jean Etringer & husband Joe, daughters Ashley, Emily & Amy  
Kari Hogan & husband Pat, daughters Syndey, Taylor, Avery  
Julie Weber

What a great group! It's wonderful to see the whole Weber family at the reunions.

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Officers and board members elected at the reunion.

Officers:

Fred Liddell, President  
Lloyd Pate, 1st Vice President  
F. Jack Chapman, 2nd Vice President

Board Members:  
(term expiring 2011)  
James Delong  
Richard (Dick) Raby  
Vernon Ray

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There were 339 ex-pows and guests in attendance, 287 for the banquet and 14 surviving spouses attended the surviving spouses' breakfast.

## Korea Trivia

As you know Korea was partitioned after the Japanese surrender. Japan signaled the US that it would surrender on 11 August 1945.

Russia declared war against Japan on August 8th 1945 as requested by the US and Brittan. It was expected that the Russians would encounter stiff resistance from the Japanese in Manchuria. But the Japanese Army collapsed and the Russians rushed forward toward Korea.

The US suddenly realized the Russians could reach Japan before the Americans which would lead to a shared occupation such as occurred in Europe at the end of WW 2 and that was not desirable at all.

The powers to be had a high level meeting in Washington to try and figure out how to keep the Russians out of Japan. It was decided to share Korea with the Russians rather than Japan. At a State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee meeting in Washington consideration was given as to how to divide Korea between the two super powers.

Two staff Colonels were given a map of Korea that was in a National Geographic Magazine and sent them to an adjoining room to find a dividing line. The Colonels returned with their choice of the 38th parallel. That choice was approved and the Russians were notified. Upon hearing of this the Russians stopped their mad dash and settled for half of Korea. This was kept secret until 1970 and the blame was put

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## Korean War MIA's Identified

June 25, 2008: The remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. He is Sgt. Gene F. Clark, U.S. Army, of Muncie, Ind. He will be buried June 28 in Muncie.

In September 1950, Clark was assigned to Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division then occupying a defensive position along the Nammyon River near a bend known as the "Camel's Head." On Nov. 1, 1950, parts of two Chinese Communist Divisions struck the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing the perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. Clark was reported missing on Nov. 2, 1950 and was one of the more than 350 servicemen unaccounted-for from the battle at Unsan.

Between 1991-94, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. Among several boxes turned over in 1993, one contained a dog tag for Clark, and the accompanying North Korean documents indicated that the remains were exhumed near Chonsung-Ri, Unsan County, North Pyongan Province. This location correlates with where Clark's unit fought during the battle at Unsan.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of Clark's remains, which were turned over in 1993.

July 3, 2008: The remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. He is Capt. William K. Mauldin, U.S. Air Force, of Pickens, S.C. He will be buried on July 18 in Easley, S.C.

On Feb. 21, 1952, Mauldin departed Kimpo Air Base, South Korea, on an aerial reconnaissance mission of enemy targets in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (D.P.R.K.). While over Odong-ni, Mauldin's RF-51 Mustang was hit by enemy fire and crashed near Sinan-ri, Hoeyang County, D.P.R.K. An aerial search of the crash site was conducted that day and the next, but found no evidence that Mauldin escaped the aircraft before it crashed.

Between 1991-94, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. One set of remains turned over in 1993 included fragments of aircrew life-support equipment, and were reported to be those of an American pilot recovered near Sinan-ri.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and the Armed

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## Korean War MIA's Identified

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Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA in the identification of Mauldin's remains.

July 8, 2008: The remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. He is Cpl. Steven Lucas, U.S. Army, of Johnson City, N.Y. He will be buried July 11 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

In late November 1950, Lucas was assigned to the Heavy Mortar Company, 31st Infantry Regiment making up part of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), then engaging enemy forces east of the Chosin Reservoir near Kaljon-Ri, South Hamgyong Province, North Korea. On Nov. 29, remnants of the RCT began a fighting withdrawal to more defensible positions near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. Lucas never made it to the lines at Hagaru-ri and was last seen on Nov. 30.

Between 1991-94, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. North Korean documents turned over with one of several boxes in 1993 indicated that the remains from that box were exhumed near Kaljon-Ri. This location correlates with Lucas' last known location.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of Lucas' remains.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call (703) 699-1169.

## Thank You

I have just finished reading the book by Lewis H. Carlson in which he mentions the tapes floating around the military after the Korean POW's returned. I am one of those who listened to one of those tapes at the time. I don't know who wrote/made the tape and I don't know how it was distributed but I very well remember the tape. As a matter of fact that memory is what caused me to seek and purchase Carlson's book.

At the time I heard the tape I was aboard the USS Galveston in the guided missile fire control radar room along with about 15 other guys. During the entire period of the tape, there was a hush over the room and seldom did anyone even speak. I did not hear a single derogatory remark on the tape and after we listened to it, to a man, we all agreed, there but for the grace of God go I.

Thank you for your service. Frank A. Butler LCDR USN (on the retired list)

## Korea Trivia

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on the Russians which was not really true. So history is clouded on this. The American document was declassified in 1980 and the Koreans were shocked to learn the off handed way Korean was split in two pieces.

One of those Colonels was Dean Rusk, later to become Secretary of State and the other Colonel was Charles H. Bonesteel III, the future UN Commander-in-Chief in Seoul in the late 1960s. This is easily verified in Dean Rusk's memoirs.

Think if you will, how Japan would look today, if the Russians had been given parts to occupy. Wow.

Anyway this came to me via a book written by Donald N. Clark in his book entitled Living Dangerously in Korea.

Food for thought to eat with your kimchi.

-- Shorty Estabrook

## Email Newsletter

If you have internet access and would like to receive your newsletter via email rather than through the mail, email our editor at [webmaster@koreanwarexpow.org](mailto:webmaster@koreanwarexpow.org), please include your name, mailing address, and email address.

The newsletter is sent in Adobe pdf format. All you need to access the file is Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available for free from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat>

The Korean War Ex-POW Association  
Newsletter - September 2008

Fred Liddell, President

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*Term Expiring 2011*

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Vernon Ray

## **2009 Reunion of the Korean War Ex-POW Association**

Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet  
St. Louis, MO

Sunday, July 26 – Sunday, August 2, 2009

*For reservations, call (314) 878-1500*

We are starting to put together our program for the upcoming reunion in St. Louis, and hope that you are making plans to attend. The Armed Forces Reunions will be handling our reunion as in the past.