

Courtesy, Fort Worth Star Telegram archives Hal | Ted

Korean War Project Newsletter July 27 2011 Volume 13, 2

From: Hal and Ted Barker: koreanwar.org

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1. Editorial

July 27th 1953 marks the enactment of the truce to end the three years of war in Korea. The truce had been a long time coming. The steps in the process resulted in stretching the war for such a long time. For those who were in the middle of the fierce fighting of 1953, it could not come quickly enough.

The toll of the last months of the war was steep in life and limb.

The same date also marks the beginning of a very unsettled truce that has reached across many decades. Violence and intrigue have been commonplace.

The period from 1966-1969 became known as the "2nd Korean War". Incidents that have threatened the fragile truce have continued to include two of the more well-known: the "Blue House Raid of January 1968" and the "Tree Trimming Incident of August of 1976" The tunneling episodes, dating from 1968 through 1990 plus many dozens more, serious incidents have shown how fragile the truce has been.

Most recently, two major incidents almost brought the two Korea's to the brink of all-out war while the whole world anxiously awaited the outcome.

The rebuilding of what has become The Republic of Korea commenced shortly after the end of hostilities. The ROK has become a vibrant social and economic engine on the world stage.

Each year, veterans who served in Korea during the Fifties or later, make the journey to South Korea as part of personal quests to more fully understand their individual roles in the war or as peace-keepers.

Hal and Ted Barker

2. This Mailing List (going to 44,000 + persons)

We began sending this newsletter mailing in December of 1998. The first issue went to just over 2000 persons.

This list is a private list for our visitors and members. A person may join or leave the list at will. It is compiled from our Guest Book and comprises public service messages of general interest to veterans and families.

To join or leave the list: email to: Ted Barker tbarker@kwp.org Place: Subscribe or Unsubscribe in the subject line.

Consider forwarding the Newsletter to your friends by email or print. Word of mouth is how we grow.

Thanks to all who have made this newsletter and the website possible!

3. Our Newsletter

The Memorial Day 2011 version of our newsletter reached many thousands of people who had not received copies in several years.

It has taken the better part of two months to reply to those who wrote back to us. Here is a big "Thank You" for all who wrote or called.

How and why did the last news get to you? We had to remove any references to web page or email address links. Those important tools seemed to have caused the service providers to block our content from our audience. We also had to chop up our list into small chunks and the sending process took over three full days of very long hours using Microsoft Outlook. This is not the optimum method, but, it worked for the short run.

All new versions of our newsletters or spot news will be in our 60th Anniversary Center News section. That section is on the main page of the website.

Note: These new newsletter versions in the Center will be in Adobe PDF format. We shall add links and photographs where useful. So, those versions may be what you might like to download and share with others.

4. Bookstore | Film

The following list contains very interesting books received since the fall of 2010.

---a.---

Hollywood Through My Eyes: The Lives and Loves of a Golden Age Siren

by Monica Lewis with Dan Lamanna

Yes, the Hollywood bombshell and celebrated singer, Monica Lewis, who so loved her American GI's, Sailors and Marines, has published her memoir. This wonderful backward look features photos of her tours of Korea and hospitals, most never seen by the public.

A must read! Reviews are by Robert Wagner, Debbie Reynolds, Elmore Leonard, Liz Smith, Rex Reed and Ginny Mancini, all of whom were personal friends of the author.

Cable Publishing 14090 E. Keinenen Rd Brule, WI 54820

Coffee Table Version, Hardback: \$24.95

Kindle: \$19.95

Turner Classic Movies Link on the web

ISBN: 978-1-934980-88-0

---b.---

The Lucifer Patch:

Flying with the 'Lucky 13th' Korea 1955-56

by Bertram Brent

The author describes his tour with the 13th Helicopter Company which was stationed at Uijongbu, Korea. He narrates his personal history from an early fascination with helicopters through his interesting tour. The book is filled with photographs.

Bertram hails from Independence, Arkansas but has lived in Ashville, Alabama,

Self-Published and sold by the author. Order:

Bertram Brent

PO Box 338

Ashville, AL 35953

ISBN: 978-0-615-33147-8

---C.---

Command Influence:

A Story of Korea and the politics of injustice

by Robert A. Shaines

The book can be purchased from:

Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Kindle EBooks and Outskirts Press Bookstore.

From the author:

'I have just had my book published about the 75th Air Depot Wing and the 543rd Ammo Supply Sqdn, Pusan. It is the story of the Court-Martial of George C. Schreiber, Robert Toth and Thomas Kinder and the Korean War in 1952-1953.'

'The story should be of interest to all Korean War veterans, their families and veterans of the 75th. I would love to hear from and get feedback from my readers.'

Published by Outskirts Press

Cost: \$26.95 paperback.

Author Shaines was a young Air Force Judge Advocate who took up the challenge of writing this book to shine a light and to clear his conscience.

---d.---

Korea:

Shuffling To A Different Drummer

by Ira 'Ike' Hessler, Korean War Project member

From the author: A realistic off-beat story from the Korean War. A forgotten war fought by soldiers unable to forget.

The author grew up in Seattle and was ready to join the Navy when his father hatched a plan to get him into the Army Security Agency. He joined in March of 1952 and things changed.

This easy narrative follows him to Korea where he wound up with the 2nd Engineer Bn of the Second Infantry Division. He dedicates this book to his friend, Sgt. Pak, a young Korean attached to his Battalion.

Self-Published Order:

Ira Hessler 63084 Strawberry Rd Coos Bay, Or 97420-6285 ---е.---

Battle Songs A Story of the Korean War in Four Movements

by Paul G. Zolbrod

The author hails from Western Pennsylvania and is a Korean War Veteran. His book is an interesting novel revolving around four young draftee's in the early fifties.

This is a complex book that has many contrasts of the experiences of each man in war and at home during a time far different from the modern 21st Century.

The author has published quite often during his thirty year career teaching at Allegheny College.

Published by iUniverse Price: \$15.95 paperback

Order: 1-800-288-4677 Also on the web.

---f.---

On the Sea of Purple Hearts My Story of the Forgotten War – Korea

by George G. 'Pat' Patrick

The author was a Seaman First Class upon the USS Tawakoni (ATF-114), a minesweeper operating off the coastal waters of Korea during the war.

'The most dangerous game of the day!, Minesweeping Korea's Coast'.

George dedicates his book to the two Patrick brothers, Pat and Jimmy as well as all Naval Personnel who lost their lives while performing coastal duties.

The book follows the ship and sister ships, recording the accidents, sinking's and loss of life of those brave men.

Published by Cozzen Publications Claremont, NC 910-326-3608 231 Fishing Creek Ln Hubert, NC 28539

---g.---

Korea: The Last Memoir

by Robert Compton Miller

The author pens a personal narrative of his time spent in Korea during the last year of the war, a young 19 year old. He was with Baker Company, 32nd Infantry Regiment of the 7th Infantry Division.

His unit fought on Triangle Hill, Old Baldy and the myriad small outposts that most infantrymen will recall from that last year of

the war. He pulls no punches describing the events and conditions.

ISBN: 978-1-4535-2214-1

Published by XLibris and obtained from the author on his website or direct mail.

30915 County Road 435 Sorrento, FL 32776

---h.---

A Moment In Time

A Korean War P.O.W. Survivor's Story

by William W. Smith as told to Charlotte Smith

The author is from Rockingham, North Carolina, and from a farming family in the produce business.

The book centers on his experience in Korea and his capture and imprisonment in 1950. He and his wife spent many hours going over the painful experience of the harsh treatment and internment. The work to create the book was often raw with emotion. The intent was to depict the conditions of a POW in the Korean War and it was hard for him to relate the details to his wife.

Published by Gazelle Press:.

PO Box 191540 Mobile, AL 36619 800-367-8203

Cost: \$17.00 includes postage

Also order from author: W.W. Smith 1825 Melview Rd Quincy, IL 62305

---i.---

Korean War Project Member, Robert L. Hanson has another book out. His first book has been featured on the Bookstore for several years.

Originally titled 'The Boys of Korea, The 625th Field Artillery Battalion', that first book has been re-titled to:

'The Boys of Fifty; The 625th Field Artillery Battalion' Price: \$25.00 and carried by Lulu Press, an online bookseller.

The new book is titled:

'The Guns of Korea; The U.S. Army Field Artillery Battalions in the Korean War'.

by Robert Hanson, MSGT 625th FAB HQ Battery, 40th Infantry Division

Price: \$45.00

This book is over 600 pages and has been reviewed as a handy reference for historians and veterans.

Bob indicated that each chapter on a specific battalion has a list of casualties included. Those sections are called, 'All Gave Some ... Some Gave All'.

We have not seen the book, just been advised by Bob of the release. If it is as good as his first book, everyone will be pleased.

Both books are available at Lulu Press, on the Internet, Bob also is selling them directly.

Contact:

Robert L. Hanson 10777 Pointed Oak Lane San Diego, CA 92131-2604

---j.---

Dog Tags

The History, Personal Stories, Cultural Impact, and Future of Military Identification

by Ginger Cucolo

Ginger just let us know of the release of her book which may be purchases as eBook or paperback. Check prices at the outlets mentioned below.

Background:

The 100 year anniversary of the official use of military personal identity tags, affectionately known as Dog Tags, recently passed without fanfare. Interestingly, though, we are in a war where the Dog Tag is once again a highly personal item to warriors in every service and their families. Each Dog Tag carries its own human interest story, and is much more than a piece of metal with words and numbers imprinted on it. Receiving it, hanging it around the neck, and feeling it is at once a silent statement of commitment. The tag itself individualizes the human being who wears it within a huge and faceless organization.

Outskirts Press - eBook or paperback Amazon - Paperback or Kindle Barnes and Noble – Paperback

Contact the Korean War Project for email and Ginger's website

5. Membership/ Sponsors

Consider supporting the mission of the Korean War Project by donations in the form of Membership/Sponsorship

Visit our Membership page where you may select how to help out

On that page is a link to our PayPal account. You may choose online or regular surface mail to support our efforts.

Our Pledge Drive is an ongoing process. Many of our previous donors no longer can assist. We are recruiting from those who have not participated, so if you can, jump on in, it will be appreciated.

The site is free for all to use and those who participate help to ensure that we remain online whether the donation is \$1.00 or more!

For those persons or groups who cannot participate, we certainly understand.

Donations/Memberships are tax deductible, if you use long form IRS reports. Our EIN: 75-2695041 501(c) (3)

Postal Address Korean War Project PO Box 180190 Dallas, TX 75218

6. Website Update

Hal has spent the past couple of months updating how the entire website works. He has gone over graphic design, back room program code, and addition of new content. His continues to plug away on changes and additions of recently acquired military unit records.

The new site search tool has helped visitors, as well as the two of us, to find resources on the site, not easily discovered otherwise.

Look for the 'Google Site Search' block on the main website page, top right, just under the 'I Remember Korea' graphic.

Questions can always be directed to either of us.

Part of our process is to identify broken web page links or any type of error message that may come from programming code that we have created. Please alert us to error you may encounter.

Note: from time to time the web server will be unavailable. Severe weather can force us to shut off the telephone line to prevent damage. There are also times when the server will hang up and has to be re-started.

7. US Air Force History

US Air Force in Korea, the full book by Robert F. Futrell, is now available as a link from the Korean War Project. You may find the link at the bottom center of the main page of the website.

The book is in Adobe PDF format. We hope you enjoy it.

Be sure to visit the Air Force section of our Reference Department for many other reading items.

8. US Marine Corps History

We alerted readers about our project to place unit diaries and

command reports for the USMC online. They are titled 'Marin Corps Unit Files'. This is a work in progress. More units will be represented each month as they are made ready.

We previously posted the 'Marines in the War Commemorative Series' online. That series of Adobe PDF files has been hugely popular as downloads from our website.

A brand new online offering is the DVD based 'The Sea Services in the Korean War'. This had previously been accessible only as DVD. The files are now in Adobe PDF format and linked by clicking the on-screen menu.

This file contains the full 'Marine Corps Operations in Korea' plus the United States Naval Operations – Korea, and 'The Sea War in Korea'.

There are 13 other files that are available to include the history of Marine Helicopters in two parts.

Start reviewing from the bottom center of the main website page. Continue to our Reference section, sub-section Marines and Marines – History Division.

9. US Army History

The Center for Military History created a series of books and pamphlets over the years. Some have been available as online downloads for several years. Hal actually assisted the CMH in 1995-96 by scanning the maps for two of the books.

New versions of the series have been created by staff at CMH in Adobe PDF format. These are far superior to previous online editions. The KWP is now offering the 5 volume series and several other related books or pamphlets totaling 11 in all.

Titles include 'Ebb and Flow', 'Years of Stalemate', 'Black Soldier – White Army', 'South to the Naktong, North to The Yalu',

Start your review from the bottom center of the main website page. Continue to our Reference section, sub-section Army and Army – Center of Military History.

10. US Coast Guard History

We previously covered the Coast Guard in our April 2007 newsletter with chronology and articles by Scott T. Price. Updates to old links are being repaired.

The excellent article by Mr. Price is now available, online, as part of 'The Sea Service in the Korean War' DVD discussed in the USMC history topic. The article is in Adobe PDF format. Click the link in the US Marine Corps – History section.

11. US Navy History

The full 'History of United State Naval Operations – Korea' and 'The Sea War in Korea' are part of 'The Sea Services in the Korean War' DVD, previously discussed. The large Adobe PDF file is full of the maps, narrative of operations and wonderful bibliographic notes. A large gallery of photographs is part of this collection.

Be sure to navigate to our Reference Department for the subsection for Navy. There are many great links to other resources from Seebee's to Sea Tugs.

This great fraternal reunion association had it's very last reunion in New Orleans this past April. Hal attended as a guest speaker. He was able to visit with many of the men he has met since 1979.

During the business meeting, the Board of Directors voted to forward all the Division records they had amassed to the Korean War Project. Those include over 17,000 awards, General Orders, unit diaries and command reports.

The Korean War Project sends a very big 'Thank You' to the entire membership. It will take considerable time to convert these valuable records into internet usable format.

The association also awarded the Korean War Project a substantial cash donation to assist with the continuation of our work.

Ralph and Carolyn Hockley met with us on July 16th to deliver the donation and the record files. We spent several enjoyable hours as the Hockley's showed us how they utilized the Division files.

Both Hockley's will be taking time off from the many years of work for the Alliance. We shall be thinking of Carolyn as she gets ready for scheduled surgery on her back.

13. 7th, 24th, 25th Infantry Division Records - Update

The KWP just received word from the Department of the Army that all the records we had requested via FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) are on the way to us by FEDEX. The 13 CD's are supposed to contain unit diaries and command summary reports. When they have been examined, organized and catalogued, notice will be posted on the website and in the next newsletter.

We do not know if and when other major commands will be converted to digital format as this group has been.

14. Agent Orange | Blue | Monuron in Korea in the news

We have reported to our readers since November of 1999 of the use of toxic agents in South Korea. Our first inquiry was actually in June of 1995. At that time neither of us had any idea of toxic

defoliant use in South Korea, along the DMZ or elsewhere.

Our DMZ Veterans Center has recorded many messages since 1997 about questions related to these chemicals. After the news stories of November 1999, this issue became much clearer.

We created an Agent Orange Registry about the time the VA began to accept physical examinations for possible symptoms.

Documents similar to the CY 1968 file and the Senator Glenn letter began to be used by veterans to establish claims for possible chemical intoxication and diseases related to those admitted to have been used.

Dates and places and mode of use continue to create controversy. This has not been helpful.

Jump forward to May 22nd 2011, about midnight in Texas. The phone started ringing, call after call from Seoul. Quotes from the Agent Orange Registry on the KWP were in the news in South Korea, TV, print. An Arizona vet, Steve House had made the news with his recounting of burial of toxic chemicals at Camp Carroll.

That story has been getting a full vetting by joint task forces comprised of USFK and Korean organizations and governmental agencies.

Many other investigations are ongoing in South Korea at other locations.

Several hundred media stories have been aired or printed with no conclusions at this time.

Getting this issue out in the open and under the bright light of media examination can only help to settle the thousands upon thousands of questions by civilian and military who may have been affected while living or serving in Korea.

Use Google to query this string: Agent Orange in Korea.

15. Thank You to our Sponsors | Donors/Members

Thanks to all who have made this newsletter and the website possible!

Visit the following page to see the names of those involved.;

Donors: www.koreanwar.org/html/membership.html

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Hal and Ted Barker