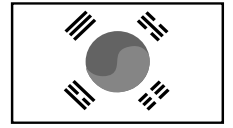


Korean War Ex-POW

ASSOCIATION[®]



The Forgotten War June 1950 - July 1953

Died: 36,568

Wounded: 103,284

MIA: 8,177

Founded in 1976 by William K. Norwood

Officers

F. Jack Chapman, President

Gordon Madson
Senior Vice-President

Fred Liddell
First Vice-President

John R. Worley
Second Vice-President

Paula Norwood, Secretary

Bill Norwood, Treasurer

Norman Hale, Chaplain

Arden Rowley, Historian

Donald Denny
Nomination Chairman

Elliott Sortillo
Site Selection Chairman

Andy Channell
Sergeant-at-Arms

Betty Sitler
Memorial Chairperson

President's Message

Franklin "Jack" Chapman

The Thanksgiving Holiday has past and we hope everyone had a great Day with family and friends. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with good health and happiness.

I also wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each one for the honor of serving this great organization as your President. I have received mail from several family members of POW's and MIA's who are looking for closure. I will do my very best to continue to provide whatever assistance I can.

See you all in Charleston, W.VA.

Korean War POW/MIA Report (JPAC)

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

One of the strangest stories to come out of the Korean War concerns a large group of POWs who simply disappeared. Sadly, we know exactly what happened to them, even though we do not know, by name, who they all were. Doesn't seem possible, but it is all too true.

Our story begins with the fall of Taejon, South Korea, 20-22 July 1950. Men were gathered up and began to march north. Some POWs had already gone north, from the first actions of the Korean War. This extended group joined up at Seoul early in August and continued on to Pyongyang in September. Today, it is very well known as the Tiger Group. Many good men died, but there were many survivors as well.

Now comes the surprise: a second group followed Tiger Group north. It contained men late in leaving Taejon, and others from Hadong, Anui, and Chinju, and others from Yongdong and from the early battles along Naktong Front. This group of POWs also made its way to Seoul, where most arrived at the end of August 1950. There were almost 350 men in this group. Many of these POWs wrote their names on black boards in the school house where they were held. Some were already dieing, and the North Korean guards were in a hurry. The nearby landing at Inchon took place on 15 September, and Seoul was back in allied hands on 26 September. But this second POW group had already slipped north, arriving in Pyongyang around 12 October. More and more men died, some were accidentally killed by strafing aircraft. And the North Koreans

Sick Call

Jimmy Chavez

Donald Denny, back surgery

Jose Hinojosa

Frances Liddell, back surgery

Annabel Livaudais

Johnny Johnson would like to

hear from the old gang even

though he cannot respond.

Taps

ADDESSO, Harry J. died

10/28/06. He Served with M Co.

21 Inf. 24 Div. He is survived by his

wife Carole and son Lawrence. Cp
3 & 7.

BAILEY, William A. (Bill) died

10/4/06. He served with E Co. 23

Inf. 2 Div. Cp. 1. He is survived by

his wife, Betty and children. Don
and Daisy Barton, Gene and Janice

Evers, Ken and Myrna Viles and

some WWII POW's and a whole

host of Korean War Veterans at-

tended the funeral at Willamette

National Cemetery on Tuesday,

October 10, 2006.

CLARKE, Colonel Conley died

9/29/2006. He served with B Co.

38 Inf. 2 Div. He is survived by his

wife Neva Clark. Cp 2 & 5.

DIAZ, Enrique G. (Hank), died

10/18/06. He served with 354

Amb. Co. 7 Med. Bn. 7 Div. Cp 5

& 3.

GIBBENS, Edward M died

9/4/2006. He served with the 372

BS, 307 BW. He is survived by his

wife Joan, a son, 8 grandchildren

and 8 great-grandchildren. Cp 2.

HANBAUM, Helen died recent-

ly. She is survived by her husband,

Oren, three daughters and a son.

OSBORN, John died recently. He

served with 69 FBS, 58 FBG, Cp 2.

He is survived by his wife.

Chaplain's Corner

Norman Hale, Chaplain

Hello to all my friends and their families. We hope everything is going well for you. We are doing fine. Well its that time of the year again that we celebrate our saviors' birth and my family and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I think of you all through the year and say a prayer for you all.

Lord, let the utterable sweetness of the life of Jesus breathe through the spirit of Thy people at this Christmas time. Cause the light that radiates from lives truly devoted to Thee to glow so brightly during the coming days that men who know Thee not will stop to wonder of such spiritual beauty. And having turned to seek, may they find for themselves the manger of Bethlehem and, with it, life everlasting. In Jesus' name, Amen.

This and That

PURPLE HEART HR 2369 IN CONGRESS: As you know the Purple Heart Bill has gone to the President for a study. He has been mandated by legislation to make a report by 1 March as to a yea or nay on this. I hope he will say yea. If he doesn't he will have to explain to both committees in the House and the Senate as to why he turned it down. Now we have a grass roots program to encourage him to approve this measure. It happened this way because of Senator Warner. Of course, I don't know, but should the President approve this bill, there might be a ceremony in DC when he signs or whatever he will do. I don't know if anyone will be invited. If this should happen I hope all the EX-POWs of our fine organization who can, would come to DC for this ceremony. Remember this is not a Tiger thing. It is a POW thing for all who have died while being a captive from December 7, 1941 to the present and beyond. The President could make a decision before 1 March. So it could be anytime, but probably it would be after the first of the year. Some of our guys know and are in contact with next of kin of those who died. Perhaps the next of kin would want those guys to make the presentation once awarded. At any rate I will keep you posted on this as soon as I get word. Luvs ya Shorty

NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM (Columbus, AL.) Samsung, a South Korean electronics manufacturer, wished to honor the American soldiers who fought for South Korea's independence from North Korea during the Korean War. They have donated \$1 million for a gallery dedicated to American Infantry Soldiers who fought in the Korean War. Construction on the facilities for the museum, which covers the history of foot soldiers that have fought in American wars since 1775, began earlier this year, with a projected opening in 2008. Exhibits at the museum will include interactive combat-simulator programs and an IMAX movie theater.

Contributions

Trilby Minton, Harry Ettinger, Linda Bruseau, David W. Ludlum, and Wesley Coston for our operating funds.

*THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK
DUE TO REMOVAL OF
ADDRESS.*

Korean War POW/MIA Report (JPAC)

continued from page 1

were even more desperate, for allied forces were marching north, in close pursuit.

This second group of POWs, still with about 300 men, left a rail station at the north side of Pyongyang on 18 October. Two days later, exactly 100 men were taken off the train at Suncheon Tunnel. The train left, and instead of feeding their prisoners, the guards open fire then fled north themselves. Elements of the 187th Airborne and the 1st Cavalry Division found the survivors: 8 men had already died before the guards opened fire, 67 were killed, but amazingly, 25 men, most wounded, lived to tell. And they tried to provide names of others, who had already died or who were still on the northbound train.

Later that day, the train stopped again at the Kujang Tunnel. It could go no farther. About 125 men who could still march were prodded on, but 33 others could go no farther. Guards showed them no mercy, but again, amazingly, 3 men survived to tell their stories. The 125 men who continued north disappeared from the face of the earth, or nearly so. You see, there were 3 more survivors. These 3 men reached Manpo at the end of October, just in time to join Tiger Group as it began its long march toward the "Apex Camps" far up the south bank of the Yalu River. We now know that the 125 men of the second group had died along the way, most by violence. Of the 3 men who reached Tiger Group, 2 survived the war. They helped to fill in the details, but so many names were now lost. They could not remember.

In very rough numbers, almost 350 men in this second group left Seoul, 20 escaped and 30 died en route to Pyongyang. Another 10 men escaped there, and about 20 died. At Suncheon, 75 died and 25 were recovered alive. At Kujang, 30 died and 3 were recovered. The final 125 marched north, of whom 3 finally reached Tiger Group. One of our problems is to reconstruct the names of those lost. Some were remembered by name, and some names were recorded on black boards at Seoul and Pyongyang. All of the men who died at Suncheon are known by name, but only about 5 of those who died at Kujang. (Those at Kujang were buried near the rail line, and their bodies were lost again when the Chinese entered the war. We simply don't know who most of them were.)

But we keep trying. We have looked very closely at all of the human remains returned during 1954, after the Armistice, and at all of the human remains returned separately by the North Koreans in 1990-94, and at all of the remains that we have recovered in North Korea during 1996-2005. You see, even when we are working in the far north, we know that we could be dealing with the last remains of a man lost much farther south, well down in South Korea.

Amazingly, a few survivors from this group of men got together at Branson,

continued in next column

Taps, cont.

ROGERS, George P. (Tiger Survivor) died 11/3/06. He served with G.Co. 19th Inf. 24 Div. He is survived by his wife and daughters. Cp 3 & 7.

WALDEN, George T. Sr. died 9/29/06. He is survived by his wife, Eve and children. He served with A Co. 13 Engr. C Bn. 7 Div. Camp 1.

THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK DUE TO REMOVAL OF ADDRESSES.

JPAC Report, cont.

MO, for Memorial Day 2006: present were William W. Henninger, Sr. [Suncheon], Valdor William John [Suncheon], Sherman Lee Jones [Kujang], Robert Lee Sharpe [Suncheon], Edward Norman Slater [Kujang], Walter R. Whitcomb [Kujang], and James W. Yeager [Suncheon]. Our very best wishes go to all of them!

Best to all! Phil O'B

History is proving that it was our generation that brought the Berlin Wall down and the collapse of Communism. The continuation of the Cold War put the nail in the coffin. We are that Generation of Americans. And we should never let those who cannot remember History forget what we did to defend South Korea.

Congratulations

Colonel Joe E. Ramirez, son of Joe E. Ramirez, Sr., was promoted to Brigadier General on November 17, 2006 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. General Ramirez, then Col. Ramirez was our guest speaker at the 2006 Reunion in Nashville.

Richard Grenier of 2305 Bennoch Rd. Old Town, ME 04468, recently received his newly-awarded Purple Heart for military service in the Korean War. It took more than half a century, but Grenier finally received a Purple Heart for wounds he received during the war. He was held prisoner for 33 months by the Chinese. Richard served with K Co. 8 Cav. 1 Cav. and was held at Camp 5.

Robert Fletcher was recently elected as National Commander of the American Ex-POW Association.

Kenny H. Hanson was recently elected to the position of Jr. Vice Commander, Central Zone of the American Ex-POW Association.

Association Web Site

By time you receive this newsletter the Korean War Ex-POW Association web site will be live on the web. The site will have many features including: listing of deceased, camp listings, online copies of our newsletter, benefit and surviving spouse information, reunion information and much more. It is still a work in progress, but we will be adding to it as often as possible.

Please check it out and let us know what you think:

<http://www.koreanwarexpow.org>.

Korean War Ex-POW Association • December 2006

Servicemen Returned

PFC ALLEN L. METTLER: 10/6/2006: PFC Mettler fought and died for our country over half a century ago. Mettler died in a Korean War POW camp, but it took decades for his body to be returned. The after effects of war are always present, but today, the Mettler family and friends were finally able to close a painful chapter in their lives.

CPL EDWARD F. BLAZEJEWSKI: 8/10/2006: Blazejewski was assigned Medical Company, 8th Cavalry Regiment, when his unit came under heavy artillery attack by the Chinese forces near Unsan, North Korea, on November 1, 1950. A U.S. Soldier who had been held as a prisoner of war by the North Korean told debriefers that Blazejewski and others had been killed by a grenade explosion. Blazejewski was listed as MIA. He was returned to his family and buried with full military honors.

PFC FRANCIS CRATER, JR.: (Army News Service) 11/2/2006 Fort Campbell, KY: After more than 50 years of waiting, hoping and praying, the family of a Korean War hero can rest easier knowing their Soldier is finally home. The remains of PFC Crater Jr. were buried in the family plot in Akron, Ohio, Oct 21, 2006-nearly 56 years after his death. Crater's great nephew, a current soldier, was one of more than 250 people who attended the funeral. "It profoundly affected me because it meant so much to my grandfather", Staff Sergeant Bob Jenkins said. "I had to give the eulogy and kept choking up because I would look at my grandfather and see him crying. It really meant a lot him."

MSGT ROBERT V. LAYTON: 11/28/2006 DPMO announced today that the remains of MSgt Layton, of Cincinnati, OH have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors. MSgt Layton was assigned to Company A, 32nd Infantry, 7 Div. Between 2002 and 2004, joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, People's Republic of North Korea teams, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, seven times excavated a mass burial site associated with the 31st RCT, along the eastern shore of the Chosin Reservoir. The team found human remains and other material, including Layton's identification tag and part of his billfold containing a newspaper clipping reporting on a Bronze Star being awarded to Sgt Layton, circa 1944.

8 SERVICEMEN RETURNED: 12/1/2006. The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel (DPMO) announced today that the remains of eight U.S. Servicemen, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and returned to their families for burial with full military honors: They are MSgt Alfred H. Alonzo Sr. of Tampa, FL; Sgt. 1st Class Robert C. Bucheit, Hamilton, Oh, Sgt Francis E. Lindsey, of Esther, Mo., Cpl Joseph Gregori of West Pittston, Pa; Cpl. Darrell W. Scarbrough, of Fayetteville, W.Va.; Cpl. Homer L. Sisk Jr.; of Ducor, Ca., Cpl Charles E. Sizemore, of Rushville, In; and Cpl. William E. Wood, of Moorhead, Mn.; all U.S. Army, Gregori was buried in August,

continued on page 5

Servicemen Returned, cont.

continued from page 4

Bucheit was buried in September, Scarbrough, Sisk and Sizemore were buried in October; Alonzo was buried in November, and Lindsey and Wood's burial dates are being set by their families.

The soldiers were assigned to the U.S. 8th Cavalry Regiment and attached units (1st Cavalry Division), when their unit came under attack by Chinese forces near Unsan, North Korea on the night of Nov. 1-2, 1950. During the battle, these eight and nearly 400 others from the 8th Cavalry Regiment were declared missing or killed in action.

In 2000, a joint U.S. and Democratic People's Republic of Korea Team, led by the Joint POW/MIA (JPAC) interviewed a farmer living in the vicinity of Unsan who told the team that while doing land reclamation work, he uncovered remains he believed were those of U.S. soldiers. The team excavated the burial site and uncovered the remains of at least 10 different individuals. They also recovered other items and identification tags belonging to these men. Some of the remains could not be identified and will be held for further research and analysis.

Information

SURVIVING SPOUSES: *Veterans Benefit Improvement Act Of 1996* allows the surviving spouse an entire month of compensation for the month in which the veteran dies. It also authorizes payments of accrued benefits for up to two years (instead of one) in the event of the Veteran's death before final adjudication of a claim. Section 1318. Benefits for survivors of certain veterans rated totally disabled at time of death. Section 1318 (3) the veteran was a former prisoner of war who died after September 30, 1999, and the disability was continuously rated totally disabling for a period of not later than one year immediately preceding death.

VIETNAM VETS: Central Identification Laboratory at JPAC reports in 1994 a tourist to Hue City, Vietnam, purchased more than 1,400 dog tags believing they were from Americans listed as missing in action (MIA). A check of the dog tags revealed that although none appear to be those of an MIA, most are genuine and were worn by Americans during the war. These soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines served with honor and returned home after the war, their dog tags, however, didn't. The CIL has started the dog tag project to reunite lost dog tags with their owners or family members and to collect some background information on how they were lost. Visit <http://www.jpac.pacom.mil/CIL/DogTags.htm>.

LOOKING FOR INFORMATION: Mrs. Fancie Smith is seeking information on her Uncle, William Dean Smith, who died about 2/14/51 in Camp 5. He was captured on or about November 24, 1950. He served with Headquarter and Service Company, 3rd Engineer Combat Bn, 24th Infantry Division. If you knew or have knowledge of William Dean Smith, please contact Mrs. Smith.

Keep us in the Loop

If you move or are going away for a while, **please** notify Tim Casey or me.

We would like to thank those who provided us with their address changes.

Shut Down

The Korean War Project leaves the air, due to possible litigation. The Korean War Project has been in operation since 1998.

Help Our Troops

Operation Paperback is a non-profit, grassroots program founded in 1999. They collect gently used books and send them to American troops deployed overseas. As we all know, our troops are serving far from home and living in facilities that provide few of the comforts of home. At the end of the duty day, the opportunity to escape into a good book is welcomed. It takes so little to let them know that we appreciate what they are doing for us. When you join in Operation Paperback, you will let our troops know that you support them, and you have not forgotten them. Please check them out:

<http://www.operationpaperback.org>

"The Korean War was the bloodiest War of the 20th Century in which American Soldierly fought. Without exception, in Korea, Americans deployed in field faced more enemy ground combat forces than in any unbroken series of campaigns in any of the Foreign Wars of the 20th Century in which U.S. Forces were engaged."

*—Cyrus R. Vance, Secretary of the Army,
March 15, 1963*

The Korean War Ex-POW Association
Newsletter - December 2006

Franklin "Jack" Chapman, President

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Las Cruces, NM
Permit #2086

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.

Board of Directors

Term Expiring 2007

James Ball
Charles Elder
Bill Allen
Donald Denny
Jose Rodriguez

Term Expiring 2008

Harley Coon
Steve Barczykowski
James DeLong
Dick Raby
Vernon Ray

Term Expiring 2009

Roy Farley
Ed Fenton
Dennis Pavik
Eugene Johnson
Lloyd Pate

2007 Reunion of the Korean War Ex-POW Association

Charleston Marriott Town Center
200 Lee Street East, Charleston, WV 25301

Sunday, July 29 - Sunday, August 6, 2007

*For reservations, call 304-345-6500 or
toll free 1-800-228-9290*

ROOM RATES: \$89.00 plus 12% tax per room per night.
Mention the Korean War EX-POW Association Reunion to
get these special rates. Group rate will be honored 3 days
before and after the official program dates.

*Please note: Charleston Marriott Town Center Hotel non-smoking
policy includes **all** guest rooms, restaurants, lounges, meeting
rooms, public spaces and employee work areas.*