

Korean War Project <http://www.koreanwar.org>
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May 16, 2000

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April - May 2000 Newsletter - By Hal Barker
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Table of Contents

- 1. Greetings and Update
- 2. Membership Drive
- 3. Federal Computer Week - Call For Email Comments
- 4. Meet the Korean War Project at the Korean War Veterans Memorial, June 25, 2000 - 12:00 Noon
- 5. Korean War Project Uniform Casualty File
- 6. Records Depository Analysis - Volunteers
- 7. Korean War Project Traveling Memorial

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1. Greetings and Update

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Greetings from Ted and Hal at the Korean War Project.

Since last December, we have been working for a large organization here in Dallas creating a structure for their new internet and intranet websites.

We are now back working fulltime for the Korean War Project. In the weeks preceding the 50th Anniversary, we intend to revamp the Project and add several new features. In the past few days, we have edited and added several thousand new entries to our Looking For section.

In anticipation of the 50th Anniversary, we have been upgrading all our hardware and software to allow us to keep up with technology.

Keep posted by visiting the Project often.

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2. Membership Drive

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We are kicking off our Annual Membership Drive today, May 16, 2000.

We now have 1062 Members at the Korean War Project. We need at least 5000 Members to allow us to continue our work and to help in our continuing quest for a Full Accounting of casualties from the Korean War.

Your Membership is important. The Korean War Project is free of charge to visitors, but our Members keep us online. Members help us to help others who may only visit once, but take away memories.

In the months while Ted and I were working outside, we lost at least 120 hours of work per week on the Project. This loss of time was unfortunate and prevented us from having the time to work on the Project.

Importantly, we discovered our time would be best spent on the Korean War Project. So we are back.

If you can, Please Become A Member - \$15

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Membership Drive
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Our Members Keep The Korean War Project Online

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3. Federal Computer Week - Call for Email Interviews
Joint Task Force Full Accounting - Missing In Action

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>From Dan Verton at dan_verton@fcw.com:

Can I ask you for an assist one more time? Can you blast out a request for fresh responses from vets or their families on why they appreciate the efforts of the Joint Task Force Full Accounting?

The program has won an award, called the Monticello Award, which honors the top ten information technology systems or programs in all of government that have contributed significantly to the betterment of mankind. I am writing the story of how the process works and would like to include fresh comments from vets and family members that maybe I was not able to include last time.

Thanks very much. will include a story on your efforts as well.

Dan Verton
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The last series of stories can be viewed at:

<http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/1999/fcw-newsmissing-11-22-99.asp>

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4. Meet the Korean War Project at the Korean War Veterans Memorial, June 25, 2000

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We will be at the Korean War Veterans Memorial at 12:00 Noon, June 25, 2000, to honor those who fought in the Korean War. At the Memorial, we will be photographing and recording veterans for the last chapter of Return To Heartbreak Ridge.

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5. Korean War Project Uniform Casualty File

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Since 1995, we have been creating the structure for a full accounting of losses from the Korean War. The structure is developed in the Korean War Project Uniform Casualty File, a linked combination of all identified Korean War casualty files.

The subject matter is controversial....

Often, we receive notice of a name missing from the existing casualty databases.

The Department of Defense lists slightly over 36,000 servicemen who died in the War.

Yet the American Battle Monuments Commission asserts over 17,000 names of servicemen and women are missing from their list at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. An explanation of this is available at:

<http://www.usabmc.com/abmc46.htm>

Cut in stone at the Korean War Veterans Memorial is the number 54,256.

What is the true count?

Are names missing from the official DOD list? And what in the world should be done about the missing 17,000 names?

We will have to undertake a formal full accounting if it is to be done.

We want a full accounting. With your help, we will attempt to identify

all missing names of casualties from the Korean War.

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6. Records Depository Analysis - Volunteers

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Today we are formally asking for volunteers to identify and physically examine locations of document depositories throughout the United States.

These depositories are in:

College Park, Maryland
St. Louis, Missouri
San Antonio, Texas
Arlington, Virginia
Alexandria, Virginia
Washington, D.C.

Others unidentified.

In order to confirm that a casualty should be on the casualty list, we need primary documents on these casualties. Primary documents consist of DD-214's, death certificates, morning reports, and other documents which would identify cause of death.

Tasks:

We need volunteers to make personal visits to local depositories to get the lay of the land and develop personal contacts at the depositories to streamline records requests. Each month, the Project will take all names submitted for research in that month and the records volunteer/s will request and copy those necessary records.

Additional task will be to compare and confirm units of many casualties.

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7. Korean War Project Traveling Memorial

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For several years we have been attempting to obtain funding to create a Korean War Project Traveling Memorial. The concept comes from a personal visit to the Vietnam Traveling Wall.

A Traveling Memorial is essential to a full accounting of casualties from the Korean War.

We are certain that a major corporation or individual in the United States is capable of funding a Traveling Memorial, but we simply don't have the contacts and time to make our plea to the right company or individual.

We have no more time to wait. We need large scale financial help to build the Traveling Memorial. And to fund a full accounting.

Sincerely,

Hal Barker | Ted Barker

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