



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. (Bill) Norwood

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President's Message

Hello Friends,

It is our hope that each of you were blessed with a joyous Thanksgiving holiday and that the upcoming Christmas season will bring you good health and much happiness. As we enjoy our daily pleasures we should be mindful of the many who are less fortunate - the sick, the disabled, the troubled and the lonely. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Plans are being made for the "last roundup" – the 2014 reunion to be held at Louisville, Kentucky, the last reunion to be held under the registered title "The Korean War EX-POW Association". We urge you to make plans to attend this very special event and enjoy the fellowship with those with whom you have so very much in common.

The reunion dates are July 27 – August 3, 2014, or any part thereof. An agreement has been signed with The Brown Hotel located at 335 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky. The room rate is \$110.00 per day, plus tax, which includes all meeting and banquet space. The discounted rate will apply three (3) days prior and after the scheduled reunion dates to accommodate those who may wish to come early or stay late.

The Brown Hotel is a luxurious facility located in downtown Louisville with plenty of nearby eateries and exciting entertainment to enjoy. Free trolley service is provided throughout the city. The hotel will provide complimentary airport shuttle on a 24-hour basis. Hotel will also provide a discounted rate at \$10.00 for self-parking and \$12.00 for valet parking per day for overnight guest and those attendees commuting to the reunion.

Reservations can be made by calling the hotel direct at **502-583-1234** and refer to The Korean War EX-POW Association reunion dates July 27 – August 3, 2014, or call Central Reservations at **1-888-888-5252**.

The Brown Hotel website is <http://www.brownhotel.com>.

All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed by a major credit card. Cancellations or arrival revisions must be received **24 HOURS** prior to arrival date or result in a charge of one night's room cost. Hotel may assess an early departure fee of \$50.00. However, early departures due to emergencies or illness situations will not apply.

The cutoff date for accepting reservations in the room block at the discount rate is **June 28, 2014**. **This is most important** in that our room block will be adjusted at that time to avoid any attrition penalty and the hotel will release the rooms from our block that have not been reserved. ***In short, requests for room reservations after the June 28, 2014 deadline may not be honored or accepted at the discount rate.*** Please make your reservations early prior to the deadline and if you decide to cancel **before 24 hours** of arrival date you will receive a refund. If you decide to cancel **within 24 hours** of arrival date you will not receive a refund.

The March newsletter will contain all information relating to reservations to be made with Armed Forces Reunions - the activity schedule, banquet menu, tours and other pertinent information.

This reunion promises to be the best ever with some unusual surprises being planned. Since this will be the last reunion of this association, it is our hope that all the regular attendees will show up as well as others who may have not attended recently. Hopefully some **first timers** will show up also. We encourage each of you to contact a close friend and invite them to join with us as we continue to celebrate our hard fought freedom together.

This year at the general membership meeting the possibility of planning an informal annual reunion without all the legal implications was discussed. No decision was made at that time, but if there is still an interest and ***someone is willing to take on this task***, it is imperative that a committee be formed and plans made to put on the agenda for discussion at the reunion next year. Space has been reserved for such a meeting. However, if no feedback is received prior to **March 1, 2014** the meeting space will be cancelled and released for hotel use. The matter will then be closed.

Suggestions to continue the newsletter after the association has been dissolved have been proposed. ***If someone will volunteer to serve as the editor*** we will put this on the agenda for discussion and/or approval by the membership at the Louisville reunion. If no input or volunteers for this position are received prior to **March 1, 2014** this matter will also be closed.

Remember to make your reservations early and be assured of lodging at the discounted rate. Also, this will permit us to add additional rooms to our block prior to the deadline of **June 28, 2014** if needed. We hope to see you there..

Merry Christmas from the Norwood household. May your New Year be filled with good luck, prosperity and lots of happiness.

Until later,
Bill Norwood, President

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Hello to all our Ex-POW's and families!!! We are sending well wishes for the Holidays and for a healthy new year. I finally received my photo of all of us in our blue shirts. There are some good-looking guys in this photo, well, all but one, and you know who I mean.

This is my prayer taken from 1 Chronicles 29: 10-13: Blessed are you, Lord God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in Heaven and earth is Yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all. In Your hand is the power and might. In your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. Now therefore, our God, we thank You and praise your Glorious Name. God Bless America!!!

Your Chaplain, Norman Hale

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Senator Boxer of California has asked me to send a list of living POWs, Army only, of the Korean War. Senator Boxer is looking into getting us all the Combat Pay we have been denied all these years. I have sent in a list of the Tiger Survivors and now need all the other POWS.

Would you please send me your name and date of capture and date of release from POW camp/s. This is what I have been asked for at this time. Remember Army only as we were the only branch that was denied this pay. I would appreciate it if you could circulate this letter to all those you have contact with.

Input can be sent to me via email at [. Mail can be sent to Shorty Estabrook,](#)
. My phone is . Please consider this an _____
urgent request. Thanks so much, Shorty.

REUNION ROSTER ERRORS

Andrew and Helen Viscuso, son Gregg, wife Joan, daughters Torri and Taylor; Ray and Elsie Unger; and Ann Quinn and son were all missing from the Reunion Roster. Lucy Bramanti's zip and phone were incorrect: zip: , phone: . Jake Stotts was listed as attending, but he did not. Also, Harold E. Andrews, was listed as Anderson on the roster. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused.

SEEKING INFORMATION: JanCampbell is the daughter-in-law of Howard Vincent Campbell and is hoping to get in touch with someone who knew him. Howard was in Camp 1. Jan's email address is .

Gail Schlade would like to know if anyone has information on Matthew Spence, a MIA from Chenoa, IL. He was a navigator on a plane that was shot down in Korea. Please email her at .

DONATIONS: Evelyn A. Garness, Larry Petersen, Bill & Liz Norwood, donation received in memory of John Peterson.

SICK CALL

Harley Coon is a patient in the VA Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. He hopes to make the Louisville Reunion if possible.

DECEASED

KING, John . Our good friend passed away October 2 and was buried October 7 at the National Cemetery located at Andersonville, Georgia. John had been a resident at the VA home in Dublin, Georgia for some time prior to his passing. John served with G. Co. 5RCT 24 Div. He was taken prisoner, April 24, 1951, and was returned during Little Switch April 24, 1953. This information provided by Willie Freeman on October 17, 2013

SEAVER, Albert L, LT.COL. . He passed away in January 2013. He served with the 372BS, 307 BW, USAF. Camp 2. He was captured on January 10, 1953 and returned during Big Switch on August 31, 1953. Information on his death received from Reagon Seaver.

NANCE, Donald I died 10 June 2001 in Waterloo. IA. He served with the 19 Infantry Regiment. He was captured January 1, 1951 and returned during Big Switch, August 10, 1953. Camp 5.

WILLIAMS, Henry David died on October 9, 2013, following a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Lola Williams. He was captured on July 12, 1950 and returned during Big Switch on August 25, 1953. He served with I. Co. 21st Infantry Regiment. Camp 3.

INFORMATION

The remains of **Armanto Alvarez**, Korean War MIA was returned and was buried at the Fort Bliss Cemetery with gravesite service.

William Freeman recently participated in a ground-breaking ceremony for a flag pole to be erected along Interstate 75 By-Pass near Macon, Georgia. When erected this will be the tallest flag pole in the US, as reported by The Macon Georgia Legion Post.

Association Newsletter: Our Association publishes four newsletters a year in December, March, June, and September. If for some reason you have misplaced your newsletter or did not receive your copy, please be aware that the current and previous copies of our newsletters are posted on the Association website; www.koreanwarexpow.org, click: INFO, then click: NEWSLETTER

MEMORY BOOK

Hi Everyone, I got behind in putting together the memory book from Arlington. It was sent to the photographer a couple weeks ago and they will need 6 to 8 weeks to do their part. I estimate that we'll start seeing them in the mail by the end of January. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. Cindy Chapman

NOTE FROM JACK CHAPMAN

I've had many people ask how I am doing after my fall on Saturday night at the reunion. We went to the emergency room and they found that, it was a knee sprain. We returned to the hotel after midnight and had to leave at 5am to catch an early flight, so we didn't get a chance to say our goodbyes. Thank you everyone for your love and concern.

We, Jack, Claudette, Cindy and Mano wish everyone a **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

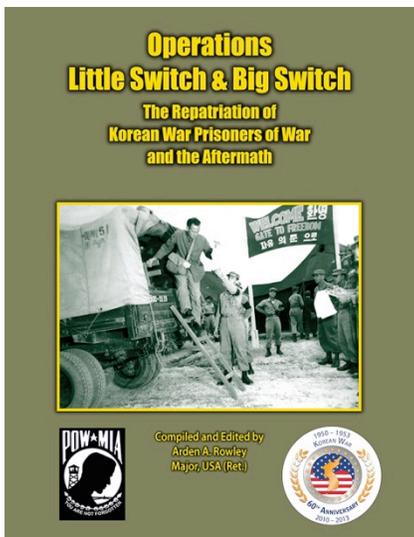
**Operations Little Switch and Big Switch:
The Repatriation of Korean War Prisoners of War and the Aftermath**

By Arden A. Rowley, Maj. USA (Ret)

Arden A. Rowley became a prisoner of war while serving with the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division on 1 December 1950. During the next 33 months he was interned in five POW camps in North Korea, experiencing and witnessing, first-hand, the harsh conditions and treatment meted out by the North Korean and Communist captors. He was repatriated in Operation Big Switch on 18 August 1953.

There are many scattered accounts of the repatriation of Korean War prisoners of war in Operations Little Switch and Big Switch (April and August-September 1953). This account of those two operations is a compilation of many writings, articles, statements and photographs giving a complete and cohesive account of Korean War POW repatriation by which thousands of POWs of both sides gained their freedom. *Operations Little Switch and Big Switch: The Repatriation of Korean War Prisoners of War and the Aftermath* is the most complete account of these operations under one cover. The publication of this book coincides with the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of these events. Maj. Rowley is the Historian of the Korean War Ex-POW Association.

This publication is 250 pages and is an 8 ½" X 11" hardbound edition with Smythe-sewn binding and matte, acid-free pages for superior photo reproduction.



Features:

- Truce Talks and the Prisoner of War Question
- Operation Little Switch (Release of sick and wounded POWs)
- Operation Big Switch (Release of balance of POWs)
- Handling of Prisoners Not Wishing to be Repatriated
- Aftermath of the Prisoner of War Experience
- Korean War "Unknowns" and the "Missing"
- Personal Accounts of Little Switch Repatriates
- Personal Accounts of Big Switch Repatriates
- Freedom Village (United Nations Reception Center)
- Operation Glory (Return of deceased POWs' remains)
- The Turncoats (21 Americans who stayed with the Communists)

Book Order Form

Operations Little Switch and Big Switch:

The Repatriation of Korean War Prisoners of War and the Aftermath

Available by mail order for \$65.00 (plus \$5.00 shipping)

Send orders to Arden A. Rowley, 1041 E 9th Drive, Mesa, AZ 85204.

For phone orders call: 480-964-9444

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**The Korean War Ex-POW
Association
2014 Annual Reunion
Louisville, KY
July 27-August 3, 2014**

Call **1-888-888-5252** or **502-583-1234**

and refer to

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for the special rate of \$110/day plus taxes.