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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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**FOIA**

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POTTER, CLAIRE

55

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	LIST	RE. MEMBERS OF 29TH INFANTRY REGIMENT COMMEMORATED AT HONOLULU	2	ND	B6

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Pres. [unclear]



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1. Letter To Senator Paula Hawkins, dtd Oct. 6, 1983
2. Nine (9) attached enclosures:
  - Encl No. 1--MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD, dtd 20 Sept. 83  
Pinpoint locations of two, American soldiers' grave sites in Korea, to CG US Forces/Korea
  - Encl No.2-- Newspaper "tear sheet", dtd Sept. 29, 1983  
KOREA JOURNEY YIELDS LONG-MISSING SOLDIERS' GRAVES
  - Encl No.3-- The Battle At Hadong, Korea, 27 July 1950
  - Encl No.4-- Members of 29th Infantry Regiment Commemorated At Honolulu (Korean War Tablets of the Missing)
  - Encl No.5-- Ltr from Project Freedom to Clyde Fore, dtd Jan. 3182 noting that "Grave Resistration will be doing some work in Haydong this coming Spring..."  
also: Project Freedom's Letterhead
  - Encl No.6-- U.S. Senate Report, Korean War Atrocities, Testimony M/Sgt Berry Rhoden, dtd Dec. 3, 54
  - Encl No.7-- U.S. Senate Report, Korean War Atrocities, Testimony Capt. A. Makarounis, 29th Infantry dtd Dec. 4, 53
  - Encl No.8-- Research identification, National Archives and picture of Col. Millett receiving DSC, prior to award of Medal of Honor, Korea 1951
  - Encl No.9-- Project Freedom Members Who Went to Korea,1983 plus comment about visit.

1208 67th Street N.W.  
Bradenton, Fla. 33529  
Oct. 4, 1983

Senator Paula Hawkins  
SH 313  
Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Reference: Enclosed Sarasota-Herald Tribune "tear sheet"  
dtd Thursday, Sept. 29, 1983, Encl. No. 2,  
Korea Journey Yields Long-Missing Soldiers' Graves

Comment: Origin of this correspondence wrote newspaper story,  
and is authorized by Col. Lewis Millet (Ret.), National  
Chairman Project Freedom, and Dr. James Yeager, National  
Coordinator Project Freedom, to reveal both facts and  
events that were not (by design) contained within the  
Sarasota-Herald article.

Purpose: To acquaint you with a negative situation that  
persists within Washington, D.C. at the Memorial  
Affairs Branch (military), that reflects directly  
upon the "official" credibility wherein POW's/MIA's  
are the subject; furthermore, if you see fit, forward  
this information to The President of the United  
States (obviously he knows nothing of this...) be-  
cause he is scheduled to travel to Korea (near future);  
and no matter what level of government is "the problem,"  
in extremely delicate subjects such as the POW/MIA  
issue, The President ends up as the target of the media;  
and, Project Freedom as much as it abhors publicity  
of a caliber that can only, in honesty, be termed  
sensationalism, is resolved to make the fullest use  
of all forms of the media, if that is what is ultimately  
required to have both of the U.S. soldiers' grave  
sites thoroughly investigated officially, and, in  
fairness, a complete report of same provided to Project  
Freedom (who did the research, pinpointed the sites,  
invested a large sum of Project funds, as well as  
individual members' finances, and, for some Project  
members, may disclose the whereabouts of close friends  
and fellow unit members who have been missing for 33  
years).

Dear Senator;

It will be a logical, thoroughly normal reaction for you, after  
reading the "tear sheet" and all that preamble above, to sense the  
first twinges of what promises to be a "bad headache," while  
wondering why? you have been selected to receive this letter.



The answer to that question is simple and rests with you, as follows:

The Project Freedom group that traveled to Korea to pinpoint the sites, actually consisted of six persons, and three were residents of Florida: Master Sgt. Berry Rhoden (U.S. Army Ret.), Florida coordinator; Dave Fortune (Warrant Officer U.S. Army Reserve), Southeast coordinator; and the writer, a media advisor. As a journalist (in Florida), I had followed your political career and I nominated you, based "on your track record;" and, obviously it was so agreed. Candidly, the following events brought this letter into your hands:

There are still many U.S. soldiers who fought in the Korean War, especially in July-August 1950, who are listed MIA/presumed dead whose remains have never been located. Project Freedom discovered that by a chance oversight when American POW's were returned and debriefed--after the 27 July 1953 alleged end of hostilities--they were not asked if they knew of the location of the graves of Americans killed while prisoners of the North Koreans or in isolated battles with same. By traveling to Korean POW conventions, and/or writing to former POW's, Project Freedom came up with two, positive sites---identified by former U.S. soldiers who were there...and remembered the exact locations. Berry Rhoden was one of these witnesses and willing to return to Korea, if the bodies had not been located. (Considering Berry Rhoden's memories of the locale, this was a casual thing for him to even consider.) The other witness, a soldier who was a member of the 3rd Battalion, 29th Infantry at Hadong, and was forced to bury the American dead at Hadong, while a POW, pinpointed the site in front of a church. He later escaped from the NK, only after suffering great abuse. (Incidentally, Jim Yeager was also taken prisoner at Hadong and knew of these dead but not the exact site---he later escaped after approximately 200 fellow POW's were machinegun'd around him several months later.) (The former soldier who pinpointed the Hadong grave site is not in the best of health and it is his desire that his name not be mentioned; although both his name and statement were made know to the proper authorities months ago when both sites and allied information were made known to the Memorial Affairs Branch for their action.)

Included for your background information is an extract of Sgt. Berry Rhoden's testimony before a U.S. Senate subcommittee, December 1953, pertaining to Korean War atrocities. (ENCL No. 6)

Many months ago, Project Freedom reported full details on both sites mentioned in the Sarasota-Herald "tear sheet." Project Freedom requested a record search to determine if the sites had been located, etc. You see:



oct 6, 83/Korea

As you probably know the allowances of the Freedom of Information act does not apply in this area. All information has to be requested, etc. and a return, so it seems, at the whim of that office. Under the circumstances, all Project Freedom wished to know was whether or not the sites were on record, and if not, when they would be investigated (for some of us the sites contained soldiers we served with and even close friends). But:

For months telephone calls produced vague answers. Nothing concrete. Finally, about three months ago, a spokesman for Project Freedom (during one of these calls) announced, "If you don't come up with some solid answers soon, we'll travel to the Republic of Korea, ourselves and ask local residents about them." And, after three months that's exactly what we did; however:

There was nothing covert about this. Colonel Millet notified the Commanding General of U.S. Forces/Korea that a small group from Project Freedom was in Korea, and the reason. He also made it clear that Project Freedom had already contacted the ROK Veterans Association and they had expressed a willing desire to help (which they did, far beyond what one might expect--- fact is, they arranged permissions and official escorts and even picked-up some of the expenses). It was also emphasized that Project Freedom was only in-Korea to determine if the bodies had ever been recovered, and that through on-site visual inspection, and questioning of area residents, etc. No site would be disturbed! All relative data would be provided to the Commanding General (as it was---see enclosed report copy) (Encl. No. 1)

At Hadong, the party ran into unexpected complications. Elder residents who were within Hadong when the American soldiers were buried in the former church grounds claim the U.S. authorities have never recovered the bodies. The Korean gentleman who just finished building a house upon the very site, and up until that time was not aware that it was (or had been a grave site) was thoroughly upset and insisted that all such bodies in the area had been recovered about 12-years ago. Ah, but the senior citizens insist that the soldiers are still under his house. Of course, the answer has to come from official records, U.S. of A.

Not one member of The Embassy elected to be present; nor what could be termed an official of the Department of Defense, officially; despite the quest; despite the fact that Colonel Millet is a Medal of Honor holder; despite the fact that the entire group had seen combat in the Korea War---three had been POW's.

If you do pass this letter on to The White House, what I am about to write should be of keen interest. It relates to Project Freedom's reception by the people of Korea, which is in itself a reflection of the overall population's attitude toward the United States, as follows:



During the Korean War period, 1950-53, I was a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, and moreorless was assigned to three tours of duty in the war zone. I write moreorless because the first and last were "cut short" by combat injuries. During the first assignment, I was a rifle platoon leader --- first in the 29th Infantry Regiment, and then the so-called elite unit of that war, the 27th (Wolfhounds) Infantry Regiment. And, understandably as a rifle platoon leader in the famed 27th, participated in so many desperate battles, I don't remember 90 percent...but no battle could compare to the Third Battalion, 29th Infantry's destruction in a mere three hours time at Hadong. I won't belabor the details except to relate that this 925-man battalion, without tanks or artillery had the mission of "buying time" for Far East Command/Eighth Army, until a large task force could be assembled to stop an approximate 35,000 North Korean drive toward the vital port of Pusan. The lone 29th battalion gave Eighth Army that time but at a gastly price: about 450-550 killed or captured (and then killed). The Hadong grave site that Project Freedom investigated may(?) contain the remains of 20-30 of those soldiers. But what I have been leading to is simply that I didn't know how I would react emotionally to that place. As it turned out, Hadong, being there, didn't bring a lump to my throat or tears to my eyes --- instead it was the reaction of the majority of Korean nationals when they learned that we were Korean War veterans. It was extraordinary.

↳ that was emotional.

Tears would come to their eyes. They felt that they had to touch us (unusual for that culture) and thank us, over and over for fighting for their freedom. And I do underline that this reaction from the Koreans was not local in scope but common throughout the nation.

And, we found the spirits and morale of the U.S. military personnel excellent. To be perfectly frank without the help of U.S. military (especially sergeants), we would not have accomplished as much as we did. As soon as they knew what Project Freedom needed to do, the lower ranks made things happen. And, that, Senator, is the bitter irony of this whole mess. Those who should have been interested weren't, or, if they were interested they had a remarkably peculiar way of demonstrating it. Look at it this way:

The current administration's policy concerning the IndoChina POW's/MIA's has had its share of "thrown rocks," etc. I am in the unusual position of knowing that the maybe POW's still in prison conditions in IndoChina have not been forgotten by The President. Aside from that, what Project Freedom did when it provided Washington with the possible location of two, unknown(?) American grave sites was <sup>some time</sup> to act on ~~it~~ as fast as possible to demonstrate to the American people that U.S. combat dead are not ignored, even after 33 years. Project Freedom is not in a position to know why nothing was done. But, you, Senator, and The President are not restricted. After all:



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The subject of this "mess" are U.S. Soldiers who died while serving their country, and in that last, greatest act, surely, deserve consideration --- by consideration I mean to finally, if it is possible to identify them, allow their mothers-fathers, brothers-sisters, and, in some cases wives and children know what happened to them. End 33 years of doubts. We've been trying to get The Mortuary Section, Memorial Affairs Branch, to research their records concerning the two sites made know to them a long time ago (see: Encl. No. 5, dtd Jan. 3, 82, when Project Freedom had a promise sites would be investigated spring-1982).

*would be know*  
Project Freedom did the hard part! We located the sites through live witnesses --- even provided the units and the approximate time of death. Finally, we felt that the only way the sites (before surviving family members of the MIA's - presumed dead, died) would be to travel to Korea, ourselves and document them and turn it over to the Commanding General U. S. Fores/Korea. BUT, <sup>recall that</sup> three months before we actually went to Korea, Jim Yeager told the proper authorities that if they did not act on the data provided them, that's what Project Freedom would do. So, we waited three months for some reaction. Senator, we're not rich! Going to Korea cost each of us no small amount of personal funds and emptied the Project's "kitty." But there are no regrets! We had an obligation and if the United States wasn't going to meet their obligation in this matter, then we must. And, did!

Since Colonel Millett gave General Sennewald (personally) the MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD on Sept. 20th (see: encl no. 1), Project Freedom has heard nothing offically from either the U.S. Army (offically) or any other branch of the government. *Just:* Silence.

<sup>have</sup>  
We (Project Freedom) ~~has~~ released one, sterile news story on this so that it would be a public record (see: encl no.2, Sarasota-Herald Tribune, dtd Sept. 29, 1983). The Sarasota paper is owned by The New York Times. Frankly, the only reason that we provided the story was so that <sup>the report</sup> "wouldn't be shelved for another year or two. Senator, Project Freedom prefers to avoid the media, if possible.

Talking about the media, it is at this point that I point out that the Retired Special Forces (Green Beret) Lt. Col. who created the media flap in 1982-83, because of his ill-advised adventures within IndoChina is was in no way connected to Project Freedom; nor does Project Freedom endorse his methods. (Frankly, neither do the majority of the so-called Green Berets: I am a former, original Special Forces (Green Beret) and conducted a poll among longtime Special Forces folks about the Lt. Col's activities, for Project Freedom, and their comments I won't include here, but they weren't in favor of such "Crackerjack, foolishness.")



oct. 6/Korea

Senator, as noted Project Freedom has but one avenue open if the results of its Korea trip are not acted upon in the near future. But that prospect is distasteful and only a last resort at this time. So:

That's why you were selected! The Mortuary has earned <sup>itself</sup> an official investigation as to what goes on or doesn't go on in that office! If it is outside your official area to "look into," then The President should know about all of this... It casts discredit on the U.S.'s POW/MIA policy! Obviously, he is in no position to keep track of every section/office and what it does or doesn't do. But this is assuredly one area that he has had to deal with in the past, and, as far as IndoChina is concerned, it would probably be brought up again but not by Project Freedom.

Senator, if you are able to help see this thing completed, great. Have provided all the documents so that you may see the depth of the research that went into this particular project; and the deep personal involvement of some of us in Project Freedom. (Naturally, there exists volumes of data not included.)

On, the other hand, Senator, if this is outside what would be considered your proper area of interest, please let us know. No flattery intended but those of us who are Floridians know that you are a "fireball," when it comes to injustice and we will understand. And, I'm belaboring this, I know, but we do need to know, one way or the other, so that we can follow through with this...

Please address all correspondence for Project Freedom (Colonel Millett) to:

Dr. James Yeager  
P.O. Box 39419  
Phoenix, Arizona

telephone no's Project Freedom Phone: (602) 978 5540  
Dr. Yeager's home: (602) 465 7848

Colonel Millett travels ~~much~~ <sup>MUCH</sup> but "keeps" Dr. Yeager informed as to his whereabouts, etc.

Sincerely,

Clyde A. Fore

Nine enclosures

CC: Dr. James Yeager  
(to be forward'd Col. Millett)

page 6 of 6 pages

Senator: I apologize for the inserts and corrections, if time wasn't a factor i would retype before putting this before you.



111. 11/21

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

20 September 1983

On the 10th and 11th of September 1983 and on the 17th and 18th of September 1983, representatives of Project Freedom (Col Lewis Millett (Ret), National Chairman), Master Sergeant Barry Rhoden (Ret) and Dr. James Yeager (National Coordinator, Project Freedom) visited various sites, particularly Ha Dong (29th Infantry battle area - July 1950) and Umi (near Chang-Yeong), the site of 23rd Inf, 2d Div battle area. They were accompanied on the 10th and 11th by Lt Col Ahn (ROK Army Ret), Director of the Korean Veterans Association, International Affairs Division, and volunteers from U.S. Air Forces ROK Sergeants Lawrence Ward and James Ogburn and SP4 John Millett (USA) and ROK representatives of the KVA from city, district and regional offices.

As a result of these efforts, and with information from indigenous Republic of Korea personnel who had observed or participated in events at these localities during the hostilities of July-August 1950, an unmarked, unregistered American grave sites were located at Ha Dong. On 17-18 September, two ROK citizens who were present when Americans were buried at the site conferred with the U.S. personnel and the Korean land-owner of the grave site location and were adamant that a number of Americans were buried in a common grave and had never been recovered. This site is the location where Dr. James Yeager was briefly imprisoned in a church (since destroyed) and saw the preparations and bodies of those interred. At the second site, vicinity of Hyeonpung near the village Gubdari, Sonsil, Umi, ROK-KVA representatives and Barry Rhoden identified the location of elements of the 1st Battalion, 23d Inf Regiment, 2d Division on a defensive position overlooking the Nak-Tong River. Subsequently, these positions were over-run by the North Korean Army. KVA representatives who were there at the time of hostilities stated that numerous unmarked graves, interspersed among well-kept Korean graves are the repository of a large number of American soldiers buried immediately after the battle. ROK civilian officials from the adjacent village of Umi confirmed this statement.

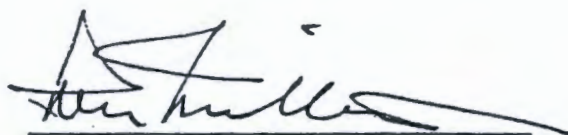
<u>SITE</u>	<u>SHEET</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>EST KIA/MIA BODIES</u>
Umi, Gubdari, Sonsil	1:50,000 3817II Hyeonpung Coord 428397	1st Bn 23d Rggt 2d Div	30 - 50
Ha Dong	1:50,000 3716III Ha Dong	3d Bn 29th Inf RCT	20 - 30

Encl # 1

etc Senator Hawkins

Korean, Veteran Association Officials (Atch 24th Div)

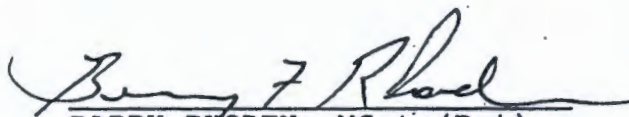
<u>NAME</u>	<u>AREA</u>
LTC Kyoo-Tek Ahn (Ret)	Seoul
CMDR Kim	Ha Dong
Mr. Ha Boeng Gan	Ha Jong
Mr. Cha Tae Yeol	Sa-Moo Gook
Mr. Yeong Mea	Umi-Ri



LEWIS MILLETT, Col, (Ret)  
National Chairman  
Project Freedom



DR. JAMES YEAGER  
National Coordinator  
Project-Freedom



BARRY RHODEN, MSgt (Ret)  
Florida State Coordinator  
Project Freedom

1 Atch  
Project Freedom Historical  
Files Map (2)

CC: Gen Robert W. Sennewald  
Lt Col Ahn (KVAA)  
Gen Kim (KVAA)



# Manatee

Sports On Back Page

Sarasota Herald-Tribune <sup>all</sup> corrections made by C. Fore, <sub>Oct 83</sub>

Section B

*Thursday, Sept 29, 1983*

## Korea Journey Yields Long-Missing Soldiers' Graves

EDITOR'S NOTE: Capt. Clyde Fore of Bradenton is a retired Green Beret who first as a lieutenant of infantry and ultimately as an intelligence agent was heavily involved in the Korean War. A journalist in Bradenton during the '60s, Fore also is active in Project Freedom, a group of veterans of that conflict who are seeking to obtain positive identification of burial sites and other information about Americans still listed as missing in that and other wars. Fore and a group of other Project Freedom members went to Korea earlier this month seeking confirmation of information on graves of members of the infantry group in which Fore served as a lieutenant in the opening battles of the war. He was a platoon commander in the fighting at Ha Dong which is mentioned in this dispatch from Korea, an exclusive with the *Herald-Tribune*.

By CAPT. CLYDE FORE  
U.S. Army Retired

Special to the Herald-Tribune

SEOUL, Korea - Thirty-three years after bitter fighting which left hundreds of green American troops dead in "The Korean Conflict," two isolated, previously unknown burial sites containing the bodies of an estimated 50 to 80 American soldiers have been discovered.

The previously missing soldiers were members of the 23rd and 29th Infantry Regiments.

The identity of the soldiers is not known at this time and probably will not be determined in the near future because of the difficulties that exist, after three decades.

The burial sites were discovered by members of Project Freedom, with the aid of the (South) Korean Veterans

Association (KVA) and Republic of Korea (ROK) citizens living in each area. Project Freedom is an American organization devoted to the recovery of prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action. Also accompanying the search and discovery party were volunteer personnel stationed in Korea with the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force.

The first discovery was made on Sept. 10-11 near the villages of Uml, Gubdari and Sonsil, along the Nak-Tong River.

The common graves were mounded, in the Korean tradition. Local citizens adamantly insist that each such mound contains the bodies of U.S. soldiers. The U.S. Army has no record of the sites.

See KOREA, Page 2-BM

*OVER for remainder of "tear sheet"*



# Korea *all corrections made by C-Fare 9/28/83*

(Continued From Page 1-B)

The 1st Battalion, 23rd Regiment, 2nd Division, thrown into battle essentially untrained, is known to have engaged in fierce combat with vastly superior North Korean invasion units within this area in ~~July~~ 1950. *AUGUST-SEPT*

It is estimated that there may be 30 to 50 Missing In Action (MIA) or believed-killed-in-action (KIA) Americans secreted in the mounds.

On Sept. 17 and 18, the second location was pointed out by local citizens at Ha Dong. The site is believed to hold the graves of 20 to 30 soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 29th Infantry, killed in fighting there on July 27, 1950.

On that date, the battalion engaged highly trained North Korean forces who were pushing toward the vital port at Pusan.

Within approximately three hours, hundreds of Americans had been killed and an estimated 100-150 became prisoners of the North Koreans.

(Despite the Americans' heavy troop losses, the North Koreans did not succeed in their push to capture the port.)

Project Freedom spent years investigating and researching information regarding the two sites before traveling to Korea.

In Korea, the representatives of the organization obtained official ROK permission to conduct the search and later stated that KVA officials were instrumental in providing a host of varied services that greatly contributed to the successful search and discoveries.

The representatives of Project Freedom were Col. (Ret.) Lewis Millett, Medal of Honor holder and national chairman for the project; Dr. James Yeager, the project's national coordinator; Master Sgt. Barry Rhoden (Ret.), ~~Florida~~, who is the project's Florida coordinator, and this writer.

They were accompanied on Sept. 10-11 by Lt. Col. Ahn, ROK Ret., director of the KVA's international affairs division, and three American volunteers: U.S. Air Force Sgt. Lawrence Ward and James Ogburn, and SP4 John Millett, U.S. Army, son of Col. Millett.

The group also was accompanied by representatives of the KVA from city, district and regional offices.

Sgt. Rhoden was captured three separate times during the hectic, fluid fighting around Ha Dong. He escaped each time. But the third time it was only after a North Korean firing squad shot him and believed him dead from two wounds.

After the North Koreans left, Rhoden managed to crawl to an area where he was discovered by friendly troops.

*NK* Before the ~~ROK~~ squad shot him, Rhoden had witnessed the shooting and burial of other Americans.

On the discovery trip, Sgt. Rhoden was able to lead the group to the almost exact location of the shootings. There local ROK citizens and ROK veterans confirmed that "many" GIs were still buried among the graves of Korean nationals.

On Sept. 17-18, two ROK citizens who were present when Americans were buried at the Ha Dong site conferred with the search party and the Korean landowner of the grave site location and were adamant that a number of Americans were buried in a common grave and that the bodies had never been recovered.

The site had once been church grounds. The church no longer exists.

Ironically, Dr. Yeager, of Phoenix, Ariz., was held a prisoner at the same spot, before being "marched north" by North Korean guards.

Several months later, Dr. Yeager survived the execution of approximately 200 fellow POWs by the North Koreans, and with a few other survivors managed to escape and eventually reach American lines.

Col. Millett documented the discoveries and then delivered the data to Gen. Robert W. Sennewald, commander, U.S. Forces Korea. The KVA officials notified the Korean government.



THE BATTLE AT HADONG, KOREA, 27 July 1950:

After considering what the stakes were, the engagement at Hadong between the Third Battalion, 29th Infantry Regiment and elements of the 6th North Korean Peoples Army Division/Reinforced (armor and self-propelled 76mm guns), commanded by NKPA General Pang Ho San, was one of the most important battles of the so-called "Korean Conflict," as to the future of the Republic of Korea (ROK) as a non-communist governed nation; additionally, HaDong was probably the most expensive to the U.S. Army in that war (1950-53) in the ratio of loss (deaths) per unit strength (approximately three-fourths). The unit counted a strength of about 925 personnel on the dawn of 27 July 1950, plus a handful of ROK military, and on 28 July 1950, post-battle near HaDong, was only able to account for 182 effectives which were reorganized into two companies, "K" and "L"--- this survivor count would be slightly increased as survivors reached UN lines, and a handful of wounded within Pusan medical facilities was made known to the depleted unit (data obtained from records/letters within the National Archives, Washington, D.C., researched by C. Fore). Thus, the HaDong area, on 28 July 1950, was literally covered with sprawled army-green shapes of the 29th's death: some killed in battle; others wounded and then executed by NK soldiers (this statement based on witnesses' statements to C. Fore, at Osaka General Hospital (U.S. Army), Japan, July-August 1950, and from the testimony of Captain Alek Makarounis (POW) before a U.S. Senate subcommittee hearing of Korean War Atrocities, 1954, see enclosure No. 7 this letter). The awesome number of 29th Infantry dead were disposed of (buried) by the NKPA, who occupied the area until near the end of September 1950. Local ROK citizens and American POW's were forced to actually perform the task. Recent information obtained from HaDong ROK residents revealed that some wounded prisoners were forced to dig their own graves and then buried alive (that is the impression obtained during September 1983 visit to HaDong, translation of tape recordings of said conversations will provide details). Locating the exact sites of U.S. dead was further complicated by: the random, scattered sites; later death of U.S. soldiers (POW) at the hands of the NK; and the deaths of ROK civilians (bombing) and NK firing squads. Still not knowing the exact number, or even the approximate number of 29th Infantry dead in this area, or even other American POW's brought to the area and then shot by the NK, or dying from mortal wounds, has left this area still a potential location of unknown graves containing MIA-presumed dead. Candidly, the following is a brief account of how the Third Battalion, 29th Infantry came to be near HaDong, the morning of 27 July 1950:



Page 2 of 4 pages

The Third Battalion, 29th Infantry Regiment (3/29), newly brought to wartime TO/E strength (personnel only), first had warning orders...to move to Japan from Okinawa, 14 July 1950; however on 16 July 1950 the movement orders were changed to read Korea (at least 190 enlisted personnel were newly arrived from the U.S. via the the military transport ship, Walker). The 3/29, along with the 1/29, departed its home station (Okinawa) via the Japanese vessel, Takasaka Maru, arriving at the Korean port of Pusan, 22 July 1950; whereupon the 3/29 was assigned to the 19th Infantry Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division (Taro Leaf) and ordered to proceed to the city of Chinju.

The 19th Infantry at that time was disorganized and battered from engagement in the intense battle inl and around the City of Taejon (24th Division's Commanding General was captured here and the division 34th Infantry Regiment "took" so many casualties it was soon deactivated). Thus:

The 19th Infantry was not able to move in a westerly direction from Chinju to engage a massive North Korean Peoples Army force (estimated at 35,000), complete with T-34 tanks, self-propelled 76mm guns, artillery, and, even aircraft support (Yaks). The 4th and 6th NK Divisions-plus were targeted toward the vital, sole UN port of Pusan, moving via the HaDong, Chinju, Masan road(s) cutting across vast rice paddies and twist mountains/hills with no available force to oppose them except the two 29th battalions. Under different circumstances neither the 1st, nor the 3rd battalions, 29th Infantry would have been considered ready (fit) for combat for at least three months (six months without "need pressure"). You see:

The units were not combat trained as units. Their equipment was old (World War II) and some of the combat equipment was still "on order." The vehicles were old, tired. Many of the newly arrived enlisted members assigned both battalions didn't even know how to load an M-1 rifle and had to be taught enroute to Korea (the writer, then a platoon leader was assigned that chore for "I" Co, 3/29). While the entire 29th Infantry was supposed to be a regimental combat team with attached artillery, tanks, and engineers, etc., the 1/29 and 3/29 departed Okinawa, arrived Korea without such luxuries. And, the 3/29 when it did engage the NK, at Hadong, still had no supporting armor, nor artillery, not even an engineer (combat) unit in tow.

HaDong was vital to both forces, UN and NK. In the case of the NK, they were road bound because it was the end of July in Southern Korea. The valleys, eastward, en route to Chinju/Masan/Pusan were borderd by steep mountains and hills and, on either side of the few roads there were rice paddies-flooded. Even, modern tracked, military vehicles become bogged... HaDong is a road junction place (roads in 1950 were roughly one vehicle-wide, and dirt). HaDong's importance to the UN (U.S.) was:

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It was a place to "buy time." A place to force the lead NK units (6th NK Div./reinforced) to deploy for battle. A place where the NK forces would be concentrated because of the battle provided "best targeting" for U.S. aircraft that <sup>had</sup> limited "time over target," operating from Japan-sited airfields. The NK units had to be slowed until the 5th Regimental Combat Team, en route from Hawaii arrived in Korea and could join with units of the 25th Infantry Division to engage the subject NK Pusan drive with enough muscle to stop it! During the time frame in question, units of the 25th Division were heavily engaged with other NK forces and could not disengage. As, already noted, what was left of the 24th Infantry Division was reorganizing in the Chinju area but still not an effective fighting unit... If Pusan fell to the NK, that was "the end of the ball game!"

The fall, or capture, of Pusan would automatically have cut off the bulk of vital war material supplies to the U.S. forces within Korea and prevent further build up. It would have meant defeat. The U.S. combat strength had been so drastically reduced since the end of WW II, there was nothing left in the Far East to put into Korea, and little in the U.S. So, if the NK "took" Pusan, there were three courses of action remaining: 1) surrender all UN forces; 2) order the in-Korea forces to fight to the last man; and, 3), the use of atomic weapons by President Truman's order. (It's problematic, of course, but insomuch as the writer was a Top Secret Air Courier and Control Officer for JLC, proofing classified documents and destroying same, during 1951, I'm sure that it would have been the atomic route --- you see there were six couriers assigned to the AG Section, JLC, and that meant that we handled the most secret material at the UN Command and GHQ, in other words, when we were either proofing or burning awesome, secret knowledge passed in front of our eyes and that is the source of my guess). So:

The 3/29 was ordered to proceed to HaDong and engage the enemy. And, it did! It lasted about three hours but delayed the NK for a few days. Later the survivors of both 29th battalions would delay the NK for a few more days in the Chinju area (19th Infantry received credit but archives data reveals it was the 29th survivors, mostly). <sup>NOT</sup> The 1/29 had also engaged a portion of the NK force and was hurt, but nearly to the degree suffered by the 3/29.

What has been related about the 3/29 and HaDong is not complete. There is much more to the story involving the battalion's commander that is negative and while he contributed greatly to the awesome casualty rate of the unit, this is neither place nor time to enter into that aspect of the HaDong affair.

Members of Project Freedom were at HaDong, assigned to the 3/29, officer and enlisted. Some were captured and later escaped; some were luckier and managed to fight their way out where NK forces were not as thick; some were wounded, some were not... Very few POW's from the 3/29 who were unable to escape survived to see the end of hostilities on 27 July 1953.

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Fit for combat survivors of the 3/29 would become the base personnel for the Third Battalion of the 27th Infantry Regiment (Wolfhounds)---the Regimental Combat Team that became the terror of the North Koreans and later, Chinese.

\* \* \*

The following extract is from TROPIC LIGHTING AND TARO LEAF IN KOREA, By (then) Brig. Gen. G.B. Barth, Commanding General 25th Division Artillery, a detailed account of the fighting in Korea 1950-51. As far as is known the work was never published. General Barth is dead. The mimeographed work is the property of Col. W. Cathrae (Ret.), Sarasota, who loaned same to Project Freedom for research purposes (Col. Cathrae was S-3 of the 25th's DivArty during the time covered.

\*\*\*\* "Ever since the fall of Taejon we had watched two red arrow(s) creep down the map past our open left flank towards the south coast. On about July 25th the arrows turned east and headed for Pusan. Several days later a report came in saying that two battalions of the 29th Infantry, recently arrived from Okinawa, had been badly crippled near Hadong with the loss of 900 men. The next day our map showed a new symbol east of Chinju -- that of the 19th Infantry, a 24th Division Regiment that had been hastily reorganized after the fall of Taejon. On July 30th the 27th Combat Team was on its way south, destination Masan. The reasons behind our further withdrawal after General Walker's "no retreat" order became clear. The menacing red arrows on the map were the 4th and 6th North Korean Divisions headed for Pusan. They must be stopped at all costs to protect our supply base. Troops must be found to meet this threat and this could only be done by retiring and shortening our lines so that a full division could be freed for use at Masan. The division selected was our 25th."

\*\*\*\* "The 24th Division was charged with defense of the west flank\*\*\*only available troops consisted of the 19th and 21st Infantry, both much depleted in men and equipment since coming out of the Taejon fight\*\*\*With the 19th were the remnants of the two battalions of the 29th Infantry from the fight at Hadong."

\* \* \*

Project Freedom has reason to believe that there may be undiscovered U.S. Army dead within the Chinju area. But at this time we do not have the location of any such site but we are researching the area.

-end-



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RE. MEMBERS OF 29TH INFANTRY REGIMENT  
COMMEMORATED AT HONOLULU

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January 3, 1982

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*Clyde Fore*  
1208 67th Street NW  
Bradenton, Fla. 33529

Dear Clyde:

*Enclosed you will find a check for \$500.00, for you to utilize in your research work of the Haydon and 29th RCT endeavors. As you know the Grave Registration will be doing some work in Haydon, this coming Spring and the research that you will be doing could be very important for this endeavor.*

*Please accept this for the afore mentioned project. Project Freedom received a nice donation the latter part of December and it was stipulated that this amount be utilized for the gathering of information in reference to the early days of the Korean War and about the men that were apart of these days. That was the 29th and Haydong.*

*I have not forgotten our conversation in reference to Haydong, I am working on it now and will let you know if anything comes of it.*

*Talked to Dave Fortune this A.M. and he passed your New Years greetings on to me. Thanks and the same to you and your wife.*

Sincerely,

*Jim*  
James W. Yeager

PS: *I have just about finished the "Alpine Elite" The Gebirgjager really had quite a time fighting the Russians.*

"A lot of people talk about making sacrifices for God and country—but you have made them...A lot of people talk about hell and what it's like—but you have been there... A lot of people talk about heroism—but you have lived it."

by Rev. Edwin F. Taylor, chairman, YMCA Armed Services



*Ag't Berry Rhoden*

**KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES**

*"C" Co, 23rd Inf., 2nd Div*

**HEARING** *Umi*

BEFORE THE

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES**

OF THE

**PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON**

**INVESTIGATIONS**

OF THE

**COMMITTEE ON**

**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**UNITED STATES SENATE**

**EIGHTY-THIRD CONGRESS**

**FIRST SESSION**

**PURSUANT TO**

**S. Res. 40**

**PART 2**

**DECEMBER 8, 1953**

Printed for the Committee on Government Operations



**U. S. SENATOR CHARLES E. POTTER, OF MICHIGAN**

UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON : 1954

United States, I will pay my pro rata share of the transportation to see that they are moved out.

Thank you.

Senator POTTER. Thank you kindly.

The committee will be in recess until 2 o'clock. I understand, however, they were honored yesterday afternoon by having Mr. Vishinsky attack this committee, and we will have a statement at the beginning of the hearing this afternoon. It will apply to Mr. Vishinsky.

(Whereupon, at 12:13 p. m., the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 2 p. m. the same day.)

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

Senator POTTER. The committee will come to order.

This morning I learned that Andrei Vishinsky, the Soviet spokesman at the United Nations, denounced the efforts of this committee to make known the truth of the horrible atrocities to the American troops. Vishinsky stated that the Potter committee was part of a coordinated effort to explode the peace talks at Panmunjon. Of course, again, Mr. Vishinsky is fearful of the truth. Otherwise, he would accept Ambassador Lodge's request to establish an important investigating committee to learn the truth. I want to say to Mr. Vishinsky, and indeed to all the Soviet leaders, that we cannot build a permanent peace if the beastlike acts are swept under the table or under the rug as if they didn't happen.

The foundation of an enduring peace is justice. We seek justice for Sergeant Weinel, Sergeant Treffery, and for thousands of other GI's who fought for freedom. They, too, want to see justice carried out.

Mr. Vishinsky, it is now your move.

The first witness this afternoon is Sgt. Barry F. Rhoden.

Do you swear that the testimony you are about to give this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Sergeant RHODEN. I do, sir.

#### TESTIMONY OF SGT. BARRY F. RHODEN, HEADQUARTERS, FLORIDA MILITARY DISTRICT, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, would you identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present Army assignment?

Sergeant RHODEN. I am Sgt. Barry F. Rhoden, RA14329093. I am on duty with the headquarters, Florida Military District, in Jacksonville, Fla., sir.

My home is Macclenny, Fla.

Senator POTTER. Is that your home address?

Sergeant RHODEN. Just Macclenny, Fla.

Senator POTTER. Like mine is Sheboygan, Mich.?

Sergeant RHODEN. Right sir.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, would you tell the committee when you went to Korea and the outfit you were with at the time?

Sergeant RHODEN. I was a member of Company C of the 23d Infantry Regiment of the 2d Infantry Division, sir. We were stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., when the Korean war started. After



the Korean war started and we were alerted for shipment overseas, we left the States the 22d day of July, we landed in Korea the 1st of August, sir.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, will you tell the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Sergeant RHODEN. Well, sir, we were on the line just below Taeju, around the Pusan perimeter, when on the night of the 30th of August the North Koreans hit us, and I was cut off with my squad from the rest of the company.

Senator POTTER. What was your duty with the squad at that time?

Sergeant RHODEN. I was an assistant squad leader of a 57-mm. recoilless rifle. We were cut off from the rest of the company, and after the North Koreans overrun the positions, just about annihilated the company, I understand now, sir, we were cut off and had expended just about all of our ammunition, and we decided to try to get back to our lines, to see if we could slip through. We were moving along the edge of a lake, in an effort to reach our lines, and we could hear the fighting over in the village not too far away, when a bunch of North Koreans opened fire on us from up in the hills. We didn't have but very little ammunition and we were outnumbered and we started running, sir, just enough to stay out of their rifle range. They were coming behind us. When we rounded a bend in the trail, I saw out across the rice paddy what looked to be like maybe a couple of companies of infantrymen. They had on the GI uniform, even our boots, sir, and steel helmets. After looking through the binoculars, we were all certain that it was the American troops pulling back, and maybe it was even some of our own company. As the North Koreans behind us moved up close enough they began to fire on us and we found out that the ones in the rice paddy were also North Koreans and they opened fire on us. There was a lake behind us and the hills in front of us. We started to go to the hills and they opened fire on us from the top of a little hill and we were hemmed in and taken prisoner.

As they closed in on us 8 of the fellows were killed, and the other 4 of us were taken prisoner. After they milled around with us, right after they captured us, while they were closing in on us, one of my buddies was wounded, a bullet coming through his helmet, just creasing him along the side of his head, and he fell, pretended that he was dead.

One of the North Koreans, one of them came up to him—the blood had covered his face all over—they went up to him put the rifle to his temple and shot him a couple of times. The other two fellows were bayoneted and shot 3 or 4 times each, sir.

The other two fellows, I believe, was dead, but this buddy of mine, I know that he was playing dead. After they had been at it and shot the fellows, sir, they moved out.

First they took our boots, our fatigue jackets, or mine, and all of our identification, our dogtags. The officer who was in charge of the group, sir—I guess he was making a collection of dogtags as he had a nice roll of them, with chains, sir. He had all of our watches, rings, everything we had. He was like a kid at a Christmas tree. He was getting a big kick out of it. They had taken our boots. They tried to trade us some of their shoes for them, but none of them would



fit. They loaded us down with their ammunition and some of their personal belongings and worked us all day.

Senator POTTER. Carrying ammunition?

Sergeant RHDEN. Yes, sir; we were carrying North Korean ammunition.

Senator POTTER. Of course that is also a violation of the provisions of the Geneva Convention, to use a captured personnel as carriers of ammunition.

Sergeant RHDEN. I believe so, sir.

During the day they made several attempts to shoot us, sir, but there was this one officer. I take it that he was the political officer by the pamphlets that he was carrying with him. He would stop them and let them beat us with their rifle butts, spit on us, abuse us around, but he wouldn't let them shoot us.

When it come down to that, he would stop them.

Several times during the day we were questioned about how many planes we had, how much artillery we had, how many men was in Korea, and none of them could speak English. All of the questions was by drawings on paper and signs. He would draw a picture of a tank on a piece of paper and want us to mark how many. We marked 7 or 8 and we got a beating. But we would start marking and continue marking until he made us quit and it seemed to satisfy him.

That night, sir, we had moved up and set up a roadblock around an outfit that they had surrounded and one infantry company started to attack.

Senator POTTER. When you say "We" did that, who are you referring to?

Sergeant RHDEN. The North Koreans, sir, that had us prisoners. They had the roadblock set up around the company that they had surrounded, or the outfit, and one infantry company started up in a skirmish line and the North Koreans left behind a force to fight the delaying action and the main body began to move back north, I guess it was, sir, and after going for quite a distance, I guess maybe 3 to 5 miles, they stopped and again questioned us, sir.

The officer had me up questioning me. It was a different officer from the one that had been protecting us, sir. I guess he stayed behind. He had me up questioning me, and he would give me a small piece of paper when he finished, I don't know, just a real small piece, and on it was mimeographed the words "You are about to die the most horrible kind of death."

That was the only statement there was on it that I could read. There was some Korean writing on it, sir. And the rest of the North Koreans had gathered around to watch him. After reading the piece of paper, he motioned for me to go back to where my buddies were, and they were standing a short distance away, sir, approximately the distance from me to you, and as I turned around, sir, I was shot in the back. The force of the bullet knocked me down and I lay there pretending that I was dead and praying while they shot the other fellows.

After they shot the other fellows, they stepped over me, bayoneted the other fellows a couple of times and after a while they left. After they had left, I began to move around, when I thought it was safe, and I knowed that the other fellows were alive, sir, so I made them as



comfortable as I could, and I blacked out, sir. When I come to, the fellows were dead. There was one of the fellows that I understand now, sir, made it out of the four of us, another one, but at the time I had it figured that he was dead, sir. I did check and in my own mind, sir, I figured that this fellow was in the bunch that was dead.

I moved up and tried to get back to our lines. When I got to the stream, sir, I drank a lot of water and I blacked out. I don't remember anything until it was early morning. I was wandering around in a rice paddy, calling my buddy, the one they had shot that was playing dead when we were first taken prisoner, and a patrol of North Koreans again found me. They made me walk up the side of a hill and they had me stand there while they formed a half circle around me, kind of, and they were playing the cat and mouse game. One would put his rifle up like he was going to shoot me, then take it down. They would laugh and another one would go through it.

After a while I was tired, sir, and at the time I was in a lot of pain and I was hoping they would do it and get it over with. So I sat down, trying to get them to do it, and it made them awful mad. They would try to make me stand up. I spit back at them. I was at the time in such pain, sir, I wanted to provoke them into shooting me.

They saw that they couldn't make me stand up, so they backed off and I figured that was it, when the planes started strafing, one of our marine planes, sir, and the officer in charge of the group was hit by one of the bullets and rolled right where I was sitting. He had a little pot about so big that they mix their rice in. I don't know why I picked the pot up, sir, but I grabbed the pot and seeing the plane, sir, it give me a little extra push. I started again to try to get away, and I was walking off down the hill as fast as I could, and at the bottom of the hill two of them come from behind the rocks with burp guns. They wanted to know in signs as to where I was going.

I motioned that the ones on the hill were sending me down to the stream to get some water for them, and at the time the planes were strafing them up on the hill, sir, and I guess I had a pretty good story and the little pot helped to convince them and they let me go. When I got to the stream, it had pretty steep banks, and so I made my way up the hill and hid in a small peapatch. They came looking for me but didn't find me. The rest of the time I would hide out during the day and move at night, until I made it back to our lines, sir.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, was it an officer that gave the order for you to be shot?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir; it was the officer in charge of the group that shot us.

Senator POTTER. The officer actually did the shooting, then?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir; he had the burp gun like the one on the table here.

Senator POTTER. Would you hold up that?

Would you have him identify the type of burp gun used?

Sergeant RHODEN. It was the one with the drum.

Senator POTTER. I am sorry, one of our Senators has borrowed our equipment.

Sergeant RHODEN. The officer had it slung over his shoulder, sir, and he is the one that shot us. He mentioned for me to turn around to go to where the fellows were standing and as I turned around I done an about-face and he shot me. But the officer is the one that

done the shooting. I know that he was in charge of the group because he had runners coming to him all the time. There was North Korean GI's coming up and when he gave the orders, the fellows jumped around. So I know that he was an officer.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, it has been pretty much of a pattern, with the testimony we received from the other witnesses yesterday and so far today, that in a majority of the cases, either the officers fired the weapons themselves that murdered our men, or else it was on their orders that the firing was done. It would seem to me that it establishes quite a definite pattern that it was a policy, a command decision on the part of the Communists to mistreat and to murder American prisoners of war.

Sergeant RHODEN. The officer, sir, the one that I said that I believe was the political officer, he had the little leaflets that he would give us to read and all day this officer, he would let them beat us, but he would stop them from shooting us. Every time they would start to shoot us, he would stop them. In the afternoon, when the infantry come, was coming in the skirmish line, the officer got away from us some way, sir, but during the day this officer, this political officer, sir, in questioning me there was one of them that questioned us and he would get a little rough, on beating us around, and he would come up like he was real mad about it and he would run them away.

He sat down with us and he would point to me and to himself and do like that [indicating], and I would do this [indicating], meaning I didn't know what he was talking about, that I didn't understand. He went through the motion again, and again I motioned. I didn't know what he was meaning. Then he reached out and touched me again, and himself, and he shook hands with me. He was meaning buddy-buddy, sir. You get pretty good at this sign language after a while.

I knew I had been stalling long enough and the other three that were with me told me he was trying to get friendly. "Ask him for something to eat." I motioned that we wanted to chop-chop, sir. They had their rations with them. When I did, I got a beating from this officer. He wouldn't give us anything to eat. Then they told me to ask him for some water and I did ask him for some water and he sent a little pot off to have them bring us some water and they returned with about this much [indicating] in the pot. I split the water among the other fellows and he was astounded by it. He didn't know what to think. The water was for me. But the point I was trying to get to, sir, is he would let them beat us around, but he would stop them every time they started to shoot us.

Senator POTTER. That is the man who you think was a political officer?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Do you have any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to just get one thing straight.

You were shot the end of the first day of your capture, is that correct?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How long did it take you to find your way back to our lines?



Sergeant RHODEN. I was shot, sir, on the 31st of August in 1950, and I made it back to our lines on the 7th of September 1950.

Mr. O'DONNELL. During the time you were trying to find your way back, you were seriously wounded. What did you live on for food and drink?

Sergeant RHODEN. The North Koreans, while we were a prisoner, as they passed through the gardens, they would get what they could out of the gardens, and while I was trying to get back to the lines I looked through some of the gardens but they had been through the area. I found one little cucumber about so big that I ate. That was the only thing that I did have to eat.

Mr. O'DONNELL. During the entire 6- or 7-day period that is all you had to eat?

Sergeant RHODEN. The bullet fractured my spine, nicked my spinal cord and through my bladder. It split my pelvis bone.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How long were you hospitalized?

Sergeant RHODEN. Approximately 6 months, sir.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Carr?

Mr. CARR. Sergeant, since your return to this country, have you received any mail from, shall we say persuasive types of persons?

Sergeant RHODEN. I did receive, sir, I was on this public appearance tour right after I returned, and I received some mail from around the State of Florida, sir, where I was touring at the time, from people, trying to discourage me, sir. It was the same kind of stuff as the political officer had given us to read, sir.

Mr. CARR. You mean that you were subject to Communist propaganda even after you returned to this country?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir. That is what I figured it was. One of them, sir, I do remember them calling President Truman a puke from Missouri, and I don't remember just what they did have. They were all along the same pattern.

Mr. CARR. You turned these into your G-2 or to your officer?

Sergeant RHODEN. I turned them in to our public information officer and he turned them in to the G-2.

Senator POTTER. Do you recall the postmark on the letters?

Sergeant RHODEN. There was 1 or 2 from Daytona Beach, some from Miami, and St. Petersburg, I remember, sir. It was all in Florida, sir.

Senator POTTER. Any other questions?

Mr. Jones?

Mr. JONES. No questions.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, I will ask you the same question I have asked the other witnesses before the committee. From the experience that you witnessed firsthand at the hands of the Communists, what do you think of communism as a way of life? What do you think of people in this country who advocate overthrowing our Government by force and violence and establishing a Communist regime?

Sergeant RHODEN. How anyone as educated, sir, as the American people can fall for the Communist line, I just can't see, sir. If they could just see the way the people are living under the Communists, I think that it would be enough for them right there, sir. How they can fall for it I just can't see. Personally, I want no part of it. I was fighting them in Korea, and to me the people here in America who should know better that will fall for the Communists, I want

no part of them, sir. I feel no different toward them than I did the ones in Korea.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, I want to thank you for appearing before the committee. I want to say that as each witness comes before the committee, I take greater pride every minute in being an American. You do credit to yourself, to your family, and to your country.

Sergeant RHODEN. We certainly have, sir, and I wouldn't trade anything we have here for anything over there that the people have to offer. Thank you, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. May the record show that the files of the Judge Advocate General's Office of the Army reflect that there was another survivor, an American PW, whose statement fully corroborates Sergeant Rhoden's.

Senator POTTER. Captain Buttrey?

Will you raise your right hand, please. Do you swear that the testimony you are about to give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Captain BUTTREY. I do, sir.

**TESTIMONY OF CAPT. LINTON J. BUTTREY, HEADQUARTERS,  
MRTC, CAMP PICKETT, VA.**

Senator POTTER. Captain, will you identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present military assignment.

Captain BUTTREY. My first name is Linton, the middle is J., B-u-t-t-r-e-y.

Senator POTTER. I wonder, Captain, if you could sit a little closer to the table. Thank you.

What is your present assignment?

Captain BUTTREY. My present assignment is with Headquarters, MRTC, Camp Picket, Va.

Senator POTTER. Camp Picket, Va.

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. What is your home address?

Captain BUTTREY. My home address is Nashville, Tenn.

Senator POTTER. When did you go to Korea and what unit were you with at the time?

Captain BUTTREY. I was with a medical company, the 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, and we arrived in Korea, Pusan, the 4th of July 1950.

Senator POTTER. Will you describe to the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir.

I was not a prisoner of war, as these other gentlemen have testified. I had the unfortunate circumstance of having patients shot on the litters.

Senator POTTER. I think in order to fully understand the situation, if you will tell us a little bit of the military situation at that time, as far as your unit was concerned; it would help.

Captain BUTTREY. Well, this particular drive, I suppose, or battle, began on Sunday morning, about daybreak, up on the Kum River area, just north or northwest of Kumchon, sometimes called Kensa. We were completely surrounded, inasmuch as the American troops at that



**ALEX MAKAROUNIS**

**KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES**

**C.O. "I" Co, 3/29<sup>th</sup> Inf (24<sup>th</sup> Div)  
HADONG**

**HEARING**

BEFORE THE

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES**

OF THE

**PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON**

**INVESTIGATIONS**

OF THE

**COMMITTEE ON**

**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**UNITED STATES SENATE**

**EIGHTY-THIRD CONGRESS**

**FIRST SESSION**

**PURSUANT TO**

**S. Res. 40**

**PART 3**

**DECEMBER 4, 1953**

Printed for the Committee on Government Operations



**U. S. SENATOR CHARLES E. POTTER, OF MICHIGAN**

UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON : 1954

40434

*also see page No 179  
the "Suncheon Tunnel  
MASSACRE"  
fr. which Jim  
YEAGER, Project  
Freedom Coordinator  
Survived.*

*Testimony  
pages 170-179  
of Makarounis*

Mr. JARAMILLO. No, sir; I didn't. When they give orders for this Korean to take us back, we didn't think that he was going to shoot us.

Senator POTTER. You had no knowledge in the beginning that they were going to shoot you?

Mr. JARAMILLO. No, sir.

Senator POTTER. What do you do now?

Mr. JARAMILLO. I am unemployed at the present, sir.

Senator POTTER. I hope you get a job. You certainly exemplify wonderful courage and the will to live. You have seen communism at first hand.

Mr. JARAMILLO. Sir, to me, I think that the American people, the ones that choose to live under the Communist rule, are crazy.

Senator POTTER. Anybody who would live under Communist rule is crazy?

Mr. JARAMILLO. Yes. I don't know Mr. McCarthy, but I think that doing what he is doing to fight communism, I'm for it.

Senator POTTER. You think Senator McCarthy is doing a good job in fighting communism?

Mr. JARAMILLO. Yes; I do.

Senator POTTER. Thank you kindly for your coming here and relating an experience that I know you would like to forget and I sincerely hope that all the tragedy in your life is behind you and you will have a long, happy, successful life.

Mr. JARAMILLO. Thank you, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may the record show that Sergeant Knight is still alive and he has furnished a statement to the War Crimes Section and it fully corroborates the story that has been related this morning by Mr. Jaramillo?

Senator POTTER. Captain Makarounis.

I would like to add while we are waiting for Captain Makarounis, if there is anybody here who knows of a position that might be open so we can help this man who was just on the stand to get a job, there is one boy who certainly deserves every aid that a grateful people can give him for good employment.

Captain, do you swear the testimony that you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. I do solemnly swear.

**TESTIMONY OF CAPT. ALEXANDER G. MAKAROUNIS, LOWELL, MASS.**

Senator POTTER. Captain, will you identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and where you are stationed at the present time?

I believe you have a prepared statement; is that true?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. Yes; I do.

Senator POTTER. Feel free to go right ahead and give your statement. I believe it is correct that you have written an article outlining the experience that you have had, so if you care to read from your prepared statement feel free to do so. What is your home address, Captain?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. My name is Alexander George Makarounis, captain, Infantry, O58962, United States Army. My home address is 548 Fletcher Street, Lowell, Mass.



My military address presently is the Walter Reed Army Hospital, Washington, D. C.

My story as told here is what I personally saw, heard, and suffered along with hundreds of other fellow American soldiers who were captured by the Communist North Korean Army. What I personally did not see or hear I was told from the lips of fellow American prisoners with my group. To allow me to relate my complete story would take hours and thousands upon thousands of words, for there is much to tell. This committee in executive hearings agreed to allow two magazine articles into the record, one of which appeared in March 1951, in *Argosy*, and again in April 1953, in *Adventure*. This story is titled "I Survived the Korean Death March." I have a copy here I would like to show. This was the picture when I was first liberated on October 20, 1950, in Pyongyang, North Korea.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Captain, may we have that made a part of the record as an exhibit?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. Yes.

Senator POTTER. It will be made a part of the record.

(The article was marked as "Exhibit No. 22" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Captain MAKAROUNIS. This picture shows a beard of approximately 3 months. I never knew I had that heavy a beard, but I do now.

The second article is in the Roman Columban Fathers Publication, *The Far East*, published in May of 1951. This story is titled "I Met Them in Jail," namely, three Columban Fathers, missionary priests.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Could we prevail upon you to let us have that as an exhibit?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Without objection, that will be made part of the record as an exhibit.

(The article was marked as "Exhibit 23" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Captain MAKAROUNIS. This story is fact, as told in my own words by me in November 1950, following my liberation as a prisoner. This is the truth and it is the actual thing as I saw it and told it back in 1950. My story tells of the suffering, the wounds, and the courage and guts of our soldiers, officers, and Columban Father missionaries. It establishes our treatment as captured and wounded American soldiers and Roman Catholic missionaries in the early days of the Korean war. It shows the filth, the brutality, the forced Communist interrogation and propaganda thrust upon us, and the nonexistence of medical care, the lack of food to survive, the forced continuous marches, and the infamous Korean death march from which 33 out of 376 survived and are alive today.

To corroborate this infamous death march story a Maj. William Locke, Air Force, Lt. James Smith, Lt. Douglas Blaylock, Sergeant First Class Sharpe, Sergeant First Class Kumagai, Corporal Arikawa, Private First Class Martin, Mr. Sylvester Volturo, and a small number of others who make up the 33 sole survivors from the Korean death march and the Sunchon Tunnel massacre, which is the one and same group that I was prisoner of. I shall read excerpts from this story which tells in over 31,000 words the numerous details, names, places, conditions, and other facts of evidence.



The who, when, where, what, how, and many times why is told here. This is actually something instilled in us as basic trainees in the United States Army. I was company commander of I Company, 29th Infantry Regiment, stationed in Okinawa.

In July 1950 we were alerted for duty in Japan following the outbreak of hostilities in Korea. This was changed a few days later to movement to Korea, the place of hostilities. While waiting to go to Korea, I remember the photograph carried in the Far East publication of the Stars and Stripes of the first atrocity that was committed in the war by the Communist North Korean Army. It was that of four American soldiers, whom I believe were drivers of jeeps with trailers carrying ammunition to the front, who had their hands tied behind them and were shot through the head and back. This was a violation of the rules of land warfare.

Having been assigned to duty with German prisoners of war during World War II I was extremely familiar with the Geneva Convention rules governing prisoners of war. Being a soldier I am familiar with the rules of land warfare adhered to by all civilized countries of the world. We landed in Pusan, South Korea, on the morning of July 24, 1950. Only 2 battalions of the 29th Infantry Regiment were committed from Okinawa. They were the First and Third Battalions.

From Pusan we moved on to Masan Chinju. We became attached to the 19th Infantry Regiment at Chinju. On July 25, 1950, my battalion, the 3d Battalion of the 29th Infantry Regiment, received a mission of moving to the area of a town called Hadong and engaging around 200 guerrillas. Instead of 200 guerrilla troops, we engaged leading elements of 4 Communist North Korean divisions moving down to form what we commonly know as the Pusan Perimeter.

The Third Battalion was practically decimated at Hadong on July 27, 1950. I was shot through the back and taken prisoner.

The first atrocity I knew and believed beyond any doubt was committed by the Communist North Korean Army was on July 27, 1950. Upon 18 to 24 multiple wounded American soldiers from our battalion were left behind at a road junction approximately 200 yards from the place of my capture. They were murdered by the Communist Army, for I saw them alive. They were piled up one on top of another in a pile. We never saw them again and their bodies were never found. I believe they are still listed as missing in action by the Defense Department.

Our battalion had a handful of South Korean soldiers and officers attached to it. Among them was the former South Korean Chief of Staff of the Army who had been relieved following the fall of Seoul. My company, I Company, had three such South Korean soldiers attached to it. These South Korean soldiers when captured by the Communist army were murdered by being bayoneted in the rice paddies on the 27th of July 1950. This was following their capture as prisoners. Their number was from 5 to 10. This was reported to me by fellow American soldier-prisoners from my company who had seen this atrocity committed on the battlefield.

I estimated approximately 150 American soldiers from our battalion were captured on July 27, 1950. The majority were wounded. The Communists loaded about 6 of our own captured jeeps and took approximately 30 seriously injured prisoners into the town of Hadong,



a distance of 4 miles. The remainder of the prisoners marched into the city.

During this ride hundreds of Communist army troops marching on either side of the road of these four North Korean divisions would swing their rifles at we prisoners on the jeeps striking many of the prisoners, who were wounded.

The one and only time we received medical care during my captivity was on the evening of July 27, 1950. Four North Korean Communists army medical first-aid men applied some sulfanilamide powder and some iodine with a strip of gauze to approximately 30 of the captured seriously wounded American prisoners. None of us could walk or crawl but a short distance.

For example, one soldier was shot in both legs by small-arms fire, both legs being broken. Another, 17 years of age from California, had a hole in the base of his spine approximately 4 inches long and 3 inches wide.

On July 28, 1950, approximately 100 prisoners of war, American, started a march from Hadong to Seoul, South Korea, under Communist army guards. On the 31st of July 1950, 2 other soldiers and I escaped from Hadong, all 3 of us having been wounded on the 27th of July 1950.

The corporal who escaped with me was shot in the kneecap. The private first class was shot through the thigh, and I was shot through the back.

I would like to add here about the one and only time that we had food during our first 4 days of capture. About food, there wasn't a great deal. On the third evening—at least I think it was the third evening—they, the North Korean Army guards, brought us the water pail filled with rice and there were flies all over it. Some of the men ate it, flies and all, and I tried putting mine on a piece of paper and maybe took 1 or 2 bites. By the time we finished, three-fourths of the pail was still full of the stuff, and that was all the food they ever gave us until I made my first escape.

I was a bit delirious at this time and felt sure I would die in Hadong. Being a soldier I felt sure I would not die in Communist hands. Five days later following my first escape I was recaptured with my two fellow American soldiers in a small Korean village where we were in a so-called doctor's office. We had found some soiled bandages, and sulfanilamide powder and we proceeded to redress our wounds. I believe we were all suffering from shock.

Following our recapture by the North Korean Communists army we were transferred from village to village and finally to the city jail in Kwanju, South Korea. All these jails to which we were committed until we reached Taejon also had civilian prisoners. This was a violation of the Geneva Convention in handling prisoners of war.

In Kwanju we met 3 Roman Catholic Columban missionaries who had also been taken prisoners in the port city, Mokpo. Among the 3 missionaries was an American monsignor and 2 missionary priests from Ireland. I will never forget these 3 Columban missionaries, for we were put in the cell with them in the early morning hours. The first morning that I awoke and turned over, opening my eyes, they were looking at me kind of smiling, 3 Roman Catholic priests.



I have entered their names here, but they are still missing. One was a monsignor from America—Chicago—and the other 2 were from Ireland. Two of the priests, the monsignor and 1 from Ireland, were formerly prisoners of the Japanese during World War II.

The monsignor was a prisoner of the Japanese for 6 months, and was repatriated on the *Gripsholm* back to the United States, where he entered the United States Army as a chaplain.

The other priest from Ireland was a captive of the Japanese for 3½ years in Korea. This is where he learned to speak, read, and write Korean fluently, for in the years 1905 to 1945 the teaching of the national tongue of Korean was prohibited by the Japanese, as he explained to me.

All 3 of them were missionaries, and they had been arrested about a week after the war started. They, all 3, expected to be shot, but it didn't seem to bother them. If it did, they didn't let on. I mean by that the monsignor was always cheering us up. Once we heard a bird chirping outside the window, and he said, "That's a good sign, lad, that's an omen of hope." He said exactly that. I remember the words.

One of the missionaries from Ireland would sing, mostly Irish songs, and once he danced the jig, and one other time I will not likely forget he sang *Far Away Places*, and we cried like babies, all six of us.

Senator POTTER. In other words, they had a greater faith than communism.

Captain MAKAROUNIS. They certainly did, sir.

From Kwanju to Taejon our hands were handcuffed with handirons and the hands of the priests were tied with rope. I might say before we moved out from Kwanju we were told that we would be going to Seoul. Generally at this time we were happy. We really were. We got onto a truck, 32 of us. There were 2 other American soldier prisoners who were in the jail, but in separate cells from us. They joined us. But, like I said, we were quite happy. I mean by that we had been told there were lots of American prisoners in Seoul and also that there was good food and the Red Cross was there, and we figured we could write letters and get letters and that our folks would find out we were all right. So we were generally encouraged.

I hope nobody will take offense if I say here that most of the Koreans I met reminded me of lawyers. You know, you ask a lawyer a question, and he'll give you all the points for and all the points against, but you'll never get anything definite out of him. The North Koreans were just like that, except when you did get a definite answer it was almost always a lie. I don't mean that is necessarily true of lawyers, of course. I mention that because there was no Red Cross. There was nothing of what they had promised us in Seoul when we finally arrived.

Anyway, we started off, and I remember two things especially. First, these handcuffs were the kind that get tighter as you struggle. Well, with the fast driving and going over these bad mountain roads we jerked all the time. You couldn't help it, and the cuffs would tighten. It was very painful. Also, about the guards on the truck: We judged them to be front-line troops who maybe had been given a break, and they hated us. You could tell that right away. As we rode along they would point their guns at the hills and shoot and then laugh and sing, and if we moved an inch they jabbed their guns in our ribs and laughed again. I figure this was just more of the good old Korean sense of humor. We were on the truck for 3 nights straight. We would drive



at night, and every morning we would be thrown into a jail cell and given a rice ball. Then at dusk off we'd go again. It was cold, too. Even though our bodies were huddled close together, we always seemed to be shivering and our teeth chattered.

All of us, including the missionaries, went through constant interrogation through my captivity until I reached Taejon in late August or early September 1950. It was constant interrogation and yelling at us by English-speaking North Korean officers. They kept asking us over and over why we had come to Korea. They told us we were invaders and they continuously blamed Truman, MacArthur, and the Wall Street capitalists as responsible for the war. During all these interrogations and questionings on many occasions the Communist North Korean Army officers would take their pistols and revolvers, cock the pieces, point them at our heads, and demand that we admit that we were there as invaders; that Truman, MacArthur, and the Wall Street capitalists were responsible for the war, and to sign papers to this effect. To my knowledge, none of us signed. I might add that up to this point our food had consisted of 2 rice balls or 2 bailli balls per day. There was no medical care of any kind whatsoever. The shoes of all other poor soldiers were taken away from them by the Communist Army guards. All our movement up to Taejon and from there to Seoul was done at night. It was at Taejon that the three Columban missionaries and we split never to see each other again. I shall always remember what the monsignor told me when we first met. He repeated many times, "Everything will come out all right in the end if you trust in God."

It was at Taejon that I met my first large group of American prisoners of war. There were approximately 91 of us. As soon as I arrived at one of the two prisoner rooms I was instructed by an American master sergeant prisoner, to disfigure my fatigue clothing and cut up my shoes. Otherwise they would be taken from me by the Communist guards as they had done to the majority of the 91 other prisoners.

In the room I was in, a big room about 40 by 60 feet, I guess there were maybe 60 GI's. In one just like it next door were 30 or so more Americans, plus a lot of South Korean prisoners. In my room were two young lads who each had a limb amputated by a Korean doctor. One had lost his arm almost up to his shoulder and the other had his foot removed right above the ankle. They were supposed to be recuperating in this room. That is what they had been told. The stench in the room could not be described and the floor was covered with filth because we American GI prisoners could not relieve ourselves by getting out. Only at certain times of the day would the guards let us go out to the latrine downstairs.

The many details of our lack of medical care, striking, and maltreatment of the American prisoners by the Communist guards are given in the two magazine articles which are being admitted into the record.

From Taejon 60 prisoners were forced to march to Seoul, Korea, by rail and by foot. A brief distance of this was by rail at night. I learned two words while a prisoner: They are habshabe, meaning faster and faster, and skocheskoche, meaning a long distance. We continuously all through our captivity kept hearing these words from our Communist guards.



During the march from Taejon to Seoul we were continuously receiving the bayonets of the guards across our backs for we were not moving fast enough. A majority of the 80 prisoners had no shoes, had no outer clothing, and had bleeding diarrhea. The majority of the prisoners were also wounded. We received but two rice balls of food each day. There was no medical attention.

On September 11, 1950, in the morning we entered Seoul, Korea, on our march. Something happened just before that just as we were entering the city. I didn't see it myself, but I was told by a fellow prisoner. A man whose name I cannot remember just fell down on the ground in the vicinity of the airport at Seoul. A couple of GI's carried him a little distance but he was just dead weight. They couldn't take him any farther. So they put him down by the side of the road in a kind of field like.

About then a column of North Korean wounded came along. There was a North Korean officer in charge. One GI was standing right there beside this man who had fallen. He stated this officer kicked the GI who had fallen in the face several times. The man standing tried to revive the man on the ground. This officer who kicked this GI on the ground left for approximately a minute and came back with a submachine gun. He leveled the gun at this GI on the ground and sprayed him, and that was the end of him. He also walked on laughing.

On September 11, 1950, in the morning we entered Seoul, Korea. They made a public spectacle of us by marching us all through the main streets of the city at a very fast rate of speed. This was at a time during a United Nations air raid on the city by B-29 bombers. It was in Seoul that we first met our first large group of American prisoners of war. There were approximately 400, including 10 officers. From about the 15th of September 1950 or so the air raids by the United Nations on Seoul became intense and there were many jets and fighters hitting the city on the outskirts. We were told we would be going to Pyongyang, which was north of the 38th parallel, and we were supposed to be going to the main prison camp in Korea. We were also told that General Dean was in this camp. I do not believe any of us had any idea that we would be making the infamous Korean death march.

While in Seoul we lost approximately 12 to 24 prisoner soldiers who died of malnutrition and pneumonia. I believe on the 20th of September 1950, 376 American soldiers and officers started on the Korean death march to Pyongyang, North Korea, under the Communist North Korean Army guards headed by an officer of the Communist Army. It was during this march, which took about 20 days, that we covered well over 200 miles. This death march between these 2 cities reduced our men from 376 to 296, a loss of 80 men. The majority of the fallen 80 men met their death due to the inhuman treatment by the Communist North Korean army guards. The officers in charge personally murdered those prisoners who had fallen back to the rear of the column and were physically unable to walk. A small handful died in the school building, where we were quartered each day, from pneumonia, starvation, and the lack of medical care.

One day on this march at the first large school building that we were quartered they brought us this fish. It was about a foot long and it had the tail, and the head, and the eyes in it, and it was dry.



We sort of opened the belly. I believe the guards showed us how to open it and when we did you could name practically any color in the rainbow and there were bugs of all those colors inside that fish. I immediately threw it right on the floor and so did Major Locke, but some of the men ate theirs, bugs and all, and it didn't seem to do them any harm.

Later we learned how to peel the skin off and scrape away the bugs and if you were hungry enough, which we were, the bugs didn't actually taste too bad at all.

Another thing was the nurse who accompanied us on this march a partial distance. She and a Korean doctor who had been taking supposedly care of the sick in Seoul joined up with us in this same school house. She was a big heavy woman—big legs, big arms. She was dressed in a regular Korean Army uniform, pants and all, and she carried a carbine. She never did do any nursing that I was aware of, but when we started out again she'd fire the carbine constantly on to the side of the road. This was toward the evening of each day and she'd keep yelling "Habe, habe," She could not understand English well, which was lucky for her, and maybe for us, too, because I don't need to tell you what some of the GI's said in her hearing.

This is as good a place as any to mention the three Japanese-American boys. I am not sure how to spell their names, but Sergeant First Class Kumagai, and Corporal Arikawa, and a sergeant whom I cannot mention, they acted as interpreters for us and they were very popular with all of us, for they were always willing to interpret and sometimes they didn't get any sleep at all in a full day. Besides, if it wasn't for Sergeant Kumagai, I wouldn't be here today and neither would Major Locke.

During this march our food consisted of rice balls, North Korean army crackers, dried fish containing all kinds of maggots and worms, and besides not being sufficient in quantity, they would only often give us one rice ball each day.

Senator POTTER. Captain, I wonder how much longer your statement will be and whether we should recess for lunch now. How much more do you have?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. Just a few more pages, sir. Your pleasure, though.

Senator POTTER. All right. You continue.

Captain MAKAROUNIS. The Communist guards never shared the same food that they doled out to us. As we would go through villages they would go off into village and get chickens, for example, and corn. They would bring this back and eat it with relish right in front of us, offering us none of it.

On the 10th day of October 1950 we reached Pyongyang. Our men were dying at the rate of 4 to 6 a day after we reached the city. It was during this march from Seoul to Pyongyang that the men suffered from bleeding infected feet, for the majority were barefooted. Every one of our group suffered from bleeding dysentery and still we received no medical care. The men would try to stop every 10 or 20 yards to try to relieve themselves, but the Communist guards would not even permit this. They would strike the soldiers with their bayonets or rifle butts across their backs and bodies.



During that march we would receive a 10-minute break every 2 to 3 hours only. At first this break consisted of standing up on the road. We were not even allowed to sit down.

By this time if you could have seen our column you would have said we weren't American. You would have called us rabble and you would have been right. We all had beards except the men who were too young to have any whiskers at all. Every single man had a touch of the GI's, as I called bleeding diarrhea. As we walked along you would see men relieving themselves every 20 yards or so and you'd see guards forcing them up at the point of a bayonet before they were finished. All of our clothes were caked with filth and some men's fatigues were indescribable.

By this time we weren't going more than 12 miles a day, sometimes less, sometimes only 4 or 5.

One morning right after sunup we started off again. There were six men who couldn't walk at all. The senior officer of our group, a West Point man, asked the guards, "Could we leave them behind and have them picked up by an oxcart?" We were getting close to Pyongyang. At this point the Communist lieutenant broke into a big grin. He said, "Sure. Sure. Sure, leave them here." Then he paused a little. "But if you do," he said in that singsong English of his, "I'll have to shoot them," and he started fingering his gun. "I already have," he said, "shot 12 of your men." He seemed to be proud of that. He sort of puffed out his chest when he said it. We made litters out of rice bags, and poles that we cut off trees, and rope. They weren't much as litters go, but they did hold together and with one man at each end of the four corners they worked all right. Of course, the ones that were doing the carrying had to change off every 50 or 100 yards at the most.

Senator POTTER. I think, Captain, we will have to recess for lunch. The committee will be in recess until 2 o'clock.

(Thereupon, the committee recessed at 12:35 p. m. Friday, December 4, 1953, to reconvene at 2 p. m. the same day.)

#### AFTER RECESS

Senator POTTER. The committee will come to order.

This is the last session of the hearings. I would like to announce that I will hold a press conference immediately after the hearings here in this room.

I want to extend my appreciation to the chairman of the committee, of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, Senator McCarthy, for his interest in the hearings that we are now holding. He has turned over a considerable number of his staff to work on the problem that we are now discussing.

As I mentioned this morning, I am particularly pleased with the work of our special counsel, Don O'Donnell, who is here on my left. Don has done most of the work in preparation for the hearings that we are holding. Also, Frank Carr, the executive director of the committee, and my right-hand man from my own office, Bob Jones, who is on my right. I also wish to extend my appreciation to the Army for the splendid cooperation they have given us, and to Colonel Wolfe, who has been with us all during the hearings, Colonel Wolfe of the



Judge Advocate Division in Korea. I want to particularly thank Ed Lyons, who is with the JAG Office at the Pentagon. I am pleased that we have had many Senators come in, sit in the hearings, and participate in the hearings, particularly my colleague here from Idaho, Senator Welker. Senator Welker, as you know, is one of the members of the Jenner committee, and I am sure he has found these hearings enlightening. As a matter of fact, the Senator said to me he would like to have some of the GI's who have testified here follow some of the fifth-amendment witnesses who have appeared before his committee.

Senator WELKER. Mr. Chairman, may I have the opportunity of making a statement to you and to the other GI's here. It was my privilege today to hear the testimony of Arturo J. Jaramillo, who told this committee that presently he is unemployed. It was a shocking thing to know that this boy after all the hardship and trouble that he went through did not have a job. I am thrilled to announce to you, Mr. Chairman, that in the hearing room at that time were 2 men from my State of Idaho, 3,000 miles away, who are happy, ready, and willing to offer that great man a job as soon as possible. I thought you, Captain, would be interested in that, and the other GI's. Certainly he won't be unemployed long.

Senator POTTER. I certainly wish to extend my thanks to you, Senator Welker, for interceding in behalf of this gallant soldier to make sure that the great country that he fought for will provide him with adequate employment, and through your efforts this will be made possible.

Senator WELKER. Thank you.

Senator POTTER. I believe we left off this morning with Captain Makarounis. Captain, if you can pick up from where you left off, you may begin your testimony.

**TESTIMONY OF CAPT. ALEXANDER G. MAKAROUNIS, LOWELL, MASS.—Resumed**

Captain MAKAROUNIS. On the evening of the 14th of October 1950 the Communist army moved our prisoner group, numbering approximately 260 prisoners, out of Pyongyang toward the North Korean-Manchurian border town of Manpojin. This is what they had told us. It was approximately one-half hour before our prisoner group moved out that Major Locke, an Air Force pilot, Sergeant Kumagai, and I made an escape and hid out in a 2-foot-high basement of the building in which we had been quartered. For me this was my second escape. They had loaded our prisoner group onto flat, open, railroad cars to take the group north.

From personal contact with a few prisoners who survived and who are alive today, I learned that the prisoners were taken off the railroad cars in groups of from 15 to 30 prisoners, each on the pretense of feeding them. They were massacred in cold blood by North Korean Communist Army guards by means of submachine guns and other small-arms fire. A few who were wounded pretended to be dead, lying motionless in the ditches. These later escaped and were rescued by elements of the 1st Cavalry Division headed by Brigadier General Allen. It is my understanding that this massacre has been

*Jim Yeager  
Project  
Freedom  
Coordinator*



termed "the Sunchon tunnel massacre" by the Department of Defense and that 68 bodies of American soldiers were later found.

Following our escape on October 14, 1950, assisted by 3 Korean underground schoolteachers, we remained in hiding for 6 days and 6 nights, being given water and a little food daily by 1 of the underground teachers. On October 20, 1950, the city of Pyongyang fell to United Nations troops, and we were liberated. All three underground teachers were turned over by us to Task Force Indian Head. I have in my possession at home a letter from 1 of the Korean teachers who helped us escape, stating that the other 2 teachers who had helped us were branded Communists by the Counter Intelligence Corps, who had first handled these 3 teachers when we turned them over on the 20th of October 1950.

It imbedded in my mind that the Communist plan is really detailed in planning for future operations. Here we were, 3 of us, helped by 3 of them, and I am told by this 1 Korean who personally wrote me a letter—I still maintain correspondence with him—that the other 2 teachers were branded Communists by our CIC.

I desire, sir, to add the following factual information: All prisoners in the prison camp at Seoul were forced to attend one-half-day lectures on communism taught by the interpreter at the camp. There were many booklets and Communist material supplied to the prisoners during these lectures. Major Locke can elaborate on these since it was he that first told me about these forced-propaganda lectures by all the prisoners at Seoul. Officer and noncommissioned-officer prisoners were interrogated and interviewed by Russian personnel in civilian clothing while in the prison camp in Seoul. Officers and noncommissioned-officer prisoners were forced to make speeches in Seoul which were transcribed over the Seoul radio to Japan announced by Sioux City Sue. It is my understanding, having heard from the other prisoners in my group in Seoul, that the names of soldiers who had been killed in action were given over the radio to Japan as prisoners in Seoul.

Throughout our march in North Korean territory as we entered every village and city there were always huge portraits of the Russian Communist Premier Stalin and the North Korean Communist Premier Kim Il Sun displayed over archways and in every school building in which we were quartered. It was in Pyongyang, as we entered the city on October 10, 1950, that an American-made jeep driven by a Russian soldier and two Russian officers displayed their feelings toward our prisoner group marching into the city. They did this by shaking their fists and yelling at us in their native tongue as their jeep was slowly driving away from the head of our column.

Senator POTTER. Captain, when did you get back to the States?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. I returned the first part of November 1950, sir.

Senator POTTER. Were you liberated, or did you escape?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. I escaped and was liberated when the city of Pyongyang fell to the United Nations troops.

Senator POTTER. Did you require hospitalization after you came back?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. My back had healed by the course of nature, sir. I did not require hospitalization. I was suffering from malnutrition.



Senator POTTER. Any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. One, Mr. Chairman.

The ranking officer in your group was a major, as I understand it? Captain MAKAROUNIS. He was, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Not to mention his name, because he did not return, do you have any comments as to his particular operations?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. I do, sir. On October 13, a day that will always be a personal history on my calendar, Major Locke, at that time captain, and I were sitting in the schoolyard of this building in Pyongyang, North Korea. We were soaking up what sun we could get. Actually what we would be doing in all these schoolyards during the daylight would be taking the clothes off our bodies and killing the lice with our fingernails which was the only way we could kill those. For a minute we were more or less to ourselves and the captain said to me in a low whisper, "If you had a chance to bug out, would you?" I think I stopped breathing for a minute. Then I got myself in hand and I said, "Captain, I definitely would."

Major Locke said that Sergeant Kumagai, one of our prisoners, had been contacted by a North Korean. This Korean had told the sergeant two things: That the whole bunch of us were going to be moved out any day to the other side of the Manchurian border. He added that this was a long distance and few, if any, of the men would survive. Too, this Korean said that he would hide three men that would take a chance on escaping.

No guaranties, understand; just three men that would take a gamble, if you can call it that.

Sergeant Kumagai had talked first to the senior officer in the group since this North Korean had specified he wanted the senior officers along with Sergeant Kumagai. He restricted the number to three. The major said that as the ranking officer he felt it his duty to remain with the men, so the sergeant called in Major Locke and Locke suggested that I be the third.

I might say here that the major, a West Point officer, the S-3 of the 34th Regiment, was one of the most courageous men that you will ever find in the United States Army, one of the most courageous men I have ever met. Continuously during the march from Seoul to Pyongyang he would always head the column, trying to keep the pace slow. He would always try to secure, beg, and plead for medical aid and care, more food, oxcarts to carry our prisoners. He was always denied this.

Senator POTTER. This major then turned down an opportunity to escape in order to stay with his men because he was the ranking officer?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. That is correct, sir.

Senator POTTER. Senator Welker, do you have any questions?

Senator WELKER. No; thank you.

Senator POTTER. Captain, I wish to say to you, as I have to the others, you have gone through a great ordeal and you served as a good officer and I know you can hold your head very high. You are a credit to our Army. You are a credit to us as an American. Do you care to comment briefly—you have seen communism at firsthand—on communism as a way of life?

Captain MAKAROUNIS. There is much that can be said, I have restricted myself to saying this: I personally am afraid of communism,



what it stands for, and how it works. I believe it is a sickness that is curable by having a strong, healthy American body and mind. I am proud to say that it is my belief, and my belief only, it has not made a penetration in the ranks of the United States Army, of which I am now a member and proud to be so.

Senator POTTER. Thank you.

Lt. Col. Robert Abbott.

Colonel, would you raise your right hand, please? Do you swear the testimony you are about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Colonel ABBOTT. I do.

TESTIMONY OF LT. COL. ROBERT ABBOTT, INFANTRY, 1242D ASU,  
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Senator POTTER. Colonel, will you be seated, and identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present military assignment?

Colonel ABBOTT. My name is Robert Abbott, A-b-b-o-t-t, lieutenant colonel, Infantry. I am presently assigned to 1242d ASU. Duty station: Rochester, N. Y. My home address: 6 Alden Place, Rochester, N. Y.

Senator POTTER. Colonel, when did you go to Korea and what unit were you with at the time?

Colonel ABBOTT. I went to Korea in September 1950. I was assigned to the Korean military advisory group with further assignment to the 7th ROK Division, 8th Regiment.

Senator POTTER. Would you tell the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Colonel ABBOTT. I was captured on the 26th of November 1950 in the vicinity of Tokshun, North Korea, at which time our division, the 8th Division, was engaged in a major battle with the Chinese Communist forces. They successfully penetrated our position, worked their way to the rear, cut off all avenues of escape, and when the unit was unable to fight its way out, our group of advisers, 12 of us in all, were captured.

Senator POTTER. And what was the date of the capture?

Colonel ABBOTT. 26th of November 1950.

Senator POTTER. 1950?

Colonel ABBOTT. Yes.

Senator POTTER. How long were you a prisoner of war of the Communists?

Colonel ABBOTT. I was a prisoner of war 33 months. I was released on the 5th of September 1953, the last day of the Operation Big Switch.

Senator POTTER. Colonel, you were in the last group to come back?

Colonel ABBOTT. Last day, sir.

Senator POTTER. Colonel, in your own words and in your own way will you tell the committee the series of experiences you went through after you were captured?

Colonel ABBOTT. The story I am about to tell is not only my story but the story of all prisoners whose lot it was to fall into the hands of the Communist forces. It is not a pretty story and I am going to let the facts speak for themselves.



RESEARCHER IDENTIFICATION

The researcher named below has duly applied to use records in the

National Archives  
Washington, D.C. 20408

NAME Clyde Fore	CARD NO. W82-079
SIGNATURE <i>Clyde Fore</i>	VALID THROUGH Dec 1983

The use of records is governed by published regulations and is not implicit in the possession of this card.

BY *Clyde Fore* 12/4/81  
(Signature) (Date)

NOT TRANSFERABLE  
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

FORM  
GSA DEC 68 6765



U.S. Army Photograph SC 374964

Wolfhound Captain Lewis L. Millett being awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for leading an outstanding bayonet charge by Company E, 27th Infantry Regiment, against the CCF on 5 February 1951. Two days later, Captain Millett led another Wolfhound bayonet charge against Hill 180, which won for him the Congressional Medal of Honor.



PROJECT FREEDOM MEMBERS WHO WENT TO KOREA

## PROJECT FREEDOM CHAIRMAN:

Colonel Lewis Millett  
CMH, USA Ret. Tennessee

## PROJECT FREEDOM COORDINATOR

Dr. James Yeager - Arizona (POW)

## PROJECT FREEDOM FLORIDA STATE COORDINATOR

Master Sergeant Berry Rhoden (POW)  
USA Ret. (Macclenny) Fla.

\* \* \*

## PROJECT FREEDOM SOUTHEAST COORDINATOR

Mr. David Fortune (POW)  
Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserve  
Civil Service (Pensacola) Fla.

## PROJECT FREEDOM ADVISOR

Capt. Clyde A. Fore  
USAR Ret.  
Journalist (Bradenton) Fla.

## PROJECT FREEDOM ADVISOR

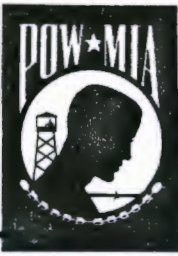
B. Frank Myers  
Construction Co. Owner San Francisco, Ca.

First Group (upper) visited both grave sites reported: 29th-23rd Inf  
Second Group(lower) visited only Hadong area at later date

Each group was escorted by:ROKA Veterans Association Member(s)  
and  
ROK Police Officials

*But:* Neither group had an official member of either the U.S. Military or The Foreign Service, <sup>along</sup> despite the fact that Colonel Millett who served in three wars is one the U.S.'s top, decorated veterans, and there were three, former POW's in the group from the Korean War. Aside from that, considering that the Project Freedom had come to Korea at their own expense to locate and make known the grave sites of American soldiers killed during the Korean War, and knew exactly where the sites were located, it is a source of astonishment and for obvious reasons. Even if it were just one soldier who died at the hands of an enemy that would be cause for <sup>some</sup> official representation, but when the number may be from 50 -80????

#



✓

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES  
OF AMERICAN PRISONERS AND MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

1608 K STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006 (202) 223-6846

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PUBLIC AWARENESS OVERVIEW FOR 1982

All are in agreement that now is the time the League must make great strides toward resolving the POW/MIA issue, with public awareness playing a major role in achieving that goal. Certainly the governments of Indochina and the U.S. government are sensitive to public involvement in this issue.

Therefore, in every activity undertaken, each should be studied for possible public awareness angles, assessing the potential for positive or negative impact. The direction of the League's efforts should continue to be that of looking toward a resolution of the issue, as opposed to concentrating on past failures.

To this end the League must maintain a well-planned effort aimed toward the people of this country, using the national media whenever possible. While the distribution of literature, bumper stickers, billboards, petitions, etc., is a necessary and integral part of the awareness campaign, the impact of one minute on network news can reach some 40 million people - more than could be ever reached in any other forum.

As the League cannot usually command national media attention at will, it is therefore important that other public awareness plans be formulated and implemented to the extent possible, given the limited financial and human resources available to the organization.

One effort, which is not discussed within this overview, is the direct mailings the League is doing this winter/spring, with more planned for later in the year. Including those pieces currently in the mail (400,000+), the plan currently calls for a total drop of approximately four million in 1982. While one of the purposes of the mailing is to raise funds for public awareness projects, the mailings in themselves are a significant awareness vehicle.

Following is an outline of League projects and timing for implementation for 1982. These projects can be planned and implemented as a part of the normal operation of the organization, with limited expense and a minimum of additional volunteer assistance.



## OUTLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS

**MARCH-MAY:** Continuation of the write Hanoi campaign, an on-going project which is featured in the new League brochure, direct mailings and in new petitions. Additionally, slicks (newspaper and magazine repro sheets) have been prepared and mailed to some 500 weekly and daily newspapers nationwide. Along with the slicks, a cover letter and a suggested editorial/letter to the editor have been sent with the request they be used as a public service. It is envisioned that this campaign will probably run throughout the year and could be further expanded by providing live copy for PSAs to radio stations.

**JUNE:** Mailing of a guest editorial or POW/MIA UPDATE column to selected weeklies and dailies around the country. This will be particularly effective if there is a new "hook" or angle upon which to base a column.

**JULY:** Heavy push on awareness to tie in with National POW/MIA Recognition Day and the League's annual meeting. National media coverage can be anticipated for the July 9th ceremonies. Local area ceremonies will also be strongly encouraged along with accompanying media coverage. Media advisories will be sent to papers around the nation to make them aware of the annual meeting and recognition day activities, along with the name of a local League contact. This will provide families planning to attend the meeting in Washington, D.C., with some local coverage of their trip and/or coverage of area POW/MIA day ceremonies.

**AUGUST-OCTOBER:** Release celebrity television and radio PSAs. Step up effort to locate other celebrities whom we can interest in this issue and help them get on talk shows, game shows, etc., to talk about the POW/MIA issue.

**NOVEMBER-DECEMBER:** Actively encourage candlelight church services around the nation. Prepare and distribute live copy radio PSAs specifically aimed toward the holiday message. Media advisories will also be furnished to the written press, encouraging local features on families marking another holiday without knowledge of their missing man.

## SUPPORTING MATERIALS

**BROCHURES/PRINTED MATERIALS:** Quantities of brochures, "You Can Help" flyers, adoption forms and background data on the issue, are available from the League office. Also available are bumper stickers, petitions, media packets and lists of possibly community activities.

**BILLBOARDS:** Currently 50 large billboards have been produced, with the League placing 25 of those in the Atlanta area and members ordering and placing 14 others. There is also an interest in distributing junior billboards. The staff will provide the board of directors with information and costs of such junior boards.

**BRACELETS:** Some 2000 bracelets are currently on-hand in the office. The upcoming PSA will also test public interest in this item.

**NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE ADS:** Slicks for newspaper and magazine ads are currently available. Each sheet has six different ads in three sizes. A full page magazine ad slick, using the Hrdlicka photo, is also being prepared for distribution.

**LOGO PINS:** Logo pins continue to be a popular item and a great source of revenue for the organization. With the up-coming veterans conventions, both on the state and national level, distribution of these items should increase substantially.

**FLAGS:** Flags are once again available from the League office. A new supplier has been located and it is hoped that problems encountered in the past in obtaining these at a fair price, have been eliminated. Cost per flag is \$40.00, including postage. This is not a fund raising item for the League.



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRIL-JUNE: The bracelet and Hrdlicka television public service 30 second spots being produced by Jack Hatcher in Chattanooga will be targeted to selected markets as these are also being used as a test market to measure interest in the bracelets. Production is basically free, and as many free copies as possible will be obtained. Hatcher has promised six or more and others have indicated they may be able to provide the League with a few free copies. Upon approval, this PSA will be distributed by the Special Projects Coordinator, working in conjunction with League members to ensure these limited PSA copies are placed where they will be used.

JUNE-OCTOBER: Production and distribution of a television PSA featuring a celebrity. This would be a major distribution to some 300 stations nationwide. As previously mentioned, Larry Wilcox is interested in appearing in the spot, which would carry a general 30 second message on the POW/MIA issue. Production costs for this PSA would be approximately \$12,000, which would include the copies of the tape. At an appropriate time the staff will provide the board of directors with a detailed proposal, including all costs, for consideration.

In conjunction with the television spot, radio taped PSAs using a celebrity, can also be prepared and distributed nationwide.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER: Preparation and distribution of live copy (written text to be read by the disc jockey) PSAs to radio stations. These will particularly call attention to the holiday season and tie in with the POW/MIA issue. As these require minimal cost (printing and mailing) they can be done on a mass basis and widely distributed.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 23, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR MORTON BLACKWELL

FROM: LT. COL. RICHARD CHILDRESS *RC*

SUBJECT: Appropriate remarks concerning POW/MIA's

*V#VA  
5 million*

In his remarks at the National POW/MIA Recognition Day Proclamation Signing Ceremony at the White House last year, the President reaffirmed his commitment to obtaining the fullest possible accounting for Americans missing in Southeast Asia, and stated that this Administration continues to attach the highest priority to the problem of those missing in action.

At that ceremony where members of Congress and officials from the League of POW/MIA Families were present, the President spoke of the sacrifices of our prisoners of war - those who so heroically endured the hardships and torture of enemy captivity. He called on all Americans to recognize the special debt we owe to our fellow citizens who, in the act of serving our Nation, relinquished their freedom that we might enjoy the blessings of peace and liberty.

A United States Government public awareness program has been implemented to aid in the resolution of the problem through obtaining the cooperation of the Vietnamese and Lao governments in accounting for missing Americans. The President's long standing personal commitment is evidenced by the high priority now being assigned to resolution of this issue by responsible U.S. government agencies.



FILE  
American  
EAGLE?

5237 Calle Barquero  
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93111  
August 26, 1982

Morton Blackwell  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

Ray Zahn, 1290 Camino Manadero,  
Santa Barbara, Calif.  
93111

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

This letter is to document a telephone conversation this date with your staff member, Carolyn Sunset.

The eagle sculpture "The American Spirit" is to be on public display at 26 West Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, California, commencing Friday, September 3, 1982. It will be the same exhibit as that acclaimed the hit of the American Pavillion at the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn., during National Week, and also the preceeding two months during an immensely popular series of showings at Capitol Rotundas in eight states from Virginia to Texas.

President Reagan endorsed the poster of the eagle, along with the Vice President and ninety-nine Senators while the sculpture was on display at the Russel Senate Office Building in Washington. He lives nearby and will be at his ranch home the weekend the exhibit opens. We wish to invite him to view the sculputure and the memorabilia of the missing men, to whose safe return to freedom the eagle is permanently dedicated.

Upon our return home after the conclusion of the tour and the World's Fair showing, my wife and I received a copy of the Louisiana State Legislature Joint Resolution # 201, copy enclosed, which calls upon the President to do his utmost to successfully resolve this national tragedy, and bring our men home to loved ones.

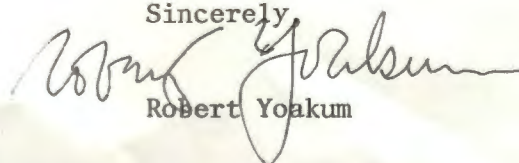
We have received responses from five other states Speakers, that they too will follow the lead of Louisiana, and issue Joint Legislature Resolutions. Contact also has been made to fifteen other states where the eagle has exhibited, asking that those states, too, endorse this new cause to which the eagle has been dedicated.

We ask that your office be aware that the Louisiana Joint Resolution has been sent to the President, and to watch for other states resolutions. We feel this expression of concern from the state governments will be of large impact on proper resolution, at the very least, proper priority, of this issue.

We also ask that your office contact the scheduling personnel so that the President will know of our invitation for him to visit the exhibit.

A few documents have been attached to further inform you on this unique exhibit. If you have any further questions, I may be contacted by calling 805-961-5071 days, or 805-967-5943, evenings.

Sincerely,

  
Robert Yoakum

Sample letter  
sent to eight southern  
states,

5257  
Calle Barquero,  
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93111  
August 2, 1982

The Speaker of the State Assembly  
State of \_\_\_\_\_  
State Capitol,

Dear Mr. Speaker:

My wife Nanette and I have just returned home, ending our national tour at the United States Pavillion, World's Fair, Knoxville, Tenn., where the eagle sculpture "The American Spirit" dominated the main floor exhibit area. An estimated 50 thousand to 75 thousand people a day viewed my work dedicated to the return to freedom of our men abandoned in Vietnam.

Awaiting our return was this resolution # 201, from the State of Louisiana, which we believe has captured the spirit of our efforts on behalf of the men and their families.

There are \_\_\_\_\_ men missing from the State of \_\_\_\_\_.  
The families of these men, as you know, will never give up hope for a final accounting, and to bring these brave men home.

My eagle sculpture was used in your state capitol to bring to the attention, not only to the people of your state, but to the government also, that it must act now to encourage the President to end the suffering of the families and to demand the accounting of the men left behind, abandoned, in Vietnam.

While showing the sculpture in your state capitol, the question was asked, "How may we help?" Will you please join with the Louisiana state legislature, and adopt a similar resolution to show our President, now is the time to act, to bring our men home?

My wife and I have now exhibited the eagle in thirty-three cities, and twenty-four states. Our hope is that the people who have experienced the viewing of the eagle and now know of the cause to which it is dedicated can be unified and become the catalyst to get this country together to bring these men home to freedom. If even half of the nation could get together, then Vietnam would hear the roar!

Knowing that you will do your very best concerning the joint resolution, and wishing you the very best in your endeavors, we remain grateful for the many courtesies you showed us while at your capitol.

Sincerely,



Robert Yoakum



**ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP**

Date

August 26, 1982

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)	Initials	Date
1. Morton B lackwell, PR		
2. The Whitehouse, Washington, DC		
3. Attn: Carolyn Sunset		
4.		
5. Re: Joint Resolution from Louisiana State Legisla- ture		

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordination	Justify	

**REMARKS**

We have attached several documents which explain the tour to the southern states, and the showing at the World's Fair at Knoxville.

We have the Santa Barbara showing starting Friday Sep 3rd, with the eagle sculpture "The American Spirit", with the memorabilia of the prisoners and missing men in Vietnam (these were submitted by families of the men) and the signed poster of the eagle, which has the President, past presidents Ford and Carter, and ninety-nine US senators, and others.

The building is donated rent free by the owner, Mr. Michael Bennett, so that the exhibit may be shared with the people of Santa Barbara;

*26 W. Anapamu St.*

**DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions**

<b>FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)</b>	<b>Room No.—Bldg.</b>
=Raymond C. Zahn, Calif. Coordinator <i>Ray Zahn</i> PROJECT FREEDOM	<b>Phone No.</b> 805-961-5071

5041-102

**OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)**  
Prescribed by GSA  
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206

To: Morton Blackwell  
The Whitehouse,  
Washington, D.C.



## WHERE IS CAPTAIN HARLEY HALL ?



Captain Harley Hall was taken captive in Southeast Asia on January 27, 1973. He has yet to be released or accounted for.

### Please help locate this man !

As a legislator, please support all efforts of our government to account for Captain Hall and our other 2500 men still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

Name Ray Zahn

Address 1290 Camino Manadero

Santa Barbara, Calif. 93111

Louisiana  
(504) 342-7393



House of Representatives

P. O. Box 44486 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

John J. Hainkel, Jr.  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives*

Loy F. Weaver  
*Chairman, House Legislative Services Council*

David R. Poynter  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives*

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES  
Fiscal Division  
Economic/Commerce Division  
Legal Division  
Governmental Division

July 20, 1982

Mr. Robert Yoakum  
5257 Calle Barquero  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Dear Mr. Yoakum:

Enclosed is an enrolled, signed copy of House Concurrent Resolution No. 201, relative to Americans still listed as Prisoners of War or Missing-In-Action in Southeast Asia. This resolution was inspired by your beautiful exhibit, and as you requested, we are sending you this copy.

Once again, we would like to thank you for visiting our State Capitol, and for reminding us of our unfinished duty to those Americans still in Southeast Asia.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Eisenbach III  
Governmental Affairs Division

RLE/sgb

Enclosure



Regular Session, 1982

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 201

BY MESSRS. SCHMITT, ANDREPONT, JENKINS, LEBLEU AND SIRACUSA

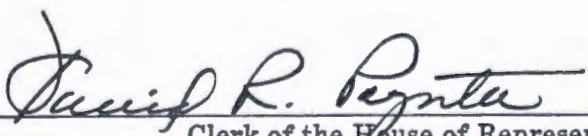
A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to redouble their efforts to secure the release of the nearly two thousand five hundred Americans still listed as Prisoners of War or Missing-in-Action in Southeast Asia.

=====*ORIGINATED*=====

=====IN THE=====

House of Representatives

  
Clerk of the House of Representatives

Regular Session, 1982

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 201

BY MESSRS. SCHMITT, ANDREPONT, JENKINS, LEBLEU AND SIRACUSA

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to redouble their efforts to secure the release of the nearly two thousand five hundred Americans still listed as Prisoners of War or Missing-in-Action in Southeast Asia.

WHEREAS, nearly two thousand five hundred American servicemen remain unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, including thirty-six Louisiana citizens; and

WHEREAS, past experience shows that diplomatic pressure and the force of world opinion can have a strong impact on the Vietnamese government; and

WHEREAS, through such efforts an accounting of the whereabouts of these brave men may well be achieved, resulting in the return of many of them; and

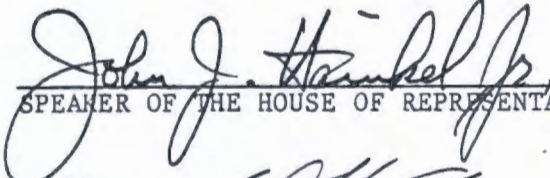
WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature wishes to join the "American Spirit" effort to secure the release of these courageous Americans.

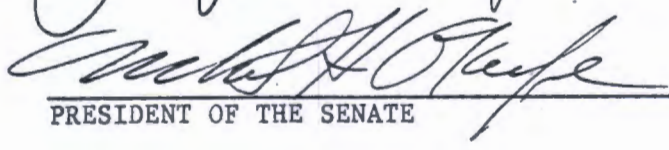
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana, the Senate thereof concurring, that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to redouble their efforts to secure the release of



the nearly two thousand five hundred Americans still listed as Prisoners of War or Missing-in-Action in Southeast Asia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and to the secretary of the U. S. Senate and the clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives.

  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

JAMES C. SIMPSON

District 120  
Harrison County  
116 Marcie Drive  
Long Beach, Mississippi 39560



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Rules, Chairman  
Banks and Banking  
Highways and Highway Financing  
Ways and Means

Mississippi  
House of Representatives  
Jackson

August 19, 1982

Mr. Robert Yoakum  
5257 Calle Barquero  
Santa Barbara, California 93111

Dear Mr. Yoakum:

Speaker Newman has given me your letter in reference to the resolution regarding our men still missing in Vietnam.

Let me join him in thanking you for your dedication and for affording us an opportunity to join you in this most worthy cause.

The Speaker and I will co-author the resolution for pre-filing as of this date and I expect the entire membership of the House will join us when we convene in session.

Let me assure you that it will receive prompt and I am confident, affirmative action as soon as we convene.

The Office of the Speaker and the services of the Rules Committee are at your disposal for any aid we can offer in your effective efforts in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Simpson".

Jim Simpson  
Chairman, Rules Committee

JCS:bw



*North Carolina  
House of  
Representatives*



*Liston B. Ramsey, Speaker*

*Raleigh 27611*

*(919) 733-3451*

August 10, 1982

Mr. Robert Yoakum  
5257 Calle Barquero  
Santa Barbara, California 93111

Dear Mr. Yoakum:

Thank you for your letter of August 2nd and the copy of the Louisiana resolution urging a renewed effort to account for the Americans still listed as prisoners of war or missing in action in Southeast Asia.

The North Carolina General Assembly is not in session at this time and will not be until January, 1983. Perhaps a resolution of this nature will be adopted at that time. I certainly think it has merit.

Sincerely yours,

*Liston B. Ramsey*

Liston B. Ramsey

LBR:dhb



State of Texas  
House of Representatives  
Austin

August 10, 1982

Dear Mr. Yoakum:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the servicemen from Texas who are currently Missing in Action or Prisoners of War. You and I share the same feeling that our countrymen should be brought home as soon as possible.

Since the Texas Legislature is not in session at this time, we will be unable to adopt a resolution similar to the one passed in Louisiana calling for the President to actively work for the release of our Americans. I will, however, share your views with my colleagues who will be returning to the Legislature in January and I urge you to make your views known once again at that time.

Thank you for writing and my best wishes on your endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Clayton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bill Clayton

BC:mw

Mr. Robert Yoakum  
5257 Calle Barquero  
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93111

Bill Clayton  
Speaker

