



PASS IN REVIEW

"Shedding Light On Idaho's Military History"

1st Quarter

March 2001

KOREAN CONFLICT 50th ANNIVERSARY

This edition is the second in a series commemorating the Korean Conflict.

1951



- Jan. 1-15 - Third Phase Communist Chinese Forces (CCF) Offensive: 500,000 enemy troops push U.N. forces 50 miles south of the 38th Parallel and recapture Seoul.

- Feb. 1 - Battle of the Twin Tunnels. The 23rd Infantry Regiment (2nd Infantry Division), French Battalion and 347th Field Artillery Battalion confront several CCF regiments, killing at least 1,300 Chinese.

- Feb. 13-15 - Battle of Chipyeong-ni. First mass assault by CCF: 18,000 troops. CCF offensive contained by 23rd Regiment (2nd Infantry Div.), French Battalion, 1st Ranger Company, 37th Field Artillery Battalion, and Battery B of the 82nd Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion.

- Feb. 16, 1951 - Beginning of Siege of Wonsan. Task Force 95 (U.N. Blockade and Escort Force) blockades Wonsan Harbor. An unprecedented 861-day naval operation-it is the longest effective siege of a port in U.S. Navy history.

- March 7 -April 4 - Operation RIPPER. Drives the Communists back to the 38th Parallel and retakes Seoul. Seven U.S. divisions participate (U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, and 25th Infantry Divisions, and the 1st Marine Division).

- March 23 - Operation TOMAHAWK. One hundred twenty C-119s and C-46s drop 3,437 paratroopers of the 187th Regimental Combat Team near Munsan-ni in second largest airborne operation of the war.

- April 12 - War's first major aerial duel. More than 40 MiG-15s attack a B-29 formation, shooting down two bombers. Eleven of the MiGs are destroyed, seven by B-29 gunners.

- April 22-29 - CCF First Spring Offensive. Largest single battle of the War. CCF launch their Spring Offensive with 250,000 men in 27 divisions. Includes 5 U.S. Army divisions (2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, 25th).

- May 17-22 - CCF Second Spring

Offensive. Includes 4 U.S. divisions (U.S. Army's 2nd, 3rd and 25th Infantry Divisions, and the 1st Marine Division).

- May 20 - Sept. 20 - Operation STRANGLE. Massive all-out air interdiction campaign 20 is carried out by FEAF, TF 77 and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW).

- June 10-16 - Battle for the Punchbowl (vicinity Hwach'on Reservoir). The 1st Marine Division encounters heavy North Korean resistance, but succeeds in taking its objective.

- Aug. 18 - Sept. 5 - Battle of Bloody Ridge (Hill 983). The 15th Field Artillery Battalion sets a record by firing 14,425 rounds in 24 hours.

- Sept. 13 - Oct 15 - Battle of Heartbreak Ridge (Hill 931). The 2nd Infantry Div. seizes Heartbreak Ridge.

- Sept. 21 - Operation SUMMIT. A company of 228 Marines is lifted by 12 Sikorsky S-55s in the first helicopter deployment of a combat unit.

- Nov. 30 - In a rare air battle with Communist bombers, 31 Sabres knock down 8 Tu-2 bombers, 3 La-9 propeller-driven fighters, and 1 MiG-15.

Korean War truce talks began July 10, 1951. Although talks start slowly, on Nov. 27, 1951, both sides agreed on the 38th Parallel as the line of demarcation. ♦

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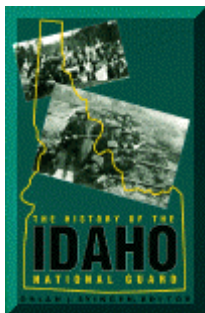
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IDAHOANS GET THE CALL



The following is condensed from "The History of the Idaho National Guard".

On July 12, 1950 Senator Lyndon B. Johnson called

for the immediate mobilization of 800,000 National Guardsmen and Reservists.

On August 5, 1950, the 116th Engineer Combat Battalion (ECB) received notification of its activation and reported for duty on August 15. Initially, the battalion (Bn) consisted of 200 enlisted men and 34 officers from southeastern Idaho. The Headquarters and Service Company (HSC) originated in Idaho Falls, Company (Co) A in Rigby, Co B in St. Anthony, and Co C in Ashton.

After a star spangled banner send off on September 3, which included a flyover by the Idaho Air National Guard and a performance by the 25th Army Band, they boarded a Union Pacific train bound for Fort Belvoir Virginia arriving on the 6th of September.

After basic training, the Bn entered an advanced engineer course at A. P. Hill Military Reservation where they built roads, repaired blown bridges, and constructed and operated an aerial tramway. In addition, the Bn learned to repair and maintain supply routes while also transporting casualties. Organized as a combat support unit, the 116th received machine gun, mortar and hand-to-hand combat training, bayonet drills, technical schooling, and further physical conditioning.

The unit left Fort Belvoir on January 30, 1951 and via California and

Japan, arrived in Korea in the late evening of February 28, 1951.

They promptly went to work. Co A partially finished a warehouse in the engineer storage area, while Co C completed a warehouse in Pusan and improved Pusan's deteriorating streets. Co B built two quonset huts while



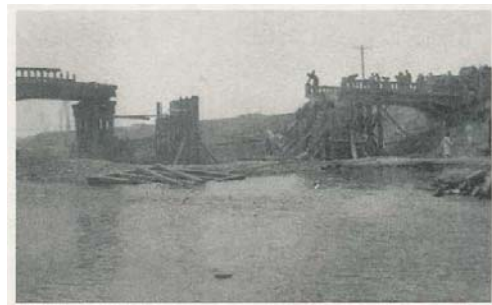
maintaining a forty-mile section of the "Red Ball Highway," which led northeast out of Pusan.

Shortly after arrival in Pusan, the Eighth Army launched "Operation Ripper," intending to push the North Korean troops back above the 38th parallel. There was a need for combat support units at the front. In March, the 116th learned they were headed to the front. Upon their arrival, they set up a base camp about twelve miles north of Chech'on.

Their first assignment included maintaining over fifty miles of road and constructing two bridges as well as establishing and operating water supply points for combat troops and their vehicles. Each company also housed, fed, and supervised up to five hundred South Korean civilians at one time, employing them as laborers.

On April 6 the Bn moved to Hoengsong where it joined the X Corps on the front lines. **In doing so, the 116th became the first National Guard unit to be stationed in the X**

Corps combat zone. From its position at Hoengsong, the Bn maintained the main supply route from Wonju to Hoengsong. Co's B and C started constructing four bridges and rebuilding eleven miles of main supply road between the two deserted towns. Co A refurbished the partially destroyed Wonju River bridge.



The Wonju Bridge

HSC operated three water supply stations in this area. On an average twenty-hour day, each water point supplied over 100,000 gallons of water to troops. They also maintained ten miles of road between Wonju and Chech'on.

Monsoon-type weather dominated the Korean spring and summer of 1951. On an average day, it rained ten to twelve inches, which turned roads into rivers of mud and made movement difficult for supply vehicles, tanks, and artillery. Despite the weather, the 116th continued repairing roads, bridges, and waterways on the east central front, providing combat support for Army, Marine, and other UN forces. The road was the main supply route into northern Korea; it had to be serviced twenty-four hours a day.

Between April 6 and May 23, X Corps command increased the Bn's responsibility to include forty miles of road north and east of Hoengsong. At one point the Bn had twelve different bridges under construction, which were all fifty-ton. The Bn also reconstructed sixty miles of the Wonju-Hoengsong "highway", widening it to a full twenty-two feet, which allowed two-way travel.

"Our mission was front line support, we had to build the passes through the mountains to provide supply routes." Lt. Ghormley. Throughout the spring and

(Continued on page 6)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IMHS ENDOWMENT FUND-

The IMHS endowment fund has grown to \$20,000 in the last couple of years. This fund is dedicated *exclusively* to providing operating funds for the *Idaho Military History Museum*. Our goal is an endowment of \$500,000 and only *earnings* from the fund will be used, not the *principal*. You can help us by telling us about your friends or relatives who may be thinking of their estates, or are looking for ways to make tax-deductible donations. Contact any Board member and we will help plan a gift to the IMHS' endowment fund.

EDUCATION OUTREACH—I

have made contact with the staff in a local school district to begin setting up a regular program of student activities and field trips to our museum. These activities will be designed to support existing school curriculum areas (i.e., social studies). This student program falls directly in line with our mission to "...educate and enlighten the public...." I will keep you posted on our progress. Meanwhile, contact me if you'd like to be involved in the program or work with the students. -

Bill Miller

NEW MEMBERS

Special Welcome to:

- ★ Garry Carroll
 - ★ Larry Carroll
 - ★ Betty L. Roth
 - ★ Richard Rosenberry
 - ★ Leland H. Van Slyke
 - ★ Lois E. Van Slyke
 - ★ Barbara H. Beck
 - ★ Don L. Beck
 - ★ Alan Woods
- ★★★★★

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I'd like to remind everybody that there's always something new going on at the Museum. If you haven't stopped by in a while, I'd like to invite you to come by for a cup of coffee and tour. We've added a new divider in the WWII Gowen Field area, which gave us space for a "WWII admin office" complete with Wendy the WAC!

Fred Anderson has been busy organizing our many patches, and he's built an exhibit representing the ground force units that fought in Korea, Viet Nam and the Persian Gulf. Unfortunately we are short a few. The ones we need are listed in our Most Wanted section. ***Please check your attics, footlockers, etc., to see if you can help us out.***

And here's another chance to help! Our regular volunteer staff is so busy that we need help greeting our visitors on Mondays and Tuesdays. ***If you have any time available at the beginning of the week give us a call.*** You can reach Kurt at 422-4202 or Bob at 422-4841. We will sign you up and set up a time for some orientation training. A great way to help the Society *and* meet new and interesting people. Hope to see you soon.

- Bob Benbough

UPDATE



We recently learned that an individual living in Idaho will be awarded the Medal of Honor in the very near future. His name is Ed Freeman. He served as a Captain with A Company, 229th Assault Helicopter Bn, 101st Cav Division (Airmobile) in Vietnam. We will provide further details as soon as they are available.

IN MEMORIAM



Richard 'Dick' King



Robert 'Bob' Cassell

January was a very difficult month for the IMHS. We lost 2 valuable members whose efforts made a significant impact in the Museums day-to-day operations.

Dick King, a WWII veteran, joined the Society in December 1998 and quickly became a valuable member and volunteer. He (and his wife Fran) often volunteered in the Museum Archives as well as at other projects the IMHS was involved in. Dick was a judge at the last two *Idaho History Days* and was instrumental in selecting the winner of the 2000 Idaho Military History category.

Bob Cassell joined the Society in November 1996. He too was a WWII veteran who also served in Viet Nam. He often volunteered at the Museum, organized and set up the library, and was elected to the Society's Board of Directors in 1999. Bob was never too busy to lend a hand where ever and when ever needed.

Many friends and co-workers have made donations to the Society's Endowment Fund in Bob Cassell's name. A total of \$588.00 has been added to our endowment through these donations. Bob & Dick both left quite a legacy and we are proud to be able to help carry on that tradition.

We also regret to inform you that Mr. **Chester Graham** also passed away in February.

On behalf of the Board, Members and Volunteers, our deepest sympathy and condolences are extended to the families of Dick, Bob, and Chester. They will truly be missed. *The Board*

UPCOMING
EVENTS

April 20, Idaho History Day. (At BSU) The Theme for 2001 is *Frontiers In History*. As part of our Educational Outreach Program, the IMHS is a co-sponsor. If you are interested in helping judge the Idaho Military History Category, give us a call.

April 24, Membership Meeting.

May 5 & 6, Fund Raising Breakfast at the Gowen Field Officers Club.

May 31 - 3 June, Exposition at the Boise Center on the Grove.

"As Commander in Chief of the Idaho National Guard and on behalf of the great State of Idaho, I am pleased to invite you to ...the annual Idaho National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations' Joint Conference 2001.

The conference is scheduled for May 31 through June 3, 2001 at ... the Boise Centre on the Grove. The theme of our ...Conference, "At Home, At Work, At Arms: Idaho's Citizen-Soldiers", clearly captures our heritage, focuses upon today's challenges and addresses the opportunities in our future.

We have planned an ambitious program, designed to appeal to a wide and varied audience and we expect to draw many Idahoans into this conference. ...I look forward, with great anticipation, to your decision to join us...Welcome!"

- Gov Kepthorne, June 16, 2000

The Idaho Military History Museum will have a booth at the conference. This will allow us to educate the public on what our Museum has to offer & give our gift shop a pristine location for 3 days in June. We invite you to join us, visit with the other vendors and contractors, enjoy the sites and all that will be available **and there will be a lot available!** Mark your calendars for this, you won't want to miss it!

IDAHO FILE
INTO
HISTORY

Reginald Rodney Myers

Rank and Organization: Major, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein)

Service: U.S. Marine Corps

Birthday: 26 November 1919

Place of Birth: Boise, Idaho

Entered Service at: Boise, Idaho

Served as: Battalion Executive Officer

Battle or Place of Action: near Hagaru-ri, Korea

Date of Action: 29 November 1950

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as executive officer of the 3d Battalion, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Assuming command of a composite unit of Army and Marine service and headquarters elements totaling approximately 250 men, during a critical stage in the vital defense of the strategically important military base at Hagaru-ri, Maj. Myers immediately initiated a determined and aggressive counterattack against a well-entrenched and cleverly concealed enemy force numbering an estimated 4,000. Severely handicapped by a lack of trained personnel and experienced leaders in his valiant efforts to regain maximum ground prior to daylight, he persisted in constantly exposing himself to

intense, accurate, and sustained hostile fire in order to direct and supervise the employment of his men and to encourage and spur them on in pressing the attack. Inexorably moving forward up the steep, snow-covered slope with his depleted group in the face of apparently insurmountable odds, he concurrently directed artillery and mortar fire with superb skill and although losing 170 of his men during 14 hours of raging combat in subzero temperature, continued to reorganize his unit and spearhead the attack which resulted in 600 enemy killed and 500 wounded. By his exceptional and valorous leadership throughout, Maj. Myers contributed directly to the success of his unit in restoring the perimeter. His resolute spirit of self-sacrifice and unfaltering devotion to duty enhance and sustain the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. End Citation

The Retaking of East Hill

It is now November, 1950, 5 months almost to the day since North Korea invaded South Korea, initiating the Korean War. We, the United States with occupation forces out of Japan, were almost too late as our occupation forces went to the rescue eventually striking back and driving the North Koreans out of the South and up to the Yalu River, North Korea's border with China. That is where a Boise native and Major in the Marine Corps earned his place in history.

Myers was an Idaho native having been born and raised in Boise. He graduated from East High in Salt Lake City, Utah and received a Mechanical Engineering Degree from the University of Idaho in 1941. In Jan 41, he was commissioned a 2LT in the US Army and in July 41, was assigned to the Army Air Corps. In Sep 41, he resigned his Army commission and accepted a regular commission in the USMC as a 2LT. After graduating from Officer Basic in Philadelphia PA, he was assigned to the Pacific where he served aboard the USS New Orleans and as the Reg't S-4 of the 5th Marines on Okinawa and in China.

Fast Forward to Korea, November 1950. Briefly, here is the situation. As the UN forces pushed the North Koreans back over the 38th Parallel and up to the Yalu River, they went around a geological barrier that split the front, the Chosin Reservoir. The Fifth and Seventh Marines went up the west side while the Eighth Army's 32nd Infantry Division went up the east side. There was nothing particularly unusual about that except that is when some 200,000 Chinese, including the China's 4th Field Army jumped the Yalu and entered the fight, swarms of Chinese.

The Marines on the west and the Army on the east were forced back toward the southern tip of the Chosin. This tip is where everything came together in controlling an orderly withdrawal to the south.

"I formed my own combat element ...cooks, truck drivers, maintenance personnel and administrative personnel, recruiting Marines along the way."

There were two critical points here: the abandoned town of Hagaru-ri and East Hill with its commanding position. These two points had to be held if Marines from the west and Army from the east were to get through this choke point and proceed south. This entire action took place with snow, temperature well below zero and vicious winds out of Siberia. That and untold swarms of Chinese coming in on the flanks even to the south of Hagaru-ri.

All of the troops were heavily committed when Maj Myers, then Exec Officer, 3rd Bn, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Div, was ordered to take back East Hill in order to safeguard the passage of Marine and

Army troops coming south along each side of the reservoir.

Here is his story in his own words.

"We arrived in Hagaur-Ri, North Korea, on my birthday, Sunday, November 26, 1950. What a birthday!! The ground was so frozen that it was necessary to use dynamite to cut through the top layer of the ground. After all of the troops had settled in, we sent out our South Korean agents to reconnoiter the area and report what they found.

They reported that at 7pm on the next day, Monday evening, that the Chinese troops would attack. Where did the Chinese come from? We had no idea that Chinese troops were even in the area. They weren't supposed to even be there. The 5th and 7th Marines were in defensive positions on the Yalu River holding that. We found out later that the Chinese had managed to work their way around our regimental defense positions.



Chosin Reservoir, East Hill, 28 Nov 50 (Hagaru-ri, Korea)¹

They attacked at 9pm instead of 7pm. We lost East Hill but I was ordered to retake the hill, a critical position that governed the only road exit from Hagaru-ri.

The Army unit with its 200 soldiers that had defended the crest of East Hill had been attacked and had fallen back to the bottom of the hill. I had no Marine Rifle Company or unit of any type in my area. So as I walked toward East Hill, **I formed my own combat element from support Marines, such as cooks, truck drivers, maintenance personnel and administrative personnel, recruiting Marines along the way.** I ended up

with about 50 hard charging Marines that were raring to go and anxious to get into the fight, and the 200 soldiers at the bottom of East Hill - 250 overall.

The slope of East Hill was very steep and covered with deep snow. The temperature was about 25 degrees **below** zero. The ascent was very difficult. I led the way as my Marines and I struggled up that hill. We finally reached the top of the Hill and had accomplished our mission - **we had retaken East Hill.**

We dug in for the night. The next morning a Chinese machine gunner started laying grazing fire across the top of our Hill. This continued all day but we refused to leave our positions on top of East Hill. Of course, the Chinese were well dug in too.



Commemorative 'Dog Tag' issued as part of 50th Anniversary of Korean Conflict.²

We called in Marine air to drop bombs and napalm. We called in artillery. We lobbed grenades into their positions. We assaulted them time and time again to assure that they did not retake the top of the hill. Little by little, my force dwindled due to casualties. But we were stubborn and would not leave the top of the hill. We set up a reverse slope defensive position just below the crest of the hill, repulsing any Chinese attempts to retake the hilltop.

We remained in this reverse slope position until we were relieved by a reinforced Marine rifle company. I was proud of my Marines. They proved that a Marine, whether a truck driver, a cook, a clerk or whatever, was foremost a fighting combat

rifleman. I was proud and honored to be with them."

Hagaru-ri and the road net was kept open for the Marine and Army units coming out of the north.

For this action in Korea, on October 29, 1951, at the White House, with his wife, children, sister, uncle, parents and in-laws looking proudly on, President Truman awarded him the Medal of Honor.



MAJ Myers, Pres Truman, fellow MOH recipient Carl Sitter³

Following his tour in Korea, Col Myers was assigned to Marine Corps Schools in Quantico VA and rose to be the Executive Officer of The Basic School.

From there he became an Inspector/Instructor of the Marine Corps Reserve Unit in Wash D.C. until March 1958 when he was transferred to London England where he served as Assistant Naval Attache for three years. His next assignment was the Pentagon for two years followed by a 13-month tour with Marine Forces on Okinawa and assignment as a student in the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Wash D.C.

Upon graduation, Col Myers attended George Washington Univ where he obtained a Masters in Business Admin. He was then assigned to



assigned to HQ Marine Corps as the Executive Officer of the G-1 Division where he served until his retirement

from active service in June 1967 with the rank of Colonel and 26 years of service.

After retirement, he established and managed the Annandale Marine and Sports Center in Virginia. He sold the company in 1993 and retired. He and his wife, Margaret, now live in Jupiter, Florida. They have a son and a daughter, and five grandchildren.

Reginald R. Myers' medal is one of the 9 Medals of Honor accredited to Idaho.

Editors Note: A very special thank you to Mr. Myers for granting us an interview.

¹<http://rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/kwphotos.htm>

² <http://Korea50.army.mil>

³ *Pueblo Chieftan*, Sept 17, 2000

IDAHOANS GET THE CALL

(Continued from pg 2)

summer counteroffensive, they supported several different combat groups, including the 1st Marine Division, 2nd Army Division, 7th Army Division, 3rd Infantry Division, and various Republic of Korea (ROK) divisions.



Break Time during road building

On May 23 X Corps command ordered the Bn to turn over its Hoengsong responsibilities to Army engineer troops and shift forward to support a counteroffensive.

Throughout the spring UN troops continued to push farther north. In late May the Bn crossed the 38th parallel into North Korea and built an encampment eight miles south of the demarcation line. Despite occasional

sniper attacks from Chinese troops, the Bn continued their mission of maintaining roads.

Korea's rainy season continued to challenge the Bn's engineering proficiency. Heavy machinery, supply trucks, and artillery traffic required that roads be adequately drained. This meant troops



frequently worked day and night, maintaining three eight-hour shifts. Enemy troops occasionally penetrated behind the Bn's position and forced evacuation.

In June the Bn received a commendation for its road construction performance from Lt. Gen. Almond, X Corps Army commander. Throughout the following months the Idahoans continued their road maintenance duties. X Corps Cmd also directed them to improve all roads and to build fifteen more bridges in the Soyang River area. The X Corps required the roads to be twenty-two feet wide, gravel surfaces, and capable of sustaining two-way traffic. In June the 116th gained working control of the Republic of Korea's 105th Engineer Combat Bn, joining the 116th in construction duties.

Battalion command moved to Taehungni in early July. The 116th continued building roads and bridges where none had previously existed. In six days Co C constructed a three-span, 198-foot, pile-bent bridge across the Hangshan River. The bridge was needed to ensure uninterrupted travel to the front during the rainy season.

After their move farther north, their assignments involved maintaining the lateral road from Yanggu and the Hwachon Reservoir to the Soyang River and improving the Inje Lateral between Hang'ye and Inje. They also worked on the ten new miles leading directly to "Bloody

Ridge” and the western portion of the “Punchbowl”.

In addition, the Bn was assigned maintenance control of the road between Oyupo and Inje, vital to X Corps 'supply needs. The Bn turned the unusable road into a two-way gravel-surfaced byway and then advanced to the front.



"Bloody Ridge Blvd, Travel the scenic route thru the courtesy of...116th Engr C Bn"

At the time, about 170 Idahoans of the original 234 remained as members of the 116th. Some had returned home earlier under the dependency law, while others transferred to other units. By mid-summer, the 116th had constructed more than 150 miles of roads through areas considered impassable and erected twenty-one bridges, totaling more than 1,000 feet in length.

In Sep, the unit worked on the Yanguu mountain pass to better accommodate movement of troops and supplies. The company used thirty-five tons of high explosives to widen the Yanguu pass for two-way traffic. Although continually plagued by rainfall, the Bn built culverts and head walls using native trees to solve drainage problems. The rainfall created dangerous mud slides which caused trucks and tanks to slide off the road. Co B constructed and opened a six-mile-long road across a high mountain pass just north of the 38th parallel.

Throughout the summer and fall offensive of 1951, the Bn tried to stay ahead of the Allied artillery, demolishing roadblocks and clearing thousands of tons of earth. Enemy mine fields repeatedly halted the Bn

until demolition crews could clear the area.

By October 1951 the soldiers often worked around-the-clock to keep roads in shape, even in blackout areas (without lights.) The winter cold and summer rains also had an adverse effect on maintenance operations. *"The mountainous terrain, heavy earthwork, and large amounts of solid rock caused extraordinary wear and breakage of equipment,"* Sgt. William C. Mackert recalled. Mechanics and other maintenance personnel often worked long hours to keep machinery in working order. Throughout the fall and winter the Bn stayed in the Masan-ni area.

The Bn's major job during the fall and winter of 1951 was the reconstruction of the PunchBowl Lateral. The Idahoans dynamited a road out of the rocky mountainside and also constructed a complete Korean Military Advisory Group (KMAG) training camp including a water distribution and purification system, electrical facilities, and occupational quarters.

The 116th built artillery emplacements, cleared mine fields, placed barbed wire, and constructed an aerial tramway. *"It was a source of satisfaction for all of us to know that we were building permanent, all-weather roads. We knew these would be a benefit to the civilian population long after we left"* Lt. Eldon Hinckley. The Bn also provided troops to operate and transport supplies and ammunition via the tramway to the front.

The 116th continued operations in the east-central front, but soon they learned they would be going home. In late January the first group arrived in Seattle aboard the Navy transport *Marine Lynx*. A second group on the *General William Black* reached San Francisco during the first week of February. Others returned throughout the spring; still others served in the X Corps sector throughout the winter and spring of 1952.

On January 5, 1953 the Defense Department established the 116th Engineer Battalion (NGUS) in Idaho, enabling Idaho veterans to rejoin the National Guard. On January 20, 1955 the 116th was officially released from active duty at Pusan, Korea.

For its role in Korea, the 116th ECB received the U.S. Distinguished Unit Citation and two Korean Presidential Unit Citations. On August 11, 1954 the 116th learned they were entitled to the following battle participation credits:

First UN Counteroffensive
February 28 to April 21, 1951

CCF Spring Offensive
April 22 to July 8, 1951

UN Summer-Fall Offensive
July 9 to November 27, 1951

Second Korean Winter
November 28, 1951 to April 30, 1952

Korea Summer-Fall 1952
May 1 to November 30, 1952

Third Korean Winter
December 1, 1952 to April 30, 1953

The histories of the 4 Idaho National Guard units activated during the Korean Conflict are in the book, *The History of the Idaho National Guard* which is available at the Museum Gift Shop.

KOREA TODAY

Courtesy of our own roving reporter,

Rachel Smythe,
current photos
from Korea.



**Nakdong River
Memorial, built
to
commemorate
the Pusan
perimeter
defense of
1950.**

**This statue
is part of the
Memorial.**





MOST WANTED -PATCHES!

Korea: I Corps, IX Corps, and 5th RCT.

Vietnam: 196th Inf BDE, 198th Inf BDE,
1st Marine Div and 1st Armd Div.

Persian Gulf: 1st Marine Div, 1st Armd Div,
2nd Armd Cav Regt.

Marines (WWII): 4th Base Defense Air Wing,
13th Defense Bn, Hq Pacific Air Wing, 2nd Marine
Air Wing, 4th Marine Air Wing.

Please check your attics, footlockers, etc., to see if you can help us out.

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Society

Production: Gayle Alvarez, Bill Miller and
Phil Obenchain

Comments or article suggestions are
welcome, contact us at 422-4841 or visit
our web site at:

<http://inghro.state.id.us/museum>



IDAHO MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4040 W. Guard Street,
Boise, Idaho 83705-5004

Donation/Membership Application/Renewal Form

YES! Please enter my **tax deductible** membership application/renewal in the category checked below. I have enclosed a check or money order in the amount indicated.

INDIVIDUAL:

\$ 25 ☐ General

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\$ 10 ☐ Student

\$ 10 ☐ Associate (Members Spouse)

\$ 15 ☐ Senior (60+)

ORGANIZATIONAL:

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\$ 100 ☐ Silver

\$ 250 ☐ Gold

\$ 50 ☐ Bronze

OTHER: (Endowment, Contributions, etc.)

\$ _____ FOR: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: (City, State, Zip) _____

Interests: (Volunteering, Research, Displays, etc.) _____



Idaho Military Historical Society

4040 W. Guard

Boise, ID 83705-5004

Heroic Past...Proud Future