

# PASS IN REVIEW

"Shedding Light On Idaho's Military History"

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter March 2003

# KOREAN

## CONFLICT

**50**<sup>TH</sup>

### **ANNIVERSARY**

This edition is the fourth and final edition in a series commemorating the Korean Conflict. 1953



After halting the Communist Chinese Forces (CCF) advance, the U.N. Forces conducted a series of well executed attacks, recovering Seoul.

Hostilities eventually ceased along Armistice line located near the 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel.<sup>1</sup>

• Jan. 25

Operation SMACK. Assault on Spud Hill by elements of the 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment (7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division).

- March 17 Hill 355 (Little Gibraltar), held by the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (2<sup>nd</sup> Inf Div), is assaulted by Chinese.
- March 23-24 Old Baldy/Pork Chop Complex. Held by 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment (7<sup>th</sup> Inf Div). The 32<sup>nd</sup> Regiment (7<sup>th</sup> Inf Div) relieves the 31<sup>st</sup>.
- March 26-30 Outposts at the Nevada cities (Vegas-Reno-Carson), held by the 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, come under heavy attack. A Chinese regiment is destroyed
- April 16-18 Battle of Pork Chop Hill. The 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiments (7<sup>th</sup> Inf Div) hit hard and suffer heavy casualties.
- April 20-26 Operation Little Switch exchanges sick and wounded POWs, including 149 Americans.
- May 13 Raid on Toksan Dam. A dramatic strike by 58<sup>th</sup> Fighter-Bomber Wing F-84s destroys a major irrigation system. Five miles of valuable rice crops are scoured and miles of highways and railroad

tracks are destroyed. Further attacks on irrigation dams follow over the next two weeks.

- June 15 *USS Princeton* launches 184 sorties, establishing a single-day Korean War record for offensive sorties flown from a carrier. Navy and Marine Corps aircraft fly 910 sorties the highest combined number for a single day.
- June 30 FEAF Sabres destroy 16 MiGs, the largest number shot down in one day.
- July 6-10 Battle of Pork Chop Hill. The 7<sup>th</sup> Inf Div is ordered to evacuate its defensive positions after five days of fighting.
- July 13-20 Battle of Kumsong River Salient. Last Communist offensive. CCF launches a six-division attack partly directed at the U.S. IX Corps (3<sup>rd</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup> Inf Div's). The 187<sup>th</sup> RCT is attached to 2<sup>nd</sup> Inf Div during the fighting.
- July 24-26 Final U.S. ground combat. Heavy enemy (3,000 men) attack is launched in the Berlin Complex ("Boulder City") area held by the 7<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Regiments. Last Marine ground actions of the war are fought on Hills 111 and 119.
- July 27 Last air kill of the war. F-86 pilot downs an enemy transport near the Manchurian border.
- July 27 The United States, North Korea and China sign an armistice, which ends the war but fails to bring about a permanent peace. To date, the Republic of Korea (South) and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North) have not signed a peace treaty. A total of 33,651 service members died in battle during the Korean War; 27,709 U.S. Army; 4,269 U.S. Marines; 1,198 U.S. Air Force; and 475 U.S. Navy 7,140 service members became prisoners of war.<sup>2</sup>

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### 190<sup>™</sup> FIGHTER SQUADRON GETS THE CALL

The following is condensed from *The History Of The Idaho National Guard*.<sup>3</sup>

When North Korean forces crossed the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel on June 25, 1950, the 190<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron was just returning from summer camp at Walla Walla, Washington. Idaho officials believed Guard the squadron would eventually be activated because of the small number of personnel and aircraft in the United States Air Force. 'There was no possible way to keep sending people to Korea, prepare for defense of our own land and expand to desired strength but to tap the ready civilian reserve,' Mai. David Johnson asserted.

Idaho Guard officials received a telephone call on January 18, 1951, from Sec. of the Air Force Thomas K. Finletter. Over the phone, the duty officer heard: 'Subject, Ordering Air National Guard units into active service.'



Ceremony acknowledging 190<sup>th</sup> Activation. Pictured here are Frank Bobbit, Dave Johnson Martin Johnson and George Johnson<sup>4</sup>

Finletter officially informed the 190<sup>th</sup> of its federalization effective April 1. They were to report for duty at their home station, Gowen Field. The activation also included the 190ths support units consisting of 190<sup>th</sup> Utility Flight; Detachment C, 242<sup>nd</sup> Air Service Group; and the 190<sup>th</sup> Weather Station. On January 19, newly inaugurated Gov. Len B.

Jordan and Brig. Gen. John E. Walsh jointly released the news to the press and public.



Korean Conflict Advanced Detachment, 15 Feb 1951<sup>5</sup>

In February an advance detachment of sixty members began to prepare Gowen Field for the unit's mobilization. In the next two months, the 190<sup>th</sup> intensified its training program. Lt. Col. Martin H. Johnson and his staff reorganized the training schedule to more adequately prepare non-veterans of the squadron.

Authorities of the Air Force and Strategic Air Command flew to Boise on April 1 to federalize the entire organization. Over 2,300 people gathered at the Boise High School gymnasium to witness the event. Many dignitaries including Governor Jordan, Brig. Gen. William H. Abendroth, and Brig. Gen. Walsh attended. In fact, Boise Fire Capt. W. F. Roach turned away more than 600 spectators for safety reasons.



Officers and Airmen of the 190 $^{\rm th}$  FS stand roll call in the Boise High School Gym $^{\rm 6}$ 

Harold C. Stuart, assistant secretary of the Air Force, welcomed the 190th Fighter Squadron and its supporting units into the Air Force. Immediately following Stuart's remarks, Col Jesse Auton, deputy director of fighters, Strategic Air Command, administered the oath to over 400 Guardsmen. Rumor suggested that the 190th would remain at Gowen Field, where it would be joined by other Air Guard units. By the end of March, however, the 190th learned of its assignment to Moody Air Force Base (AFB) in Valdosta, Georgia, where it was expected to reopen the deactivated base.

Montana's 186th Fighter Squadron and North Dakota's 178th Fighter Squadron would eventually join the 190th and California's 146th Air Base Group to form the 146th Fighter Wing. An advance group left Boise on April 17, while those remaining behind followed three weeks later. Most members of the Idaho support units were placed in wing support organizations, while the 190th remained basically intact. The 190th Weather Detachment, however, reported to Mountain Home AFB in Idaho, and was assigned to the Tenth Air Weather Service group for the duration of their active duty. A few members were also individually distributed to other bases to satisfy Air Force needs.

At Moody AFB, training dealt with bomber interception and individual air combat techniques. The Strategic Air Command, headed by Gen. Curtis Lemay, directed the group in aerial warfare practice. When the 146th first arrived at Moody, it went to the Okefenokee Swamp near Waycross, Georgia, for survival training. The squadron started an intensive safety inspection designed to prevent crashes, especially when flying battle-damaged aircraft. Pilots of the 190th performed high altitude bomber interception missions, sometimes traveling as far as Topeka, Kansas.

Other pilots practiced air-to-air gunnery with personnel from Hunter AFB in Savannah, Georgia. Most staged battles occurred forty miles offshore. Before leaving Moody, the Wing and Fighter Squadrons were redesignated Fighter-Bomber Units. In October the Air Training Command, which trained pilots for all-weather flying, took over Moody AFB, precipitating the transfer of the 146th FBW to George AFB at Victorville, California. Most 190th personnel had orders to report to George AFB shortly after Christmas 1951.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to Everyone,

It was great to see so many people attend the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in February. The food was abundant and the company was wonderful. It was a nice way to meet new volunteers and renew acquaintances with the veteran volunteer force. I heard comments about looking forward to next year's Spaghetti Dinner already!

We have some upcoming events and projects that may tickle your fancy. The various project leaders are sure to provide additional information in their news articles. Be looking for your opportunity to participate by providing input to the cookbook, take on the role as a Judge for Idaho History Day, work at the Idaho State Fair, or help with whatever other projects we undertake on behalf of the IMHS. We are blessed to have such a wide variety of skill and interest in our membership.

I appreciate the time, ideas, and companionship that you offer in your volunteer work for the Society and the Museum. Keep up your good work, and be sure to stay in touch. - Dawana Edwards

### CURATOR'S CORNER

Since the last newsletter there has been a lot going on here! I would like to mention the Volunteer Appreciation dinner of 12 February. That was my first one with IMHS and I was very happy to see so many people in attendance. It is important that the volunteers know they are appreciated and I would like to reiterate the fact that they most definitely are!

If you haven't been to the Museum lately, then you are in for some surprises. We are still in the process

of rearranging things and should have our M38A1 jeep back soon. Larry and Garry Carroll have kindly placed it in storage for us to keep it out of the elements. Also, by moving artifacts around some exhibit cases have been freed up. What this means is we can have more artifacts out on exhibit.

These changes will be completed by our Open House on Memorial Day 26 May. Speaking of the Open House, you might want to tune in to Channel 7 that morning. Larry Gebert will be doing his broadcast from the Museum! We will be open from 10-4 that day with a variety of organizations.

Thank you to those who have responded to our Most Wanted list. We have received some donations for the Vietnam exhibit including artifacts from Joe Icenhower, Gregg Bruch and some loaned items from Rick Johnson. These will greatly add to the educational aspects of our Museum.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to **Mrs. Joyce L. Edwards** (Dawana Edwards' mother) for a \$100 donation. This money is being used towards the purchase of garment boxes for our uniform collections. These boxes are badly needed for proper care and storage of these fragile artifacts and they are going to be here just in time.

The 190th Fighter Interceptor Squadron (FIS) alumni have also donated \$260 to be used for enhancements to the Idaho Air National Guard exhibit. Included in the display will be a time line and photos and models of Idaho Air Guard planes. They are also collecting Oral Histories of some early members of the Air National Guard. This will be quite an exhibit and will be a great enhancement and benefit to the Museum!

Thank you to everybody for all of your invaluable assistance.

- Gary Keith

### Yolunteer Of The Quarter



Please meet Steve Bonde

Steve is from Nampa and joined the Idaho Air National Guard at age 17. He served six years with the 190<sup>th</sup> FIS in their radar repair shop. Since that time, he has worked with electronics and is very knowledgeable about photography and computers. He donated two of his uniforms, which are excellent examples of Idaho Military History. Yes Steve, your uniforms are in a museum but they are not that old!

Steve began volunteering at the Museum in November and joined the Society in December. He expressed an interest in working with artifacts as well as docenting. Since he began, Steve has become quite knowledgeable in the proper handling procedures for artifacts and often helps with their care and cleaning. He also works with artifact accessioning. Steve is also a firearms collector and brings a lot of valuable knowledge on their proper care to the Museum

Always willing to help and do whatever needs to be done, he is a positive and eager volunteer. Whether it is moving an exhibit case or sewing numbers in clothing, Steve is right there in the middle of it. On average, he has been putting in three to four days per week, including weekends. He is also learning to master the dog tag machine.

With his flexible schedule, Steve is in a position to volunteer often and he does. Already, he has gotten a tremendous amount of work done here at the

Museum. With his computer and photography skills, he is also helping with exhibit preparation.

If you have not had the chance to meet Steve yet, please take the time do so. You will find another wonderful addition to our **top-notch volunteers**.

Thank you Steve. We truly appreciate all your hard work and everything you are doing for us; YOU ARE OUR VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER! \*

# BOARD HOSTS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENING

On February 12, the Board of Directors hosted a Membership Meeting/Volunteer Appreciation evening.



Members and Volunteers dined on spaghetti with all the trimmings and following dinner, new members and volunteers were presented with Membership Certificates and Certificates of Appreciation/recognition for their volunteer hours. The hours are for the past year; 1 Feb 2002 to 31 Jan 2003.

Those recognized included:

Kay Benbough- 100 hours Joyce Steffens- 121 hours Fran King- 134 hours Doug Doehle- 151 hours Ben Steffens- 168 hours Ed Carlson- 243 hours Stan Ogsbury- 297 hours Fred Anderson- 300 hours Gayle Alvarez- 722 hours Stan Herzinger- 790 hours



# Ed Freeman accepts his membership certificate

Congratulations to all and THANK YOU. Your support is invaluable and very much appreciated. We would not be where we are without each and every one of you! \*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

April 25, Idaho History Day. Idaho History Day 2003 is on April 25<sup>th</sup>. This year's Theme is: "Rights And Responsibilities 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, call Gary at 422-4841.

May 26<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day Open House. Larry Gebert of Channel 7 will be doing his morning show at the Museum! Gary and several of our volunteers have been busy working on updating and creating several exhibits which will be unveiled at the Open House. Tell your friends to mark their calendars too!

#### August 15-23, Western Idaho Fair.

We are investigating the possibility of sharing a booth with the National Guard Recruiters at the upcoming Western Idaho Fair. We hope to be able to sell dog tags and possibly a few other gift shop items as well as have a small display about the Museum. If you are interesting in helping 'person' the booth, please let us know. \*

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

Special Welcome to:

★ Darleen Eggleston
★ Ed W. Freeman
★ EE DA HOW Longrifles
(Upgraded to Gold Membership)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



Dick Bengoechea was recently selected as the new State Commander for Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Congratulations Dick! ★

### COOKING WITH HISTORY



Dateline: January 6, 1942, President Roosevelt outlines his **"Blue** 

Print For Victory Program".

It has been suggested that as a fundraiser, we create an IMHS cookbook. We would like to take this one step further by including a bit of history and fun along with your favorite **Double Chocolate Fudge** Cookies.

We plan to include items such as *Uncle Sam's Food Rules*, How To Stretch Coffee and Sugar, Tips on Saving Waste Fat (it was needed for its glycerine), pointers on making Ration Points go further, and some of the food rationing era posters from WWI and WWII.

So, all of you *Kitchen Commandoes*: send us your best (or your mothers or grandmothers best) recipe for Victory Garden Delight, Marbled Macaroni (one of its ingredients was SPAM) and One Egg-Low Sugar Cake.

And, to all of you *Foxhole Gourmands*: Tell us which combination of C-Rations or MREs

made the best Frontline Stew. What did you do to make your meals more palatable or interesting?

To those of you who are interested in research, see if you can find out how the various military rations (Hardtack, K-Rations, C-Rations, LRPs, MREs, etc.,) came to be, or why **Tabasco** Sauce is included in MREs

Any other ideas or suggestions are most welcome as well. Please type or print your recipes (we want to make sure we get everything right!). Be sure to include your name and if it is a Frontline Stew recipe, where you were when you perfected it. You can mail your recipes, comments or suggestions to us at:

Idaho Military Historical Society 4040 W. Guard St. Boise, ID 83705

Or e-mail them to us at gayle.alvarez@idbois.ang.af.mil

Or deliver them to the Museum on your next visit. This will be a fun, historical and interesting project and will be as good as **YOU** make it. \*

### An Endowment Update



The Society is growing rapidly but to sustain its growth and continue to meets

its goals, it will be necessary to increase and stabilize a strong financial base.

Our Vision: To provide endowment and capital funds to create a financial base which will ensure the preservation of Idaho's military heritage for future generations.

**Our Goal:** An endowment of \$500,000.

Where Are We At Now? Our current endowment balance is just over \$25,000.

This endowment will allow us to operate the Museum with one full-time staff member and provide adequate funds for development and enhancement of our exhibits, Reference Library, and Educational Outreach programs.

On May 25, 1999, the IRS granted the IMHS permanent 501(c)(3), Non-Profit, tax-exempt status. This means that donations to the endowment are tax deductible.

Donations can be made to the endowment in memorial to an individual, as part of your estate planning, as part of your charitable contributions for tax purposes, to offer a few suggestions.

Recent Endowment Donors include:

Ellen Hampton Leroy & Susan Hartgrave Stan Herzinger Robert & Marcia Keith (In memory of Bette Alexander)

Mervin G. McConnell (In memory of William S. Perry)

Please consider making a donation to our Endowment and tell your friends and relatives who may be thinking of their estates or are looking for ways to make taxdeductible donations.

If you would like a form, there is one on the back on this newsletter and there is also one you can download on our website (<a href="http://inghro.state.id.us/museum">http://inghro.state.id.us/museum</a>). If you desire to remain anonymous, we will honor your request.

Contact any Board member and we will help you plan a gift to the IMHS' Endowment Fund. \*

### IDAHO FILE INTO HISTORY



JAMES EDMUND JOHNSON
MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

**Rank and organization:** Sergeant, Company J, 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein)

Place and date: Yudam-ni, Korea

2 December 1950

**Entered service:** Washington D.C. **Born:** Pocatello, Bannock County,

Idaho

*Citation:* For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a squad leader in a provisional rifle platoon composed of artillerymen and attached to Company J, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Vastly outnumbered by a wellentrenched and cleverly concealed enemy force wearing the uniforms of friendly troops and attacking his platoon's open and unconcealed positions, Sgt. Johnson unhesitatingly took charge of his platoon in the absence of the leader and, exhibiting great personal valor in the face of a heavy barrage of hostile fire, coolly proceeded to move about among his men, shouting words of encouragement and inspiration and skillfully directing their fire. Ordered to displace his platoon during the firefight, he immediately placed himself in an extremely hazardous position from which he could provide covering fire for his men. Fully aware that his voluntary action meant either certain

death or capture to himself, he courageously continued to provide effective cover for his men and was last observed in a wounded single-handedly condition engaging enemy troops in close hand-grenade and hand-to-hand fighting. By his valiant and inspiring leadership, Sgt. Johnson was directly responsible for the successful completion of platoon's displacement and the saving of many lives. His dauntless fighting spirit and unfaltering devotion to duty in the face of terrific odds reflect the highest credit upon himself and the U.S. Naval Service.<sup>7</sup>



FRONT BACK
Commemorative 'Dog Tag'
issued as part of 50<sup>th</sup>
Anniversary of Korean Conflict.<sup>8</sup>

James Edmund Johnson was born in Pocatello, Idaho on January 1, 1926. He attended public schools there and played junior varsity basketball for two years in high school before enlisting in the Marine Corps on November 10, 1943.

Johnson was a veteran of the Peleliu and Okinawa campaigns in World War II. Although Johnson was serving with a provisional company of the 7<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment when he earned the Medal of Honor, his regular outfit was the 11<sup>th</sup> Marines, the same regiment his father had served in during World War I.

After serving in the Pacific theater and at San Diego he was discharged on February 7, 1946, and returned to Pocatello, where he worked as a machinist in the Naval Ordnance plant. He also attended Western Washington College at Bellingham, Wash., before re-enlisting in the Marines on January 13, 1948. Johnson was later assigned to Quantico, VA where he met a lady named Mary Jeanne. They were married on October 15, 1949.

Prior to leaving for Korea, he served for a year as an instructor in post exchange accounting at the Marine Corps Institute, Marine Barracks, 8<sup>th</sup> and I Sts., S.E., Washington. He departed for Korea in August, 1950, just five days after the birth of his daughter, Stephanie.



Yudam-ni, 30 Nov 50, 5th & 7th Marines Pull Back. The beginning of the 35 mile fight-out from the Chosin Reservoir<sup>9</sup>

December 2, 1950, Yudam-ni, Korea. Johnson was covering the withdrawal of his platoon during the bitter Chosin Reservoir campaign in Korea.



29 Nov 1950, Marine Rear Guard Protects Withdrawal From Yudam-ni<sup>10</sup>

When last seen by his comrades he was wounded, but still engaging the enemy in close grenade hand-to-hand combat. The enemy were wearing the uniforms of friendly troops at the time. Johnson was listed as missing in

action until January 1954, when his death was presumed.

His Medal of Honor was presented to his widow, Mrs. Mary Jeanne Johnson of Washington on March 29, 1954, by Secretary of the Navy Robert B. Anderson. Medals of Honor were presented in the same Pentagon ceremony to the families of Sergeant Daniel P. Matthews and Corporal Lee H. Phillips, also of the Marine Corps.

Johnson was the seventh Marine and the thirty-seventh member of the United States Armed Forces to receive the Nation's highest award for extraordinary valor in Korea. Johnson is officially listed as Missing In Action. His name is engraved on the National Memorial of the Pacific (Wall of the Missing) in Honolulu, Hawaii and there is a Memorial Marker in his honor at Arlington National Cemetery {MH-451, Section 13}.

In addition to the Medal of Honor, Johnson's other awards include: 8 The Presidential Unit Citation with one Bronze Star for Korean service, 1950, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Div, 8 The Navy Unit Commendation, 1944, 8<sup>th</sup> 155-mm. Gun 8 The Asiatic-Pacific Bn., Peleliu, Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars, 1944-1945, Asiatic-Pacific Area Western Carolines Okinawa Gunto 8 Victory Medal, 1943-1946, World War II, 8 Navy Occupation Service Medal with Asia Clasp, 1945, Okinawa, 8 Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, 1950-1951, N. Korean Communist Aggression, China Aggression, Inchon Landing, 8 The United Nations Service Medal, 1950-1951, Korea.

On November 30, 1984, the Marine Corps named 3 streets in a new housing area at Camp Pendleton after 3 USMC Medal of Honor Recipients. Two of those recipients were from Idaho, PFC Herbert A Littleton and SGT James Edmund Johnson.

**EPILOGUE:** The preceding information on James E. Johnson was obtained from the Department of the Navy, HQ USMC, Quantico, Virginia. There were five individuals from Idaho awarded the

Medal of Honor for action in Korea. We have profiled four of them in our Series. The fifth individual is **Dan Schoonover** and he is also listed as Missing In Action. We would like to profile him in a future edition but our information on him is extremely limited. If you have any information on him or know someone who does, please get in touch with us.

### 190<sup>™</sup> FIGHTER SQUADRON GETS THE CALL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

Although it was rumored the wing would prepare for overseas deployment, a change in national policy limited assigning units to Korean duty unless they had more than one year of active duty remaining. Since the 146th FBW and all Idaho personnel were to be deactivated no later than December 31, 1952, Korean assignments were limited to personnel who had signed indefinite active duty statements or voluntarily accepted regular Air Force status.

At Victorvile, in November 1952, the Strategic Air Command formally released control of the 146th FBW authorities immediately and assigned the entire group to the Tactical Air Command. The squadrons conducted training in the nearby Mojave Desert, providing air support for ground troops. 190th engaged in air-to-ground gunnery maneuvers which included firing rockets and machine gun rounds directly in front of friendly forces.

In January 1952, the 190th Fighter Squadron conducted a four-day exercise in air-to-ground combat to measure its effectiveness. The simulated combat exercise involved flying to predetermined targets as far as 400 miles apart. 'We practiced high angle and low angle strafing,' Lt. Chauncey Reese later explained, 'firing at ten foot by ten foot ground targets.' Throughout the four-day

test, mechanics of the 190th worked night and day to keep the planes in working order. It was believe to be the most extensive and exhaustive tests in which the group ever participated.

In February 1952, the Air Force selected nine pilots from the 190th for Korean duty. Eventually, fifteen pilots of the 190th departed for Korea. Duties while in Korea included air combat in MiG Alley, forward observing for fighter and bomber attacks, and bombing missions. Some became jet pilots flying F-84 and F-86 planes, while others flew bomber missions in B-25s. While flying an F-86 fighter jet near the Yalu Perimeter in North Korea, Lt. Ralph E. Schreiber shot down a Russian-built MiG. Lt. Reese and Lt. Ed McLean carried forward artillery observers in the back seats. Lieutenant McLean remarked 'My plane was hit twice by enemy fire in the Chorwon Valley, while flying with the artillery spotters.'

Other 190th personnel separated from the group and reported to various locales around the world. In May 1951, the United States, as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, acquired Iceland's permission to deploy troops there. Late in August 1952, personnel from the 146th FBW, including men from Idaho, were sent on a classified mission to Keflavik, Iceland.

Their mission was to establish an air base and organize a squadron that would be permanently stationed there. Thirty-seven F-51s were also transferred. After the Guard members completed their temporary duty tour in December 1952, the planes and Air Force personnel remained. 'Because of the communist influence and the feeling that this was an American occupation, our personnel were basically restricted to the base during their deployment.' Technical Sgt. Leland Christopherson recalled.

On January 1, 1953, the 190th returned to state control and was

redesignated the 190th Fighter Interceptor Squadron.



146<sup>th</sup> Fighter Bomber Wing F-51 "Mustangs" on the flightline at Boise, Idaho during summer camp in 1953<sup>11</sup>

**EPILOGUE:** The official 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the Korean Conflict ends on 11 Nov 2003. During the Korean Conflict, four Idaho National Guard Units were activated. We have profiled three of them in our series.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Army Band was also activated, mid-September 1950, shortly after the 116<sup>th</sup> Engrs were activated but the Band was never deployed to Korea. They spent the majority of their time at New Brunswick, New Jersey. Their story, as well as the in-depth story of all units activated for Korea, can be read in *The History of the Idaho National Guard*, which is available at the Museum.



### Most Wanted

- A volunteer who likes to sew- contact Gary with questions.
- ♣ Volunteers interested in learning how to operate the dog tag machine.
- Materials to build large cases, to house mannequins. We have Plexiglas and are in need of wood, etc.
- A Legal Sized Filing Cabinet
- \$ Stainless Steel Canteens (Field Gear)
- **♣** WWI Field Gear
- A WWI Rifle Cartridge Belt
- **♣** WWII Field Gear, Especially USMC Canteen Covers
- ▶ Vietnam Era Canteen and Carrier
- ▶ Persian Gulf War Web Gear \*

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<sup>3</sup> Orlan J. Svingen, <u>The History Of The Idaho National Guard</u>, pg 109-112

<sup>4</sup> Idaho Air National Guard

<sup>5</sup> Idaho Air National Guard 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1946-1986, pg 20

<sup>6</sup> Idaho Air National Guard 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary, 1946-1977

<sup>7</sup> Lang, Collins, White, Medal of Honor Recipients 1863-1994, Vol II, pgs 624-625

site at: <a href="http://inghro.state.id.us/museum">http://inghro.state.id.us/museum</a>

Site at: <a href="http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/smallarms/yudam.htm">http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/smallarms/yudam.htm</a> (Used by permission)

10 <a href="http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/chos2.htm">http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/chos2.htm</a> (Used by permission)

11 VanGUARD/50, Year Book'1924-1974, Fiftieth Anniversary 146<sup>th</sup> Tactical Airlift Wing

#### **JUSTIN CASE**

Have you sent in your renewal for 2003? Don't forget, donations are tax deductible. If you aren't sure what your renewal date is, check the address label on your newsletter, it lists the month and year your renewal is due. Does your employer (or previous employer as the case may be) match charitable contributions? Some do, it's worth asking them about it!

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. (The IMHS is a 501(c)3 organization.)		
INDIVIDUAL:		
\$ 25 [ ] General	\$ 375   Lifetime	
\$ 10 [ ] Associate (Members Spouse)	\$ 15 [ ] Senior (60+)	
ORGANIZATIONAL:		
\$ 500 [ ] Platinum	\$ 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.)	E-Mail Address:	



Idaho Military Historical Society 4040 W. Guard Boise, ID 83705-5004

Heroic Past...Proud Juture