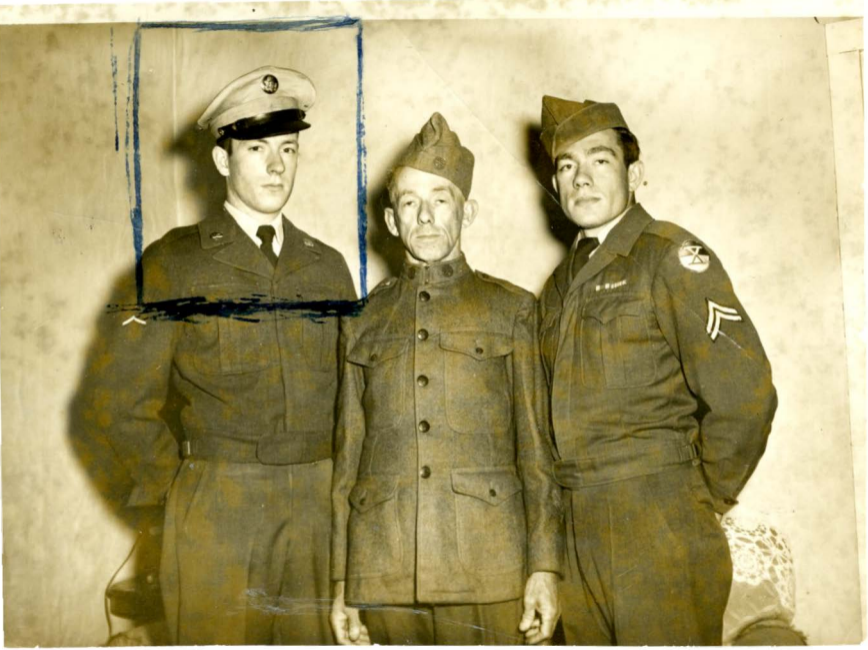




CPL. JAMES C.
DAVIS - ONE OF
TWO ROWAN CO.
PRISONERS OF
WAR, THAT
SURVIVED THE
KOREAN CONFLICT



1 col



Earl Leach
1950s
KORSA

CO Leach Jim Leach
WWF
1950s
KORSA

4-8 X 10

1-8 X 10

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Dr. Jack D. Ellis
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Morehead, KY 40351
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Steward

2144



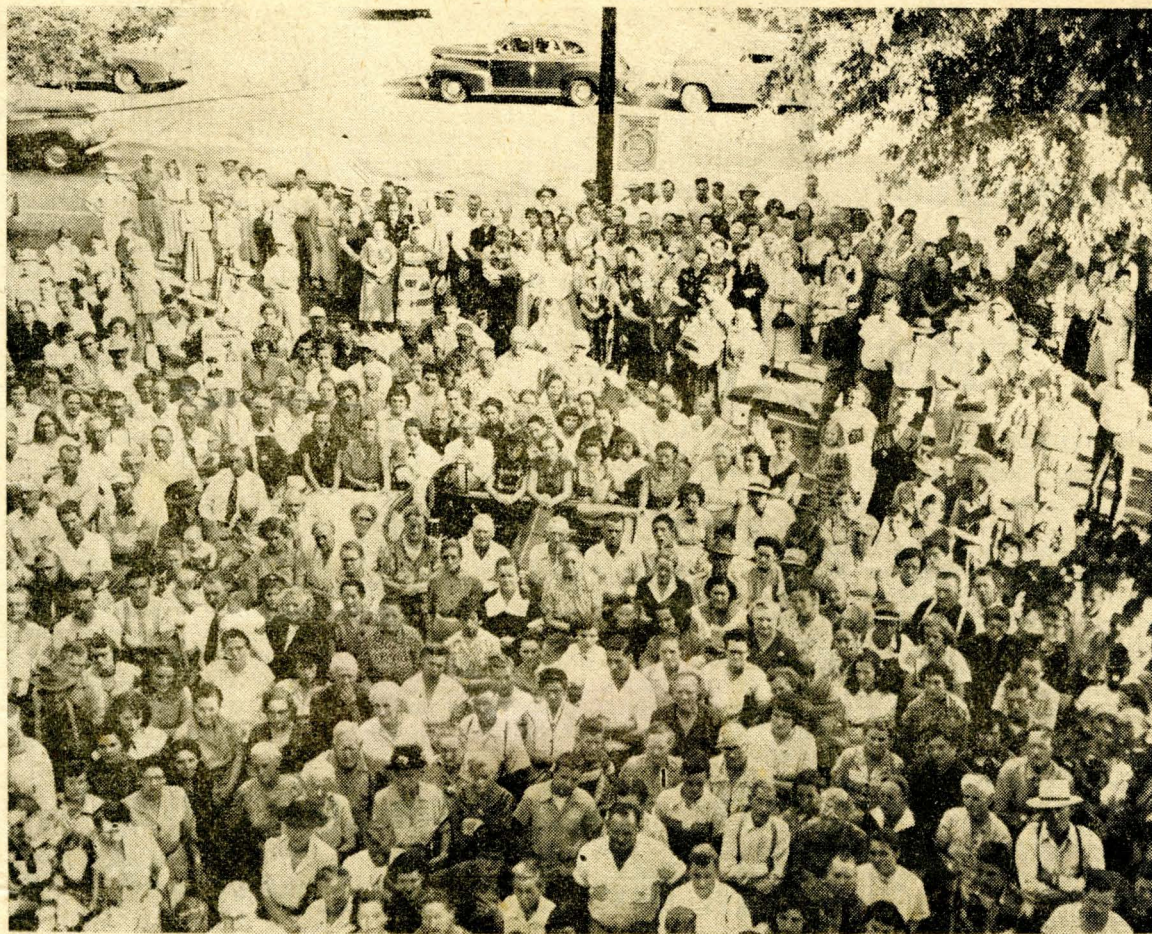
MOREHEAD RESIDENT JOHN CARL
FLANNERY WAS AWARDED THE
SILVER STAR MEDAL FOR
EXTREME BRAVERY DURING
KOREAN WAR. (HE WAS
ONE OF TWO FROM ROWAN
AWARDED THAT MEDAL.)

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Shumbrall

200

Countians Go All Out Friday In For Corporals Harr And Davis



PART OF CROWD—This is part of the crowd of an estimated 2,500 that honored Rowan County's returning prisoners of war, Corporals Vernon Harr and James Clyde Davis Friday. Business places closed for the hour's parade and ceremony on the courthouse lawn.

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KOREAN WAR
© 1954

ANNOUNCES ENGAGEMENT
OF DAUGHTER

Chas. Foster Serving On Korean Front

Private First Class Charles Foster, of Clearfield, is on the Korean front serving with the unit which seeks out and evaluates enemy forces facing the Cavalry Division.

Foster, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Foster, of Star Route, Clearfield, is a member of the Cavalry's 16th Reconnaissance Company.

This mobile combat unit is the fearless outfit that probes deep into enemy territory to determine the size and disposition of Communist troops. In doing so, it has compiled one of the most amazing records of valor in Korea.

More than once, the compact unit fought off Communist forces twice its size.

During the early days of the Korean War, the 16th Recon was constantly behind enemy lines and was the first UN force across the 38th Parallel in October

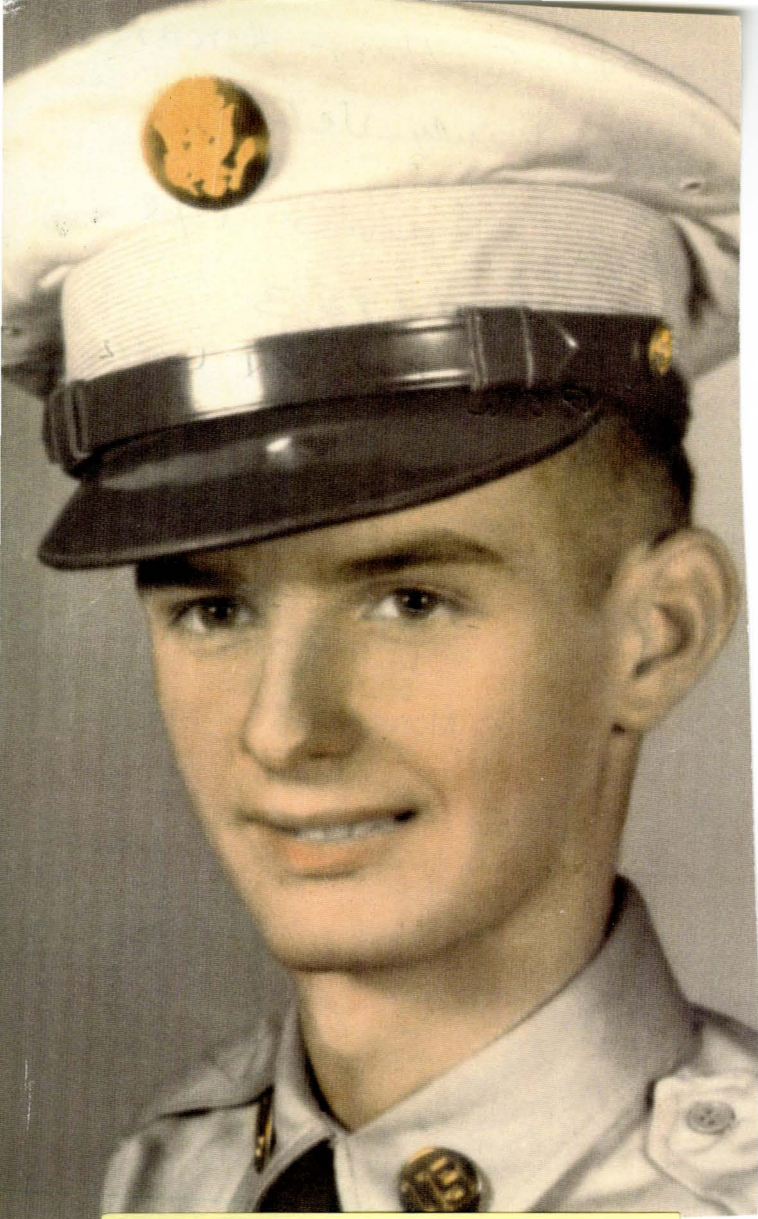
M/Sgt. John Fultz, Morehead, has been awarded post humously the first bronze oak leaf cluster to the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in Korea.

Fultz, son of Mrs. Lula Lambert, was formerly a member of the 23rd Infantry Regiment of the Second Division. He distinguished himself in the fighting near Haga-ri in March.

The citation read in part: "When counter mortar fire was placed in his platoon's position, four men, including the attached aid man, were wounded.

"Exposing himself to the hostile fire, Sergeant Fultz administered emergency first aid to the wounded men and assisted them to safety. He continued to direct supporting fire until he was mortally wounded by enemy mortar fire."

. . .



Vernon E. Harr
Cpl USA 1949-1953

~~Vernon E. Harr Korean POW
Rowan County Vet~~

Vernon E. Harr, Cpl

USA 1949-1953

POW KOREAN WAR

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Vernon E. Harr
Cpl USA 1949-1953

Kentucky man's name belongs on Richland monument

By Ron Simon
News Journal

MANSFIELD — Sgt. Henry Clay McKinney is the 23rd Richland County soldier to join the list of Korean War casualties that will appear on the Korean War Monument.

At first there were 21 men from the list provided by the Ohio Adjutant General's Office. Then, after the monument was completed, the name of Naval Aviation Tech. Robert E. Kibler made it 22. McKinney is 23.

Although the official records say McKinney was from Rowan County, Ky., Korea War Veterans Richland County Chapter 51



Sgt. Henry Clay McKinney

Details

The Richland County Korean War Memorial will be dedicated Sunday in Mansfield's Central Park.

Ceremonies begin with music and a parade of flags at 2 p.m.



President William Woodrow says his name belongs on the monument.

See **MEMORIAL**,
back page

10A WEATHER/CONTINUE

Memorial

From page 1A

"He was living here and working here when he went into service," Woodrow said. "We have plenty of room on the monument for more names."

McKinney was killed Nov. 7, 1951. A member of F Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Regimental Combat Team, he was killed by enemy small arms fire near Kwandae, North Korea.

According to an Army report, McKinney, a machine gunner with seven months of combat behind him, led a three-man night patrol that was moving down a hill when Chinese soldiers opened up on them from all directions. One of the men was shot in the leg and McKinney threw the man over his shoulder to carry him out of danger. The wounded man survived, but McKinney was shot in the head.

At first light, Henry's buddies went down the hill and recovered his body.

His niece, Laurie Stevens of Mansfield-Washington Road, said he came to Mansfield after World War II and lived with a sister, Gwendolyn Romig at 109 Cook Road. He had worked at Barnes Manufacturing Co. before joining the service Oct. 19, 1950.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan McKinney of Morehead, Ky. and is survived by four sisters in Mansfield, Romig, Clara Prosser of 903 Country Club Drive, Naomi Lay of Ohio 97 near Butler and Ruth McKinney of 15 W. Raleigh Avenue. A brother, Allen McKinney of Morehead, Ky., is in Mansfield and plans to attend Sunday's Korean War Monument ceremony downtown.

Stevens said McKinney is buried in the Brown Cemetery in Morehead, Ky.

Antians Go All Out Friday In For Corporals Harr And Davis



PART OF CROWD—This is part of the crowd of an estimated 2,500 that honored Rowan County's returning prisoners of war, Corporals Vernon Harr and James Clyde Davis Friday. Business places closed for the hour's parade and ceremony on the courthouse lawn.

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KORSAH
WAR

AUGUST 1953

MOREHEAD ~~DEPT~~ OF COURTESY
WELCOME HOME POWS



Capt. William E. Barber, USMC

Recipient, Medal of Honor

A native of nearby Morgan County, Capt. Barber received our nation's highest decoration for bravery for heroically leading his Marine rifle company in a desperate five-day defense of a frozen mountain pass vital to the 1st Marine Division's breakout to the sea in December 1950 in the Chosin Reservoir campaign of the Korean War. Fighting in sub-zero weather against overwhelming odds, he was wounded on the first night of the action, but refused evacuation and remained in action in command of his company. He was presented the Medal of Honor by President Truman at the White House on August 20, 1952.

A World War II veteran and former paramarine, Barber earned the Silver Star Medal and his first of two Purple Hearts as a second lieutenant at Iwo Jima, where he disregarded his own wounds and direct fire to rescue two wounded Marines from enemy territory. He also received the Legion of Merit for his service in Vietnam.

Barber enrolled at what is now Morehead State University after graduating from high school but interrupted his studies to enlist in the Marines in 1940. He returned to MSU while on active duty and earned a bachelor's degree in 1964. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1970 at the rank of colonel. He died in 2002 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

(Erected Veterans Day 2008)

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Dedication of William E. Barber Memorial

Presentation of the Colors	Army ROTC Color Guard
Welcome & Introduction of Guests . . .	President Wayne D. Andrews
Special Presentation	LTC Maxwell Ammons
Remarks	Dr. Jack Ellis
Dedication of the Memorial	Chaplain John (Pete) Hamm
Unveiling of the Memorial	Invited Representatives
Response by Barber Family	Dr. George C. Barber
Closing Remarks	President Andrews
Retirement of the Colors	

November 10, 2008

Barber honored with memorial

Morehead State University and local veterans pause



From left: George Marsh, former Navy corpsman who served with Barber on Iwo Jima in WWII; John (Pete) Hamm, chaplain of Morehead American Legion Post 126; Dr. George C. Barber, nephew of the honoree; President Andrews; Dr. Jack Ellis, featured speaker; and Lt. Col. Max Ammons, MSU professor of military science.

Nov. 10

America's highest award for wartime heroism.

LT. COL. WILLIAM E BARBOD, MSc.
GRADUATE + CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENT (KOREAN WAR)
HONORED WITH A PLAQUE ON THE
CAMPAUS OF MSU. NOV 15, 2008

Wednesday, November 12, 2008 ~

News

MSU Home >> News >> Headline Archives >> Barber honored with memorial marker

Barber honored with memorial marker

Morehead State University and local veterans paused Monday,



From left: George Marsh, former Navy corpsman who served with Barber on Iwo Jima in WWII; John (Pete) Hamm, chaplain of Morehead American Legion Post 126; Dr. George C. Barber, nephew of the honoree; President Andrews; Dr. Jack Ellis, featured speaker; and Lt. Col. Max Ammons, MSU professor of military science.

Nov. 10, to recognize an MSU alumnus who earned America's highest award for wartime heroism.

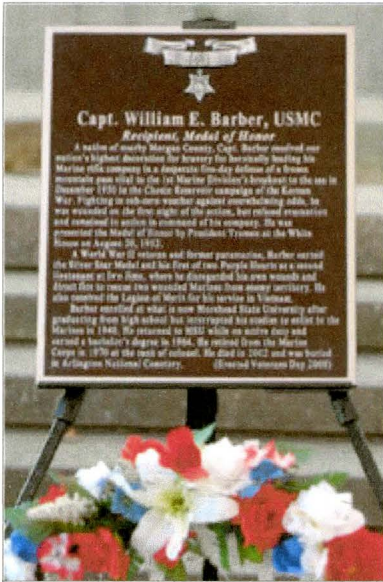
A memorial marker was dedicated near the Little Bell Tower in honor of the late William E. Barber. Barber, then a captain, received the Medal of Honor for heroically leading his Marine rifle company in a desperate five-day defense of a frozen mountain pass vital to the 1st Marine Division's breakout to the sea in December 1950 in the Chosin Reservoir campaign of the Korean War. He received the medal in 1952 from President Harry Truman.

"This is a somber occasion, but it also is a cause for celebrating the heroic achievements of a brave young Marine officer who was a graduate of Morehead State University and a native of Morgan County," said President Wayne D. Andrews.

A World War II veteran and former paramarine, Barber also earned the Silver Star Medal and his first of two Purple Hearts as a second lieutenant at Iwo Jima, where he disregarded his own wounds and direct fire to rescue two wounded Marines from enemy territory. He also received the Legion of Merit for his service in Vietnam.

Barber enrolled at MSU after graduating from high school but interrupted his studies to enlist in the Marines in 1940. He returned to MSU while on active duty and earned a bachelor's degree in 1964. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1970 at the rank of colonel. He died in 2002 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. He was a brother of the late Woodrow Barber, a former MSU professor.

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 552 W. Sun St.
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"What more fitting tribute than to honor this man who represents all who have served and will serve our country in the preservation of our individual freedoms and our American way of life," said Dr. Andrews.

A veteran of two tours of duty during the Vietnam War, Dr. Andrews closed the ceremony with a line that honored Col. Barber along with all other veterans.

"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers...for he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."

Participating in the dedication ceremony were Army LTC Max Ammons, MSU professor of military science; John (Pete) Hamm, chaplain of American Legion Post No. 126 of Morehead, Dr. George Barber, nephew of the honoree; Dr. Jack Ellis, and former Navy corpsman George Marsh of Paris, who served with Barber on Iwo Jima.

[Click here to view photos of ceremony](#)

Posted: 11-11-08

CONGRESSIONAL
MEDAL OF HONOR ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS IN 1862 DURING THE CIVIL
WAR (I SUPPOSE NO ONE IN THE CONFEDERACY WAS ELIGIBLE). IS THE NATION'S
HIGHEST AWARD FOR HEROISM AGAINST THE ENEMY, WHILE UNDER FIRE.

BARBER, WILLIAM E.

Rank and organization: Captain U.S. Marine Corps, commanding officer, Company F, 2d Battalion 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein.). Place and date: Chosin Reservoir area, Korea, 28 November to 2 December 1950. Entered service at: West Liberty, Ky. Born: 30 November 1919, Dehart, Ky. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as commanding officer of Company F in action against enemy aggressor forces. Assigned to defend a 3-mile mountain pass along the division's main supply line and commanding the only route of approach in the march from Yudam-ni to Hagaru-ri, Capt. Barber took position with his battle-weary troops and, before nightfall, had dug in and set up a defense along the frozen, snow-covered hillside. When a force of estimated regimental strength savagely attacked during the night, inflicting heavy casualties and finally surrounding his position following a bitterly fought 7-hour conflict, Capt. Barber, after repulsing the enemy gave assurance that he could hold if supplied by airdrops and requested permission to stand fast when orders were received by radio to fight his way back to a relieving force after 2 reinforcing units had been driven back under fierce resistance in their attempts to reach the isolated troops. Aware that leaving the position would sever contact with the 8,000 marines trapped at Yudam-ni and jeopardize their chances of joining the 3,000 more awaiting their arrival in Hagaru-ri for the continued drive to the sea, he chose to risk loss of his command rather than sacrifice more men if the enemy seized control and forced a renewed battle to regain the position, or abandon his many wounded who were unable to walk. Although severely wounded in the leg in the early morning of the 29th, Capt. Barber continued to maintain personal control, often moving up and down the lines on a stretcher to direct the defense and consistently encouraging and inspiring his men to supreme efforts despite the staggering opposition. Waging desperate battle throughout 5 days and 6 nights of repeated onslaughts launched by the fanatical aggressors, he and his heroic command accounted for approximately 1,000 enemy dead in this epic stand in bitter subzero weather, and when the company was relieved only 82 of his original 220 men were able to walk away from the position so valiantly defended against insuperable odds. His profound faith and courage, great personal valor, and unwavering fortitude were decisive factors in the successful withdrawal of the division from the deathtrap in the Chosin Reservoir sector and reflect the highest credit upon Capt. Barber, his intrepid officers and men, and the U.S. Naval Service.

PROPOSED GRAD.

EVIDENCE OF THE DWINDLING NUMBER OF LIVING CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS (NOT CALLED WINNERS) CORRESPONDS WITH THE RAPIDLY DWINDLING NUMBER OF LIVING WW2 VETERANS WHO WERE RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD. TEN YEARS AGO THERE WERE 426 LIVING RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD. WHEN I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF VISITING THE WW2 MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON DC 3 WEEKS BEFORE IT OPENED IN 2004 OUR GROUP WAS HOSTED BY A MRS BARBER WHO ALSO HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CONTACTING EVERY RECIPIENT MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT AND ARRANGE SPECIAL SEATING ARRANGEMENTS AT THE FORMAL DEDICATION OF THE WW2 MEMORIAL 3 WEEKS LATER.

SHE TOLD ME AT THAT TIME THERE WERE ONLY 156 MEDAL RECIPIENTS LIVING AND ONLY 99 OF THEM WERE ABLE TO TRAVEL TO THE FORMAL DEDICATION OF THE WWII MEMORIAL. BUT THEY WERE ~~TO BE~~ GIVEN SPECIAL U.I.P TREATMENT AND SEATING.

JUST THIS PAST WEEKS IT WAS REPORTED ON THE NATIONAL NEWS THAT NOW THERE ARE ONLY 99 LIVING RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD.

SO TODAY WE COME TOGETHER TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF ~~THE~~ COL. WILLIAM E BARBER ~~THE~~ ~~OF THOSE RECIPIENTS~~

A NATIVE OF WEST LIBERTY GRADUATE OF MSU AND A RECIPIENT OF THIS NATION'S HIGHEST

AWARD FOR BRAVERY ~~UNDER~~ UNDER FIRE FROM THE ENEMY ALTHOUGH COL BARBER LIVED TO ~~SEE~~ RECEIVE THE MEDAL - OF THE 131

MEDALS OF HONOR AWARDED DURING THE KOREAN CONFLICT 94 WERE AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY.



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- Military Sites
- Military Support Sites
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The Congressional Medal Of Honor Profiles of Americas Military Heroes from the Civil War to the Present - 3,460 and counting...

The Medal of Honor, established by joint resolution of Congress, 12 July 1862 (amended by Act of 9 July 1918 and Act of 25 July 1963) is awarded in the name of Congress to a person who, while a member of the Armed Services, distinguishes himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an action against any enemy of The United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which The United States is not a belligerent party. The deed performed must have been one of personal bravery or self-sacrifice so conspicuous as to clearly distinguish the individual above his comrades and must have involved risk of life. Incontestable proof of the performance of service is exacted and each recommendation for award of this decoration is considered on the standard of extraordinary merit. Full-text Listings of Medal of Honor Citations The President, in the name of Congress, has awarded more than 3,400 Medals of Honor to our nation's bravest Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen since the decoration's creation in 1861.

The Medal of Honor was first issued during the Civil War, and since it was the only military award for valor during that war, 1,527 medals were awarded. By the time of the Spanish American War, there were more earned medals available for distribution, and the Medal of Honor became the supreme honor. During the military action in Vietnam, a much longer conflict than the Civil War, 238 medals were awarded.

Early in the Civil War, a medal for individual valor was proposed to General-in-Chief of the Army Winfield Scott. But Scott felt medals smacked of European affectation and killed the idea.

The medal found support in the Navy, however, where it was felt recognition of courage in strife was needed. Public Resolution 82, containing a provision for a Navy medal of valor, was signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln on December 21, 1861. The medal was "to be bestowed upon such petty officers, seamen, landsmen, and Marines as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry and other seamanlike qualities during the present war."

Shortly after this, a resolution similar in wording was introduced on behalf of the Army. Signed into law July 12, 1862, the measure provided for awarding a medal of honor "to such noncommissioned officers and privates as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action, and other soldierlike qualities, during the present insurrection."

Although it was created for the Civil War, Congress made the Medal of Honor a permanent decoration in 1863. 1,520 Medals were awarded during the Civil War, 1,195 to the Army, 308 to the Navy, 17 to the Marines. 25 Medals were awarded posthumously.

For years, the citations highlighting these acts of bravery and heroism resided in dusty archives and only sporadically were printed. In 1973, the U.S. Senate ordered the citations compiled and printed as Committee on Veterans' Affairs, U.S. Senate, Medal of Honor Recipients: 1863-1973 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1973). This book was later updated and reprinted in 1979.

The breakdown of these is a duplicate of that in the congressional compilation. Likewise, some minor misspelling and other errors are duplicated from the official government volume. These likely were the result of the original transcriptions. The following is an index of the full-text files by war.

[Civil War Medal of Honor Recipients](#)

[World War I Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients](#)

[World War II Medal of Honor Recipients Full-Text Citations](#)

- [All Recipients](#)
- [Civil War \(A-L\)](#)
- [Civil War \(M-Z\)](#)
- [Indian War Campaigns](#)
- [Interim 1866-1870](#)
- [1871 Korean Campaign](#)
- [Interim 1871-1898](#)

<http://browser.grik.net/medalofhonor.com//index.htm>

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for bravery that can be given to any individual in the United States. In judging men and women for receipt of the medal, each service has established its own regulations.

The idea for the Medal of Honor was born during the Civil War as men fought gallantly, often displaying great heroism. Gen. George Washington had originated the Purple Heart in 1782 to honor brave soldiers, sailors and marines.

From that time until the Civil War, certificates of merit and a "brevet" system of promotions were used as military awards. The first military decoration formally authorized by the American government as a badge of valor was the Medal of Honor for enlisted men of the Navy and Marine Corps. It was authorized by Congress and approved by President Abraham Lincoln Dec. 21, 1861. The Medal for the Army and Voluntary Forces was authorized July 12, 1862.

The Medal is awarded "in the name of the Congress of the United States," and for this reason, it is often called the **Congressional Medal of Honor**. It was only on rare occasions, however, that Congress awarded special Medals of Honor. An executive order, signed Sept. 20, 1905, by President Theodore Roosevelt directed that the ceremonies of award "will always be made with formal and impressive ceremonial" and that the recipient "will, when practicable, be ordered to Washington, D.C., and the presentation will be made by the President, as Commander-in-Chief, or by such representative as the President may designate."

The Navy Medal of Honor is made of bronze, suspended by an anchor from a bright blue ribbon, and is worn about the neck. The ribbon is spangled with a cluster of 13 white stars representing the original states. Each ray of the five-pointed star contains sprays of laurel and oak and is tipped with a trefoil. Standing in bas-relief, circled by 34 stars representing the 34 states in 1861, is Minerva, who personifies the Union. She holds in her left hand the fasces, an ax bound in staves of wood, which is the ancient Roman symbol of authority. With the sheaf in her right hand, she repulses the serpents held by the crouching figure of Discord. The reverse side of the Medal is left blank, allowing for the engraving of the recipient's name and the date and place of his or her deed. Criteria for award

The Medal of Honor, established by joint resolution of Congress, July 12, 1862, (amended by Act of July 9, 1918, and Act of July 25, 1963) is awarded in the name of Congress to a person, who, while a member of the armed forces, distinguishes himself or herself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an action against any enemy of the United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

The deed must have been one of personal bravery or self-sacrifice, an action that conspicuously distinguished the individual above his comrades. Incontestable proof of the performance of service is exacted and the recommendation for award of this decoration is considered on the standard of extraordinary merit. Eligibility is limited to members of the armed forces of the United States in active military service.

Korean War Recipients [\[A - D\]](#) [\[E - K\]](#) [\[L - P\]](#) [\[R - Z\]](#)



Facts about the Medal of Honor during the Korean War

✓ There were a total of 131 recipients (they are not called "winners")

Of those 94 were given posthumously

Members of all four services received the Medal: 78 to those in the Army, 42 to Marines, seven to Navy Personnel, and four to members of the Air Force

Marines received the Navy Medal of Honor and Air Force members received the Army, as the Air Force did not develop one of their own until 1965

[Recipients by State](#)

[Korean War 2nd Infantry](#)

[History of the Korean War](#)



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

202 HOWELL-MCDOWELL AD. BLDG.
MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY 40351-1689
TELEPHONE: 606-783-2022
FAX: 606-783-2216

November 6, 2008

TO: Rowan County Veterans

As a fellow veteran, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend a special Veterans Day event on Monday, Nov. 10, at 4 p.m. at the Little Bell Tower in the center of our campus.

We will unveil and dedicate a memorial marker in honor of Marine Col. William E. Barber, a graduate of Morehead State University, who received the Medal of Honor for his heroism in the Korean War in 1950. Col. Barber was a native of Morgan County.

He was the brother of the late Woodrow Barber, a former MSU faculty member, and the uncle of Dr. George Barber, a Morehead physician. Col. Barber died in 2002 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

John (Pete) Hamm, chaplain of American Legion Post 126 and president of the Rowan County Veterans, will conduct the dedicatory ceremony. Another veteran, Dr. Jack Ellis, retired director of libraries at MSU and local historian, will speak briefly about other heroes from this area.

In the event of rain, the ceremony will be held at nearby Button Auditorium. We look forward to having you with us.

Wayne D. Andrews
President



Rowan's Korean Connection: Davis and Harr POWs

By Jack Ellis

"For this my son was dead and is alive again, he was lost and is found. And they began to make merry." Luke 15:24

Vernon E. Harr, the son of Emory and Thelma Harr (Moore), grew up in rural Rowan County. His mother and father divorced, and Thelma married Bill Moore. There were a total of 11 children in the family. Since Vernon's father was a veteran of World War I, Vernon always felt a deep sense of duty to the country.

After he attended the Rowan County Schools, Vernon joined the Army Sept. 28, 1949, and reported for basic training at Fort Knox. Following basic training, he was sent to Fort Lewis, Wash. where he was assigned to the 38th Field Artillery Battalion of the Second Infantry Division. Vernon was a good soldier with leadership potential and was soon promoted to the rank of Corporal.

Harr in Korea when war began

His division arrived in Japan in April, 1950. However, with the continued unrest in Korea, they were soon shipped out and were in Korea when the war began June 25, 1950.

At first, the American army was forced to retreat. But when reinforcements arrived, they began pushing the North Koreans back across the 38th parallel. There, they paused for a few weeks, but then received orders to continue to force the enemy northward.

Short war predicted

Corporal Harr said that after they crossed the 38th parallel, they met little resistance and the American forces went all the way to the Yalu River, which is the border of China. Of course, they were not allowed to cross into China and they stopped near the Chosen Reservoir on the Yalu River. The young corporal said, with the bitter cold

winter, everyone began to believe we would be home for Christmas.

China enters war—prisoners murdered

On Nov. 9, China entered the conflict by sending 300,000 crack combat troops across the border to drive the Americans out of North Korea. Their entry into the war proved to be one of the worst defeats in U.S. military history. The bitter cold was as much of an enemy as the Chinese and they began to push the American forces back south.

It was during this retreat that the American forces discovered 68 dead U.S. soldiers who had been prisoners of war. They had been machine gunned to death in a tunnel near Sanchon, North Korea. They were murdered because the enemy did not want to have to be slowed down by prisoners.

Future looks cold and bleak in prison camp

It was during the battle of Chosen Reservoir that Corporal Vernon Harr's unit was overrun by the Chinese communists. Several in his unit were captured. Vernon said he "thought his future looked bleak as a captured soldier in the cold approaching winter of North Korea."

Corporal Harr recalled that his group of captured soldiers were marched northward under heavy guard. At first they were housed in an abandoned unheated mine tunnel. They were fed one meal of cooked cracked corn a day. With little shelter from the elements and little food for energy, many died from exposure. Corporal Harr said, "I had my army overcoat, and that was all that saved me."

Some men did not have enough clothing and died. He said, "I shared my coat with my buddy, we would take turns wearing it, so it kept us both alive." He said when men died, others would take their clothing. That allowed some of the men to survive.

Many die of torture, starvation and bitter cold

With so many men dying in the unheated mine tunnel, they were moved to POW Camp Number 5. Corporal Harr said he had no idea exactly where that was, but it was cold and there was never any heat in their POW camp during the three cold winters of his captivity. The men kept warm mostly with body heat and sharing coats.

worst, because after that time they were fed two meals a day of cooked cracked corn." Although Vernon grew up in rural Rowan County and was known as a corn-fed boy, he got tired of living on corn porridge. However, he did manage to survive those terribly brutal 1,000 plus days of captivity in spite of brutal torture and "brainwashing." He said none of his group ever succumbed to "brainwashing" (where they denounced their country).

Harr listed as MIA and presumed dead

For over a year he was listed as missing in action and presumed dead. His mother feared the worst. During much of that time, Mrs. Harr lived on this writer's father's farm in the Upper Licking Valley.

It was during this time that she received word from the Army that Vernon was alive and a POW. Her hopes soared and she began to anxiously await a letter from him. The letter was still six months in coming, and Corporal Harr said he heard from home about once a year during his days as a POW.

After three years—little switch and big switch

In 1953, the Red Cross arranged a prisoner exchange. When it was finally worked out between North Korea and the U.S., there were two levels of prisoner exchange. The first level was called "little switch" and consisted of exchanging the weakest and sickest prisoners.

The second level was called "big switch" and included the rest of the prisoners. It made no difference how long you had a prisoner. Therefore, Corporal



About the author

Dr. Jack D. Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library Director and a

Harr who had been captured first in the war, was among the last to be released. Corporal Harr said his weight dropped to 112 pounds by the time he was released.

After being discharged, Vernon Harr married Deloris Fultz and they moved to Hammond, Ind. to be close to a veterans' hospital. He is in fair health, but still suffers from post traumatic stress syndrome, and is still being treated for that almost 50 years later.

Corporal James Clyde Davis enters service

James Clyde Davis was Rowan County's second soldier taken prisoner by the enemy during the Korean War. Clyde, as he was known by friends and family, was born Dec. 14, 1926 in Rowan County. He attended the local public schools until he was 16 years of age. However, at age 16 during WWII, and with his parents' permission, he joined the Navy in 1942.

During his three years with the Navy during WWII, he saw a great deal of action on board his ship. However, following his discharge, Clyde had difficulty finding the right kind of job, so he "re-upped" (reenlisted) in the U.S. Army in June 1949. He was sent to Camp Breckinridge for basic training. Following his training, he was sent to Japan in the Army of Occupation. However, with the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, he was sent there immediately after the war began.

Longest casualty list contained James C. Davis MIA

Because of his previous military experience, the young Mr. Davis was soon appointed to the rank of Corporal. But that rank didn't mean much because he was taken prisoner July 15, 1950, less than three weeks after the war began. However, he was not even reported missing for six weeks until a government release dated Aug. 29, 1950 announced the longest casualty list of the war.

Corporal Davis was reported MIA, missing in action, and presumed dead. For another 18 months, his mother heard nothing else and was about to give up hope when the joyous telegram arrived saying Corporal James C. Davis was listed among the prisoners of war in North Korea.

Starvation and bitter cold every day

Corporal Davis' sister, Mrs. Sue Wellinger, recalled some of the few things he ever told the family about his captivity. For over three years, he suffered extreme cold and starvation.

His rations consisted of watery cabbage soup or corn mush once a day. He had no idea what some of the other food was, but he always ate it anyway. He said some of the men refused to eat it, and they were the ones who died. They were constantly harassed by brutal prison guards who tried to "brainwash" them (torture them into denouncing their country). But the enemy was never successful in getting that accomplished no matter how hard they tried.

Body heat helped men survive

Corporal Davis said perhaps 50 men were housed in one long room about 30 feet by 40 feet. There was straw on the floor for bedding and buckets for bathrooms. Water was provided once a day and there was no heat in the winter time. He said the temperature would reach 30 below zero some nights. The men huddled together under the straw for body heat to keep from freezing to death.

Many men died from starvation, exposure and just lack of hope. When a man died, they would prop him up for days, so they could get his rations still delivered to the compound. Also, they would take his

clothes, which allowed some to survive.

Secret pouches help with more food

The men secretly sewed pockets inside their pants legs. Those were used when they happened to be on a work detail where there was food, such as potatoes or corn. Then they would hide some in those secret pockets and bring it back to the compound and share with each other.

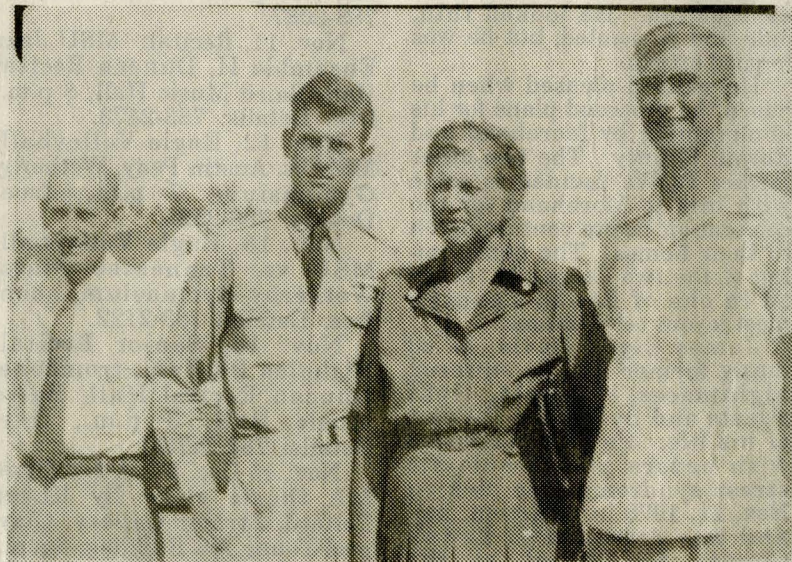
Everyone tried to help everyone else. They remained civilized and no one cheated and everyone shared what they had. However, Corporal James C. Davis survived over 1,000 days of starvation, abuse, cold and suffering to come back home.

Two Rowan POWs released and return home

After their prisoner exchange, the Army coordinated the release of Rowan County's two surviving Korean prisoners of war. Corporals Harr and Davis were scheduled to arrive home on the same day.

As soon as the announcement was made, Morehead's civic organizations, service clubs, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars began elaborate plans for an honorarium of the two young men and welcoming them home. Those clubs arranged transportation for the family to meet their long lost soldier sons. It was a joyous moment when Corporal Harr stepped off the plane at Lexington. Transportation was also

Continued on Page A-12



James Clyde Davis with his family in Morehead following his release from a Prisoner of War camp in Korea, 1953. From left are his father, Cordie Davis, Corporal James Clyde Davis, his mother Lenora Davis and his brother Clifford Davis.



16th ANNUAL



war began

His division arrived in Japan in April, 1950. However, with the continued unrest in Korea, they were soon shipped out and were in Korea when the war began June 25, 1950.

At first, the American army was forced to retreat. But when reinforcements arrived, they began pushing the North Koreans back across the 38th parallel. There, they paused for a few weeks, but then received orders to continue to force the enemy northward.

Short war predicted

Corporal Harr said that after they crossed the 38th parallel, they met little resistance and the American forces went all the way to the Yalu River, which is the border of China. Of course, they were not allowed to cross into China and they stopped near the Chosen Reservoir on the Yalu River. The young corporal said, with the bitter cold



Former Rowan Countian Corporal Vernon C. Harr survived three years in a prisoner of war camp in Korea (1950-1953). He is now living in Hammond, Ind.



Corporal James C. Davis was one of two Rowan County prisoners of war that survived the Korean

Vernon Harr's unit was overrun by the Chinese communists. Several in his unit were captured. Vernon said he "thought his future looked bleak as a captured soldier in the cold approaching winter of North Korea."

Corporal Harr recalled that his group of captured soldiers were marched northward under heavy guard. At first they were housed in an abandoned unheated mine tunnel. They were fed one meal of cooked cracked corn a day. With little shelter from the elements and little food for energy, many died from exposure. Corporal Harr said, "I had my army overcoat, and that was all that saved me."

Some men did not have enough clothing and died. He said, "I shared my coat with my buddy, we would take turns wearing it, so it kept us both alive." He said when men died, others would take their clothing. That allowed some of the men to survive.

Many die of torture, starvation and bitter cold

With so many men dying in the unheated mine tunnel, they were moved to POW Camp Number 5. Corporal Harr said he had no idea exactly where that was, but it was cold and there was never any heat in their POW camp during the three cold winters of his captivity. The men kept warm mostly with body heat and sharing coats.

Corporal Harr said, "The first six months of captivity were the

Corporal Harr said he heard from home about once a year during his days as a POW.

After three years—little switch and big switch

In 1953, the Red Cross arranged a prisoner exchange. When it was finally worked out between North Korea and the U.S., there were two levels of prisoner exchange. The first level was called "little switch" and consisted of exchanging the weakest and sickest prisoners.

The second level was called "big switch" and included the rest of the prisoners. It made no difference how long you had a prisoner. Therefore, Corporal



About the author

Dr. Jack D. Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library Director and a retired minister.

a great deal of action on board his ship. However, following his discharge, Clyde had difficulty finding the right kind of job, so he "re-upped" (reenlisted) in the U.S. Army in June 1949. He was sent to Camp Breckinridge for basic training. Following his training, he was sent to Japan in the Army of Occupation. However, with the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, he was sent there immediately after the war began.

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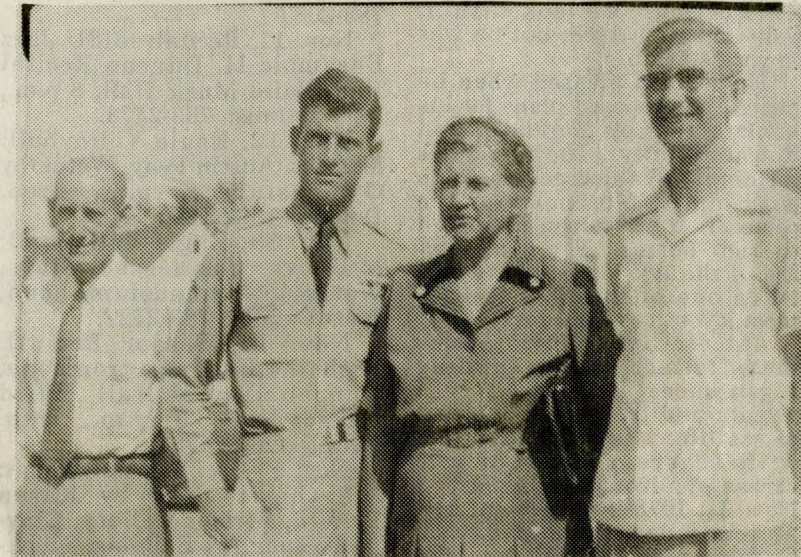
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Continued on Page A-12



James Clyde Davis with his family in Morehead following his release from a Prisoner of War camp in Korea, 1953. From left are his father, Cordie Davis, Corporal James Clyde Davis, his mother Lenora Davis and his brother Clifford Davis.



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Rowan's Korean Connection: Davis and Harr POWs

Continued from Page A-11

arranged so the Davis family could meet their returning son at the Maysville Depot where he arrived by train.

Grand home coming planned for POWs

A hearty homecoming was planned by Morehead and Rowan County, as the community prepared a gigantic celebration honoring Corporal Vernon Harr and Corporal James C. Davis. The two young Corporals were elevated to Kentucky Colonels, given war bonds and keys to the city. The ceremony included dignitaries from Washington and Frankfurt.

Friday, Sept. 18, 1953, the day of their arrival, was declared Vernon Harr and James C. Davis Day in Rowan County. Mayor William H. Layne requested all businesses to close from 2 to 2:45 p.m. in their honor. The honorees led a parade from the elementary school to the courthouse square for a 30 minute ceremony. Joe Mauk was chairman of the day's program, and Bill Bowman was chairman of the parade.

POWs finally arrive home

Corporal Davis, accompanied by two other former POWs from West Virginia, arrived at the Maysville Depot on Thursday, Sept. 16, 1953. He was met by his family and there was a joyous reunion for the son who had returned from the brink of destruction. He looked thin, pale and emaciated, but he was in good spirits.

He seemed pleased when he heard the proposed plans for his homecoming by Morehead and Rowan County. The two other former POWs decided to come with him to Morehead for the celebration before continuing on to their homes. The homecoming of the two Corporals resulted in one of Rowan County's most joyous celebrations.

James Clyde Davis, as so many former POWs, suffered nightmares, insomnia, night sweats and flashbacks the rest of his life. He was diagnosed with severe post traumatic stress syndrome. He died on Nov. 21, 1978 in Anderson, Ind. and was returned to Rowan County for burial at the Cranston Cemetery.

On the last Veterans' Day of this millennium, let us as a community and a nation never forget the suffering and sacrifices by veterans like Vernon Harr and James C. Davis.

Even though they both returned, their lives were forev-

er changed.

Program for Vernon Harr and James Davis Day in Morehead Nov. 18, 1953

Harr and Davis will receive war bonds, watch at Friday ceremony

This is the program that the American Legion and other civic and service clubs have arranged to "Welcome Home" Corporals James Clyde Davis and Vernon Harr:

2 p.m.—Parade, led by More-

head High Band, starts at Grade School Building, continues to West Main, and thence east on Main Street to courthouse.

2:15 to 2:35 p.m.—Ceremony on courthouse lawn, Elijah Hogge, toastmaster: Invocation, Rev. Marvin Tate; Introduction of Corporals Harr and Davis and their families; Presentation of key to city, Mayor William H. Layne; Presentation of gold watches, Kenneth Bays; Presentation of war bonds from Morehead merchants, J. Earl McBrayer; Presentation of flowers to mothers of Corporals Harr and Davis by Rowan Woman's Club; Conferring of Kentucky Colonel Commissions on Corporal Harr and Davis by staff of Governor Lawrence Wetherby—presentation to be by Congressman John Watts.

November highlights at MSU

Nov. 10, Lady Eagle Exhibition Basketball: MSU vs. Sports Reach, Academic-Athletic Center, TBA, charge. Details: 783-2126.

Nov. 10, Comedienne Annie Knight, Button Auditorium, 8 p.m., free. Details: 783-2071.

Nov. 11, Eagle Exhibition Basketball: MSU vs. Sports Tours, Academic-Athletic Center, 7:30 p.m., charge. Details: 783-2087.

Nov. 11, Recital: MSU Jazz Ensemble II, Duncan Recital Hall, Baird Music Hall, 8 p.m., free. Details: 783-2473.

Nov. 12, Eagle Volleyball: MSU vs. Austin Peay, Wetherby Gymnasium, 7 p.m., free. Details: 783-2122.

Nov. 13, Eagle Volleyball: MSU vs. Tennessee State, Wetherby Gymnasium, noon, free. Details: 783-2122.

Nov. 14, Senior Recital: Nicholas Basham, trombone, Duncan Recital Hall, Baird Music Hall, 3 p.m., free. Details: 783-2473.

Nov. 15-Dec. 23, Art Exhibit: MA thesis show by Karen Telford, Strider Gallery, Claypool-Young Art Building, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., weekdays, free. Details: 783-5446.

Nov. 16, Senior Recital: Vanessa Keeton and Mike Agee, saxophone, Duncan Recital Hall, Baird Music Hall, 8 p.m., free. Details: 783-2473.

Nov. 16-21, Theatre: "Rashomon," Kibbey Theatre, 8

p.m. except Nov. 21 at 2 p.m., charge. Details: 783-2170.

Nov. 17, Senior Recital: Norvel Perkins, baritone, Duncan Recital Hall, Baird Music Hall, 8 p.m. Details: 783-2473.

Nov. 18, Great American Smoke-out, second floor, Adron Doran University Center. Details: 783-2125.

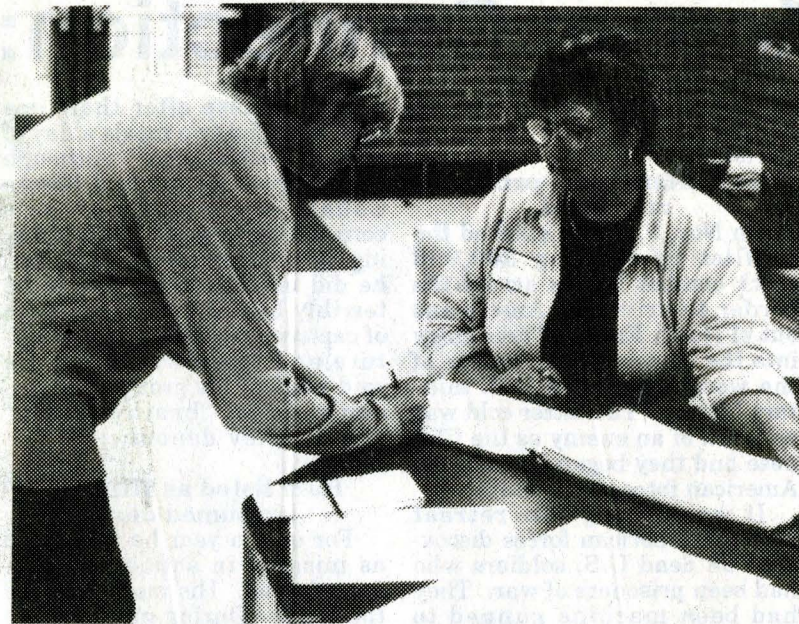
Nov. 18, Recital: MSU Concert Band, Duncan Recital Hall, Baird Music Hall, 8 p.m., free. Details: 783-2473.

Nov. 19-20, OVC Volleyball Tournament, Wetherby Gymnasium, all day. Details: 783-2122.

Nov. 19, Lady Eagle Basketball: MSU vs. Davis & Elkins, Academic-Athletic Center, TBA, charge. Details: 783-2126.

Nov. 20, Cheerleading Clinic: Eagle Spirit Classic, Academic-Athletic Center, charge. Details: 783-2674.

Nov. 20, Eagle Football: MSU vs. Southern Utah, Jayne Stadium, 1:30 p.m., charge.



Kim Hamilton photo

Exercising the right

Gloria Thompson, left, signs the voter register on her way to the voting machine at the Pine Hills precinct Tuesday. At right is election officer Diana Caskey.

Philly elected president of geology board

Dr. John C. Philley, a Morehead State University professor of geoscience, has been elected president of the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG).

Currently serving as president-elect, he will begin his term in 2000. Previously, he served the group as secretary in 1997 and treasurer in 1998.

ASBOG is composed of representatives from 26 states that have enacted laws for the registration and licensing of professional geologists. Among its primary functions are to provide and update the licensing examinations.

In addition to his duties with ASBOG, Dr. Philley serves as chair of the Kentucky Board for the Registration of Professional Geologists. Appointed by the governor, he has been serving on this board since its inception.

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Korea: 'The Forgotten War' June 25, 1950 - July 28, 1953

By Jack Ellis

"He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth." Psalm 46:9

On June 25, 1950, North Korean forces crossed the 38th parallel and invaded South Korea. President Harry Truman, acting in concert with the United Nations, authorized the use of American ground forces to repulse the invasion. General Douglas MacArthur, who was the Military Governor of Japan, was given supreme command of the United Nations Forces, with orders to repulse the invasion.

U.S. at war again

President Truman immediately authorized mobilization of the American military machine. 240,000 reserves were recalled to active duty swelling the ranks of the military to 834,000. In the early days of the invasion, the American and South Korean troops were pushed south by the invading North Koreans. But General MacArthur's brilliant surprise Inchon Invasion soon pushed the North Koreans back across the 38th parallel to the border of China.

War officially a police action

It appeared that the war would be over by Christmas 1950. However, the Chinese entered the conflict as 300,000 combat hardened Chinese Communist troops crossed into North Korea in support of that nation. What appeared to be a brilliant strategic invasion at Inchon by the U.S. that pushed the North Koreans back, soon turned into a disaster. When the Chinese Communists entered the war, it resulted in what had been considered the greatest retreat in U.S. military history.

Although war was never officially declared, that so called "police action" continued for three years. It resulted in approximately 25,000 Americans killed and 100,000 wounded. That "police action" became known as "The Forgotten War" but it was never forgotten by those men and their families who fought there.

Many Rowan countians remained in the peacetime army following WWII. Also, many others joined the army and the peacetime reserves thinking there would never be another war following WWII. Little did they realize that in less than five years following the end of WWII, this nation would be in another bloody conflict.

"Forgotten War" not forgotten

For many Rowan Countians, that "Forgotten War" became the Rowan-Korean Connection. It as a series of twin traumas

and tragedies. A series of bizarre coincidences, e.g. (1)

Beasley brothers both KIA
The second telegram brought the Morehead mother even worse news. It officially announced that her second son, Pvt. Henry E. Beasley, had been killed in action on Oct. 13, 1950. That stark announcement did not even say in what area of Korea her son had met his death. One can only imagine the shock and unbelief such a message brought to that mother. Her grief was even compounded by the previous message that her other son was still missing in action.

Pvt. Henry E. Beasley attended the Rowan Public Schools before volunteering for the Army. He entered the armed forces on Oct. 18, 1948. After receiving his basic training at Camp Breckenridge, he was transferred to Camp Drew in Japan as part of the Army of Occupation. Following the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, his company was shipped out immediately. There he met his death just a few weeks after his arrival into combat.

Terrible consequences of war

It was only a few months later that the Morehead mother of Henry Beasley received another telegram. Her second son, Pfc. William E. Beasley, who had been listed as Missing in Action, was now declared officially dead. Mrs. Nora Beasley Gilliam had lost her only two sons to enemy action. She had given her sons to serve their country, and they had given their lives in service to their country. What a terrible sacrifice! What horror war can bring, and what terrible consequences can result!

On the last Veterans' Day of this millennium, let us as a community and a nation never forget the sacrifices made by those Korean veterans who sacrificed all.

The following Rowan Countians were killed in the Korean War 1950 - 1953

- Henry E. Beasley
- William E. Beasley
- James T. Brammer
- Andrew J. Christian
- Hayward Davis
- John Finley
- Arb Hicks, Jr.
- Henry C. McKinney
- Walter Toler
- Charles Simpson



Rowan's Korean Connection— Kiser and Gray, wounded in action

Two Morehead men wounded same day

In April, 1953, the U.S. War Department issued a news release that stated, "Two Rowan County soldiers, with the same post office address, who entered the service on the same day, eight months ago, were wounded on the same day, during fighting in Korea."

The report further stated, "The men were wounded during the fighting around famous Pork Chop Hill." The report also stated that it was "extremely rare" for two men with the same address to be wounded on the same day. Therefore, that was another coincidence in the Rowan County-Korean Connection.

Corporal Earl Kiser, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kiser, RFD 3, attended the local schools and worked at the Jack West Lumber Company before entering the Army at Ashland in 1952. He received his basic training at Camp Breckinridge and after a six day leave was assigned to Company B, 23rd Armored Engineer Battalion, Field Artillery Division.

He was sent to Japan and transferred to a Rifle Company where he was assigned to operate a 57 recoilless rifle. Following advanced training, he was sent to Korea in the thick of the fighting.



Corporal Earl Kiser, left, operates a 57 recoilless rifle during his service in Korea.

Corporal Kiser wounded while operating flame thrower

Corporal Kiser and his company were attacking enemy positions on Pork Chop Hill, when suddenly the enemy counter-attacked. Several of the group were wounded, and the soldiers operating the flame thrower were killed.

It was then that Corporal Kiser picked up the flame thrower and began shooting 40-yard-long flames at the enemy positions. It was while operating the flame thrower that Corporal Kiser was seriously wounded in the side and back.

Earl Kiser returned to duty

Soon after he as wounded, the medics came and loaded him up into a jeep and he was taken to an aid station. From there, he was flown by helicopter to a M.A.S.H. (mobile advanced surgical hospital). From there, he was flown to Japan for further surgery.

He thought the war was over for him, but after three weeks of recuperation in Japan, Corporal Kiser returned to his unit. He was still there when the Armistice was signed. Following his discharge at the end of the Korean War, Earl Kiser returned to his native Rowan County where he still lives on RFD 3, Morehead.

Roger Gray enlisted at Dayton, Ohio

Billy Roger Gray was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Gray, RFD 3, Morehead. He attended the local schools and worked for a while for Wilford Waltz in his local I.G.A. grocery store.

Roger, as he is known by his friends and family, soon became restless and wanted to join the Marines. However, he was underage and his parents would not approve. He therefore moved to Dayton, Ohio where he joined the reserves and was soon able to move on to the Marines.

Young Marine wounded on routine patrol

Roger enlisted in the Marine Corps at age 17 in Dayton, Ohio. He received basic training at San Diego, Calif. Following basic training, he was assigned to the first Marines Weapons Company and shipped to Korea. The young Marine described the conditions under which he was wounded as follows:

"His unit was called in for what was supposed to be a routine patrol near the 38th parallel. Believing there was no enemy in that area, they moved confidently forward. Suddenly, they came under heavy fire with several of the men either wounded or killed.

"The non-commissioned officer that operated the flame thrower was killed. (A flame thrower is a weapon that weighs about 100 lbs. and can shoot an intensely hot flame of napalm gel for 40 yards.) Corporal Gray said he had recently been "busted" (reduced in rank), grabbed the flame thrower from the downed soldier and began shooting a steady stream of hot napalm at the enemy. It was then that he was shot in the right leg three times and the right arm once."

Cold weather helped save Gray's life

Corporal Gray recalled that the weather was extremely cold as he lay wounded on the ground for many hours before he received medical attention. It seemed the severe cold helped stop the bleeding and saved his life. After recuperation, Roger returned to his unit and was later wounded again. However, he did survive the war and returned to Dayton, Ohio where he worked until 1981. Then he came back to Kentucky to his old home place on RFD 3, Morehead. That is where he lives today and enjoys his retirement.

Earl Kiser and Bully Roger Gray are two Rowan County men who answered the call of their country. They put their lives on the line in service to their country during the "Forgotten War." Those men repre-

sent all veterans who have given blood for their country. They all should be remembered on this

last Veterans' Day of 1999, and should never be forgotten.

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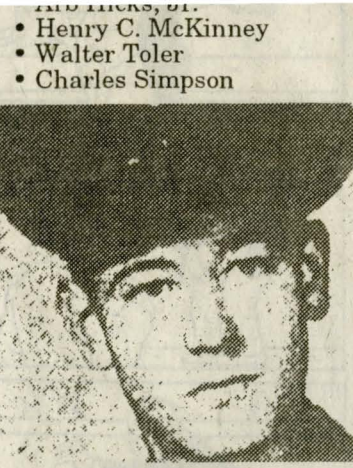
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peacetime reserves thinking there would never be another war following WWII. Little did they realize that in less than five years following the end of WWII, this nation would be in another bloody conflict.



Pvt. Henry E. Beasley, one of two Morehead brothers killed in the Korean War.

"Forgotten War" not forgotten

For many Rowan Countians, that "Forgotten War" became the Rowan-Korean Connection. It as a series of twin traumas and tragedies. A series of bizarre coincidences, e.g. (1) There were two Rowan County brothers killed in combat; (2) There were two Rowan County soldiers with the same address (Rt. 3, Morehead) wounded on the same day in the same battle; (3) There were two U.S. Prisoners of War from Rowan County who survive over three years of barbaric treatment by the North Koreans; and (4) There were two Rowan County soldiers who won the silver star for heroism in that war.

On the last Veterans' Day in this millennium, this writer wishes to profile these soldiers from Rowan County who were vitally involved in Rowan County's Korean Connection.

Rowan's Korean Connection—Beasley brothers KIA

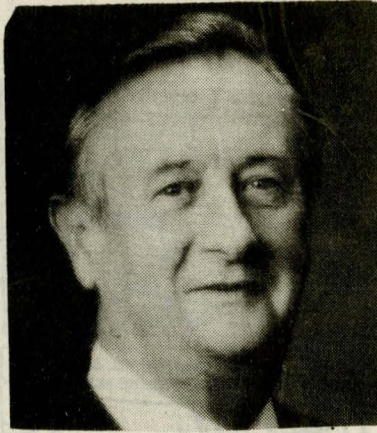
The Korean War took a terrible toll in human carnage. 25,000 of America's brightest and best were killed in that conflict, and 100,000 were wounded. All who were there were wounded psychologically and emotionally. Every soldier in every American war was forever changed. That was true of those who returned and of the families of those who never returned.

Morehead mother received two telegrams

The horrible nightmare of every mother of a soldier in battle is to receive that dreaded telegram from the War Department saying, "We regret to inform you that your son has been killed in action." However, one Morehead mother received two such telegrams during the terrible Korean War.

Many times the telegram said, "Missing in Action," or "Prisoner of War." Those telegrams did offer some hope for the grieving mother. However, there were times those POW or MIA telegrams were followed a few months later by a "Killed in Action" telegram.

On July 25, 1950, exactly one month following the outbreak of the Korean War, Mrs. Nora Beasley Gilliam, a resident of west Morehead, received that dreaded telegram informing her that her son, William E. Beasley, was missing in action. While fearing the worst, she clung to the hope that he would be returned unharmed. Months passed and still no report on her MIA son. Then, three months later, on Oct. 18, 1950, she received another telegram from the War Department.



Dr. Jack D. Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library Director and a retired minister.

About the author



Corporal Earl Kiser, left, operates a 57 recoilless rifle during his service in Korea.



Corporal Earl Kiser stands outside his tent in Korea. He was one of two men with the same Morehead address wounded in Korea on the same day.

Korean veterans: Remembering Rowan Silver Star soldiers

By Jack Ellis

"Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; not the arrow that flieth by day."
(Psalm 91:5)

John Carl Flannery was born in 1932 in Morehead. He was the son of Ernest J. and Delphia Atkins Flannery. There were nine children (two boys and seven girls) in the family, and they all worked hard on the small family farm located at what is now Sherwood Forest on the north end of Knapp Avenue.

Each child had their own chores to keep them busy on the farm. John Carl, as he was known growing up, worked outside taking care of the garden and farm animals. The young farm lad learned how to use firearms at an early age as he hunted in the hills and hollows around his home.

Children walked to Breckinridge every day

Mr. and Mrs. Flannery believed in the importance of education, and every one of their children attended the Breckinridge Training School. There were no school buses to pick them up at their door. In fact, the road up the hollow was impassable by auto most of the winter.

But every school day, rain, snow or shine, the children walked down the hollow and tiptoed across a foot log over the small branch. Then they climbed the Pine Hills Cemetery path through the cemetery, and out Fifth Street to school. They never missed school even during the six weeks of Summer School that was required at the time. The young John Carl Flannery is remembered as a lad with a keen sense of humor. He often played practical jokes on his friends and loved to tell a good joke and funny stories.

Flannery joined Army early

John Carl dropped out of high school at the age of 16. He went to Ohio to live with a sister, and there exaggerated his age and volunteered for the Army.

Following basic and advanced training, he was sent to Japan in 1949 as a part of the Army of Occupation. There he served as a Military Policeman and enjoyed his assignment there. However, when the war began, he was assigned as an automatic rifleman in the 32nd Regimental Combat Team of the Army's 7th Infantry. That was something far different than an MP in the Army of Occupation.

The Korean War has been called the forgotten war. It has also been called the first war this nation has lost. However, it was officially called a "police action." But to those that were wounded, or those who suffered unbelievable hardships as prisoners of war, or, to those who

1950, the Northern Communist Koreans invaded peaceful South Korea as massive troops crossed the 38th parallel unchecked.

The United Nations condemned the action and resolved to resist the invasion with military force.

President Truman commissioned General Douglas MacArthur as the supreme commander of the United Nations Forces in Korea. The General immediately sent those combat-ready troops from Japan to Korea to fight a delaying action until reinforcements could arrive there.

Rowan draftees and reserves called up

This nation immediately issued a call for 100,000 draftees. The first month Rowan County's draft board called 13 men. Those were: Avery G. Collins, Ervin Butler, Roy Igo, Lloyd E. Dehart, Junior M. Lewis, Zane T. Young, Curtis Lands, Lowell V. Murray, David M. Ingle, Cecil J. Kidd, Raymond Morrison, Vernon C. Sparks and Jim A. Williams.

Twenty-five year olds were called first, then gradually the younger men were called. The first month 8,200 reserves were called back to military service. Those were WWII veterans who had continued in the inactive reserves. Randy Wells (mail carrier) and C.G. Clayton were among the first local WWII veterans who were called back immediately. Ironically, Randy was married on June 25, the day the Korean War began, and he was called back into service the next week. But this nation began to re-arm and prepare for what was called an undeclared

war or a "police action."

Young Flannery transferred to combat team

Most of the members of John Carl Flannery's 32nd Regimental Combat Team had previous combat experience during WWII.

The combat veterans tried to teach the young men the skills needed to survive in battle. The younger men learned fast and were soon able to acquit themselves well under battle conditions.

Ordered into battle

On Sept. 26, 1950, John Carl was a part of the unit ordered to retake Seoul, the capital of Korea. After fierce fighting, they were successful in their mission. However, the North Koreans were massed outside the city in an all-out attempt to retake the capital from the American forces.

What followed was a bloody battle that resulted in many casualties on both sides. It was described in a special news release to the *Louisville Courier Journal* dated Oct. 26, 1950 and datelined Tokyo, Japan. A major portion of the news release told of the young man from Morehead's heroism under fire.

The story stated: Pfc. John (Carl) Flannery of Morehead, Kentucky dug in near the top of a hill in the heart of Seoul. His company was part of the 32nd Regimental Combat Team designated to hold Nam San Mountain, while the rest of the division drove stubborn Red resistance out of the South Korean capital. About 4 a.m., the Kentucky automatic rifle gunner

heard the word whispered throughout the ranks that the Reds were going to try to retake their position.

Battle raged under cover of darkness

Pfc. Flannery said, "It was so quiet around there, you could hear a pin drop, and they must have been up to something." He strained his eyes to peer through the darkness but couldn't see or hear a thing. Then it happened.

"About 200 yards below me there was a horrible scream that made me jump about a foot out of my hole. Then there were bells ringing, whistles blowing, bugles sounding and the noise became deafening," he said. "Following the noise they came at me screaming, shouting and shooting. One jumped up in front of me shooting like mad. He missed me but I didn't miss him. Then they came in swarms, and I just kept firing—using 30 clips of ammunition." It must have sounded like Gideon as he attacked Jericho as the walls fell down.

Bonsai attack repulsed—Flannery awarded Silver Star

The attack lasted for 3 1/2 hours. What seemed to the gallant defenders was that the whole Korean Army made charge after charge up the hill. However, each time the outnumbered GIs turned them back. Finally, grenades and mortar fire routed the attackers and the bloody battle ended.

When daylight finally came, there were forty dead Koreans on the ground in front of Flannery's position. Following the battle, Major General David G. Barr, 7th Division commander, awarded Pfc. Flannery the Silver Star medal, this nation's third highest military award. The entire company was awarded the Bronze Star medal after surviving one of the most hair-raising experiences of armed combat—a frenzied bonsai attack in the blackness of night.

Just kept praying and firing

Pfc. Flannery later wrote his family and said, "I was awarded the Silver Star for bravery, but I really did nothing brave, I just kept firing and praying." He told his parents he just wanted them to know that during all the fighting he had put his trust in God and was praying all the time.

"I'm proud of my company, especially since everybody said it took the old combat veterans to do the real fighting. But we showed them that the young guys were no slouches," he said. John Carl was also wounded twice and received the purple heart.

John Carl Flannery was discharged with frost bitten feet which caused him to be disabled for a short period of time. He later worked in Michigan and Ohio after leaving the Army. But like so many combat veterans he had flashbacks, or post traumatic stress syndrome, and struggled with that the rest of his life. John Carl would never talk about his Korean War experiences. He died in 1972, still suffering from post traumatic stress syndrome.

Ward Owens—Rowan's other Silver Star soldier

On June 25, 1950, the North Korean Army crossed the 38th parallel into South Korea and a state of war existed between U.S. Forces and North Korea. For the next month, the North Koreans swept south with little opposition. The South Koreans were helpless and disorganized. By the time American Troops of the first Cavalry arrived, about all they could do was fight a delaying action. By July 25 the Red advances had been slowed down.

Ward Owens distinguished himself in battle

On July 27, 1950, the North Koreans began a major all night attack against American forces at Yongdong. The American forces were hit on both flanks and had to move back farther than they had planned. However, the First Cavalry pull back was orderly as they fought a delaying action east of Yongdong.

Against overwhelming forces and with strong support from heavy naval bombardments, the U.S. forces slowly and orderly retreated through Yongduk, capital of Yongdong. It was during that night attack that Corporal Ward E. Owens distinguished himself in battle and was awarded the Silver Star.

Volunteered for mission—survived tank attack

Ward E. Owens, a combat engineer in the First Cavalry

Division, was one of two Rowan County soldiers awarded a Silver Star medal for heroism in

the Korean War. This nation's third highest military medal was presented to Corporal Owens by Major General Hobart R. Gay, Commander of the First

Cavalry Division in recognition of extraordinary bravery in the face of enemy fire.

In part, the citation read, "During a massive night attack on July 27, 1950, during the battle of Yongdong, Corporal Owens, a demolition expert in the First Cavalry's Eighth Engineer Combat Battalion, volunteered for a dangerous mission. During that mission, he remained exposed to enemy artillery and mortar fire throughout the night in order to operate a daisy chain of anti-tank mines during a tank attack."

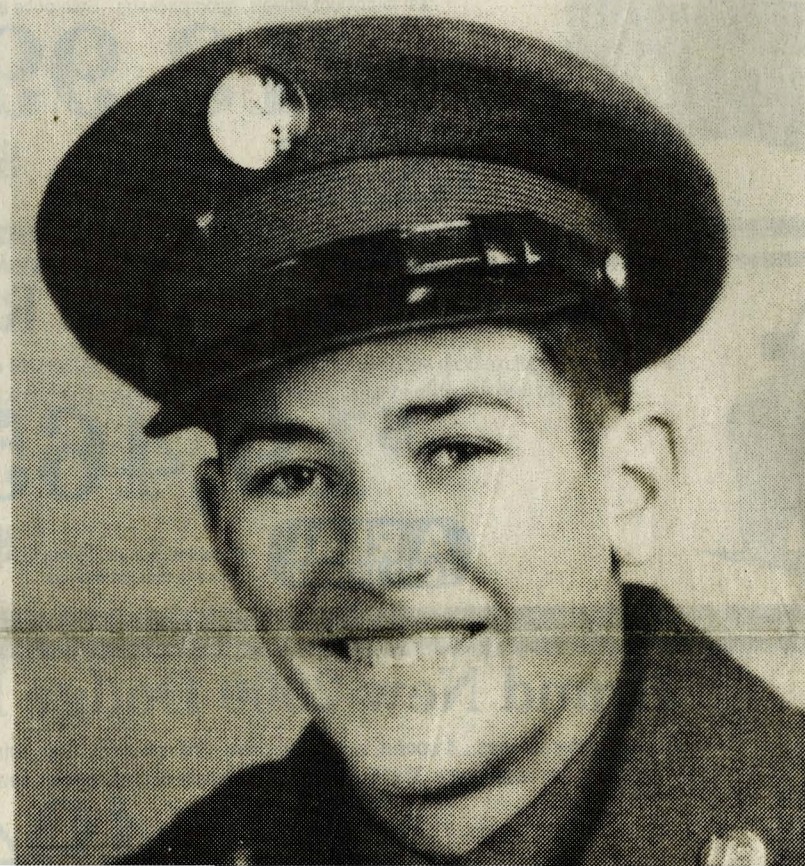
Corporal Owens a credit to his country

When one enemy tank had been disabled, Corporal Owens and a companion disregarded their own personal safety to attack the disabled tank with hand grenades, silencing its guns and killing its crew. The citation concluded by saying, "Corporal Owens' outstanding heroism on that occasion reflects great credit upon himself as an individual, and is in keeping with the high traditions of the military service of which he is a part."

Corporal Ward E. Owens was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Owens of Rt. 1, Morehead. Prior to entering the military service, Ward attended Rowan Public Schools.

John Carl Flannery and Ward Owens represent all American military men. Therefore, on this last Veterans' Day of this millennium, let us remember the brave sacrifices made by all of America's fighting forces.

Newsroom
784-4116



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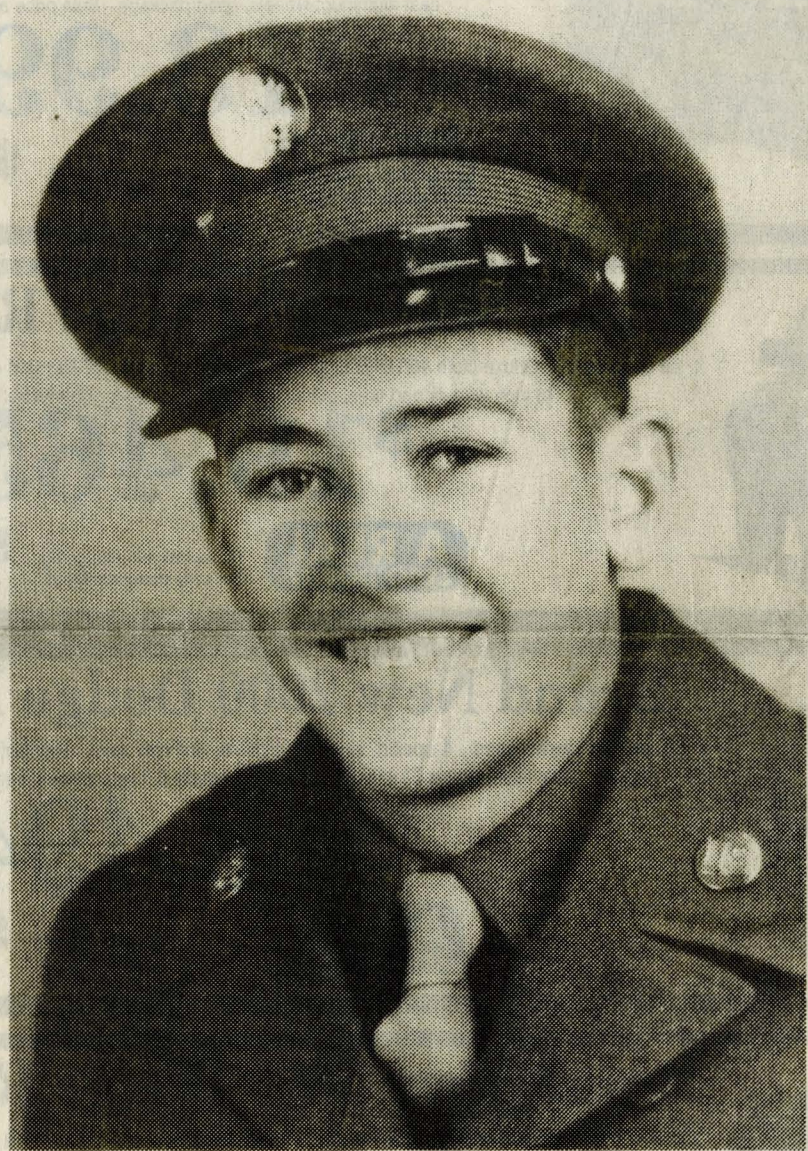
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War breaks out in Korea
Following WWII, Korea was divided into two separate parts by the 38th parallel. The North was communist governed, and the South was democratic. It had been an uneasy truce from the beginning, and on June 25,

called first, then gradually the younger men were called. The first month 8,200 reserves were called back to military service. Those were WWII veterans who had continued in the inactive reserves. Randy Wells (mail carrier) and C.G. Clayton were among the first local WWII veterans who were called back immediately. Ironically, Randy was married on June 25, the day the Korean War began, and he was called back into service the next week. But this nation began to re-arm and prepare for what was called an undeclared

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Morehead resident John Carl Flannery was awarded the Silver Star medal for extreme bravery during the Korean War. He was one of two from Rowan County awarded that medal.

Flannery awarded Silver Star

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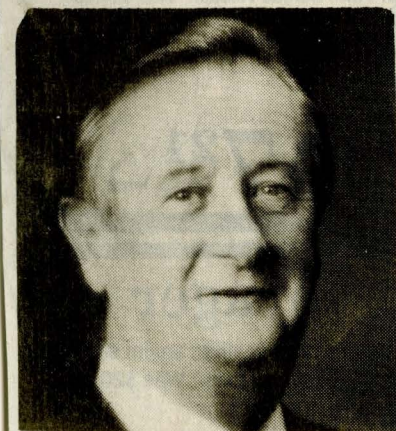
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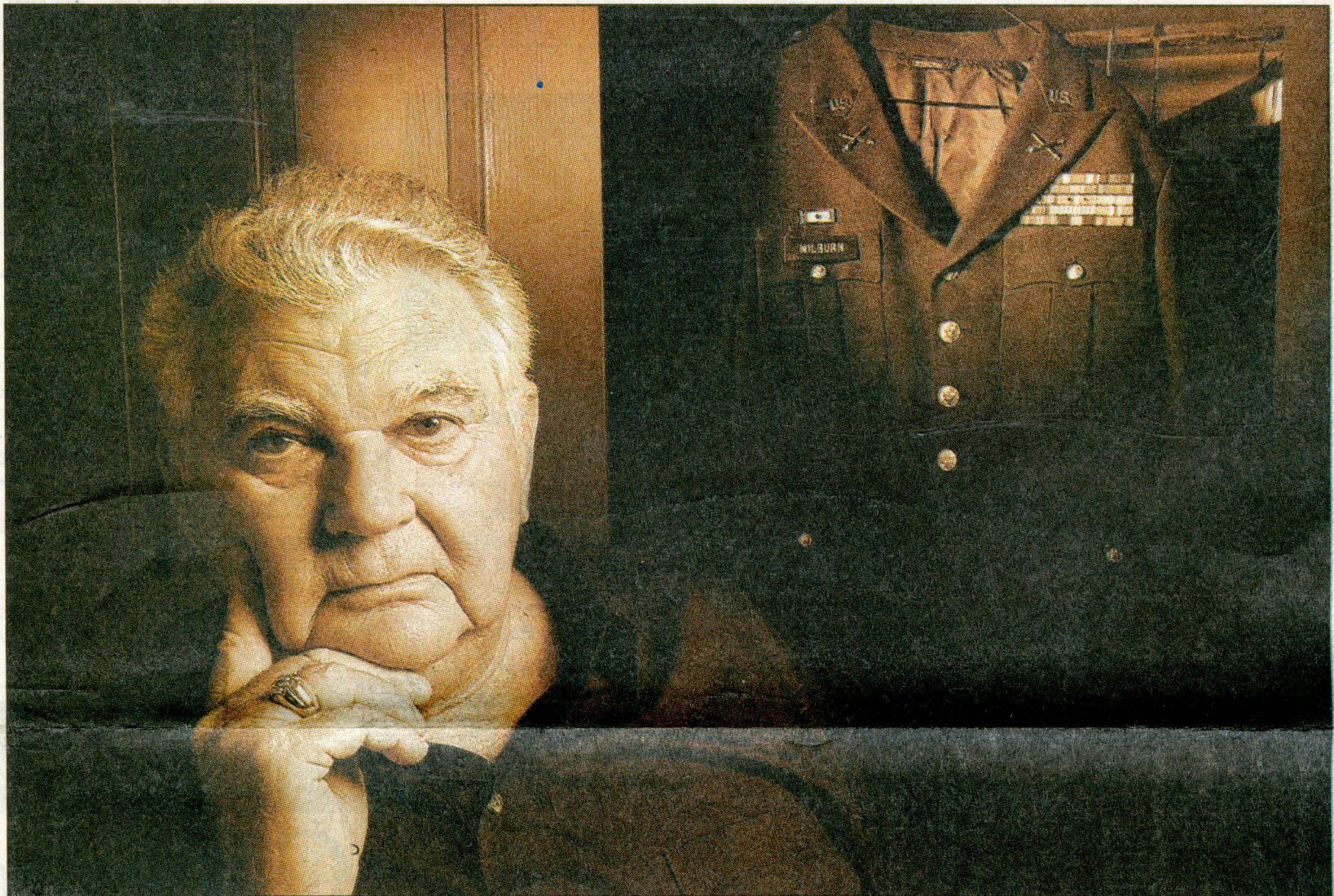


About the author

Dr. Jack D. Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library Director and a retired minister.

★ ★ ★ ★ THE ★ ★ ★ ★ PRICE OF FREEDOM

Fifty years ago today, the Korean War began when the communist North Korean army invaded South Korea. American soldiers were there as part of a U.N. action.



Colonel Edward H. Milburn, 77, of Lexington, spent 41 years in military service, including almost a year in Korea during the war. At his home Tuesday, he said of his tour in Korea, "I'm proud of the fact that I made a small contribution to the freedom we enjoy. Extremely proud, really."



The Medal of Honor was presented to eight Kentuckians for heroic actions in the Korean War, **Page A16**. While veterans think the nation has been slow to honor those who served, the number of Korean War casualties is at issue, **Page A4**.

President Harry Truman named it a "police action." Others talked of "a sour little war." For a time it was the "Korean Conflict," later it became the "forgotten war."

Regardless of its name, the men and women who served there will always remember it.

"They called it the forgotten war. But nobody who was over there will ever forget it, I'll tell you that," Greenup Countian Ernest West, 68, says.

West knows. He was there, and in October 1952 won the Congressional Medal of Honor for rescuing several wounded buddies from an enemy ambush.

Frankfort's Ralph Palmore was there too, and the words "Korean Conflict" still grate on his nerves.

"I don't know who came up with that, but the word 'conflict' doesn't be-

gin to describe what went on over there. It looked like a war; it smelled like a war; and it sounded like a war," Palmore, 70, said.

Palmore, West and thousands of other Kentuckians served in the Korean War, which began 50 years ago today when the Communist North Korean army invaded South Korea.

But like the soldiers of another Cold War conflict, Vietnam, some of Korea's veterans say what they did hasn't always been appreciated by the American public. They fought under the banner of the United Nations, and no brass bands or parades awaited them at home. Korea produced no dramatic victory, never generated the patriotic spirit that flowed in World War II. It ended with the armies back where they started.

See **KOREAN WAR, A16**

Eight Kentuckians hold Korean War Medal of Honor

Ernest E. West and John W. Collier grew up a few miles apart in Greenup County, just north of Ashland.

They became good, but not close, friends and once worked together on the railroad. Then, they joined the Army and went their separate ways. But fate held something in common for them on the other side of the world.

Collier and West both won the Congressional Medal of Honor in separate actions during the Korean War.

Collier never made it back to his home in the small town of Worthington. West, one of Kentucky's two living Medal of Honor winners from Korea, still lives in Wurtland, the little town of about 1,200 where he grew up.

"When you think that these two men knew each other, pretty much grew up together, joined the army and won the Medal of Honor in Korea, it's kind of amazing," said John Trowbridge, director of the Kentucky Military History Museum in Frankfort.

Collier, born April 3, 1929, was a corpo-

"I never really thought about it at the time. I did it because we were all friends, and we'd agreed that we would never leave anybody behind if we were attacked."

Ernest West, Medal of Honor recipient for rescuing wounded colleagues



ral with the Army's 27th Infantry Regiment during the early, desperate days of the Korean War. On Sept. 19, 1950, Collier and three comrades volunteered to attack an enemy machine-gun position near Chindong-ni. They were repulsed twice. On the third try, Collier charged ahead of the others, destroyed the machine gun and killed at least four enemy soldiers. Moments later, a grenade landed in the middle of Collier's group. Sacrificing himself to save his friends, Collier threw himself on the grenade and smothered its explosion with his body.

"He and I lived about three miles apart," West said of his lost friend. "He was kind of quiet, a really nice guy. He was like the rest of us when we were

young. He liked to cut up and have fun. But he was no rowdy person."

West received the Medal of Honor after he rescued several wounded colleagues under heavy enemy fire on Oct. 12, 1952, near Sataeri. West had volunteered for a patrol to locate enemy positions. When the men were ambushed, West ignored a hail of bullets to help the patrol leader and several other wounded soldiers reach safety. He killed six enemy soldiers in the process, but was severely wounded himself and lost an eye.

"I never really thought about it at the time," West, now 68, said. "I did it because we were all friends, and we'd agreed that we would never leave anybody behind if

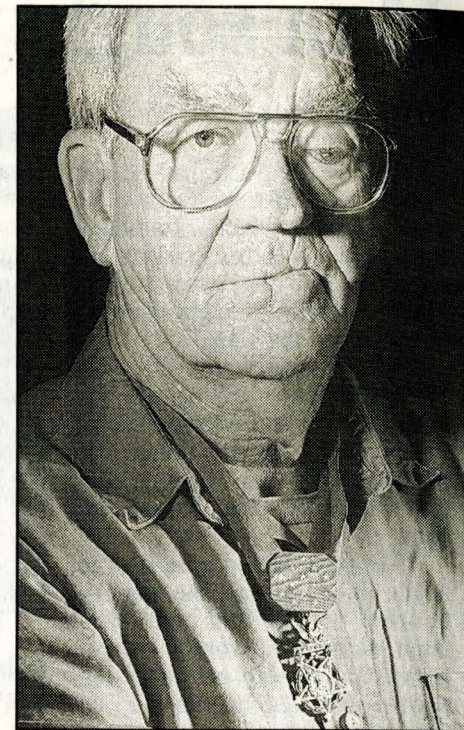
we were attacked. We'd all come back together, and that's what we did."

In addition to West and Collier, Kentucky claims six other Medal of Honor winners from Korea: David M. Smith of Livingston; Darwin Kyle of Jenkins; William B. Baugh of McKinney; Carl H. Dodd of Evarts; William E. Barber of Dehart; and Ernest R. Kouma.

Although Kouma was a native of Nebraska, he lived most of his adult life in Kentucky and is buried at Fort Knox. All of the medal winners are dead, with the exception of West and Barber, who now lives in California.

West will be a special guest June 30 at ceremonies in Frankfort saluting all veterans of the Korean War. A section of U.S. 23 in Greenup County also has been named the Collier-West Memorial Highway in honor of the two medal winners. But Trowbridge thinks more should be done.

He is seeking state legislation to provide historic markers honoring each of the 43 Kentuckians who have won the Medal of Honor since it was created in 1862.



Ernest West, 68, of Wurtland, lost an eye while rescuing colleagues during an ambush. He received the Medal of Honor for his actions.

KOREAN WAR: Many remember extreme cold

From Page One

Nevertheless, men who were there say they're still proud to have served.

"I've never regretted it," Palmore said. "Our country was a part of the treaty, along with the rest of the United Nations. I never grieved over any of that. Besides, there hasn't been a war since World War II that wasn't political."

Recent news stories have cast another shadow, with some veterans recounting stories of South Korean civilians machine-gunned or strafed at a previously unknown place called No Gun Ri because of the possibility that enemy infiltrators might have been hiding among them.

While some Kentucky veterans don't deny that such incidents might have occurred, they insist that such cases must be judged in the context of desperate times.

"It could have happened," said former Marine corporal Jack Dimer, 72, of Waco, who survived the crushing Chinese attack at the Chosin Reservoir in late 1950. "About 90,000 civilians came out of the Chosin area with us, and 99 percent of them were just trying to get out of North Korea. But the Communists were infiltrating in among them. We found women carrying grenades under their clothing, for example. So, we didn't trust anybody."



Corporal Joe Brown, 68, of Lexington, spent almost a year in Korea in an army rifle squad. He said there was a lot of fear on the front lines. "Faith had a lot to do with carrying you through the rougher parts. I never met an atheist in a foxhole."

Honoring veterans

Veterans of the Korean War will be honored at two area events over the next few days.

■ Congressman Ernie Fletcher will sponsor a program commemorating the 50th anniversary of the war this afternoon at Triangle Park in downtown Lexington. North Korean forces invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950, 50 years ago today, starting a war that lasted three years and cost thousands of American lives.

Today's event begins at 3 p.m. and more than 300 Korean War veterans are to be on hand for recognition. The program will move to the first floor of the nearby Lexington Civic Center if it rains.

■ On June 30, Gov. Paul Patton will lead ceremonies in Frankfort honoring Kentuckians who served in the war. Patton will present certificates of appreciation to all Korean War veterans in attendance, or to their next of kin.

Veterans can register for a certificate in advance by calling (800) 572-6245.

Certificates will be presented starting at 2 p.m. The public is invited to bring a brown-bag lunch and come early to enjoy a concert by the 202nd Army Band of the Kentucky National Guard band starting at 11:30 a.m.; displays of military equipment by the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard; a 21-gun salute to veterans; and a military helicopter fly-over.

The 'forgotten war' remembered

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"It could have happened," said former Marine corporal Jack Ditmer, 72, of Waco, who survived the crushing Chinese attack at the Chosin Reservoir in late 1950. "About 90,000 civilians came out of the Chosin area with us, and 99 percent of them were just trying to get out of North Korea. But the Communists were infiltrating in among them. We found women carrying grenades under their clothing, for example. So, we didn't trust anybody."

Others, like Air Force veteran Steve Sitzlar, 71, of Lexington, discount the reports.

"No doubt some innocent people were killed, but I don't think it was intentional," Sitzlar said. "I think some of the people telling those stories have too vivid an imagination."

State officials say it is unclear just how many Kentuckians served in Korea; estimates range from about 88,000 to well over 120,000. About 1,000 Kentuckians died, including more than 660 killed in combat. And 2,545 more were wounded. Some 163 Kentuckians were captured, and 40 of them died as prisoners of war; 257 Kentuckians still are listed as missing.

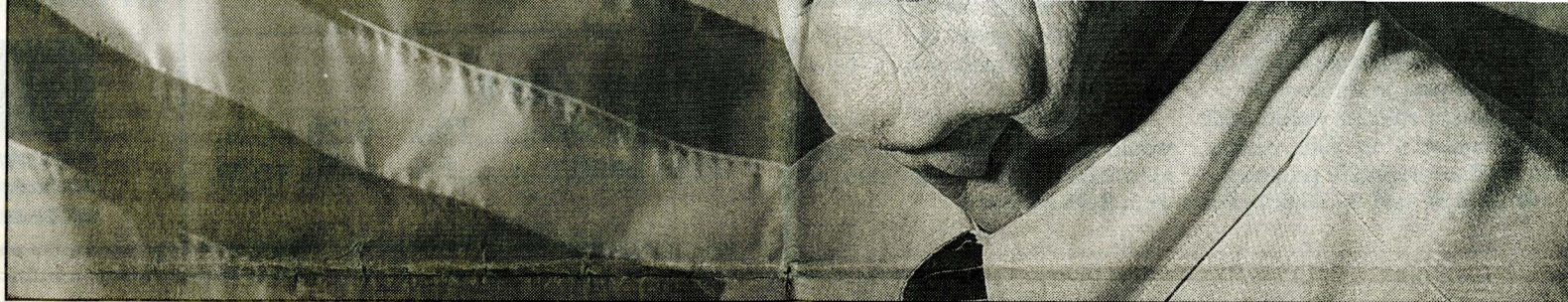
Those who made it home remember Korea's narrow valleys and rugged mountains, where enemy troops were always dug in. They recall the crash of artillery and the angry snap of rifle fire; the propaganda blaring from the loudspeakers which the Communists strung along their battle lines; the bugles Chinese troops blew to launch their human wave attacks; the pungent smell of kimchi, the Korean national dish.

Mostly, they remember the cold. Freezing winter winds that whistled down from Siberia made Korea an icebox. Food, vehicles and men froze. Frostbite was as much a threat as bullets, especially during the desperate retreat from the Chosin Reservoir, when temperatures plunged to 35 degrees below zero.

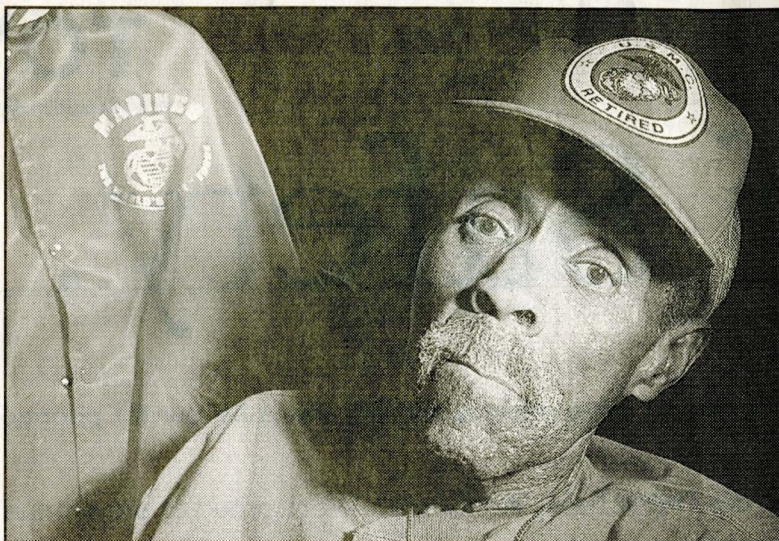
"The ground was too frozen to dig foxholes; all you could do was dig holes in the snow," said Jack Ditmer, who suffered frostbite himself. "We didn't think we would ever make it out of there."

Lexington's Joseph Brown, 68, a corporal with the 2nd Infantry Division, said his outfit never received proper cold weather footgear. Felt inner soles, which they put inside their boots, quickly became sopping wet.

"We'd take those inner soles out, wring them out, and then put them



Corporal Joe Brown, 68, of Lexington, spent almost a year in Korea in an army rifle squad. He said there was a lot of fear on the front lines. "Faith had a lot to do with carrying you through the rougher parts. I never met an atheist in a foxhole."



1st Sergeant Richard Owens, 70, entered the Marines at age 20, eager to get out of Lexington, but once on the front lines, excitement turned to fear, especially at night.

under our armpits to dry," Brown said. "We didn't smell too good."

Somehow, men survived and adjusted. Eventually, even getting shot at became routine.

"You soon learned to recognize the sound of the shells and to find a hole to jump in," said Ralph Palmore, who went to Korea as sergeant major of the Kentucky National Guard's 623rd Field Artillery Battalion. "You were scared just about every day, but you got used to it."

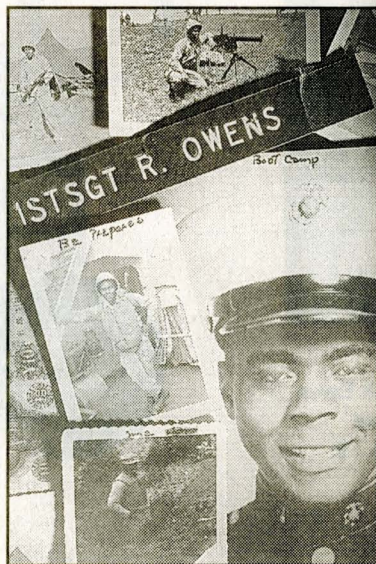
Mercer Countian Roy Freeman, 68, a flight deck crewman on an aircraft carrier launching attacks against North Korea, was never shot at. His closest call came from one of his ship's own bombs.

"A plane tried to land with an unexploded bomb, and just as he touched down it came loose, hit our deck and exploded," Freeman said. "I was about 50 feet way, manning a fire hose."

The war was just three months old when Frankfort's George Mitchell arrived at the port of Pusan. U.N. forces had been driven back into the area around Pusan and the future looked bleak.

"The harbor was packed with hospital ships. I was ready to turn around and go back home right then," said Mitchell, 70.

Former Marine sergeant



Owens, a resident of Thomson-Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore, displays snapshots and mementos of his Korean War experience.

Richard Owens, 70, of Lexington, said his most frightening moments came while manning listening posts — positions 75 or 100 yards ahead of the front lines designed to detect enemy activity.

"Lonely wasn't the word for it," said Owens, who now lives at the Thomson-Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore. "You were too

The 'forgotten war' remembered

As veterans of the Korean conflict return for the 50th anniversary, history reviews the battles, some famous and pivotal, some futile or forgotten.

Inchon Landing

Sept. 1950: U.S.-led U.N. forces make a brilliantly successful amphibious landing, followed by an offensive north.

Chosin Reservoir

Nov. 27-Dec. 10, 1950: Chinese attack Marines and soldiers of U.S., British and South Korean armies. The troops retreat and are evacuated.

Chipyong-ni

Feb. 13-15, 1951: Greatest perimeter defense battle of the Korean War. The U.S. 23rd Infantry is ordered to "stand and die" as the Chinese attack. Allies hold positions. Thousands of Chinese are killed; about 94 French and Americans die.

Heartbreak Ridge

Sept-Oct. 1951: Last major battle for position by U.N. forces. In 30 days of fighting, allies take the ridge but suffer 3,700 casualties. Communist losses estimated at 25,000 killed or wounded.

Pork Chop Hill and Old Baldy

First major actions are June 1952, proceeding through July 1953. March-April 1953 was the key battle. Chinese took Old Baldy from a Colombian battalion attached to the 31st Infantry. Hills were reclaimed after horrendous fighting.



Sources: Korean War Project; compiled from AP wire reports Wm. J. Castello, S. Hoffmann/AP

scared to even scratch your nose. You'd hear something, look over at your buddy, and he'd be just as scared as you."

Owens also recalled how the Chinese used their loudspeakers to unnerve the troops.

"Sometimes, they would call out individual soldiers' names and say, 'What are you doing over there? You're going to die tonight.'"

Owens and Mitchell, both of whom are black, served in integrated units in Korea, making it the

first war in which white and black Americans fought side by side.

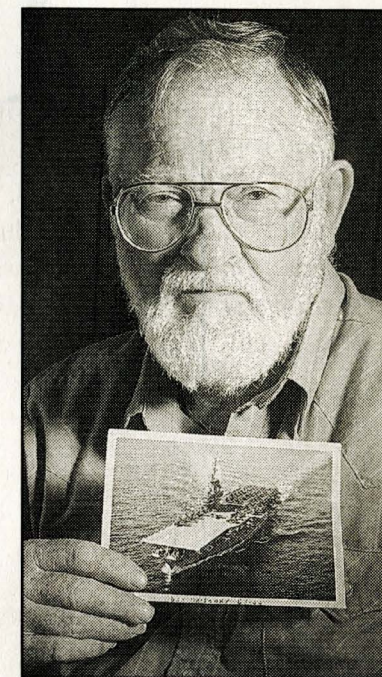
After the war's first year, which saw armies surge from one end of the Korean peninsula to the other, the fighting degenerated into a two-year stalemate, similar to the trench warfare of World War I. Peace talks dragged on. A political settlement, not complete victory, was the objective. Back home, for those who didn't have friends or family members in Korea, the war went largely unnoticed. But in the snow and mud,

appreciation to all Korean War veterans in attendance, or to their next of kin.

Veterans can register for a certificate in advance by calling (800) 572-6245.

Certificates will be presented starting at 2 p.m. The public is invited to bring a brown-bag lunch and come early to enjoy a concert by the 202nd Army Band of the Kentucky National Guard band starting at 11:30 a.m.; displays of military equipment by the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard; a 21-gun salute to veterans; and a military helicopter fly-over.

The event will be held between the state Capitol and the Capitol annex.



Roy Freeman, 68, of Harrodsburg, used a tractor to pull airplanes on the flight deck of the U.S. Oriskany. "It was cold out there; man, it was cold," he remembered.

the dying continued.

Veterans, however, say they were not discouraged.

"It was never an issue among the troops," said retired Col. Edward Milburn, 77, of Lexington, who commanded the 623rd Field Artillery Battalion.

"A lot of people back home never understood the real objective, which was to make the North Koreans go back across the border and stay there. In Korea, that constituted a win. We won that war. The proof is that South Korea is still there today, and they're still free."

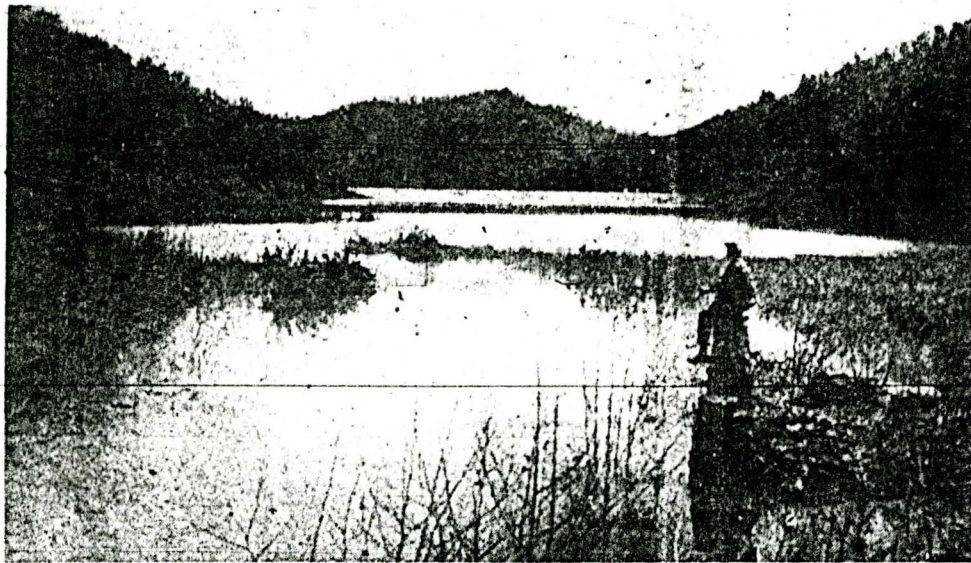
The average soldier, however, saw things in a simpler way.

"Getting home was the one thing on your mind," Joseph Brown said.

"Any war is a good war if you can walk away from it."

"You were too scared to even scratch your nose. You'd hear something, look over at your buddy, and he'd be just as scared as you."

Richard Owens, who served as a Marine, manning listening posts, in the Korean War



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY AT LAKE—This picture was taken several weeks ago of the now-filled reservoir on Evans Branch which the state of Kentucky constructed to provide Morehead College with water. Under a cooperative agreement the city of Morehead also secures its water here. So far, it has been closed to the public, but college Business Manager Herbert Hogan has announced it will be open for tour and inspection from 1 until 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. College personnel will aid in parking cars and answer questions. It is planned to eventually make this lake a show-place with fishing and boating for Morehead College students. The dam cost over \$400,000 and was filled two weeks ago after recent heavy rains.

Supervisors Will Meet Tomorrow

Taxpayers Appeals Will Be Heard In Most Kentucky Counties

Most county boards of supervisors will meet May 1 to hear appeals on property assessments, Jess Thomas, director of Property Taxation, Department of Revenue, announced.

The Boards have two duties under the law: (1) to direct the tax commissioner to assess any items of property not already assessed for 1953 taxes, and (2) act on appeals and recommendations for change of assessments.

The Board will act on appeals and recommendations filed in writing by the taxpayer. The tax commissioner, Department of Revenue, county judge, or the school superintendent may also request the review of any assessment by the Board.

The Board may meet for not more than ten working days and when a property assessment is raised the taxpayer must be notified and be given an opportunity to appear.

Any taxpayer dissatisfied with the Board's final decision may appeal to the Kentucky State Tax Commission in writing within 15 days after the Board's adjournment. Appeals will be heard in the county in which the property is located.

Father Of Carl Sinclair Claimed At Lexington

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sinclair were called to Lexington last week due to the death of Mr. W. K. Sinclair, Carl's father. Funeral services were conducted at the Tucker Funeral Home in Georgetown Tuesday, April 21.

The following people from Morehead attended the funeral: Mr. and Mrs. Ora Cline, Mrs. Iva Manning, Mr. Clayton Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Butcher and Rev. J. C. Raikes.

Vencill Resigns From Morehead Police Force

Morehead City Policeman Kenneth Vencill this week tendered his resignation to the City Council.

Vencill explained he was making a race for Sheriff, and thought it unethical to remain on the force. The council asked him to remain until they could name a replacement.

Vencill's resignation read "at the pleasure of the City Council."

Two Rowan Soldiers Injured Same Day

Two Rowan County soldiers, with the same postoffice address, who entered the service the same day, eight months ago, were injured on the same day and at the same place in Korea, it was learned this week.

Reports received at Morehead reveal they were 'tent mates' during all their active fighting (six weeks) in Korea and they suffered wounds at almost the same spot, although at a different time of the day.

Last week the War Department announced that Billie R. Gray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Gray, RFD 3, Morehead, was hit in the right leg three times and also in the right arm.

Earl Kiser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kiser, also RFD-3, was more seriously wounded on the same day. He is hospitalized, but expected to recover.

The injuries came during the heavy fighting on famed Pork Chop Hill.

Mt. Sterling Coach Resigns

Bain "Tiny" Jones, one of the most colorful high school coaches in Kentucky and one who has one of the best records in the state, is retiring from football.

Dawson Orman, who came to Mt. Sterling from the University of Louisville two years ago, was named head football coach at the Mt. Sterling High School by the Board of Education this week after "Tiny" resigned because of poor health. Jones will remain in the Mt. Sterling school system as a teacher.

Haldeman Spring Festival Is Saturday

The public has been invited to the season's entertainment highlight of the Haldeman community—the annual Spring Festival to be held this Saturday at the high school gym.

All profits will be used for school improvement.

Committees in charge have been working several weeks in preparing booths and the spring festival program.

Johnson Is Named Head Of P. T. A.

250 Members Attend Meeting Monday At Graded School Bldg.

The largest attendance of any Morehead Parent-Teacher Association meeting turned out at the graded school building, Flemingsburg Road, Monday evening, with 250 present for the pot luck dinner, business session and election of officers.

The Morehead High School band, clad in new uniforms, which the PTA helped purchase, was a feature of the program.

Officers elected for the coming year are: President, Rice Douglas; John, Vice-president, Mrs. Arthur Black, Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Edward Black. The nominating committee was composed of Madon Hall, Mrs. W. H. Rice and Mrs. Wallace Fannin.

In appreciation of his services for the past two years, the group presented retiring president C. O. Leuch with a Testament. Speakers pointed out that the large attendance and much of the success...

Rowan County Assessed At 30.7 Per Cent

Figures Compiled At Frankfort By State Department of Revenue

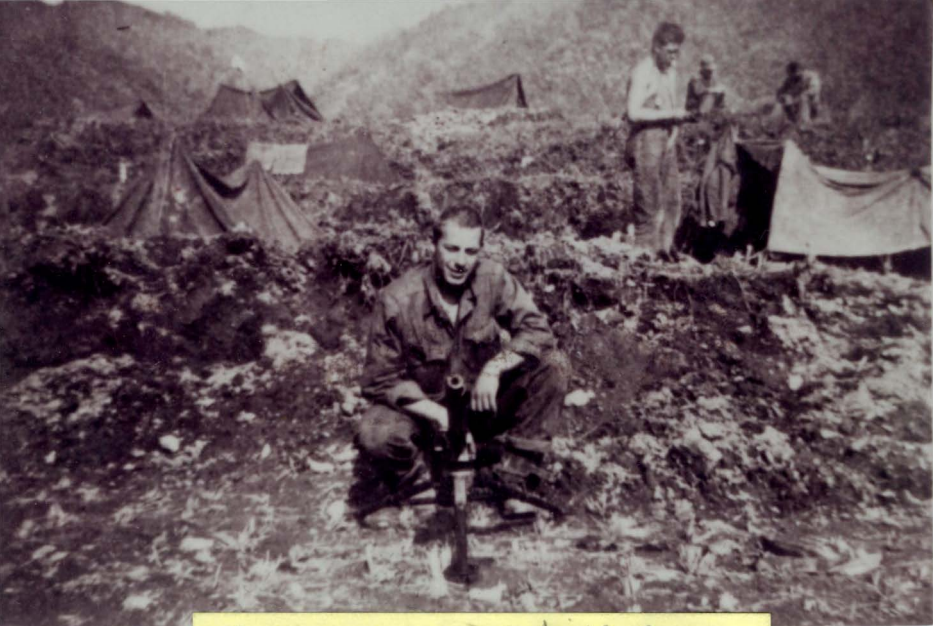
Each year the Kentucky Department of Revenue compares the sale prices of real estate with the assessed valuations placed on these properties by the county tax commissioner.

On the basis of such a comparison, real estate in Rowan County was assessed in 1952 at an average of 30.7 per cent of market value. Any piece of real estate in this county which is assessed by the county tax commissioner substantially above 30.7 per cent of its current market value is bearing more than its fair share of the property tax load.

The remedy for over assessment is an appeal by the property owner to the County Board of Supervisors. It is also the responsibility of the county tax commissioner, county judge, school superintendent and chief financial officer of any city using the county assessment to request the supervisors to review property which is assessed substantially below 30.7 per cent of its current market value.

BOYS OF ROWAN COUNTY—HERE'S THE 'BIG' NEWS

Registration For Little League



Before he was killed on
Nov. 7, 1951 in the Korean
War Sgt Henry C. McKinney posed with his
30 Cal. machine gun. The men appear to be
arising from their "pups"
tents and preparing for the
days duty.
Notice the barren surreal
moonscape appearance
of their bivouac area.

30 Cal



JEAN FLANNERY
Residence Hall Area Coordinator
East Mignon

Telephone 606-783-3668

MEMO

- Please complete necessary action
- Please advise
- Please note and return
- For your information
- For your files
- Other:

Date: 11-23-98

To: Jack Ellis,

Jack, my sister, Pauline, in Dayton, OH. has been enjoying your historical writings and has clipped all of them. She had this newspaper article about our brother, laminated recently and gave me an extra one to send to you hoping you'll be able to include it in some of your upcoming articles. I especially enjoyed the last one about the naval base in Morehead - keep on reminscing.
(Hi Janis - I saw Louise Ball & Gene Sunday at Morrison's - we should get together soon Love
Jean

Morehead GI Helps To Repulse Red Banzai Attack In Seoul

Special to The Courier-Journal

Tokyo, Oct. 26.—Pfc. John Flannery of Morehead, Ky., dug in near the top of a hill in the heart of Seoul.

His company, part of the 1st Infantry's 32d Regimental Combat Team, had been designated to hold Nam San Mountain while the rest of the division drove stubborn Red resistance out of the South Korean capital.

It was 4 a.m., and the Kentucky automatic-rifle gunner had heard the word whispered through the ranks that the Reds were going to try to retake their position.

'You Could Hear A Pin Drop'

"It was so quiet around there, you could hear a pin drop," Flannery recalled. "They must have been up to something."

He strained his eyes, trying to look through the dark below, but couldn't see a thing—couldn't hear a thing. Then it happened.

"All of a sudden, a horrible screech about 200 yards below made me jump about a foot out of my hole," Flannery exclaimed.

"I couldn't imagine what it was at first. I listened again. It was a bugle—a whole mess of bugles. They started yelling and

blowing whistles. The noise was deafening. Then they came.

'But I Didn't Miss Him'

"There must have been about 500 of 'em—screaming, shouting, and blasting away.

"One jumped up right in front of me, hollering and shooting like mad. He missed me, but I didn't miss him.

"Then they started coming in swarms. I just kept firing—used up 30 clips of ammo."

The attack lasted for 3½ hours. Charge after charge the Reds made up the hill, but the outnumbered GI's turned them back.

Finally, grenades and close-range mortar fire routed the attackers and the battle was over.

Decorated With Silver Star

Forty dead Koreans lay in front of Flannery's position.

Recently, Flannery was decorated with the Silver Star medal by Maj. Gen. David G. Barr, 7th Division commander.

The entire company has been recommended for the Bronze Star Medal, after surviving one of the most hair-raising experiences of armed combat—a frenzied banzai attack in the black of night.

EY

The Editor's Pen

Service Groups May Spearhead Plans To Honor POW's

Morehead's civic clubs and service organizations should start making plans now to honor the county's two prisoners of war, Corporals Harr and Davis, when they return home.

The American Legion, its Auxiliary, the VFW and other veteran's groups should lead this. They will find plenty of cooperation from the Lions, Kiwanis, Board of Trade, Merchants Club, the Women's Clubs and all others.

Best guess is that the two young men, each of whom spent almost three years in Red prisons, will return within the month. Although they were among the first captured in the Korean conflict the Communists, in line with just about everything else they do different from other people, held the two Rowan Countians until they were among the last groups of POW's to be exchanged.

We want to interview Corporals Harr and Davis about their experiences behind the enemy lines and, at this time, like all the people of our county join in congratulations to members of their families. May these two youths return soon, in good health and spirit. Think of 33 long months in an enemy prison camp. Each day must have seemed like a year, and they have, no doubt, thought a million times of their fathers and mothers... their friends... perhaps that girl they left behind.

The least we people in Rowan County can do is to offer a glowing welcome back home.

Now We're Certain That We're Correct

The lead item in this column last issue saying the Attorney General's office is incorrect in computing deadlines for candidates to file in cities with Commission form of government, has resulted in at least three out-of-town telephone inquiries and much local discussion.

We admitted we weren't lawyers and the Attorney General had a mighty good batting average on his opinions, but contended this was one time General Buchman and his assistants were wrong—that a candidate for Police Judge in Morehead had been incorrectly ruled off the ballot.

Rowan County Attorney Elijah Hogge has called to our attention the most recent ruling by the Court of Appeals. It is the case of Duncan vs. Queenan, issued June 2, 1953, appearing in 259 S. W. Second series, page 60.

This decision unmistakably bears out our conclusion that

ruled the last day was August 4 saying the day the papers were filed and also the day of the election had to be stricken out in computing what is 45 days before September 19.

It will be interesting to see what County Clerk B. P. Day does about this.

Personally, we would rather not see the city election, because it will be expensive for the council to conduct a vote only to eliminate one of three men who seek the Police Judgeship. Only four Commissioners and one Mayor filed, and they have no opposition. But, we believe the city primary will have to be held in Morehead September 19.

Accident Rate Falling Locally

We've certainly noticed it—perhaps you have—that this newspaper seems to be carrying fewer news accounts of automobile accidents.

In fact, it's been weeks since Rowan County has had a serious wreck. We're keeping our fingers crossed.

Morehead Stands Good Chance For Plant

Reliable information comes to the editor's desk that, the site for the \$2½ million wood chemical manufacturing plant to be located in Kentucky has been narrowed to five places and that two of them appear inadvisable for one reason or another.

Ranking high in probable locations is Morehead.

The decision will likely be made sometime in September as the President of the concern is coming to Kentucky... he's already made plans to move his family to Lexington.

From all we have seen Morehead offers everything this concern requires. There's reason for optimism.

Tom Young In Current Issue Of 'Friends'

On page 31 of the September issue of 'Friends' magazine is a photograph of Tom Young of Morehead and his miniature circus which we have seen many times with growing admiration.

The miniature circus, when set up, measures 16 feet by four feet. Young made everything in it from tents to cotton candy and orangeade; from the animals to the cook stand.

Friends magazine is published in Detroit and is sent to Chevrolet dealers and customers all over our nation. It has a circulation of two million, specializing in picture features.

Scripture: I Timothy 3:1-13; 4:6-16; 5:21-24; II Timothy 3:14-17. Devotional Reading: Psalm 37:30-40.

Leaders

Lesson for August 30, 1953

A "classless society" there can never be, for various reasons. One of the plainest reasons is that there always have to be leaders in any society that is not a sheer mob—and even mobs have to be led. No group rises higher or goes faster than its leaders. This is true of bad societies like gangs of murderers, useless societies like some the reader can mention, and also of the most important and best groups in the world. The church of God is no exception. No church is better or more progressive than its leaders. The aged Apostle Paul in his letters to his young friend Timothy laid down some principles for Christian leaders which have been tested by time and found always to be good.



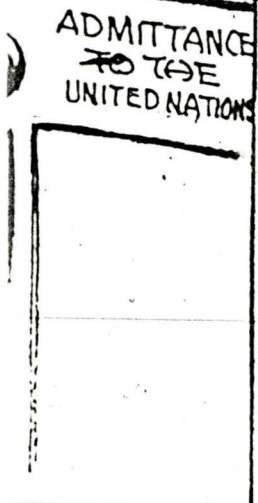
Dr. Foreman

Not All Good People Make Good Leaders

Leaders do not spring up out of nowhere. They have to be selected and trained. What is true of the ministers of the church, the "clergy" as they are sometimes called, is just as true of the "lay" leadership, deacons, stewards, wardens or what not, and in general the kind of people you meet at a "Workers' Council" in any type of church. Now nearly everybody knows, sometimes from sad experience, that not everybody makes a good minister. Good intentions won't do it, religious devotion won't do it—though both of these are just as necessary for the effective Sunday school superintendent as for the pastor. Even the feeling, "I have been called to this work," is not enough; for experience has often shown how mistaken such a feeling can be.

How Can You Tell?

How can you tell whether you or any one else has the qualities needed for leadership? One of the best ways is the simplest: try it out. Paul speaks, for instance, of the religious leader being "apt to teach." The best way to see whether some one will make a good teacher is to let him try it a while.



g; lost 49 acres of corn whole lot of sweet post two front teeth and air in a personal en- with an opponent. ed 1 beef, 4 shoats, 5 barbecue; gave away 2 suspenders, 5 calico and 15 baby rattlers; kiss- abies; kindled 14 kitchen t up 8 stoves; cut 14 wood; carried 24 buckets gathered 7 wagon loads pulled 475 bundles of d 4,000 miles; shook 9,- s; told 10,001 lies; talked o make 10,000 volumes; 26 revivals; was bap- times; made love to 9 dows; got dog bit 29 i then got defeated."

INTER OBSERVES

Not Be Misled— Korean Truce At A Peace

truce has been signed prisoners are slowly come. The commentators ing on the problems of d what will happen to omy. Impatient families v wondering when their e be released from serv- on't be misled. A truce eace. e is "cessation of hos- eace is—in a secondary —"freedom from vio- e is not the time in hich to let down one's guard. It is not



of the Kentucky Utilities Company are shown here with the Rowan County farm was the scene of U.S. 200,000th customer. Beside Mrs. Rankin and their children, 4. The electric range was presented by K. U.

Returns Verdict Drowning In d J. Ison, 25

The body of a 25 year old War veteran of Clearfield was recovered Saturday morning at the Weaver swimming hole on North Fork of Triplet by the Morehead Fire Department and Kentucky State Police.

The victim, Arnold J. Ison, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Ison, drowned Friday.

First indication of the tragedy came Friday evening when Mr. Ison brought another son, Earl, 28, to the State Police office. Lt. Howard said that Earl told several incoherent stories about his brother.

It was known that Earl and Arnold went out in Arnold's car Friday and only Earl returned.

Earl's account of his brother's disappearance ranged all the way from seeing him drown in Weaver Hole to a version of visiting girl friends in that vicinity. At another time in the questioning Earl told of his brother going to Mt. Sterling to eat dinner. Lt. Howard said.

Earl was placed in jail on a charge of intoxication. After an investigation in the vicinity of the Weaver Hole State Police ascertained the two brothers had been there and Earl had left alone in the car. This lent credence to his story of seeing his brother drown and State Police called on the Morehead Fire Department to help drag the hole.

Fire trucks beamed lights on the swimming hole but were unable to recover any body in over three hours search Friday night.

Large drag hooks were procured and the Fire Department and State Police returned to the swimming hole Saturday morning. They found Ison's body, fully clothed with shoes on, at 11:10 Saturday morning.

2 Rowan Countians, James C. Davis And Vernon E. Harr Are Released By Communists

Schools Open In Rowan Wednesday

3,700 Children To End Vacation; Teacher Conference Starts Mon.

Vacation ends next Wednesday (September 2) morning for about 3,700 boys and girls in Rowan County.

The nine months term in all rural and consolidated schools starts then. The first day won't be so tough, because it is set aside for registration. The school calendar calls for a half-day-

75% Of Rowan Children Get Exam

Over 75 per cent of the school children in Rowan County have been given pre-school medical examinations, Administrator Galen S. Brown said this morning.

He said those missed will be given the first week in September.

Because Rowan County does not have a full-time health physician, following the resignation of Dr. T. A. E. Evans, the health clinics were conducted prior to the opening of school. An advanced student from the University of Louisville Medical College gave the tests.

session Wednesday, but starting the next day it will be school on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of each week.

Supt. Eunice Cecil said all school busses will operate on regular schedule Wednesday morning.

The term commences for teachers two days earlier as the annual teachers pre-school conference starts Monday at the graded school building on Flemingsburg Road.

Bus drivers, janitors and all paid personnel also must attend as special meetings are planned for their groups.

Monday's teachers program calls for a discussion on health and school physical exams along with separate meetings for principals and their teachers and rural teachers with their supervisors.

Tuesday's program is also for the full day.

Consolidated School principals are: Morehead, C. C. Smallwood; Morehead Elementary, Mrs. Thelma Caudill; Haldeman, Clifford Cassidy; Elliottville, Watt White; Clearfield, Sherman Arnett; and Farmers, Arville Grubb.

Breckinridge Training School opens September 14.

Ex-Morehead Youth Killed In Accident



HONORED — Ellis Johnson, who resigned last month as coach at Morehead State College, received the highest honor that the city of Ashland, home of the famed Tomcats, can pay an athlete, as he was chosen as the first man to be in the Ashland Hall of Fame. One sports star will be selected each year. Ellis was named on 23 of the 25 ballots cast by the nominating committee which picked him as the outstanding athlete to ever participate at the Ashland school which won national championships in both football and basketball while Ellis was team captain.

Pudd Goodan Funeral Will Be Tomorrow

Former Morehead Man Claimed Tuesday At South Charleston, O.

Death came Tuesday to Ed (Pudd) Goodan, 65, one of Morehead's best known former citizens.

Mr. Goodan passed away at his home in South Charleston, O.

He was born in Morehead and resided here all his life until moving to Ohio a few years ago. He was the son of the late Phil and Malinda Goodan.

The remains have been brought to Lane Funeral Home in Morehead and last rites will be conducted at graveside in Lee cemetery at 1:30 tomorrow (Friday) afternoon.

He leaves his wife, the former Ida Rose and three children: Mamie, Anna Catherine and Ed, Jr.

Mr. Goodan is a cousin of Bob Day, Morehead garage owner. Two sisters, Mrs. G. C. Nickell and Maggie Goodan, preceded him in death.

Grayson To Have Industry Day October 8

J. Harry Davis, president of the Grayson Chamber of Commerce, announced today that

Two Rowan County families rejoiced today as the War Department officially announced their sons had been returned to allied lines at Panmunjom in the Korean prisoner of war exchange.

The War Department listed the Rowan Countians:

Corporal James C. Davis, 24th Division, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cordie Davis, RFD 2, Morehead.

Corporal Vernon E. Harr, 38th FA Bn., 2nd Division, son of Thelma Harr, Morehead.

Corporal Harr's mother, Mrs. Thelma Harr Moore, resides in the Licking River neighborhood

Plan Celebration For Returning POW's

In the Editor's Pen on page four is an account of a public celebration being planned for Corporals James C. Davis and Vernon E. Harr, when they return. The Reds released both this week at Panmunjom in the POW exchange.

on the farm of John Ellis. Her present address is Farmers.

Friends called to congratulate Mrs. Harr and found her in joyful tears. She paid a visit to Morehead yesterday and said "this is the greatest news of my life."

Cpl. Harr's father, Emory Harr, resides at Dayton, O.

Cpl. Harr had been a prisoner of the enemy for 33 months, being taken captive in November, 1950. He entered the service in October, 1949. He is 23 years of age.

Corporal Davis' father is a janitor at the Morehead Graded School. He said, "we are awfully happy our son is safe."

Davis had been a prisoner of the Reds for more than three years. He was listed as missing on July 18, 1950, during bloody fighting in Korea. He had been in the service one year before being captured by the Reds.

Mr. Davis thinks it will probably be a month before his son would be home. He said they hadn't heard anything from Jimmy, but had received a notice from the War Department stating "the boy is in good health."

According to a file at the Rowan County News these are the only two from this county that had been reported missing in action and presumably prisoners of war.

Baptists Have Missionary In Rowan County

Rev. E. C. Brewer Will Do Full Time Work From Morehead

The Southern Baptists of Morehead and Rowan County have a full-time missionary, the appointment of Rev. E. C. Brewer having been announced.

Rev. Brewer and his family moved to Morehead

moved return itation have, onsol- istrict. n may Home- ners

overseas to needy in other countries at Christmas.

Rev. Ottist Speaks At Clearfield Revival

Rev. Harrison Ottis of Owingsville will be the speaker Saturday at the one night revival at the First Church of God in Clearfield. Featuring the service this week will be singers from several churches in other coun- ties.

Third -- Complete. Thurston Morton (R) 61,991; Alex Humphrey 49,706.

Fourth--Frank L. Chelf (D) unopposed.

Fifth--201 of 377 precincts: Spence (D) 19,867; Hardesty (R) 8,815.

Sixth--Tom Underwood (D) unopposed.

Eighth--223 of 510 precincts-- Bates (D) 17,057; Roberts (R) 11,711.

Ninth--James S. Golden (R) unopposed.

Prayed, Fired, Prayed

PCW Nov 9 1950

That Is The Way John Flannery Recited Battle In Letter To His Parents

A Morehead soldier, John Flannery, fired and prayed and then fired again as it looked like the whole Korean army was storming his position in the small hours of the morning.

When daylight finally came it was found that young Flannery had killed 40 Koreans, many of them within a few feet of his position. It was the automatic rifle with which Flannery was equipped that accounted for so many of the invaders at the top of a hill near Seoul.

Flannery, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Flannery, Oxley Branch road, has been awarded the silver star.

In a letter to his parents Flannery recites the battle in these words:

"Today makes the 11th day we have been on the front and it sure has been rough. On September 26 we certainly had a fight. We were on a big hill that we had taken the day before and at about 4 o'clock in the

morning the North Koreans tried to take the hill and it sure was a fight that lasted for three-and-one-half hours before we pushed them back. We killed so many of them that I could hardly count them.

"I have been awarded a silver star for bravery in the battle but really I did nothing at all that was brave. I just kept firing and praying. When the fight was over and it got daylight I looked down and dead Koreans were all over the place in front of me.

"What I want to tell you in this letter is that when all this happened I had my trust in God and I was praying all the time. This is the first time I guess that I really prayed. I sure am proud of our company since everybody said it took old combat men to do the real fighting. We showed them that the young G. I.'s are no slouches."

An account of Flannery's heroic action was carried in an Associated Press story last week.

Bates' Majority In Eighth May Reach 12,000; Clements Wins District By 10,000

The election round-up of counties in the Eighth Congressional District indicated this afternoon that Congressman Joe B. Bates will be elected to his seventh term by between 10,000 and 12,000 majority.

The Congressman's lead neared 10,000 with some of his strongest counties, as Breathitt and Wolfe to hear from.

Clements apparently will run about 2,000 behind Bates and will carry the district by around 9,000 to 10,000.

Here's the round-up of counties that have reported from the 8th:

1,846.

Fleming--The largest majority the democrat party has ever run up in an off year election in Fleming was recorded Tuesday. Clements carried the county by 507 and Bates by 659.

Bracken -- Clements carried Bracken 410, Bates defeated Roberts by 304.

Nicholas--Voters in Nicholas County returned a majority for the democrats. Clements carried the county 730, Bates 739.

Mason--Republican Chas. I. Dawson benefitted through the cross vote and almost carried Mason County. Clements finally

ville on November 15 in connection with the Mid-Century White House Conference on Children and Youth.

Kentucky delegates, invited by the President of the United States, will take part in the Louisville meeting. They will represent Kentucky at the Washington Conference in December.

The delegates are known as civic-minded citizens interested in the welfare of children and are representatives of various service clubs, organizations and children's agencies.

At the delegates' meeting a social, economic and industrial background of Kentucky will be given and speakers will illustrate how these conditions affect child life today.

Grain Markets Steady To Firm During Week

Grain markets were steady to firm during the week ended November 2, according to reports to the Kentucky and United States Departments of Agriculture. Wheat prices showed no material change but the feed grains advanced 2 cents to 3 cents per bushel as a result of an active demand. Oilseeds were independently firm and prices gained 12 cents to 15 cents per bushel reflecting stronger oil and meal markets. Export inquiry was also a strengthening influence.

Little Brushy Haldeman; 9. head; 11. Far 14. Dry Cree Lewis; 18. M head; and 21. The vote co shortly after Most ballots with Congress showing almo over Clemen ballots.

Bays To At Watches In

The J. A. E Morehead have started Watch Cont... and Morehead of West... essay on "I. W Watch This Junior with of each clas Gruen Veri-2 The three stud ning essays their Gruen Christmas.

Tuesday's R Morehead S

Hogs: Tops \$27.50. Cattle: Stoc weigh cows \$100@180 Calves: Top \$32.50@33; hee

Man Shall Not Live by Bread J



In these days of alarming un- President Har

outh- local mnt- a. m. Ky. eday, plan uring are sting. ond, Pro- will s. ap- ude: Mor- erty, What n To hern lmer wan Ky., Vork food ive" the ply, peak dual hern om- om- wan ead; ndy ore, rm- nar- ling ply,

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Morehead GI Helps To Repulse Red Banzai Attack In Seoul

Special to The Courier-Journal

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It was 4 a.m., and the Kentucky automatic-rifle gunner had heard the word whispered through the ranks that the Reds were going to try to retake their position.

'You Could Hear A Pin Drop'

"It was so quiet around there, you could hear a pin drop," Flannery recalled. "They must have been up to something."

He strained his eyes, trying to look through the dark below, but couldn't see a thing—couldn't hear a thing. Then it happened.

"All of a sudden, a horrible screech about 200 yards below made me jump about a foot out of my hole," Flannery exclaimed.

"I couldn't imagine what it was at first. I listened again. It was a bugle—a whole mess of bugles. They started yelling and

blowing whistles. The noise was deafening. Then they came.

'But I Didn't Miss Him'

"There must have been about 500 of 'em—screaming, shouting, and blasting away.

"One jumped up right in front of me, hollering and shooting like mad. He missed me, but I didn't miss him.

"Then they started coming in swarms. I just kept firing—used up 30 clips of ammo."

The attack lasted for 3½ hours. Charge after charge the Reds made up the hill, but the outnumbered GI's turned them back.

Finally, grenades and close-range mortar fire routed the attackers and the battle was over.

Decorated With Silver Star

Forty dead Koreans lay in front of Flannery's position.

Recently, Flannery was decorated with the Silver Star medal by Maj. Gen. David G. Barr, 7th Division commander.

The entire company has been recommended for the Bronze Star Medal, after surviving one of the most hair-raising experiences of armed combat—a frenzied banzai attack in the black of night.

Sun. Morning.
Nov. 4, 1951.

Hello Mother + all,

I received your wonderful letter a few days ago. I sure was glad to hear from home. This keeps me fine + back on line. I am in a ~~depressive~~ ^{depressive} position + it seems quiet + peaceful. Like maybe the war might end. I am praying that it will if it is God's will.

All the sun is shining brightful this morning. It has been pretty cold these last few days. I guess winter is just around the corner. We have two hot meals a day + that is a lot of help and I think we will have services to-day. I really enjoy going to Sun. school since I have been over here + I expect to keep going when I get home.

Mother I don't regret coming to Korea, because I think there was a reason for me being here. I know it has made a different man out of me.

Mother I am very thankful to be alive this morning. Some people call it luck, but me I know different. I think that God has work for me to do yet. I don't think a man could come any closer to death than I have been + so far I haven't gotten a scratch. I remember a lot of his promises.

Sun. morning Oct. 14 before day-light we went through a valley, going to take a hill that we had taken the day before + the ~~Chin~~ Chin had counter attacked + taken it back any how while we were slipping through the valley it came to me a little worse, ~~etc~~ though I walk through the valley of

4

the shadow of death I will fear no evil for thou art with me, & kept saying it over & over, & it gave me a lot of relief. It is wonderful to have some one like him to go to when you are in need.

Mother I have found that living the kind of life that God would want me to live is very hard. I think salvation is kinda like planting a crop. when you are first a Christian that is when you plant your crop, but it has to be cultivated before it will grow & if it isn't cultivated the weeds will smother it out. I think that over here we don't get a chance to cultivate God's work & to keep Satan out. We are not around too many of God's people over here, & there is a lot of wicked people that we have to sociate with.

I had a boy in my Squad that goes around using God's name in vain. One night I asked him why he used God's name in vain, he said he guessed it was just a habit. I explained to him that his name wasn't to be thrown around, that it was something kinda secret, like his mother's picture, or something that he cherished & take care of above every-thing else. I guess he never looked at it in that way.

Well Mother I hope you can get what I mean I guess I am not too good in explaining any-thing. I just want you to know that his name is above every-thing else in the world with me.

11

Some times I wonder why God lets some people go through life & never feel too much need for him. I guess all my life I always prayed, I guess it was because I was brought up that way.

I have time over here to think back from childhood, & I can see a lot of mistakes I have made & if I had it to live over it would have been much different.

Mother you did a swell job in raising us kids. I guess when we left home we strayed away. There isn't every man or woman that had the chance that we had. Some people was never told or taught any-thing about God. I have found so many since I have been in service.

Mother I guess you & I preach each other a sermon in our letters. But your letters seem to ~~the~~ help me so much. Some day we will be together & every thing will be swell.

Well mother I ~~got~~ guess we are going to move so I will write more next time

So long
Oceans
of Love
Henry

Hello Mother

14

Nov - 5-1951

This is Mon & we are in reserve at the present. Things sure change fast in the Army. So today we are building Bunkers to spend reserve in this winter

So I will try to write more in a couple days.

I made sergeant a few days ago & I am kinda proud of it.

I will close for now.

Love

Henry.

M. C. Kinney

Killel 111

KOREAN WAR

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
852 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

Jan 5-52

Dear Mrs Prosser

Received your letter today decided
to answer it as I have a chance now we
are going back on line in the morning. I will
to answer your questions I could have
put the answer in the other letter but I knew
if you wanted to know all about it you
would write me and ask. I forget the date
but we were back in a 10 day reserve. But
they called our company for a night patrol. So
a rifle squad was picked with a machine gun
attached Henry was in charge of the machine gun.
They went out we suppose to be back by one o'clock A.M.
They went to their objective the Chinks were behind
them hit them through and fire on them on the
way back to our lines four men was hit
with Rifle fire and grenades they were surrounded
by Chinks. Henry was trying to get a man
out that was hit by grenades. It slowed
them up by that time the Chinks open up
with a machine gun. Henry was hit
in the head. He did not suffer nor say a word.
The Chink did not get him, we carried him up the
hill on a stretcher. I understand how you and your
mother feel it hard to believe. but I'm sorry
to say that Henry was killed. I think
you will get a letter soon another

(2)

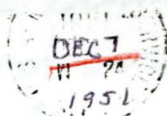
friend as he said he would write. If there
any chance I'll visit you. The Package
for Henry arrived and the P.Lt. shared
it I'll close

lot of love always
Frank

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

Cpl. Frank Penault US 52 022633
Co F 5th R.C.T. APO 301
3pm San Francisco Calif

FREE
AIR MAIL



Mrs Harold Prosser VIA AIR MAIL
212 Coul St
Mansfield, Ohio

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

Sent to me by
his friends. I
had 3 boxes on the
way over when we
got the news.

So I wrote Com. Officer
in 2nd Div. & told them
to keep boxes & show
them. One box come back.

These 2 men wrote me.

while on patrol
that patrol that night
no man with him
ing to get to write
the 3rd Plat. as I,
love will take care
riglous he read his
& touch a beer. I hope

Dear Mrs Prosser

(1)

Dec 6

The Mail Clerk come up with the letter you had wrote and gave it to me. So I will write you hoping you are fine. The men of Fox Company share your sorrow for the loss of your brother who I took boot training with back in Camp Pickett Va. Henry was a brave man and a good buddy. We came to Korea together. Henry was hit trying to help his comrades while on patrol one night. I was not ^{on} that patrol that night. He had another friend who was with him that night who I am going to get to write you also. Henry was in the 3rd Plat. as I. I know the Good Lord above will take care of him as he was very religious he read his Bible often and would not touch a beer. I hope his girl friend doesnt suffer to much cause I know he wouldn't want her to. He talked of her quite often. My home is in Princeton W. Va. I'm 25 year old. I served 3 year in the Merchant Marines in the last war. I wish there was something I could do to help you with your sorrow. War is a cruel thing.

I will close hoping I have wrote nothing
in any way to hurt you more. It is very
hard for a man write under this
kind^{of} condition. I hope you can read this
and forgive the penner

best of luck
Frank

(2)

Govt. Chas. H. Lyle

US 461 1951 20 1/2

Rt. APO. 301. 4/2/51

San Francisco Calif.



Mrs. Harold Presser
212 Coul St.
Mansfield Ohio

①



AMERICAN RED CROSS

Capt. Chas. H. Lytle - US 0961
Med. Co. 3rd Regt H.P. 301 C/O
P.M. San Francisco Calif.
~~Dec 14 1917~~

DEC. 24.

Dear Mrs. Prosser baby greetings
to you in the name of our
Lord. This leave we will in
health but not in mine;
one of my friends told
me that they had a letter
from you. We know
how you feel about
it



AMERICAN RED CROSS

(2)

Henry was our Brother.
in the Lord. as well as
our friend. for many days.
we sat and pray together?
Henry. Lantry. Lyle. that is
me i was. me. they call
me D.R. and at the time he
fell a sleep i was not there
But. Lantry was there at
his side until the last
and he came and told
me he didn't suffer



AMERICAN RED CROSS

he just kept ³ away. there is
one thing that i know. he
was a good man, and i think
his mother for the good letters
that she write to him
they help all of us. for
we was together faith, and
all of his men thought the
world of him. and they
put him in for a silver
star. Now remember what
Christ said at Lazer. Now
if a man ~~will~~ die he



(4)

AMERICAN RED CROSS

yet, he shall live if he
 Believe in him. he said
 well great. for God shall
 wipe a way all tears from
 their eyes. there will be
 no more sorrow. for he will
 be their ~~God~~ ~~father~~
 their God. and they shall
 be his people.

well that is all for
 this time. we received that box
 that you sent it and was
 very glad to get it
 our

(5)

Some of the boys was
still thinking of for
the Fruit label I saw
Lending to pay and we
all think of you again
and again. So write to us
when you can. from
your Bro. in Christ
Charles H. Lyle.
and so on

Bloodstained Triangle Trail Tells Story of Hill Fighting

BY MILO FARNETI

TRIANGLE HILL, Korea, Saturday, Oct. 18—(Delayed)—(AP)—The skinny soldier steps out of a line of fresh men coming up and asks in a friendly way:

"Hey, can you tell me where the first platoon of Easy (E) Company is?"

No one knows exactly. But the thin soldier understands quite well. He is going to the top of Triangle Hill, scene of a five-day battle between the Chinese Reds and troops of the United States Seventh Division.

It is the toughest fighting for American soldiers in a year.

Another soldier, still smaller than the thin one, walks by, packing a Browning automatic rifle on his back. He looks somewhat like a musician carrying a bull fiddle. He wears horn rim glasses and says he is from Brooklyn.

Troops in Good Humor

The soldiers coming up the trail are in exceptionally good humor. They are fresh.

The men who pass them going the other way are tired, dirty and bloodstained.

Some of the retiring men go on litters, down to the tracked personnel carriers that will take them to the battalion aid station.

The crest of Triangle Hill lies about 200 yards ahead. It is a red clay mound with no vegetation left, only shell-shattered pine stumps. Dirty, gray-white granite stone covers the knob to the right. The granite is split and seamed by shell hits.

A walking arsenal, Corp. Thomas Dunleavy of Brooklyn sits down by the trail to let Korean litter bearers carry two dead Americans down Triangle.

Dunleavy is weighted with 80 to

90 pounds of ammunition bandoliers and grenades. The sweat rolls down his pink face, but he looks strong enough to carry the load for hours on end.

Dunleavy says he is carrying the extra load because "there'll be other boys needing it up there."

Several hundred yards back, litter bearers put the two dead Americans in a personnel carrier.

A khaki towel covers the face of one of them. Among his letters and military scrip is a pocket-size New Testament. On the inside cover is written "A gift from —."

And on the fly-leaf:

"In God I trust."

LED WAR I ARTILLERY

Maj. Gen. Holbrook, Founder
Army Cook School, Dies



SGT. MCKINNEY

Mansfielder Dies In Korea

Sgt. McKinney Killed In Action

Relatives here have learned of the death of Sgt. Henry C. McKinney, 23, Mansfield soldier, who was killed in action in Korea Nov. 7.

Sgt. McKinney entered the service Oct. 19, 1950, and served as machine gunner in Co. F, Fifth regiment, 24th Division, for seven months, according to relatives.

EX-BARNES EMPLOYEE

Before entering service, he was employed by the Barnes Manufacturing Co. and lived at 179 Cook Rd.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan McKinney, of Morehead, Ky.; five sisters, Miss Nova McKinney at home, Mrs. Gwendolyn Romig, Mrs. Clara Prosser, Mrs. Naomi Lay, and Miss Ruth McKinney, all of Mansfield; two brothers, Allen and Edison McKinney, of Mansfield; and his fiancée, Miss Carrie Hill, of Mansfield.

Korean Aftermath:

The Dead And Missing

Eight Mansfield servicemen and six from the area gave their lives during the Korean fighting which ended with the truce a week ago tonight.

Two others died in airplane crashes while serving with the air corps in the U. S.

The eight Mansfield men who died were: Private First Class Wayne O. Meyer, son of Mrs. Pearl Booth, 927 Benedict Ave., killed in action July 10, 1950;

Corporal Boris Baker, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Baker, 441 Wayne St., killed in action Nov. 24, 1950;

Private James E. Lowery, 19, brother of Mrs. Calvin Brown, Olivesburg Rd., killed Nov. 30, 1950;

Harold Chester Hahn, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Hahn, 156 West Temple Ct., who died in Crile hospital of wounds received in Korea, May 23, 1952;

Sergeant Henry C. McKinney, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan McKinney, Morehead, Ky., killed in action Nov. 7, 1951;

Marine Private Carl Owens, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ora Owens, Mansfield, R D 2, killed in action Oct. 9, 1952;

Private George W. Middlebrook Jr., 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Middlebrook, 563 Lily St., killed in action June 15, 1952;

Private First Class James L. Evans, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Evans, 77 Marion Ave., died as the result of an accident, Dec. 6, 1950.

Those from the area who made the supreme sacrifice were:

(Continued on Page 2)

Korean Aftermath: The Dead, Missing

(Continued from Page 1)

Private First Class Stewart J. Gale, Galion, son of Forrest J. Gale of Mansfield and Mrs. Harold Beeler of Bellville;

Private First Class Mont Jarrell, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Jarrell, Shelby;

Private First Class Donald B. Worley, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Worley, Lexington.

Private First Class Harold Thompson, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Thompson, Nankin; Sergeant First Class Donald Ross Lane, 21, son of Mrs. Glen Lewis, Marengo, killed in action May 22, 1953;

Sergeant Harold M. "Bud" Swihart, 22, son of Dallas Swihart of near Sycamore, died May 25, 1953, of wounds received a day earlier;

★

TWO other Mansfield area men, with the Air Force serving in the U. S. died as the result of plane crashes. They were Major John Hunter, 31, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curry T. Hunter, 643 Westview Blvd., who was fatally injured when he crash-landed his jet plane near Albany, Ga., in October, 1951 and Captain Iver J. Miller, 33, son of Mrs. Sadie Bennett Miller, Bucyrus, who was killed in a crash near Sabina, Ohio in September 1951.

According to a report received today from the adjutant general's office, Columbus, the list of those who were killed in action included the name of Private First Class Albert M. Baker, a brother of Mrs. Clayton Ackerman, 665 Gilbert Ave.

★

MANSFIELD area men reported missing in action, who may be among the prisoners of war, are: Private Francis M. Johnson, son

of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman W. Johnson, Bellville;

Corporal Charles Fiddler, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Fiddler, 40 Winwood Dr.;

Private Robert J. Love, son of James W. Love, 55 Walnut St., and Mrs. Mary Love, 63½ South Diamond St.;

Master Sergeant Howard Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry G. Young, Bellville.

Amvets Send Condolences

Amvet officers from Ohio and seven other midwestern states who are meeting in Mansfield took time out yesterday to express sympathy over the death of Senator Robert A. Taft before digging into pre-convention business.

In a letter of condolences to Mrs. Taft, Amvets stated they wished to "pay tribute to a great American."

The veterans organization thanked Mrs. Taft for her husband's "fair consideration to all veterans" and went on record stating the Ohio Republican played a key role in the granting of the National Amvets charter in 1947.

ASK MORE PLANES

One of the major pieces of legislation passed yesterday was a resolution asking the national convention to urge President Eisenhower and Congress to re-establish "immediately the minimum goal of an Air Force of 143 wings."

1951

23

1928

Lat Herald-Leader June 25, 2000

Pentagon: Korean War death statistics inflated by error

By Steve Vogel
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — President Clinton and veterans from across the nation will gather in somber remembrance today at the Korean War Veterans Memorial, where it is carved into stone that 54,246 Americans died in the brutal war that began 45 years ago.

For decades, the number has been enshrined in histories, almanacs, monuments and memories, reverently cited as proof of the war's cost. But nearly one-third of those deaths — 17,730 — occurred elsewhere, often half a world away from Korea, in places ranging from Germany to California. The actual number of Americans killed in the Korean War theater of operations is 36,516, the Pentagon acknowledged this month.

"If you were walking down the street in Washington, D.C., and were hit by a car, you'd be considered a casualty of the Korean War," said Burt Hagelin, a Korean War veteran who helped uncover the historical mystery.

The error was pinned on an anonymous clerk who in the 1950s mistakenly added all non-combat deaths worldwide to the

total, and the correction was credited to new accounting procedures, according to brief news accounts of the Pentagon's clarification. That is not the real story, according to veterans and others who have been pushing for years to get the numbers corrected.

"They had the facts all along. Now they're acting like it's a new revelation."

Richard Kolb
VFW
Magazine

be corrected. "They had the facts all along. Now they're acting like it's a new revelation."

Some Pentagon officials have known for years that the 54,000 figure is inflated, and believed before the memorial was dedicated in 1995 that engraving that number in black granite would be misleading, according to interviews. But at the insistence of the veterans committee that oversaw the memorial's construction, the larger figure was used.

More than an arcane numbers game, the issue is deeply emotional to many Korean War veterans, who see the lower total as another slap at their oft-ignored sacrifices.

"We're committed to the total cost of the war: 54,000," said retired Marine Gen. Ray Davis, who was awarded the Medal of Honor after the Marine breakout from the Chosin Reservoir and who was chairman of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board when the memorial was dedicated. "Under no circumstances would I like to see the memorial changed."

If the Vietnam Veterans Memorial included out-of-area deaths along with the 58,000-plus names already engraved on the Wall, it would have to add more than 20,000 names of Americans who died in the United States and elsewhere from 1965 through 1975, according to a study cited by VFW Magazine.

Kolb argues that such deaths would be better honored on a Cold War monument. The Korean War had plenty of death as it was, he noted.

"Almost 37,000 Americans killed in three years is more than enough," he said.

1952

THE BRIGHT RED

PENTAGON, FIELD SYMBOL OF

THE 5TH RCT, IS KNOWN & RESPECTED

BY FRIEND & FOE ALIKE IN KOREA.

THE SYMBOL IS DISPLAYED ON THE

HELMETS OF ALL OFFICERS AND

MEN OF THE 5TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

From The Collection Of
Dr. Jack D. Hill's
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

JUST STOPPED FIGHTIN'



TO SEND
A Cheer!



Benny Clay Mc Kenney
Just before going to
service which was Oct 19-50

Killed in Korea 1951

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

From my Friends.
Learny -- Lyll and James



Faint, illegible handwriting at the top of the page.

Faint, illegible handwriting in the middle section of the page.

but I never heard
from him. I can
understand with all
the drama they lived
through.

From the Collection of
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
522 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

Reverer Car

Memorial Day 1919

Paris President Woodrow
Wilson spoke at Memorial
Day Ceremony and called for
League of Nations on

Monday of our dead
Indianapolis 500 (1921)

Tommy Wilson won race with
avg. 89.6 MPH driving a
Frontenac Racer

Local Trivia

Memorial Day

■ It was on May 30, 1868, that former Union Major General John A. Logan, then commander of the Grand Army of the Republic ordered that day be set aside to honor all veterans of the Civil War.

SECTION C

History

THE MOREHEAD NEWS, MAY 26, 2000

About the Author



Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Memories:

People & Places

Memorial Day 2000—Korean War

By Jack D. Ellis
Special to The Morehead News

"He saved others; himself he cannot save" (Mk. 13:3)

Memorial Day 2000. Somehow it seems strange to put that day and that year together in one sentence. Perhaps it is because many of us never thought we would live to see a new millennium, or perhaps our own memories of Memorial Days seem to be fading into the inner recesses of our mind.

What do we remember about Memorial Day? What does Memorial Day mean to you? For some, it's just a day off from work, when birds are singing, trees are budding, and flowers are blooming. For others, it's a day of baseball games, automobile races, golfing, or just fun in the sun and the lazy days of summer are just a breath away. But Memorial Day or "Decoration Day" as it is called by some, is much more than just a holiday.

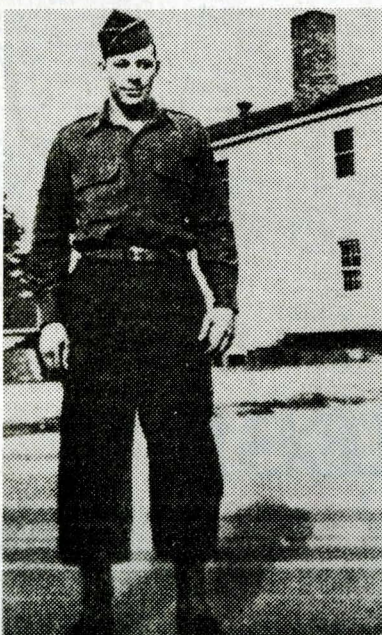
Memorial Day— A Patriotic Holiday

Memorial Day is a day for gratefully remembering all those friends and family members who greatly influenced our lives, and whom we loved dearly, but are no longer with us in this life. However, this special holiday is even more than that. It is also a day for gratefully remembering the sacrifices made by this nation's veterans who honorably served their country, and are now buried throughout this nation's

of the graves.

Lest we forget, perhaps some pastors could mention it in their Sunday message to the people, or perhaps some church members may place a flower on the alter in memory of all of the veterans of that church.

Lest we forget, some teachers could teach a unit on Memorial Day, with an assignment of how it began. It could even be the subject of a bulletin board, or display that could be shared by all the school.



Rowan County veteran Henry C. McKinney never received a furlough after entering the Army and was killed in Korea in 1951.

It is important that we remember the sacrifices made by our veterans in defense of this country. As a nation we

Kentucky in 1928 and named for Kentucky's fiery patriotic statesman.

He was one of eight children born to Sylvan and Mattie Crosthwaite McKinney. These were five girls; Nova, Gwendolyn, Clara, Naomi and Ruth. The three boys were Allen, Edison, and Henry Clay. Their mother was a school teacher and their father was a successful farmer in the upper Licking River Valley. (He always planted his potato crop on St. Patrick's Day.) All of the children worked hard operating the family farm located near the present Clay Lick Boat Dock. The young lad attended McKenzie School and Morehead High School.

Rowan Farm lad— Henry McKinney

From the time Henry was 12 years old he could harness a team of horses and drive them hitched to a wagon, plow, mowing machine, or hay rake. (No tractors on their farm, only horse power.) But Henry was at ease working a team of horses at a very young age. However, like so many young people at that time he soon left the farm and moved to Mansfield, Ohio where he went to work at the Barnes Manufacturing Company.

He worked there until he was called into military service. At the time he entered the Army, he was engaged to Miss Carrie Hill but their plans for marriage were put on permanent postponement when he received his call to service.



Memorial on the Courthouse Lawn - At the end of World War I (1918), the Morehead Women's Club started a drive for a memorial to honor those men killed in that war. It has since been expanded to include the names of all Rowan Countians killed in all the nation's wars in the 20th Century. This photo was taken in 1919 at the formal dedication ceremony, left. Those who spearheaded the drive were Rena Wells, Arye Lewis, Maribelle Cassity, Leora Hurt, Hallie Bradley, Jimmie Bishop, Maggie Hogge and Lucy Evans.

successfully repulsed the Chinese.

The young man from Rowan County had distinguished himself in the fighting, and when his company was sent back to the rear for a 10 day rest and recuperation, Henry

the sergeants position earlier because two of his sergeants had been killed, he reluctantly accepted the promotion.

A letter to his mother tells all

In an poignant letter from

young Sergeant from Rowan County gives the reader a great deal of insight into his personality, faith, and the brutality of war. The letter is a precious preserved family memento that tells us that when a man goes into combat

gratefully remembering all those friends and family members who greatly influenced our lives, and whom we loved dearly, but are no longer with us in this life. However, this special holiday is even more than that. It is also a day for gratefully remembering the sacrifices made by this nation's veterans who honorably served their country, and are now buried throughout this nation's cemeteries. Also, Memorial Day is the day when loyal members of the local American Legion Post 126 place American Flags on the graves of the veterans buried in Rowan County cemeteries.

Memorial Day emerged from the shadows of the War Between the States. It was the most tragic war in this nation's history when brother fought against brother and neighbor killed neighbor in the name of war. When that war ended in 1865 this nation was bitterly divided, ravaged and war torn. Therefore it is only fitting that the seeds of Memorial Day were sown by the women of Columbus, Mississippi who began decorating the graves of both the Confederate and Union soldiers. According to the New York Times, "That tender, compassionate, and unbiased incident did much to heal the bitterness of a divided nation."

It was on May 30, 1868, that former Union Major General John A. Logan, then commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, a group of Union Civil War Veterans, ordered that day be set aside to honor all veterans of the Civil War. It was later officially recognized as the day for honoring all deceased veterans of all this nation's wars. Also, it is now the day all Americans honor their deceased friends and family by placing flowers on their graves.

Memorial Day began as a patriotic holiday, but the original intention of that day has faded into all of the other aspects of this holiday. Except for the small American flags placed on the veterans graves in Rowan County very little thought is given to the original intent of Memorial Day.

Lest we Forget

Lest we forget, perhaps on Memorial Day 2000 parents could take their children with them to the cemetery and explain why there are some small American flags on some



Rowan County veteran Henry C. McKinney never received a furlough after entering the Army and was killed in Korea in 1951.

It is important that we remember the sacrifices made by our veterans in defense of this country. As a nation we quickly forget that that freedom we enjoy today was paid for by the sacrifices of our veterans. A forgetful heart soon become a foolish heart. A foolish heart soon becomes an ungrateful heart. An ungrateful heart can become an ungrateful attitude, and an ungrateful attitude soon becomes a highway filled with danger and destruction. The nation that forgets its veterans is headed down that highway that could lead to danger and destruction.

Lest we forget, let us remember on this Memorial Day 2000 those noble 92 Rowan County veterans who died in the service to their country during the past century. Also let us fervently pray that never again shall its young men (and women) be called upon to sacrifice their life for their country.

Lest we forget, this writer attempts each Memorial Day to bring to our collective conscience the life, and sacrifices made by at least one Rowan Veteran. Although memories are fading and the tear stained letters are becoming more difficult to read with each passing year, it is important to remember those who died serving their country.

Also to remember that those who never returned had many unfulfilled hopes, dreams, and ambitions, and that they had families who never forgot. Those young men will never grow old in the minds of those who knew them and gratefully remember their lives.

Remembering one of Rowan's fallen soldiers

June 25, 2000 is the 50th annual anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War. It has been called the forgotten war, but it is not forgotten by the families of those young men who did not return. The Sylvan McKinney family was one such family. Henry Clay McKinney was born in Rowan County,

young people at that time he soon left the farm and moved to Mansfield, Ohio where he went to work at the Barnes Manufacturing Company.

He worked there until he was called into military service. At the time he entered the Army, he was engaged to Miss Carrie Hill but their plans for marriage were put on permanent postponement when he received his call to service.

Henry Clay McKinney entered the Army on Oct. 19, 1950, less than four months after Korean War began. Following basic training at Camp Pickett Virginia and advanced armament training as a machine gunner, he was assigned to the 3rd Platoon, Fox Company of the Fifth Regiment in the 24th Division.

Henry never received a furlough

The men of Fox Company never received a furlough after entering the Army. That was just too much for Henry and 39 other men from their company, because all 40 went AWOL and tried to go home, before shipping to Korea. Henry had confided in some of his family that he did not expect to survive the war. Therefore because of his morbid premonition, he went Absent Without Leave (AWOL) in an attempt to see his mother one last time. However, he was caught by the Military Police as he came through Ashland, Kentucky and returned under guard to Camp Pickett Virginia. He never saw his mother after the entered the Army.

Upon his return he was sent to Korea, and because of the bitter fighting they were immediately sent to the front. Henry was a good soldier and never questioned why he was sent to Korea. Henry Clay McKinney and the men of Fox Company arrived in Korea in June 1951. They were soon sent into combat and by October were seasoned combat veterans. On October the 12th his company was involved in the bloody five-day battle for a red clay mound of earth with no vegetation left except small shattered pine stumps.

There was some dirty gray white stone out croppings, near the peak that had been shattered by shelling. It was called the Battle of Triangle Hill and involved bitter fighting between the Chinese Reds and the American troops before the American

has since been expanded to include the names of all Rowan Countians killed in all the nation's wars in the 20th Century. This photo was taken in 1919 at the formal dedication ceremony, left. Those who spearheaded the drive were Rena Wells, Arye Lewis, Maribelle Cassity, Leora Hurt, Hallie Bradley, Jimmie Bishop, Maggie Hogge and Lucy Evans.

successfully repulsed the Chinese.

The young man from Rowan County had distinguished himself in the fighting, and when his company was sent back to the rear for a 10 day rest and recuperation, Henry was promoted to Sergeant by his Commanding Officer. Although he had turned down

the sergeants position earlier because two of his sergeants had been killed, he reluctantly accepted the promotion.

A letter to his mother tells all

In a poignant letter from Henry to his mother dated Sunday, Nov. 4, 1951, two days before he was killed, the

young Sergeant from Rowan County gives the reader a great deal of insight into his personality, faith, and the brutality of war. The letter is a precious preserved family memento that tells us that when a man goes into combat and faces death, he becomes a

See MEMORIES on C-4



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Before he was killed on Nov. 7, 1951 in the Korean Conflict, Henry C. McKinney posed with his 30 cal machine gun. The men appear to be arising from their "pup" tents and preparing for the day's duty. Notice the barren surreal moonscape appearance of the area.

Memories From C-1

changed man. He writes:

"Dear Mother and All:

I sure was glad to hear from home. This leaves me fine even though I am back on the (battle) line. But right now it seems quiet and peaceful, like maybe the war might end. I am praying that it will.

Even though the sun is shining brightly this morning it is pretty cold, I suppose that means winter is almost here. We have been getting two hot meals a day which helps a lot, and I think the chaplain will be holding services today. I have been attending when I can and expect to continue when I get home.

Mother, I don't regret coming to Korea because I think there is a reason for me to be here. I know it has made a different man out of me, and I am very thankful to be alive this morning. Some people call it luck but I know differently. I think God has some work for me to do yet.

I don't think man could come any closer to death than I have been so far, and haven't gotten a scratch. I remembered a lot of his promises on Sunday morning October 14. It was before daylight as we went through a valley that we had taken the day before and the "chinks"

I will write more in a couple of days. I made Sergeant a few days ago, and am kind of proud of it. I'll close for now."

Love, Henry

Comrades letter tells how Henry died

Another letter from a buddy explains how Henry was killed. While the men of Fox Company were taking their much deserved rest the Chinese began a counter attack. In a later letter to Henry's sister Clara, Frank Pensula one of Henry's closest buddies wrote about what happened when Henry was killed:

"While we were back on a ten day reserve they called our company for a rifle squad with a machine gunner attached to infiltrate the Chinese lines to test their position. Henry was in charge of the machine gun as they went out on a night patrol. The Chinese allowed them to reach their objective behind enemy lines. As the patrol returned they were surrounded by Chinese and fired on by machine guns, rifles and grenades. One of the men was hit by a grenade and Henry was trying to get him out when the Chinese opened up on them with machine gun fire. Henry was hit in the

written on faded "dog-eared" Red Cross stationery and addressed to Henry's sister Mrs. Clara McKinney Prosser.

The letter exemplifies the fact that there are no atheists in foxholes, and brought assurance to the family that her brother did not suffer and was ready to meet his God. The letter began with the same salutation used by Paul, the Apostle in many of his letters to the church.

"Greetings in the loving name of our Lord. I am one of Henry's friend's and one thing I know is that he was our Brother in the Lord. Many different times we would sit and talk and pray together. Also, I know he was a good man and all of his men thought the world of him. They put in for the silver star. At the time he died he did not suffer he just fell asleep, and did not say a word after he was hit. Remember what Christ said at the grave of Lazarus, 'If a man die, yet shall he live, and whatever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.' Thank his mother for her good letters to Henry, they helped all of us."

Buried now in Brown Cemetery

Children suffer most dog bites

For every letter carrier bitten, hundreds of children needlessly suffer the pain and trauma of dog bites. Whatever the reasons for them, dog bites are a serious problem for the entire community, not just our letter carriers trying to deliver your mail.

Nationwide, Postal Service carriers suffered 2,725 dog bites last year (an average of nine dog attacks every delivery day), and that figure does not include the number of threatening incidents that did not result in injury.

These numbers pale in comparison with the more than two million children who fall victim each year.

Last year the postal service had a significant number instances where dogs interfered with mail delivery. Fortunately, most dog bites can be through responsible pet ownership.

If a letter carrier needs to deliver a certified letter or a package to you, put your dog into a separate room before opening your front door. Dogs have been known to burst through screen doors or plate-glass windows to get at strangers.

Just ask Dover, Delaware, Postmaster Jack Bailey. One of his letter carriers, who had

survived eight attacks during his 20-year career, felt secure in his ability to avoid dog bites. He owns four dogs himself.

But in February 1993, that carrier would be scarred for life—both physically and emotionally.

While delivering to a mailbox at the entrance to a customer's home, the carrier watched in horror as a 100-pound dog charged the front door. Instinctively, he braced his foot against the door as the dog backed up to charge again. This time, the animal crashed through the Plexiglas-plated door and tore into the flesh of his arm.

"It happened so quickly that he didn't have time to react," explained Bailey.

The animal's bite so severely shredded his left arm that he has undergone several restorative surgeries and may never have full use of his arm, says Bailey.

Nationally, the number of carriers bitten by dogs dropped from more than 7,000 in 1983 to 2,725 by 1999. This is because of greater cooperation from dog owners, stricter leash laws, and stepped-up efforts to educate letter carriers and the public about dealing with the

problem.

Carriers are vigilant, and the postal service may choose to stop mail delivery at an address if they are threatened by a vicious dog. In some instances, Postal Service employees have sued and collected damages for dog bite injuries.

While some attribute attacks on letter carriers to dogs' inbred aversion to uniforms, experts say the psychology actually runs much deeper. Every day that letter carrier comes into a dog's territory, the dog barks and the letter carrier leaves. Day after the dog sees this repeated. After a week or two, the dog appears to feel invincible against intruders. Once the dog gets loose, there's a good chance it will attack.

Dog owners should remind their children about the need to keep the family dog secured. The postal service also recommends parents ask their children not to take mail directly from letter carriers. A dog may see handing mail to a child as a threatening gesture.

These simple reminders and helpful tips can reduce the hazard of dog bites attack.

USDA marks 65th anniversary of Rural Electrification Act

In a ceremony celebrating the 65th anniversary of the signing of the Rural Electrification Act, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman May 1 awarded more than \$354 million, including \$25.8 million in Kentucky, in loans to help improve electrical service in rural areas of the country.

This fiscal year USDA has loaned more than \$1 billion to help provide new or improved electric service to more than 149,000 rural Americans.

"In the 65 years since USDA's rural electric program was launched, this vital program has invested more than \$56 billion to make rural America a better place to live and work," Glickman said.

"Bringing modern electrical service to rural America was one the nation's most important achievements of the

food from spoiling, and they had to journey to the nearest town to use a telephone, but many of these systems are aging, so USDA's electrical program is still vital to the future prosperity of rural America."

One new loan was award to:

Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Corporation, Nicholasville received a \$25.8 million loan to connect 3,600 consumer and construct 183 miles of distribution lines. The co-op maintains 3,400 miles of electrical lines and serves 32,000 consumers.



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I am very thankful to be alive this morning. Some people call it luck but I know differently. I think God has some work for me to do yet.

I don't think man could come any closer to death than I have been so far, and haven't gotten a scratch. I remembered a lot of his promises on Sunday morning October 14. It was before daylight as we went through a valley that we had taken the day before and the "chinks" had counter attacked and taken it back. As we slipped through the valley the verse came to me 'Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.' I kept saying it over and over again and it gave me a lot of comfort. It was wonderful to have someone like Him to go to when you are in need."

It seemed Henry McKinney thought that he might not make it back from that last patrol. He finished that last letter to his mother with some of the most comforting words a mother could ever receive from a son. He closes his letter with the following words:

"Sometimes I wonder why God lets some people go through life and never feel too much need for Him. I guess all my life I always prayed, I guess it was because I was brought up that way. I have time over here to think back on my childhood, and I can see a lot of mistakes I've made. If I had my life to live over again, it would have been much different.

Mother, you did a swell job rearing us kids, but I guess when we left home we strayed away. However, there isn't every man or woman that had the chance we had. Some people were never told or taught anything about God, and I have found so many like that since I have been in service.

Mother, I guess you and I preach to each other in our letters. But your letters always seem to help me so much. Some day we will be together and everything will be swell."

Ocean of Love
Henry

A post script to Henry's final letter dated Nov. 5, 1951, said:

"This is Monday and we are in reserve at the present. Things sure change fast in the Army, so today we are building bunkers in which we may have to spend the winter.

best then position. Henry was in charge of the machine gun as they went out on a night patrol. The Chinese allowed them to reach their objective behind enemy lines. As the patrol returned they were surrounded by Chinese and fired on by machine guns, rifles and grenades. One of the men was hit by a grenade and Henry was trying to get him out when the Chinese opened up on them with machine gun fire. Henry was hit in the head. He did not suffer or say a word. We carried him to the top of the hill on a stretcher, and back to our lines. Henry was a good buddy and a brave man. He was hit trying to save one of his men wounded in the leg. His wounded buddy survived. But Henry did not. But then he was recommended for the silver star for his bravery under fire while on that night patrol.

Cpl. Frank Pensula, Dec. 6, 1951

Another letter from a comrade in arms shed more light on Henry McKinney's faith in God and how he died.

Another letter was written by Cpl. Charles H. Lyle, one of Henry's squad members on Christmas Eve 1951. It was

At the time he died he did not suffer he just fell asleep, and did not say a word after he was hit. Remember what Christ said at the grave of Lazarus, 'If a man die, yet shall he live, and whatever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.' Thank his mother for her good letters to Henry, they helped all of us."

Buried now in Brown Cemetery

Sergeant Henry McKinney was killed in action on Nov. 7, 1951, and is buried in Rowan's Brown Cemetery. He became one of Rowan County's noble 92 killed in action serving their country during the 20th century. He was one of 10 from Rowan to die, and one of approximately 25,000 killed in the Korean War between June 25, 1950 and July 28, 1953.

Rowan's honored dead killed during the Korean War were:

Henry E. Beasley, William E. Beasley, James T. Brammer, Andrew J. Christian, Hayward Davis,

John Finley, Arb Hicks Jr., Henry C. McKinney, Walter Toler and Charles Simpson.

This scary car USDA has loaned more than \$1 billion to help provide new or improved electric service to more than 149,000 rural Americans.

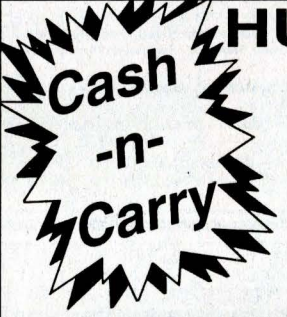
"In the 65 years since USDA's rural electric program was launched, this vital program has invested more than \$56 billion to make rural America a better place to live and work," Glickman said.

"Bringing modern electrical service to rural America was one the nation's most important achievements of the 20th Century. The challenge for the 21st Century is to ensure that America's rural utility infrastructure keeps pace with increasing demand of rural users."

"Many people living today grew up doing their homework in the dim light of oil lamps," said Thomas G. Fern, state director of USDA Rural Development in Kentucky.

"Their families used old-fashion ice boxes to keep their

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