

Korea: The First Undeclared War—Forgotten, Unknown,



and Unfinished.

For the White House, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Congress and American people during the 1950's, the Korean War never measured up to its precedent, The Second World War. Korea was fought in a remote, backward country of no vital or strategic interest, and it ended in a deadlock—where no matter how much time has been allowed to pass, the conflict has never resolved itself. President Truman never acknowledged it as a war, even though he was responsible for sending American troops to fight in it, without seeking a mandate from Congress and prior to a United Nations mandate. Clearly this was the United States' first modern undeclared war, which changed the eligibility criteria for the awarding of the Sons of the American Revolution third oldest medal—The War Service Medal.

Throughout its history, the United States has formally declared war against foreign nations five times. Congressional Declarations of War sanctioned the War of 1812, Mexican-American War, Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II. Following the end of the War with Spain, the SAR War Service Medal was authorized in 1899 for members who had served in uniform during that war. The medal was generic in that it was awarded to members of the military of that time. The generic nature for awarding the SAR War Service Medal remained during the declared World War I and II. All that was required of a Compatriot to receive the SAR War Service Medal during those wars was to have been in uniform. With the advent of "undeclared wars," the criteria for the awarding the SAR War Service Medal changed. The medal today is authorized for those who have served in the armed forces of the United States (or a country that was an ally of the United States or in a United Nations Peace Keeping Force) and fought against a common enemy of the United States in a war or action that has been recognized by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and for which a campaign medal and ribbon has been authorized.

Not all Compatriots know or appreciate the distinction between declared and undeclared wars. In the next NSSAR Veterans Bugle, the VRC will discuss this matter. Further, it will illuminate concern the VRC has when improper staff action occurs because of failure to seek comments, recommendations, and/or concurrence with those who have oversight authority on the matter under consideration.

27 July 2014 marked the 61st Anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement. The armistice of 1953 was not signed by Heads of States representing their nations, but those signing the armistice were U.S. Army Lieutenant General William Harrison, Jr., for the United Nations Command and North Korean General Nam Il for the North Korean People's Army and the Chinese People's Volunteer Army. A representative of South Korea didn't sign the agreement; but the country's official position was that it would not obstruct the Armistice Agreement's implementation.

As we know an armistice agreement is usually a temporary measure, created to give warring parties ample time to negotiate a peace treaty. But a final settlement hasn't happened. The Korean Armistice Agreement remains a truce document. Yet armed forces of South Korea and the United States stand at the ready while armed North

Korean troops stand at the ready, each opposing force monitors the movements of the other across a 2.4 mile demilitarized zone.



Strange reality exists, concerning the Korean War and its aftermath. Chief in this regard is the fact the war never ended with a peace settlement. Any veteran from the WWII era knows if he was a participant in a World War. But many Compatriots who served in the first undeclared war of the 1950's and beyond in the defense of South Korea may not know they are eligible for the Korean Service Veterans Corps. Clarification on this matter comes clear when you review the history of the five campaign medals the VRC looks for when a Compatriot submits a survey to join the Korean Service Veterans Corps.



Much thought has gone into the structure for qualifying Compatriots for the Korean Service Veterans Corps (KSVC). Our guidance conforms to SAR Policy—especially as it links the awarding of an SAR War Service Medal to Campaign Medals, Service Medals and/or Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals. Thus the following is presented to help Compatriots understand how medals as shown above qualify them to become a member of the Korean Service Veterans Corps and to receive a Certificate of Patriotism signed by the President General.

(1) **The National Defense Service Medal** is a campaign medal, reflecting only military service. It **is not a** qualifying medal for this program or the awarding of the War Service Medal.



(2) **Korean Service Medal (KSM)** is a U.S. Campaign Medal. It has specific dates associated with it. It's the primary United States medal for participation in the Korean War and is awarded to any U.S. service member, who performed duty in the Republic of Korea, between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954.

(3) **AFEM is a U.S. Campaign Medal.** The medal is awarded for participation in any military campaign of the United States for which no other service medal is authorized. This medal has been awarded for at least 45 designated military campaigns, from events such as the Cuban Missile Crisis and Korea to retroactive campaigns such as Quemoy and Matsu. Sometimes the AFEM is authorized before a specific campaign medal is authorized; witness the authorization of the AFEM before the effective dates of the Vietnam Service Medal and Southwest Asia Service Medal.

(4) **Korean Defense Service Medal (KDSM)** is a U.S. Campaign Medal authorized for those members of the United States Armed Forces who have served actively in the defense of the Republic of Korea, after the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement. It was created in 2002 when it was signed into law by President George W. Bush. The Korea Defense Service Medal is retroactive to the end of the Korean War and is granted to any service member performed after July 28, 1954. The National Personnel Records Center is responsible for verifying entitlement of the KDSM to discharged members of the military who served in Korea prior to the creation of the KDSM. As an official Department of Defense exception to policy, service members may be entitled to both the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the KDSM for participation in operations in Korea during the same timeframe between October 1, 1966 - June 30, 1974. Only one award of the Korea Defense Service Medal is authorized, regardless of the amount of time or tours served in the Korean theater.

(5) **United Nations Service Medal (UNSM)** is an international military decoration which was established by the United Nations on December 12, 1950. The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War. The UNSM today is known as the United Nations Service Medal for Korea (UNKM). Although it's not a U.S. Campaign Medal, we need to understand its history, for if a compatriot indicates he has this medal we need to inquire further as to what U.S. Campaign Medal it is tied too. In the United States Armed Forces, any service member

awarded the Korean Service Medal is automatically granted the United Nations Service Medal.

(6) **Korean War Service Medal (KWSM)**, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal (ROKWSM), is not a U.S. Campaign Medal. It's a decoration of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950. Like item (5) above, it's valuable to know its history.

Initially we did not authorize our troops to wear this medal. In 1954, the South Korean government authorized the now called Korean War Service Medal to all United Nations troops who had fought in the Korean War between the dates of June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. While a number of countries accepted the award, at the time of the Korean War Service Medal's presentation to U.N. troops the United States of America declined to award the medal to U.S. soldiers. This was based on regulations of the time which curtailed the acceptance and the wear of foreign decorations on U.S. military uniforms. Although subsequently some veterans attempted to have the decoration accepted, the Korean War Service Medal faded into history and was not heard of again until 1996. At that time the Army noted that it could find no record that the Korean Government ever offered the medal to the Department of Defense. This was technically true since the original offer was made to the United Nations Command. The Army took the position that unless the Korean Government resurrected their original offer, it was "not in a position to officially recognize or approve acceptance of the medal."

In 1999, the South Korean government proposed the decoration be reactivated and retroactively awarded to all Korean and U.N. veterans who had served in the Korean War. On August 20, 1999, Francis M. Rush Jr., Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army authorized the Korean War Service Medal for distribution and wear by service members of the United States military. The task of issuing the medal was assigned to Randolph Air Force Base while the National Personnel Records Center was responsible for providing documentation to verify eligibility.

After reading this and believing that you may qualify for the Korean Defense Veterans Corps, submit a current dated Universal VetCorps Survey Form. To receive a savable, fillable and emailable copy of that form, request the same via email addressed to VetCorps@sar.org.

*Thank you Korean Service Veterans,
Lest we forget freedom is not free.*

SAR Korean Service Veterans Corps Members Arranged by State Society

A Grateful Nation Remembers—Freedom is not Free

STATS: *Compatriot Names listed below number 138.*

Korean Service Veterans Corps - 3 Nov 2015

ID	SAR #	First Name	MI	Last Name	State
70	999999	open		number	
91	159663	Herbert	W.	Norton, Jr.	AL
118	189283	Timothy	D.	Prater	AZ
72	158750	Richard	E.	Adams	CA
82	189384	Marcus	A.	Deemer, Jr.	CA
67	151452	Bruce		Fitzpatrick	CA
69	174882	Hal	D.	Hichborn	CA
104	183525	Gary	D.	Jensen	CA
73	145702	William	R.	Purcell	CA
125	191667	Eddie	D.	Smith	CA
71	152453	James	L.	Wallace	CA
93	117292	Douglas	R.	Crandall	CT
60	160170	Clarence	R.	Grebey	CT
105	143845	James	E.	Newton	CT
20	145011	Paul	A.	Palmer	CT
59	180130	Theodore	C.	Sweeney	CT
115	188809	Matthew	J.	Barlow, Jr.	DE
55	120230	Howard	F.	Horne	DE
74	107259	Norman	S.	Ashworth	FL
106	190677	Kenneth	L.	Aubrey	FL
94	131669	Rollin	L.	Bauchspies, Jr.	FL
17	115343	John	T.	Bittner, Jr.	FL
54	157372	Lindsey	C.	Brock	FL
23	156482	Richard	A.	Brownell	FL
34	159700	Jack	D.	Crandall	FL
13	172888	Ralph	W.	Crews	FL
25	156504	John	H.	Dame	FL
92	150989	Robert		Dannerman	FL
40	164064	Charles	L.	Day, Jr	FL
27	134002	Roland	G.	Downing, PhD	FL
41	178074	Kenneth	R.	Dunn	FL
42	179243	James	E.	Echlin	FL
43	179484	Duane	G.	Finch, Sr	FL

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ID	SAR #	First Name	MI	Last Name	State
21	168241	William	M.	Fuller	FL
68	171749	Michael	E.	Garevy	FL
138	195401	Richard	L.	Gibson	FL
29	73355	Carl	K.	Hoffmann	FL
3	185050	Hans	F.	Hunt	FL
6	157005	David	F.	Kitchen, Jr	FL
129	178381	William		McPherson	FL
75	168251	John	E.	Moore, Sr.	FL
139	196465	James	W.	Pippin	FL
10	166346	William	A.	Roberts	FL
26	184148	Robert	H.	Rogers	FL
18	182541	George	W.	Sparks	FL
28	161692	Daniel	W.	Stebbins	FL
19	158494	William	E.	Thomas	FL
22	97141	John	D.	Tinny	FL
47	186279	Benjamin	H.	Warren	FL
12	181419	Eugene	R.	Wright	FL
65	162723	Donald	R.	Anderson	GA
2	184574	Donald	M.	Breed	GA
35	160480	Thomas	R.	Davis	GA
36	130998	Charles	H.	Dayhuff, III	GA
38	129395	Robert	F.	Galer	GA
50	144945	Edward	C.	Hackney	GA
48	159762	Bloise	A.	Hill	GA
137	181122	Einar	B.	Hoff, Jr.	GA
32	183383	John	M.	House	GA
44	163649	Charles	H.	Lindsey	GA
107	146657	Charlie	A.	Newcomer III	GA
9	159728	Paul	I.	Prescott	GA
56	146658	Gordon	B.	Ragan	GA
85	178713	Justin	M.	Reese III	GA
46	172800	William	M.	Slayton	GA
53	162722	Lenis	C.	Tarpley	GA

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ID	SAR #	First Name	MI	Last Name	State
30	184229	Eugene	L.	Warren	GA
76	178031	Jack	L.	Zuker	GA
49	186645	Robert	P.	Bissell	IA
116	184537	Ned	M.	Barker	ID
133	190223	James	F.	Hinkhouse	ID
134	187629	Leslie	E.	Huntley	ID
135	162259	John	L.	Ranck	ID
111	189032	James	M.	Telford	ID
1	159325	James	C.	Arnold	IN
128	162445	James	W.	Hicks	IN
113	122506	John	E.	Hoyt	IN
15	179826	Clyde	C.	James	IN
4	146839	Terry	R.	Johnson	IN
5	153642	Glen	M.	Killey	IN
7	172153	Paul	G.	Konkle	IN
8	113858	John	H.	McGath	IN
14	167950	Merlin	E.	Mundy, Jr	IN
11	185163	Bobby	E.	Smiley	IN
120	188934	Dennis	L.	Wright	IN
24	185510	Robert		Arter	KS
95	159377	Carl	D.	Black	KY
96	150249	Harold		Boggs	KY
97	102538	Everett	L.	Coleman	KY
112	158090	Alfred	E.	Coleman	KY
51	132683	Harvey	L.	Hampton	KY
98	126934	Warder	R.	Harrison	KY
99	158721	Thomas	A.	Howard	KY
100	114832	William	J.	Manby	KY
83	175870	Joe	H.	Noffsinger	KY
101	165391	William	H.	Park	KY
62	178991	Truman		Maynard	LA
127	180704	Rodney	S.	McKelroy, Jr.	LA
33	146147	David	N.	Appleby	MO
64	163977	Loren	C	Boline	MO
84	161760	Romie	E.	Carr	MO
63	159613	Walter	A.	Glen	MO
45	179699	Charles	G.	McMillan	MO
77	180508	Bobby	Jay	Ervin	NC
114	182047	Terry	L.	Fowler	NC

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ID	SAR #	First Name	MI	Last Name	State
119	178080	John	S.	Moore	NC
89	190136	Allerton	L.	Bonney, Jr.	NH
123	175652	George	C.	Garcia	NM
78	166186	Leonard	C.	Becker	NV
16	148070	John	L.	Ackerman	OH
117	180066	Robert	D.	Cutter	OH
37	171026	William	C.	Fast, Jr	OH
31	148509	Marlin		Lovensheimer	OH
39	162557	Donald	C.	McGraw, Jr	OH
57	187264	Wayne	H.	Weber	OH
86	187095	Robert	W.	Bloch	PA
131	194801	Scott	R.	Jenkins	PA
61	183399	Larry	L.	Ridgway	PA
52	184656	Charles	H.	Seibert	PA
108	172626	Archie	A.	Collins	TN
80	130617	Stanley	A.	Evans, Sr.	TN
126	168477	Glen	A.	Lintner	TN
132	194226	David	L.	McKinney	TN
109	184049	Arthur	H.	McReynolds	TN
122	16682	James	K.	Stone	TN
136	172733	Lawrence	M.	Connelley	TX
79	178314	Terry	L.	Holden	TX
81	187830	Roy	L.	Adams	VA
66	161057	Robert	J.	Barberie	VA
90	14154	David	E.	Cook	VA
121	120751	Thadeus	L.	Hartman	VA
88	95646	Steven	F.	Kercher	VA
87	162647	Allen	L.	Lewis	VA
130	167235	John	C.	Maxwell, Jr.	VA
110	155392	William	P.	Schneider	VA
58	149845	Clyde	W.	Spence, Jr.	VA
124	151390	John	P.	Qualls	WA
102	136291	Alfred	E.	Cummings	WV
103	185612	Joseph	H.	Quick	WV