

**CALIFORNIA STATE MILITARY DEPARTMENT
Military History and Museums Program
2814 B Street
Sacramento, CA 95816**

The Fire Ball
Final Souvenir Edition, Volume 2, Number 15

**This document was scanned 23 March 2018. It was originally published on 16 May 1954 by the 40th
Infantry Division, APO 6. Printed by the *Nippon Times*, Tokyo, Japan.**

SOUVENIR EDITION



The Fire Ball

The 40th U.S. Infantry Division



VOL. 2. NO. 15

"BEST OF ALL"

MAY 16, 1954



Brigadier General William J. Bradley
Commanding General, 40th U.S. Division



Major General Homer O. Eaton Jr.
Commanding General, 40th N.G. Division

General Bradley's Message

Men of the "Sunburst Division," you may well be proud of the historic chapter you have written during your Korean Service. You have brought new luster to our already bright and glorious Division colors, and added glory to the 40th Division and to the nation it serves. You came to war once again as civilian soldiers and have once again proven that the bankers, the clerks, the school teachers and students, even though not entirely prepared, are always ready to defend their freedom. You helped make famous such names as Heartbreak Ridge, The Punchbowl, Sandbag Castle, Kumwha and others. The raising of the first American flag on Sandbag Castle by the 40th Division soldiers will be recorded as one of the outstanding individual feats of the Korean war.

All of you have helped write new pages in American history. To those of you about to depart, we bid a fond and sincere farewell, with the request that you carry to the people back home word of the magnificent contribution

made by men of the 40th Division in enhancing American prestige abroad. To you who remain behind, we bid you take to your new units the spirit, the will to do, the determination that has characterized the "Sunburst Division" throughout its Korean service. As your commander, I proudly salute you the American soldier, the finest in the world. May your service with the "Sunburst Division" in Korea ever be a solemn reminder of the obligation that is every American's, that of defending the priceless heritage that has been handed down to us by the American soldier of another day. May we always have the faith and courage to defend that heritage.

God Bless you all.

W. J. BRADLEY
Brig Gen USA
Commanding

GENERALS HULL, TAYLOR, LEAD FAREWELLS TO 40TH

More than two years have passed since the 40th Infantry Division landed in Korea to help block the Communist drive. Its entry into combat in January of 1952 marked the unit's second visit to Korea and the third time it has been called upon to

overcome and armed enemy of its country.

The subsequent years have proved how well the 40th accomplished its task, as well as the succeeding responsibilities it has undertaken.

Capitol Hill - Heartbreak

Ridge- Sandbag Castle- are only some of the names that long will be remembered, together with the memory of fallen comrades who gave their lives in freedom's cause. By their sacrifices Communist aggression was halted and the invaders expelled from South Korea.

In the months following the Armistice in Korea the 40th has not been idle. Along with the basic need of maintaining combat efficiency and manning its assigned sector, the Sunburst division has taken time to give assistance to a needy people.

With funds raised by its own members, a high school accommodating 300 Korean students has been erected. More recently a new dispensary, complete with medical supplies, has been added. Men and officers throughout the division have given wholeheartedly to Korea's rehabilitation.

Now, as your thrice tested division prepares for its movement home, it may reflect with pride on the notable record it leaves behind. Having fought through a savage period of twentieth century warfare and engaged in a post armistice role of guarding against further enemy aggression, the 40th Division carries with it the respect and best wishes of all members of the Far east Command and my personal "well done and Godspeed"

JOHN E. HULL
General, USA
Commander in Chief



General John C. Hull



General Maxwell D. Taylor

Upon the eve of the departure of the 40th US Infantry Division for the United States, I wish to express my deep appreciation for the important contribution you have made to the United Nations efforts in Korea

After a tour of occupation duty in Korea at the end of World War II, the 40th returned early in 1952 for the second time in six years, and moved into battle on the central front. Throughout its service in Korea, the Division, whether in fighting for such historic spots as Sandbag Castle and Heartbreak Ridge, or guarding the prisoner of war camps on Koje-Do and Cheju-Do, has performed magnificently, adding luster to the Ball of Fire tradition. While understanding the necessity of decision, I deeply regret the departure of the 40th Division from the Eighth Army.

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
General USA
Eighth Army CG

Magruder's Message



Lieutenant General
Carter B. Magruder

From the day late in January 1952, when the 40th Division joined the Eighth Army in the battle to stop the advance of communism, the division has acquitted itself in a manner to reflect credit on the military service of the United States.

You are now returning your colors to the State of California with battle streamers added for the 2nd Korean Winter, Summer-Fall 1953; and decorated with a Korean Presidential Unit citation for your gallant conduct in the battles of Heartbreak Ridge, Sandbag Castle, the Punchbowl, and Kumwha Valley.

Congratulations for a job well done. We are proud to have served with you

CARTER B. MAGRUDER
Lt. General USA
Chief of Staff, FEC

HILL THANKS MEN OF 40TH



Brigadier General
John C. Hill

On the eve of the departure of the 40th Division for its home station in California, it gives me pleasure to write this note of salute and farewell.

Your attitude of unfailing cheerfulness, soldierly attention to duty, interest in your work and courteous, cordial, welcome has been a very heartwarming thing to me.

Your combat efficiency is unquestioned and as you go to your new assignments or for home, you leave a record of accomplishment that each one of you can be proud of.

Please accept my thanks for one of the most pleasant periods of my entire service and my best wishes for the success and happiness of each individual as you leave for new duties.

JOHN C. HILL
Brigadier General USA
Assistant Division Commander

Major General Homer O. Eaton Commands 40th National Guard

Upon the arrival of the 40th Divisions California Contingent in the United States, the colors of the "Sunburst" division will be turned over to the 40th National Guard Division.

In the official ceremony they will be turned over to the National Guard's Commanding General, Major General Homer O. Eaton Jr.

A Los Angeles educator in civil life, General Eaton began his military career in 1921 and took command of the 40th in mid-1953.

General Eaton enlisted in Los Angeles own 160th Infantry regiment as a private in 1921. After completing an ROTC course at Pomona college, from which he was graduated in 1924, he was commissioned a second lieutenant, Infantry, reserve, at Fort Lewis, Wash., and rejoined the 160th in 1926.

Eaton was called up for World War II as a company commander in the Los Angeles regiment and during the war he served a battalion commander and as executive officer of the regiment, serving on Guadalcanal and New Britain in the latter capacity.

He was assigned as assistant intelligence officer of XIV Corps on Bougainville in June 1944, and the following January, on Luzon in the Philippines, was designated corps intelligence officer.

The General was awarded the Silver Star for heroism in action during the crossing of the Pasig river, a tactically important maneuver in the capture of Manila. Shortly after the Japanese surrender and one of his first assignments was

to help set up XIV Corps headquarters in Sendai in northern Honshu, just six years before he headed the advance party of the 40th on a similar mission.

On his return to the United States, in 1945, he remained on

You depart with the assurance that you have performed magnificently. Your comrades in the 40th in the National Guard are fully appreciative of the fact that you have added luster to the combat record of the 40th. Your jobs, after the second winter campaign, were tough and you wrote additional honors into history.

We, and you who succeeded us, have done at least two things. We have fought the enemy and we have assisted our friends. We have been tremendously interested in you and we have applauded you and helped you further your work when and in what ways we could, particularly in development of the Kenneth Kaiser High School project at Kapyong.

**To you we say:
Well done! You've carried the colors high. And We'll keep them high when you return them to us.**

HOMER O. EATON JR
Major General
40th Inf Div NGUS
Commanding

active duty for several months at the office of the adjutant general in Sacramento to assist in reconstitution of the Guard in the state.

Eaton was one of the post World War II re-organizers of the 40th. In

October, 1946, he was appointed commander of the 160th regiment and was assigned as assistant division commander in December, 1947, a post he held continuously, except for short periods in which he temporarily commanded the division's artillery and the division itself, until he assumed command in 1953.

General Eaton went on active duty on September 1, 1950, for the Korean war with the 40th and helped train the organization at Camp Cooke and in Japan.

The General headed the advance party which departed for Korea from the division's Sendai headquarters, on December 26, 1951, to arrange for relief of the 24th Infantry Division, which took over the Southern California outfit's security mission on Honshu.

Eaton returned to the United States on 20 June 1952, and joined in efforts to reorganize the 40th in the California National Guard once again. An effort confused in some quarters by retention of the 40th's numerical designation on active duty in Korea.

Reorganization officially started here on September 2, 1952.

His command embraces 108 units once again federally recognized in the California National Guard and territorially extends from Santa Maria to the Mexican border.

Eaton has attended the Command and General Staff College, Infantry school, and Marine Corps amphibious school. His decoration include the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star.



TO CARRY COLORS HOME-Shown holding the California state flag are the five color bearers who will accompany the division on their way to the United States. All of them are members of the Division's Honor Guard and natives of California. Left to right they are; Sgt Kenneth Gader, Cpl Henry Patterson, Pfc Roy Thomas, Cpl Norman Mayers and Cpl Angel Vargas. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.

CMH Winner Honored By Old Unit

The second Medal of Honor winner in the 40th Division, Sgt. David B. Bleak, was honored recently with a metal pisque in tribute to his actions that brought him the Nation's highest award for bravery.

The plaque, mounted on a stone base, was unveiled by Division Commander, Brigadier General William J. Bradley at the unit's 223rd infantry Regiment headquarters.

As a combat medic Sgt. Bleak accompanied a patrol into the Communist lines, where he was attacked by three of the enemy whom he killed in fierce hand fighting.

Later while evacuating a wounded comrade on his shoulders Sgt. Bleak was met by two Chinese soldiers with fixed bayonets. Laying his burden down the powerful medic seized the Reds and smashed their heads together.

Before unveiling the plaque, General Bradley extolled the heroic courage of Bleak and in tribute called him a "leader and a gallant soldier."

Cal Classes Close As Division Departs

The University of California group study classes were terminated as of 9 April in the three regiments with a combined total of 185 enrollments finishing courses in general psychology, US history, and zoology.

The classes, extension courses of the University of California, were conducted in the 223rd, 224th, and 160th Regimental education Centers, drawing student soldiers from all over the division. Only a small percentage of failures and drops occurred from the 185 enrollees while 154 received credit toward college degrees.

The ending of these classes mark the termination of University of California courses in the 40th due to its impending departure to the United States.



THE PUNCHBOWL- Standing two feet high, this replica of the famous landmark, the Punch bowl, is a souvenir purchased by the officers of the 40th Division. It will be returned to California and presented to the National Guard unit by Brigadier General William J. Bradley, present Division Commander. Photo By Pfc Norman Sussman.

Thirty-five Natives Lead Cal Contingent

Led by thirty-five men from the state of California, approximately 1,046 enlisted men and 53 officers make up the 40th division's "California Contingent."

Although there are ten states with larger totals than California, it will be the men from the sunny west that will be making the news when the ship pulls in at San Francisco.

The state of New York leads the contingent with 106 members, followed by Illinois and Pennsylvania with 61 each. Other states topping the California total are Texas, 55; Michigan, 58; Ohio, 52; New Jersey, 42; Georgia, 42; Alabama, 39; and South Carolina, 36.

Brigadier General William J. Bradley will head the contingent.

Punchbowl To NG Outfit

During his recent visit to the 40th Division, Major General Ridgely Gaither, J-2 of the Far East Command, officially turned over the "Punchbowl" to the division's present commander, Brig. General William J. Bradley.

The "Punchbowl", a two foot all silver bowl, depicts the area of its famous namesake. It is the shape of the actual contours of the Punchbowl an area the 40th defended near the end of the conflict.

In turn, General Bradley will present the attractive souvenir to the 40th National Guard Division upon the arrival of the division's California Contingent in the United States.

General Gaither commanded this division for nine months, including the last four months before the cease fire.

Sharp Honor Guard Division Showpiece

By CPL JOE B. KIRKBRIDE

Vowing to be the showpiece of the 40th Division, "Not by dress, but by ability," the Sunburst Honor guard will carry the unit colors back to California.

The Honor Guard, carefully selected early in March, has spent their time prior to the sailing drilling, drilling and drilling. Under the command of 1st Lt. James V. Chris, the Guard has gained the respect of the division and visiting dignitaries.

Starting with over 1,500 men screened from the division units for their combat records, character, attitude and dress, the selection was trimmed to 150 prospects. The total was again group; has undergone vigorous schedules were held.

Divided into two platoons, the group has undergone vigorous training closely paralleling that of a leadership course. Following a schedule of inspections, physical training and constant drill the Honor Guard was carefully molded into a crack drill unit, mastering all of the tricks of a spit and polish. One feature of the Guard drill is climaxed with several minutes of continuous movements without spoken commands.

"This is one of the finest units I have ever worked with," declared Chriss. "These men have proven themselves on the battle field and now are proving that they can drill and march with the best of the garrison soldiers."

In the words of company first sergeant, M/Sgt. Tillman Leaphart, attitude has played a large part in the success of the Guard performances. "I have never seen a group of men so signally united in one common effort," he said. "The men have all put out like raw recruits for one purpose... to give the 40th and the state of California something that they can be proud of, an Honor Guard with the precision of a Swiss watch."

Leaphart, a veteran of 11 years in the Army and completing his second tour of duty in Korea, added, "A few of the men are career soldiers like myself, but most of them will enter civilian life in a few weeks."

Representing nearly every unit in the division, the Guard is out to continue their success in California, making the return of the Sunburst colors a memorable one, an Honor guard that portrays the unit, "Not by dress, but by ability... ability to undertake a job and do it well."

Advanced Party

Far a head of the California Contingent is a two-man advanced party, that is paving the way for smooth operations in California.

Major Charles I. Rogers, Public Information Officer, and Major Clifton Reynolds, G-4, comprise the party to assist National Guard officials in arranging billeting, mess, transportation and parade schedules for the homeward bound contingent.



THE FIRST TO GO HOME- Shown is a portion of the first California national Guardsmen to rotate home from Korea in 1952. Photo by Pfc Nathan Buchman.

Kapyong High School 40th's Top AFAK Effort

By CPT ROBERT McLEAN

With the cessation of hostilities, men of the 40th Division turned their attention from the immediate prosecution of a war, to the plight of the Korean people who bore the brunt of the war's devastation.

Men of the "Sunburst Division" reached into their pockets and made large contributions to AFAK (Armed Forces Assistance to Korea); wrote home to their families, relatives, and friends for used clothing to distribute to destitute Korean men and women; gave dozens of Christmas parties at Korean schools, orphanages, and townships, at which thousands of Christmas presents of food and clothing (some from the States and

some bought in Japan) were given away.

Even before the AFAK program got under way, the men of the 40th had started to rebuild one of the Korean villages, Kapyong. There they built the Kenneth Kaiser Memorial High School in honor of the first man of the division to lose his life during the conflict. It came to be the division's biggest single effort.

The "sea-saw" battle across the Korean peninsula had laid waste many large public buildings in thousands of Korean cities. Thus, as the 40th Division AFAK program got up full steam, each major unit in the division "adopted" a Korean township in which to build a project.

Plans were drawn up for fourteen schools, two dispensaries, an infirmary, and a church to be built in various hard-hit Korean towns. The sponsoring organizations sent skilled workers and supervisory personnel, Trucks, and building equipment to the sites of the projects, and, with building materials provided by AFAK, carpenters and masons swiftly laid the foundations of the buildings and began putting up rights in place. Hammers swung, saws flew back and forth, wood-planes carved out smooth shavings and Korean eyes and hopes followed the upward growth of the projects. While construction went on, men from the sponsoring outfits frequently visited the people of the township they were aiding, bearing gifts for them. From the bunkers of the artillery units, from the trenches of the front lines, men poured into two and one-half ton trucks, to visit Korean villages, making a holiday of their trip, and spreading joy and good feeling.

As the months since the guns stopped firing went by, and an aura of peace settled over Korean fields once again, farming families displaced from the 40th Division area by the war were allowed to return to their land.

The 40th Division assisted the farmers in every way it could. Engineers of the 40th designed and constructed a model township called "Sunburst Village." The 40th's Engineers surveyed the area, made the roads, the drainage facilities, and dug the wells for the village. Seven public buildings were designed and were erected: an office, a public latrine, a public bath, a police station, a hospital, a town meeting place and a warehouse. Plans call for fifteen additional public buildings which will fulfill the rest of the needs of the new Korean township of a population of over two thousand people. The area in the 40th Division sector in which the Koreans are resettling is called Kwanin Myon.

Papers, Radio, Classes Keep 40th Men Informed

Although the attention of the 40th Infantry Division was taken up during the war by the demands of battle, the Division still found time to implement a Troop Information and Education program.

Troops of the division, even front line men, were kept informed on current affairs by Stars and Stripes, Time and Newsweek, distributed by TI&E personnel. A one page daily newspaper, The Grizzly, kept the men of the division briefed on what was happening throughout the division, Korea, and the world.

Radios, short-wave portables, distributed by TI&E on a per capita basis to units within the division, permitted men in the division to hear news broadcasts, and some of their favorite radio programs. The world series was brought within reach of frontline troops by means of these morale-building sets. Many soldiers awoke at three o'clock in the morning to hear the over seas broadcast of the classic American duel between the New York Yankees and Brooklyn Dodgers.

With the cease fire, troops of the division, although still on guard against a renewal of hostilities,

found they had more time that could be profitably used. Interest in the educational opportunities offered by TI&E soared.

Group-study courses sprang up in outfits all over the division. Within tents, mess-halls and TI&E quonsets, men gathered to study such courses as book-keeping, algebra, English, Russian, public speaking, electricity and musical appreciation. Most popular of all were high school subjects, primarily English and mathematics. All told there were more than 200 groups study courses held in the division. One of the most enterprising group-study courses was a typing class given at the Division Headquarters. On typewriters supplied by Quartermaster, thirty men learned to type, thereby increasing their usefulness to the Army and improving their personal skills.

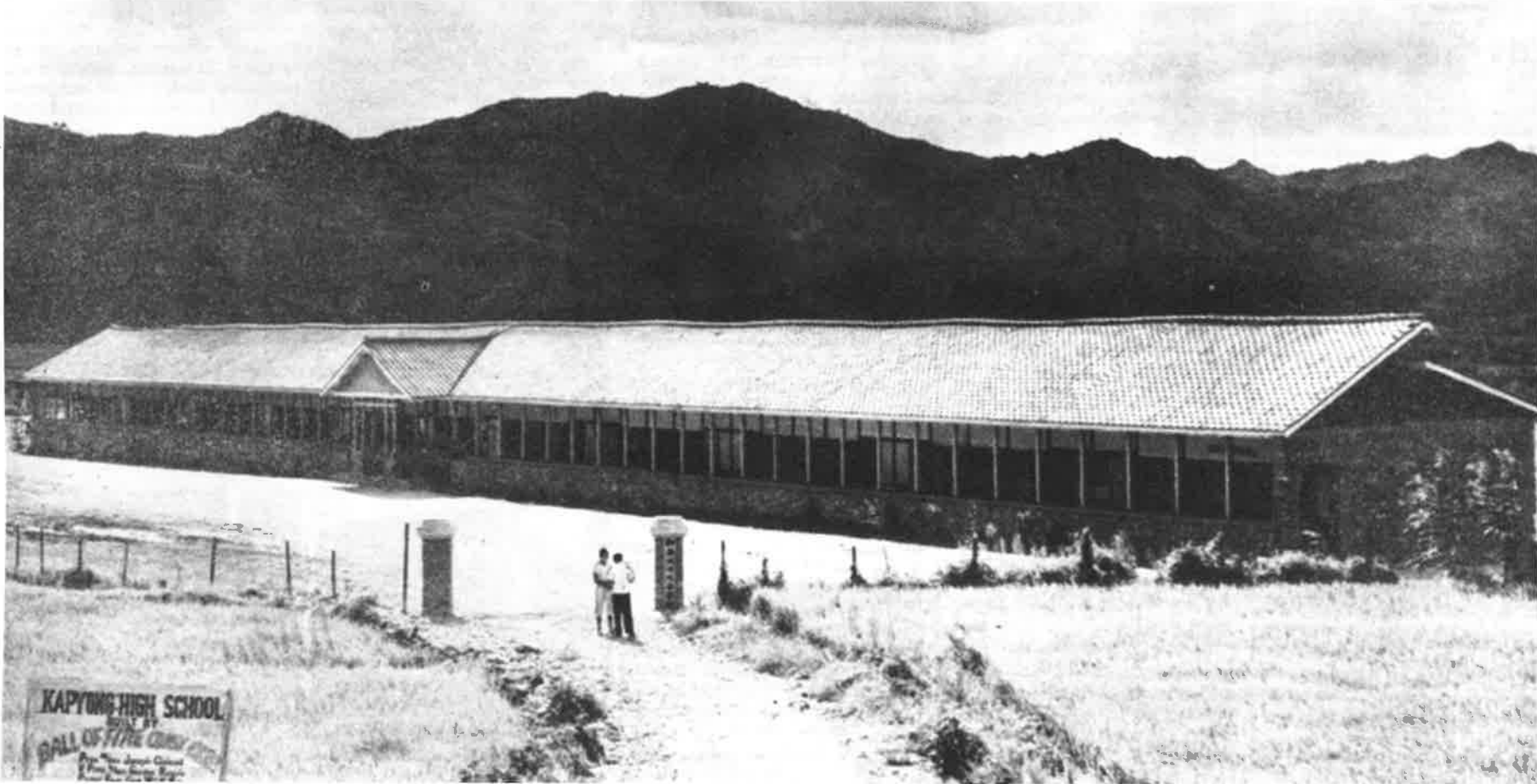
The 40th Division was the first unit of its kind to get the University of California plan under way. The program offered the men of the division an opportunity of going to college in Korea under the tutelage of actual members of their faculty. Six courses were offered and 288 men responded.

For those soldiers who wanted to follow their own interests, hundreds of self-study and correspondence courses were made available through USAFI, 2,812 men of the 40th taking advantage of the chance offered them.

The Division also inaugurated a drive to give every man at least a fourth grade education, every NCO and eighth grade education and every officer two years of college. Within every major unit educational programs were set up, and within the space of two months, 1763 "basics" were graduated and several thousand "intermediates" received certificates and nearly 300 officers were enrolled in college courses to fulfill the Army requirement. Altogether 5,541 officers and enlisted men, or 30.8 per cent of the 40th Division, participated in the USAFI program.



DRESSING UP-With the aid of Pfc Robert Chism, 223rd Infantry Regiment, a tiny tot from Hyon Nil, Korea dons a new winter suit, one of the many gifts presented the children of the village by the regiment. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.



The Kenneth Kaiser Memorial High School at Kapyong, Korea, Dedicated to the first 40th Division man to lose his life in the Korean conflict.

Men Healthy, Happy Due to Medics Work

By PFC JOHN PORMAN

Each branch of service, from the lowest echelon of the Infantry to the Pentagon, has a motto symbolizing its purpose, and accordingly the 40th Division's 115th Medical Battalion motto "Serve and Save," reflects the battalion's mission.

The 115th Medical Battalion, serving as the center of the Division's medical system, performs a myriad of services, to keep men of the Division in fighting trim. These services vary, from the treatment of battle wounds, to making dentures and maintaining ambulance service for the majority of the division's units.

At the present time, the battalion has a staff of four doctors, who can perform minor surgery on incoming patients. These patients include emergency cases which cannot be treated by the battalion aid stations. If the case is of a more serious nature, the 115th Medical Battalion prepares him for further evacuation to stations such as the 45th SH (MA), where more adequate facilities are available. To aid in the prompt evacuation of patients, to and from the battalion, helicopters as well as the ambulances assigned to the battalion are used.

The dental services provided by the battalion protects the entire Division. A dental clinic is located in each regimental area, and at various special units throughout the Division to insure that every man with in the Division will receive proper dental care. Each clinic is staffed by at least one qualified dentist and equipped to extract or restore teeth. The Dental section of the Battalion is equipped to make dentures; making upwards of 80 dentures of all types weekly.

One of the more important functions of the 115th Medical Battalion is its evacuation service, provided for casualties of the division. Despite the fact that they are required to evacuate casualties only as far as the southern boundary

of the division area, many instances occur when one cannot wait to be evacuated through regular channels. It is then that the 115th Medical Battalion Ambulance company goes into action in a double duty capacity evacuating casualties further to the rear. This and their regular runs around the division area, have played a vital part in keeping the men of the 40th Division in fighting trim during combat and the following cease-fire period.

The Medical Battalion furnishes Medical Supplies to the entire Division.

In recognition of the vital part the battalion played in keeping the 40th Division in the best possible fighting condition, during the war and cease-fire period, the meritorious Unit Commendation.

Tankers Climb to Glory In Battle at Luke's Castle

By SGT. CONRAD LARSON

On an exploding night during the last months of the Korean conflict, a screaming, charging hoarde of Reds discovered that with or without their armored battle wagons, the men of the 140th Tank Battalion are fighters to the core.

On that night in June 1953, a group of tanks from Company B were giving close range support to an infantry unit fighting off a massive Red attack. The Communists flowed into the trenches and isolated the tankers from the infantry.

In a fierce hand to hand struggle the crew-men held back the Reds until counter-attacking forces repulsed the Communist assault.

Since the first time the 140th entered battle in Korea in the Kumsong sector on February 18, 1952 it had units on line until the truce was signed . . . a total of over

Division Aids Worthy Causes

The 40th Division gave and it gave well during its 28 month stay in Korea.

Men of the division have contributed over \$200,000 dollars to various charities, notably the March of Dimes in which it led all other Army divisions for the last two years. This year's total was \$74,691.58.

Listed among the charities that they aided were the Red Cross, Kenneth Kaiser Memorial High School, Netherlands Flood Relief, the Republic of Korea Army Academy, the Pusan fire Relief and a donation to little Glenna Copsy, of Omaha, Nebr., who was injured in a fall from the third story of a building.

To aid the Korean people the men also gave clothing, food and other gifts, which were never registered in monetary values.

578th Battles Roads To Keep 40th Moving

By PFC PUAL BARTHOLOMEW

The books had it that the job was impossible, but as General John Pershing once said "the damn fool engineer didn't know that, so he just went ahead and did it."

That's the way it is with the 40th Division's 578th Engineer Battalion, which played a vital role in the successful support of the Division in the past two years. They have not only offered direct support in construction, maintenance, and supply but have also indirectly aided the 40th by conducting hundreds of classes in mine-war fare, supervising numerous projects, and carrying on research to improve the Division's positions, safety, and comfort.

In their two years of support, the battalion has constructed nearly

one-hundred miles of MSR plus many miles of unit driveways and secondary routes. They have been responsible for over seven-hundred miles of road maintenance, and have built the third highest road in Korea which has a peak of some 3,800 feet.

The Gophers seem to have a preference for large numbers because their water points produce 2 and 1 half to 3 million gallons of potable water each month, and their sawmills, although operating for less than a year, have cut over seven million board feet of lumber. This is enough lumber to reach almost halfway from the West to the East coast of the U.S. if it were laid in one-inch thick square feet lengths. They have also erected nearly 100 quonsets and have supervised the building of hundreds of others.

The Engineers were called on to lay and improve the Division's minefields. Even after the truce, they exposed themselves to the dangers of mines by sweeping and clearing the deadly fields. So extensive was this job, that over forty-eight million meters of minefields were swept by the 578th in this two-year period.

The battalion also aided the stricken Koreans by their all-out support of the AFAK program. Besides the building of schools, churches, and public buildings, they gave their know-how in the research of the irrigation problems of the Korean farmers. Their latest accomplishment was the building of an entire village, Kwanin-myon, for the farmers who returned to their lands in the Division area.

The 578th has put on some of the "greatest shows on earth." In the last two years they have demonstrated the necessity of an Engineer unit by their tremendous support and help. The Division knew that when there was a tough job to do; that the easiest way to do it was to call the Engineers.

Training Center . . . described by the tankers who knew from experience that it was, "Just like combat." During two-week cycles the men underwent rigorous training in every phase of tank work, from tactics and firing to communication.

When the truce was signed the 140th turned its efforts toward a program of extensive training designed for continual preparedness. They not only conducted their own tactical problems, but also coordinated their work with infantry units, adding a grim, realistic note to the mock battles in which infantrymen and tankers studied the power of armored support. In addition, the battalion was given the mission of supervising the training of the regimental tank companies and the division reconnaissance company.

Ordnance Men Are Medics Of Machinery

The 740th Ordnance Battalion could well be called the "medics of machinery." With their welding torches, wrenches, gauges, and all the other tools of their trade, the men have been responsible for doctoring the mechanized part of the division.

During the fighting, men of the 740th worked right up with the front line troops, performing first echelon maintenance wherever possible and returning the rest to the rear half of the battalion for more detailed work.

Two phrases are indelible in the minds of the ordnance men "zero backlog" and "floating exchange." Together they mean top speed production and peak efficiency.

Zero backlog is the battalion's daily goal. When they reach that zero backlog they have turned out every vehicle or weapon that was in their possession that morning. In this way they provide a one day service on all vehicles but they insist on top work just the same. Each repaired vehicle leaving the area gets a rigorous going over before it is returned to its unit.

Floating exchange works hand in hand with zero backlog. When a unit brings in a damaged vehicle or weapon the ordnance replaces it for them immediately until their own is repaired. This is done in an effort to keep the units at top strength despite possible mishaps to a jeep or rifle.

That jammed weapon or stalled vehicle was a serious threat to the soldier's safety. That's where the 740th Ordnance stepped in and doctored things up.



ORDNANCE CHECK-A grease monkey from the 740th Ordnance tightens the screws after giving one of the 40th Division's vehicles a check-up. Playing grease monkey to a jeep or 2 and a half ton truck is not the only job of the busy Ordnance for the 40th. Photo by Sgt Jay Williams.



MEDICAL AID-Two members of the 115th Medical Battalion carry a wounded man to a field aid station during the fighting at the Punchbowl in 1952. Due to their quick action the Medical Battalion can credit themselves with many saved lives.

Kelly Salutes Division



The grenadiers salute the 40th Infantry Division on the eve of its departure for California. The Division has earned an enviable reputation in the Far East as a result of its exploits in Korea and the 160th Infantry Regiment is proud of its contribution to this fine record.

As we prepare for redeployment, we realize that shortly the fine organization of which we are a part soon will be broken up and that many friends will be parted. In fact, much will be lost when we separate, still we will never forget the camaraderie which can only be shared by those who endure the hardships and trials of soldiers fighting and living under field conditions. We will never forget our own buddies who died so that we might live. We of the Grenadiers know that where ever we go, in war and peace, our outlook on life will always reflect the fine spirit of our regiment.

To our comrades-in-arms of the 40th Infantry Division who have shared our problems and supported us in battle we bid farewell and Godspeed.

JOHN E. KELLY
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding



HIDDEN TANKS—Two members of the 160th Tank Company stand atop their camouflaged tank after completing a training problem. The tank has set up next to a Korean farm house, blending in with the surrounding area perfectly.

Three Schools, Church Completed in 160th AFAK

Armed Forces Assistance to Korea, in the 160th Regiment, was successfully brought to a close when they completed three schools and a church.

The first to be completed was the four room school that was built for the village of Sang San-ni by the third battalion. It like the other two, is a grammar school.

The other three projects were finished the same day, one at Kapyong, one at Sam Gao-ri and the other at Kumdae-ri.

Added to the mounting facilities

that have been provided the people of Kapyong was a Church, financed and built by the 160th's first battalion finished their four room school at Sam Goa-ri while the unit's special troops completed a one room school at the tiny village of Kumdae-ri.

The regiment-wide program got under way in December of 1953, when men of the division first visited the areas bearing candy, cake, hats and clothing for the townspeople during the Christmas holidays.

Division's Grenadier Palace Hosts Top Name Stars

The history of the theater is studded, not only with famous actors and actresses, but also with famous places of entertainment. Shakespear had the Gotham theater, vaudeville had its Palace and Imperial. The 40th Division had its Grenadier Palace.

The 160th Infantry Regiment's contribution to the field of entertainment, though not world famous, has been ranked the best theater in Korea by the entertainers who have played them all.

It is a model of ingenuity and practical beauty. Instrumental in its construction was M/Sgt Basil Young, Special project NCO of the

160th, who designed and directed the building.

Completed in a week, it was made in sections so that it could be put together or taken apart like a crossword puzzle. It originally was set up in the Kumwha Valley area and has traveled with the division ever since.

Of the twenty-five USO shows that played the Palace in the last four months, Marilyn Monroe's visit stands out. Twelve thousand shivering fans turned out to see the world's most popular woman.

Big names have come to be "a dime a dozen" on the Palace guest list. Dick Contino, entertaining with

an all soldier show, Roy Acuff and his Grand Ole Opry crew and lovely Roberta Haynes were but a few of the thespians to "play the palace." It has also been a stop over point for Army dignitaries and the notable Cardinal Spellman.

The palace has attracted more soldiers than any other theater of its kind in Korea and the average attendance has ran over two thousand.

The men that sat in the sun, rain and snow to see the USO shows may forget some of the entertainers in days to come, but the memory of the Grenadier Palace will live a long time.

TI&E Program Aimed At Every Man in 160

The 40th Division's 160th infantry Regiment has initiated a vigorous program in Troop Information and Education since the ending of hostilities in Korea last July.

The regiment has a system of study whereby classes are available for every soldier of the regiment. Courses ranging from the elementary level to college study provided by the extension courses by the University of California, provide for the furthering of education for anyone desiring a higher level of learning.

The "grenadier College," as the regiments education program in called, has completed the large-scale task of testing men in the regiment to determine the course of study the soldier should follow. Educational development tests have provided many soldiers who have passed it to secure a high school diploma from his home school. One man in the regiment has received his high school diploma through the GED test, qualified as a typist, passed a USAFI course in radio electronics, and has received an equivalency of 18 semester hours of college work.

Headquarters company, first battalion, and Easy company of the 160th boasts 25 percent participation in the regiment's TI&E program.

Colonel John E. Kelly stressed the importance of his regiment's TI&E program saying, "Educating our soldiers is one of the most important missions of the Army today."

Grenadiers Give

The men of the 160th Regiment are known not only for their fighting ability but for their willingness to aid various charities and relief's.

Four times they topped all units in the 40th Division. This year they topped two successive drives, the March of Dimes and Red Cross campaigns. They contributed \$1,600.00 to the division's Army Emergency Relief Fund.

Grenadier Tops U. of California Setup in 40th

In a division that emphasizes the development of the Army TI&E program, the 160th Regiment's "Grenadier College" has developed quite a reputation.

Getting its start shortly after the cease-fire, the "Grenadier College" has grown into a major project, offering a varied program, including two University of California classes to be held in the 40th Division.

With a goal set at getting every man in the regiment to qualify for an eighth grade diploma, the TI&E section has whittled the number of men not completing the fourth grade down to 50 from a staggering 944. More than 300 men have completed the eighth grade tests while serving with the 160th.



A FINAL FAREWELL—Men of the 160th Infantry Regiment gather at the regiment's Grenadier Palace to pay tribute to the Katusa soldiers. It was the farewell ceremony to the Koreans as they left to rejoin the Korean Army. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.



MACHINE GUNNER—Cpl Joe Purnell, left, take aim as Pfc Roy Scott gets set to feed the ammunition. Both men were with the 160th Infantry Regiment as they went through a rigorous training schedule, designed to keep them in the best possible fighting shape. Photo by Sfc A. Stasson.

Dog Replaced By Tiny Fox In Windows Song

When the song by Patti Page, "Doggie in the Window," was popular, the boys of Company I 160th Infantry Regiment felt sure they would never see a doggie, let alone in a window in Korea.

The fourth platoon went to work one cloudy morning to repair their battle position which a severe rain had damaged in the proceeding week. While approaching a machine gun emplacement one of the men spotted a furry little ball sitting in the firing aperture of the bunker. As they approached the bunker the "thing" let out a bark and they knew they had a pup of some kind.

It turned out the barking pup was a small fox, who had been abandoned by its mother. Its new home was now an ammo box stuffed with cloth.

A few of the men say the fox is inspiring them to write a new rendition to the "Doggie" song called "How Much is that Fox in the Aperture."

While Serving With 223rd Speicher, Bleak Win CMH

The history of the 223rd Infantry Regiment in Korea has been written into the 40th Division's history, engraved with two Congressional Medal of Honor winners and four Distinguished Service Cross winners.

The 223rd Infantry Regiment arrived at Inchon on the 22nd of January 1952, relieving the 21st Regiment of the 24th Division. Shortly before they moved into reserve for the first time on June of 1952, two men of the unit, Corporal Clifton Teamer Speicher and Sergeant David B. Bleak were to go into action on the same day and both were to win the Congressional Medal of Honor for their heroic efforts.

It was after they had moved into reserve that the regiment greeted the first group of Korean soldiers they had taken into the outfit. These KATUSA's were to become solid members of the regiment; to work, train, fight, and some to die valiantly beside their American comrades. Overcoming the language barrier in much shorter time than would have the Americans under similar circumstances, the names Kim, Chung and Lee became familiar in the 223rd. Americans and Koreans seemed to accept each other quickly as partners in achieving a common objective.

During the hot summer months of 1952, new men learned and old veterans relearned the skills and techniques which reflect a well-trained, combat-ready fighting unit.

October found the 223rd on the move again, this time to the high ridges of the eastern front. By early November the regiment had taken over the defense of the northern heights of the famous Punchbowl. It was not long before the Communist forces found that the 223rd had lost none of its fighting effectiveness.

As January rolled around the regiment left a record of which its members and division could be proud of and its future members could strive to uphold. After approximately 1,800 patrols, the regiment could add the two CMH awards, 32 silver stars, and 108 bronze stars for valor. To its previous five battle streamers, two more were added to the regimental colors.

The Punchbowl and the Green Nob were not the only "big name" battle grounds that the regiment was to defend. On July 10, 1953 they moved away from the Punchbowl, taking over a hill called Heartbreak Ridge. It was the 223rd that took the brunt of the Communist attack in the last days of the fighting.

After the cease fire the 223rd continued to guard the front line areas and to train the new replacements for things that were to come.

The exploits of the 223rd Infantry Regiment will go down in history beside the names, Punchbowl, Green Nob, and Heartbreak Ridge. Inserted will be the names of Cpl Speicher and Sgt Bleak, frontrunners of the fighting 223rd Regiment.



Keating's Farewell Message

The Korean chapter in the history of the 223rd Infantry is rapidly drawing to a close. This glorious phase in the life of our unit, like those that preceded it, is a source of pride to all who have been associated with the Regiment. At Kumsong, the Punchbowl and Heartbreak Ridge, our proud and glorious traditions were upheld in the finest manner. As a result, our dignified and honorable colors will return to the United States with increased renown and prestige.

Some of the men responsible for the enviable record established by our Regiment during battle with the Communist aggressor, have returned to the United States either for reassignment or discharge. In their absence we thank them for their substantial contribution toward the splendid reputation that the 223rd enjoys today. Still other former members of our organization are absent for the cold and final reason that they are dead. They willingly paid this price so that our cherished heritage could be inherited by future generations, your sons and daughters. To them we also owe "thanks" and a silent prayer.

With the redeployment of the 40th Division you men will become widely scattered. Some will return to civilian life, others will move into new areas, face new assignments and meet new friends within the military establishment. In spite of all this diversity you will retain two common bonds, a magnificent military tradition which lays in the past and tremendous obligations which belongs to the future in our continued fight against Communism. I refer to the part that you will necessarily play as the leaders of the future generation of Americans. Each of you, wherever you may be, must constantly and unstintingly continue to protect a precious heritage—a heritage which is the result of man's uninterrupted fight to achieve freedom since the dawn of history. The Christian truths, which have influenced and shaped western thought and philosophy for twenty centuries, have culminated in the recognition of the "integrity of the individual and the firm belief in human dignity." We must continue to preserve our faith, our liberty and our way of life.

It is my earnest hope that your life will be made richer by your service in the 223rd Infantry Regiment and by the knowledge that your devotion to duty and your sacrifices have shown the Communist aggressors that we have every intention of passing on our way of life to future generations.

Good-bye and good luck to all.

JOHN W. KEATING
Colonel, 223, Inf
Commanding



A DAY FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS-Tired men of the 223rd Infantry Regiment move slowly down the barren wastes of Heartbreak Ridge the day of the ceasefire. Photo by Sgt C.E. Truetlein.

223rd TI&E Program Progresses From Mud Hut to Quonset Schools

At one time the 223rd Infantry Regiment's TI&E staff consisted of one man assigned to the S3 section. Later it consisted of one officer and one enlisted man working out of a log and mud hut. At its peak the 223rd TI&E section totaled fifty-four men.

Through the efforts of these fifty-four men nearly one third of the entire regiment was engaged in one form of education or another.

When the TI&E setup got into full swing first priority went to the non-English speaking personnel of the regiment. A four-week course was set up, which has been instrumental in instructing more than two hundred men.

The next program to go into effect was the basic program for men who had less than a fourth grade education. Following that came the school for the intermediates and then courses in the University of California system.

All the time the section was

plugging the Army's USAFI program initiated for men who wish to improve their education through self-study. The participation in this type of study has steadily increased until it reached a recent high mark of 689 men actively enrolled in the regiment.

Two University of California courses were taught in the regiment, employing instructors from the University of California. The course, Geography and General Biology drew more than sixty men.

Several Group Study courses have been offered for those men who wish to advance themselves by making use of their off duty time. Among the subjects offered in this field were typing, high school English, music and psychology.

An extensive amount of testing has been done. A number of men have taken high school and college general educational development tests. Assistance was given those who passed, in securing high school diplomas and college credits for their efforts.

Hometown Pinups Prove Popular

With the final edition of the Fireball will come the end of the hometown pin-up campaign this paper has conducted for the last 34 issues.

The campaign was started to add a new reader interest feature to the paper. Its success was measured in the response the men gave. At the start only one picture was used a week. Three are now used to keep up with the influx of the photos.

The plan proved to be more than a division wide feature for letters of thanks, suggestions and enclosed pictures started to arrive from the States.

The project was given the stamp of approval by Miss Maud O'Bryan of the New Orleans State newspaper in her column "In and About Town."

A total of 64 hometown sweethearts, friends and wives made the pages of the Fireball.



SLEEP IS WHERE YOU FIND IT-Exhausted men of the 40th Division's 223rd Infantry Regiment take time out on a Korean road before returning to the fight. Dust and rocks were no obstacles for the battle weary men.

COLORFUL DIVISION REVIEW MA



From the Punchbowl archway the 40th Division review begins, led by Brigadier General John G. Hill, Assistant Division Commander (extreme right). Photo by Cpl Norman Sussman.



MEMORY TABLEAU—This replica of the famous Sandbag Castle was presented by the 234th Infantry Regiment, who defended the hill on two separate occasions. It was Company C, of the 224th, that put the flag on the Castle. In the foreground a battle scene is enacted as a field medic helps a wounded buddy. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.



TOP GUESTS GREETED—Brigadier General William J. Bradley, 40th Division Commander Chief of Staff, (far left) and Colonel E. C. D. Scherrer, Division Chief of Staff, (right) greet top guests at the 40th's farewell parade May 8. Honor guests were South Korea President and Mrs. Syngman Rhee and General Maxwell D. Taylor, Eighth Army Commander. Photo by Sgt. William Miller.



COLORS FORWARD—In a dramatic part of the 40th Div



PRECISION—Showing precision, the 40th Division Honor G



PARADE COMMANDER GREETED—South Korean President, Syngman Rhee, greets Brigadier General John G. Hill, commander of the 40th troops at the farewell review. Looking on at the right is Brigadier General William J. Bradley, Division Commander. The driver is Pvt Robert Hatton, 40th Division headquarters. Photo by Cpl Norman Sussman.

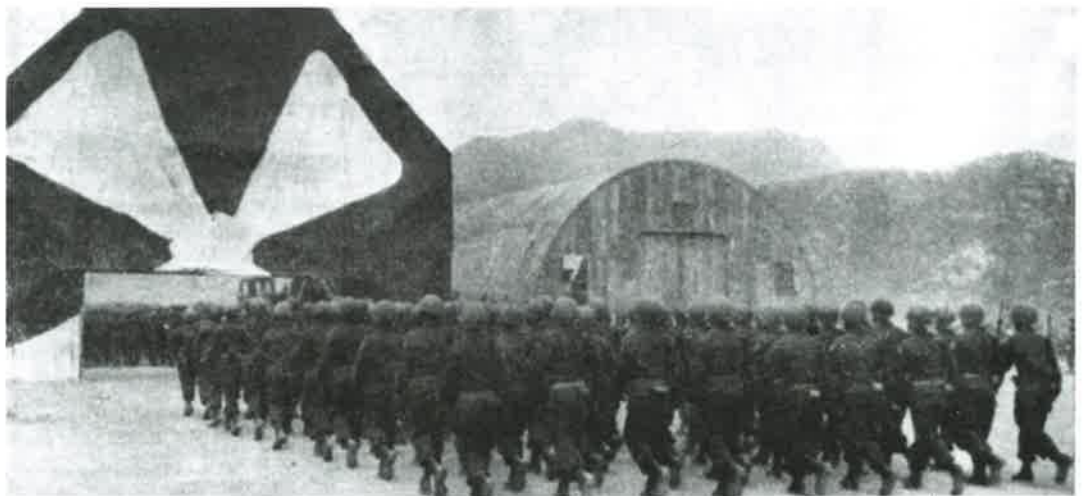


SOLEMN REMEMBRANCE—With the company banners flying overhead the solemn, lonely Papa-sun is displayed by Division Artillery's 980th Field Artillery Battalion. It was one of many tableaux depicting former battle sights of 40th Division units. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.

WORKS KOREAN FARWELL FOR 40TH



HEARTBREAK—A broken heart, with the background of sharp, cruel ridges tells the story of the fierce fighting for Heartbreak Ridge. The 223rd Infantry Regiment tableau gives a vivid picture of the territory they defended during the conflict. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.



ON TO NEW ASSIGNMENTS—Massed troops of the 40th Infantry Division pass through a reproduction of the Eight Army patch, signifying that they will go on to new assignments in Korea upon the departure of the division. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.



Division forward to be turned over to their respective units. Photo by Cpl.



Guard review. The group will carry the division's colors back to the United States.



DIVISION COLORS OFFICIALLY PASSED—Brigadier General William J. Bradley, Commanding General of the 40th Division presents the division colors to Colonel L. V. Hightower, Commander of the California Contingent. It was part of the ceremonies in which the United Nation's colors were turned over to the Eighth Army honor guard and the Republic of Korea colors were returned to the ROKA honor guard. General Bradley made all presentations. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.



POST WAR PERIOD—The post war period is depicted in their expressive tableau by the 160th Infantry Regiment. In the foreground are figures signifying important visitors that paid visits to the regiment, while the Church and farmers in the background give testimony to the aid the regiment gave to the Armed Forces Assistance to Korea program. Photo by Cpl Dominick Spina.



THEN THE END—Last troops to pass in review and off of the parade field were the men comprising the 40th Division's California Contingent. They pass through the Rose Bowl archway, carrying with them the colors of the division, the final tribute to the 40th's farewell review. Above the canvass stadium fly the flags of various states of the USA, the California stage flag pictured in the center above the sign Rose Bowl. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.

Popular Outpost Called VIP-OP

The many important personages who visited the 224th regiment's Easy Company Outpost from the beginning of September 1953 through the month of April 1954 caused the men in the regiment to nick-name the outpost "The V.I.P. O.P."

With the exception of President Eisenhower the entire chain of command visited the mountain top bunker outpost and viewed enemy positions and viewed enemy position and activities through its binoculars and telescopes Chief of Staff General Matthew B. Ridgeway, Far East Commander General John Hull, and Eighth Army Commander Maxwell Taylor were among those who visited the outpost at least once. In addition commanding officers of other Divisions in Korea and numerous air force personnel have familiarized themselves with enemy activities from the outpost.

Among the many prominent civilians who had coffee and cake at the Easy Company mess hall before visiting the bunker were Vice President Richard Nixon and Senator Harold Stassen. Numerous other civilians and Army men of lesser renown also trained their eyes on enemy lines through the outpost's telescopes.

Hoisting Sandbag Castle Flag, Guarding POWs Top Events

By CPL TOM MCNELL

When the 224th Infantry Regiment embarked for the Far East on the 31st of March, 1951, it was a proud unit authorized to carry battle streamers from the World War II campaigns of the Bismark, Archipelago, Leyte, and Luzon, (as the unit from which it stemmed served in those campaigns.) When the regiment arrived in Korea it added to those battle streamers by serving in the Korean hills and valleys whose names were made famous by American soldiers in their valiant fight against the aggression of the Chinese Communist Armies.

Upon arriving in the Far East the regiment trained in Japan, preparing for combat operations and on the 22nd of January, 1952, the advance party landed in Korea. On the 2nd of February, the main body of the regiment landed in Korea. On the 5th of February the regiment went into action in the Kumsong area on the Central Front.

The regiment served on line until March 27th when it was relieved. It returned to the line at Kumwha in the 6th of April, 1952, where it served until the 28th of June, 1952.

A TI&E program was set up which embraced more than a third of the regiment in its educational program. Was set up which At that time on the basis of its fine combat record the 224 was chosen for a difficult and important assignment. The regiment left the Kumwha area and proceeded by motor, train, and LST's to the islands of Kojé-Do and Cheju-Do where they assumed the mission of guarding Communist prisoners of war. The regiment distinguished itself there as they were the first United States troops allowed to use force to quell the rioting and insubordinate communists. The Communists were subdued and quickly brought under control by the well disciplined and trained soldiers of the regiment.

With that assignment completed and the communists under control, the 224 returned to Korea on the 15th of September, 1952. After training for one month it

returned to the line in the famous Heartbreak Ridge-Sandbag Castle area. This move was the culmination of a 110 mile motor march and a night relief of the 27th "Wolfhound" Regiment of the 25th division. In the bitter fighting and patrolling that followed the 224 distinguished itself by never losing an inch of ground to the Communists. Company C, on Sandbag Castle was only 25 yards away from the enemy. This period of close, bitter fighting saw the regiment through the worst of the second Korean winter.

The 224 stayed on line 99 days and then moved to a place called Inje near X Corps headquarters. While at Inje counter-attack plans were rehearsed and a rigorous training schedule was followed.

On the 15th of March the regiment moved into the Punchbowl and from there back to Sandbag Castle. The 224 was at Sandbag Castle with all three battalions on line when the truce was signed on July 27th, 1953.

Shortly after the truce the 224th moved to Kumwha and from there to the Chorwon Valley area. At Chorwon the regiment set up permanent bivouac and prepared a fortified line while undergoing intensive post truce training. While maintaining a constant alertness against the Chinese who prepared embattlements within sight of the regiments outposts embraced more than a third of the regiment in its educational program. The Armed Forces Aid to Korea made great strides in rebuilding areas devastated by the war. As the Division withdrew from line on the eve of leaving about May 1st, the latest part of this AFAK program, the construction of four schools for Korean children was completed. Sports occupied a high place on the recreational ledger of the regiment which sent teams into Division Competition in football, basketball, boxing, and volleyball. The boxing team won the Division championship while the other teams distinguished themselves by playing with the same high spirit, and determination that has been the mark of the regiment in war and peace.

224th Regiment Mimeo Folds

When the breakup of the Division began for the trip back to the United States, the 224th Infantry Regiment suspended publication of its daily paper "The First Team." The paper was a two page mimeographed publication put out by personnel of the regimental TI&E section in order to supplement the larger papers which sometimes were slow or delayed in reaching the troops.

More than 1500 copies of the paper were made each day and sent to the companies under supervision of editor Pvt Michael Alward. The paper gave a brief rundown of current events and dwelt extensively on the on the latest activities of the regiment and Division. Sports highlights and stories of interest on individuals in the regiment also occupied prominent sections in the paper.

The paper had been put out by the 224 since its arrival in Korea, except at such times when movement or combat conditions prevented it. During the war it was first known as "Take Ten" and later as "The Bunker News." The name "The First Team" was given to the paper early in November and stems from the nickname dubbed on the regiment by former Commander Colonel L. A. Walsh, who believed the 224 was first in peace and war.



Rated High

Part of the reason for the fine health record compiled by the 224th Infantry Regiment was the excellent facilities for dental and medical care set up by regimental Medical Company. Each battalion had a fully staffed medical aid station, and Medical Company itself had one of the most modernly equipped dispensaries in Korea.

The full scale dental clinic that went into operation when the Division set up permanent encampment in Chorwon was up to date and superbly equipped. It occupied a quonset section and was furnished with stateside instruments, lamps, and electric powered drills. The two dentists, Major Fredrick Maass and Captain Arthur Blanko averaged 450 sittings a month between them, and filled more than three teeth for every extraction made.



Out of the smoke come two 224th Regiment men as they go through their paces during a recent training problem.

Neilson's Farewell Message

Commanding the 224th Infantry Regiment-THE FIRST TEAM- has been for me a gratifying and memorable experience.

The officers and men of the 224th Infantry are proud of the Regiment's fine record and reputation earned in the bitter fighting in Korea and maintained throughout the long period following the cessation of hostilities. I attribute the many succeeded of the regiment primarily to spirit, professional competence and high standards displayed by its members to the dispatch and determination with which its members accomplished every mission assigned.

The colors of the Regiment soon will be returned to California, the home state of the 224th Infantry Regiment and the 40th Infantry Division. Each of you as members of the Regiment can take deep personal pride in having added to the glory of those Colors and to the honor of your Country.

HENRY NELSON
Colonel Infantry
Commanding

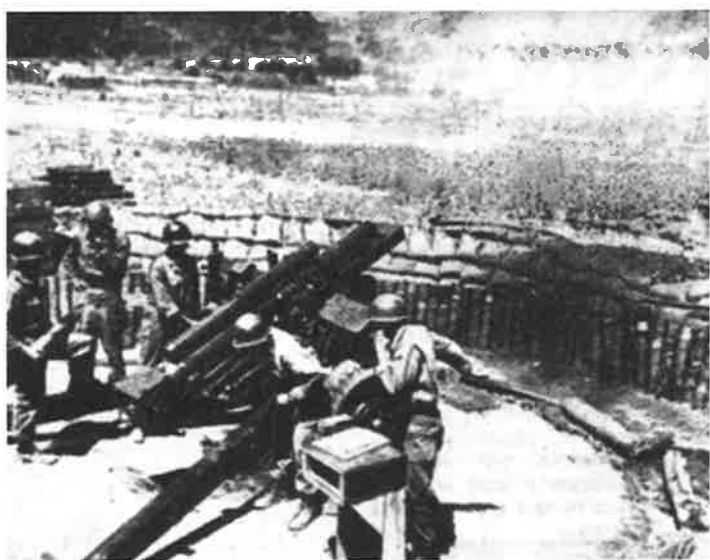


WINTER MOVE- Snow doesn't stop the 224th Infantry Regiment as they move to a new area during the fighting in early 1953. Shown above is a personnel carrier pulling a 105 howitzer. Similar 224th training programs were enacted during the last winter siege to keep the men ready for any type of weather or attack. Photo by Cpl Clifford Brown.

Company E Leads As Top Savers

Easy Company of the 224th Infantry Regiment had a 100 percent participation in Soldier's Deposits for the month of April, making the third straight month that the company has achieved that mark. Due to depletion of the company by rotation the amount deposited was only \$2,000 compared to the \$4,700 high point saved the "Soldiers way" in February.

April also marked the seventh consecutive month that the Company has led the Regiment in total Soldier's Deposits, the men having saved close to \$15,000 since the beginning of 1954 alone. This propensity towards saving has earned the company the title of "Eager Easy" both by its own men and the rest of the regiment.



A ROUND ON THE WAY-Members of Lantry B, 625th Field Artillery Battalion, keep prepared as they run through a practice fire mission. Throughout the war they supported both the American and Korea divisions. Photo by Roger White.

Mule in Hot Water Over AWOL Capers

Among the combat soldiers of the 625th Field Artillery Battalion, there have been many heroes, but few will be as well remembered as Able Battery's mule, "Abe."

Abe was found during Korea's summer rainy season at a time when "A" Battery was bivouacked on top of a muddy precipice. Jeeps and trucks were stalled, unable to climb the slippery quagmire. Mail, food and supplies were bottlenecked. Only the Battalion bulldozer could climb the hill.

The men who found Abe wandering around the hills of Kum'wa believed him to be a deserter from the Chinese Army. They wasted no time investigating his loyalty, in fact they didn't even ask him if he wanted to serve. Abe was pressed into immediate service hauling supplies up the muddy hill.

The mechanics of "A" Battery felt that Abe was an additional vehicle of their command and stenciled his "bumper" with "A-26" in regulation four inch white letters.

For over a month, Abe hauled supplies up the hill. Near the end of the rainy season the 625th Field Artillery Battalion moved to a new location. In the new area there was no more need for "A-26's" services. Abe became restless. For a high-spirited mule like him, the lack of attention was bad. He soon began

to take long walks to relieve the monotony.

PFC Howard D. Motley of Headquarters Battery, 625th Field Artillery Battalion tells of one dark night when he was on guard and heard someone walking toward him.

"Halt," called Motley.

The footsteps drew nearer.

"Halt," called Motley again, with a lump in his throat, "Halt or I'll shoot."

With that he cocked his weapon and turned his flashlight on the intruder. Abe just stared back at him.

As time passed Abe grew more erratic. He was AWOL almost everyday. The guards at nearby outfits grew accustomed to the visitor who refused to halt when challenged. A few weapons were cocked by nervous guards but Abe's luck held good. How he ever avoided the Kim-she pots of some hungry Koreans, is a testimony to Abe's high intelligence.

One night Abe went too far. In a playful mood he tried to kick down the CP and BOQ of a neighboring Field Artillery Battalion. He was shot by an irate officer.

Although Abe was not the best soldier in the 625th, he will always be remembered by those who served with him.

Artillery Mark Includes Nineteen Line Months

By LT. JOSEPH VERRONE

On the morning of January 14, 1954 Major General Ridgely Gaither, former Commanding General, 40th Infantry Division,

Took up the slack on his lanyard and on the command to fire from his section chief, sent the round on its way. The explosion marked the 1,000,000th artillery round which the artillery of the 40th Division had fired since entry into the combat zone of Korea in January 1952.

The gun crew supervised by Chief of Section, Sergeant Howard Lake, "B" Battery, 980th Field Artillery Battalion was comprised

of Major General Gaither, who pulled the lanyard; Colonel George S. Speidel, Jr., Commanding Officer, 40th Division Artillery, Number "2" cannoner who loaded the piece; and Colonel Stanford W. Horseman, former Executive Officer, 40th Division Artillery, Number "3" cannoner. Lieutenant Colonel Charles A. Minot, S-3 40th Division Artillery, was Safety Officer.

The 2nd Section of "B" Battery, 980th Field Artillery Battalion was selected to fire this historic round for their outstanding performance in

the Division Gymkhana, in which they placed first in the 105mm bowitzer competition. In June 1953, the 500,000th artillery round was fired by the 625th Field Artillery Battalion against the Communist aggressors in Korea. Division Artillery was at that time under the command of Brigadier General Thomas W. Dunn. These two historic events are but a few of the many set by Division Artillery while in Korea.

Division Artillery's combat record totaled nineteen consecutive months of combat on the date of the armistice. When one hears a division cannoner say, "After arriving in Korea, we were committed to action everyday during the hostilities," he is not boasting, but rather, proud of the record set by Division Artillery in Korea.

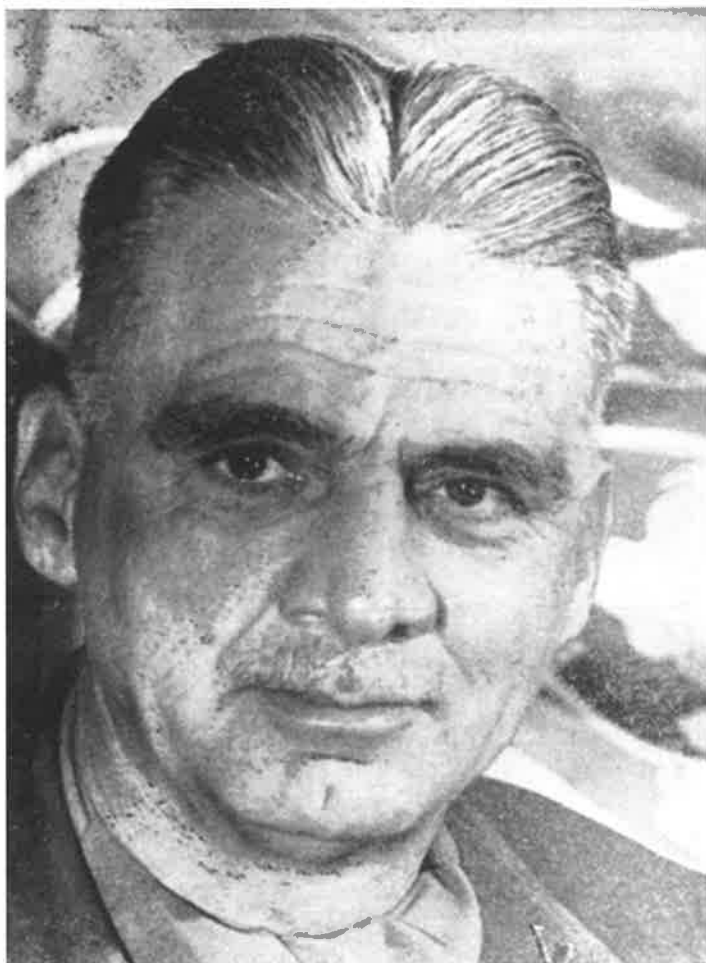
The history of Division Artillery is not unique; it is typical in scope to that of any artillery unit-proud, effective, responsive, disciplined.

The 625th Field Artillery Battalion saw some of its heaviest fighting on the central front near Kumwha. Even when the infantry elements of the division were later relieved for a rest, June 30, 1952, by the 2nd ROKA division, Division Artillery remained in position to support the Korean Troops.

During this period of intense fighting at Kum'wa, the 625th Field Artillery Battalion was ordered to move to the Eastern Front to support the 224th Infantry regiment. There was still considerable fighting near Lukes Castle, but to old timers who saw action in the Kumwha sector, it was mild. The one hundred and forty five decorations, three of which were Silver Stars, are indicative of unit's fine record.

"Gilder", the guardian angels of the sky; the 140th AAA AW Battalion are not the boosters they should be, for they think little of the heroic part they played in the fight for Korea's freedom. Their active role in combat was the defense of the sky-but yet their part went far beyond that which is expected of an AAA unit. It was a common sight in combat to see the half-tracks spread across the division's front, giving direct support to the infantry units. Ask any infantryman of the security he felt when those quad-fifties opened up to cover his advance-he'll tell you there is no greater feeling than to know those fifties are supporting you.

"Gremlin" and "Golden" will long be remembered by the republic of Korea. President Syngman Rhee, in his Citation to the Division, saw fit to mention the 143rd Field Artillery Battalion. In speaking to his troops after the battle for Hill 854 ("Gremlin Hill") said, "I observed you men in last night's action, 'No commander could ask for or receive more from his unit. Each man performed his job in an exemplary manner.' The 'Gremlins' have a saying for it, 'No Sweat'.



Speidel's Farewell Message

It is always regrettable when, in the course of time, a fine combat organization, such as our 40th Division Artillery, is demobilized. In a short time some of you will be homeward bound while others will be reassigned to other units in this theater of operations. As you go your many ways, you can reflect on the outstanding combat record of your units and the part they have played in the conquest for a stabilized peace throughout the world.

You can well be proud of your combat record. At Sniper's Ridge, the Punchbowl, Luke's Castle, Heartbreak Ridge, and Sandbag Castle, Division Artillery units were outstanding in action against the enemy. On numerous occasions the "swinging scythe of artillery steel" was responsible for victorious result. Many individual feats of valor have been properly recognized and recorded.

During the post-armistie period you carried on admirably the spirit exhibited in combat. Your perseverance in all phases of the training program resulted in the high state of combat-readiness of your units, capable of halting aggression should the need arise. Simultaneously, you gave your whole-hearted support to such worthy projects as the Red Cross, the March of Dimes, Pusan Fire Relief, and the Armed Forces Assistance to Korea Program.

As we go our different ways, let us not forget the comradeship we have known and carry with us the pride, esprit de corps, and devotion to duty which has made the 40th Division Artillery one of the finest organizations in Korea. It is fitting that we who remain before us and carry on to the best of our ability in the age-old traditions of the artillery man.

It has been a distinct pleasure to have served with you. As you depart I take this opportunity to wish each one of you the best of luck and Godspeed.

"Load her up, level your bubbles and give On the way:"

GEORGE S. SPEIDEL Jr.
Colonel Arty
Commanding



AFK IN ACTION-Pfc Harry Stafford, 40th Division Artillery, plays Santa Claus to a little Korean girl at a Christmas party held for the village of Chukton, Korea by the cannoners. Photo by Pfc Norman Sussman.

Military Police Control Sector

It's strange how twenty-five words can have so much effect on one group of men, but that is the way it is.

In the book it says: "Enforcement of military law, orders and regulations to include control of circulation, traffic, protection of property, handling prisoners of war and operation of check points." That is the code by which the 40th Military Police Company handles its tremendous task of controlling the division area.

Like the city cop back home, the 40th MPs have their night sticks, their guns and patrol cars. Some of the equipment varies, but their stockade with its barbed wire is just as confining as the local jail back home. Even the procedure of civilian police and the MP is much the same, complete with desk sergeant and police blotter.

Normally, the MPs handle routine assignments such as traffic regulations, guard detail and preliminary criminal investigation. They write tickets for speeding, investigate accidents, arrest suspected violators of the military regulations and have custody of them until legal proceedings are concluded and he is released or turned over to other authorities.

One of the biggest undertakings of the MPs in Korea is the control of all Korean indigenous personnel and the criminals that try to infiltrate their ranks. With the help of the regiments and artillery units of the division, they have rounded up more than one thousand of these thieves in the last six months. Since 1952 they have apprehended more than six thousand persons, in the period from May 1953 on.

In addition, the 40th MP

A Special Word Of Thanks

This is the issue of the Fireball that will reach all members of the division. With this in mind the members of the fireball staff wish to thank each and every member of the 40th for their fine support, not only to the paper, but to the Public Information Office since its arrival in Korea.

Our special that's go to the Signal Company's photo section for the use of their photographers and their fine cooperation in reproducing pictures for us. Also we thank the most important person in the division, the reader.

Eight Public Information Officers have controlled the action since its arrival in Korea, starting with LTC Worth Larkin, presently PIO for the 40th National Guard Division and continuing through LTC Leowlus L. Wall, the present PIO.

Our biggest function, one that most people are confused by, is informing the public back home of the activities of the men in the 40th through information forms, regular stories, pictures and radio tapes. Better than 60,000 hometown stories have gone to the Army Home News Center in Kansas City for further processing along with 1,984 pictures.

It has been a great experience working with you and for you.

Thanks again.-The Editor.

Company moves the division. That is to say, when the division is moving it is their responsibility to provide escorts and to keep important road junctions open so that the convoys keep moving. Smaller moves for lowboys, tanks, and heavy weapons are also controlled under the expert guidance of this unit. This total of escort assignments alone has run up to 2,184.

If you don't see them escorting a convoy along the dusty roads you can find them at the parade field or air strip providing sharp honor guards for visiting dignitaries.

During the war time months the MPs had the important task of handling all war prisoners until higher authorities came to take them to rear areas for interrogation. There is also the job of escorting prisoners convicted of crimes, to the Korean Base Stockade in Pusan, using one guard for each prisoner.

To accomplish these many jobs they have at their disposal motor patrols which work on a round the clock basis, and maintain a close liaison with the Provost Marshal's office.

That is just the high spots of a crew of hard working men, not in the most popular vocation possible, but a crew that is doing a job and doing it well.



Repo Connected With three Rs

By PFC CHARLES GIDDENS

The 40th Replacement Company is concerned with

GAURDIAN OF THE PUNCHBOWL-A lonely MP directs traffic at the intersection in the Punchbowl. During the fighting it brought a strange sight to all who came in contact with the famous landmark to see the MP standing their seemingly oblivious of the action taking place behind him.

three R's, replacements, rest and recuperation, and rotation. When it comes to facts and figures on those R's the Replacement Company counts in the thousands.

Since the arrival of the Division in Korea, 42,000 replacements have been greeted, orientated, assigned and shipped to various units. These men, who came from every state and territory of the United States forgot about the Repo Company then... until they were due for a rest and recuperation leave.

Twenty-six thousand men have made the brief visit to Repo since January, 1953, to pick up plane assignments and various amounts of pay while on their way to Japan to enjoy their leave.

"Big R", which could mean only rotation is the last stop for the soldier of the 40th Division.

Since January, 1953, 17,000 homeward bound men of the "Sunburst Division" have deposited equipment, been briefed on things to come before they finally board the ship for home and been given a final farewell.

Greeting the men on every visit has been the flags of 41 states, Washington D.C., Alaska and Puerto Rico. The flag project was started by Major Richard Rosemark, former commandant of the company, and continued by its present leader, Major Raymond Wantz. As it was once said, "They are the flags that wave both hello and goodbye to the men of the division."

Replacement company is also the home of the division's finance office, which is part of Division headquarters. Pay records of all the men in the 40th are kept here.

From this pile of pay records comes the final breakdown with 116 units to be satisfied each and every month of the year. Added to this is the payments to indigenous personnel and KATUSAs.

A mobile forward office has helped to lighten the burden for the main bank. It rotates each month between the three regiments and enables greater efficiency of operation and involves less time for the unit pay officers.

When the records are straight and the pay line forms, better than a half a million dollars goes over the pay tables.

Farewell From General Seitz

Members of the 40th Infantry Division

During my short tour as Commanding General of the 40th Division, I was impressed with your spirit and your ability to accomplish all missions, regardless of obstacles. Ample evidence of these attributes was given by your intrepid stands at the Punchbowl and Heartbreak Ridge.

You, as individuals, each contributed his part to the enhancement of the military record of "The fireball" in Korea. It is now time to hand back this record to its permanent custodian, the State of California. I am sure you do this with pride.

To each of you on the eve of your departure from Korea, I say well done, God speed, and good luck!

J.F.R. SEITZ
Brigadier General
USA



GOODBYE MUD-Members of the 578th Engineer Battalion work on one of the mountain roads, filling it with rocks in their fight against mud. They were responsible for building countless miles of road to keep the division moving as easily as possible.



EVERY READY- The watchful eye of a outpost observer, with the 40th Reconnaissance company, observes the enemy territory, ready for any possible interruption in the cease-fire pact.

Recon Company Adds New Jobs, New Laurels During Korea Stay

The normal reconnaissance company of a division is known as the eyes and ears of that unit, but the 40th Recon Company came to be known as more than that during its stay in Korea.

Normally the duties of such a company consists of scouting, clearing road blocks, and rear area security, but the 40th Recon did this and more.

On many occasions they were called on to lead attacks, fill a hole in the line and take over blocking positions. This was due to their

exceptional firepower and mobility. They came to be the trouble-shooters of the 40th.

One of their greatest assets was their ability to lead an attack against the enemy. Once again their mobility and superior firepower told the story as they went out to contact the enemy and set them up for the main attack.

After the cease fire the Reconnaissance Company continued to take on added assignments. They played the part of the aggressor for the regimental training

problems, besides being committed to problems of their own.

Although the history of the 40th dates back to World War I, the birth of the armored reconnaissance unit did not come until March 3, 1941. Known then as the 30th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop (Mechanized), the unit was in the first wave of troops to storm the beaches of Lingayon and Los Negros islands in the Philippines.

They also served as the division's advanced party in Korea during November and December of 1951.

Division Athletes Grab Major Titles

Although surprised during the months of heavy fighting, athletics broke out with a resounding smack in April of 1953. The net results were the All-Korea volleyball championship and runners-up in the Far East tournament of the same sport, a corps championship in softball, the Eighth Army title in touch football and the corps crown in boxing.

The origin of this successful year of activity began in Service Company of the 160th Regiment. It was at that service unit that the eventual ALL-Korea champions first got together in practice sessions.

After a shaky start in the division meet the team roared through the corps finals unmolested. Coming up against the cream of the crop in Eighth Army they battled their way to another unbeaten conquest and then beat KcomZ in two overtime games to grab top Korean honors.

It took a three and one half hour struggle for Camp Otsu, representing Japan, to stop the onrushing Fireball sextet and gain the Far East crown.

Immediately on the heels of the volleyball triumphs came the softball tournaments, with the pattern of wins for the 40th champs running much the same as they did

in previous sport. The 115th Medical Battalion put on a story book finish to capture the division title over the 40th MP Company. They raced on to a perfect record in the corps meet, beating the 619th Ordnance Company in the finals 30, but then the picture changed and they lost out in the first round of the Eighth Army play-offs.

The 160th Regiment took their second major division title when they outlasted Division Artillery to take honors in the baseball competition. The men couldn't match the proud record of their volleyball brothers and fell in the early rounds of the Corps meet.



THAT ONE HURT—Junior Brooks of the 36th Engineers left, registers pain as he starts for the floor after absorbing a hard right from the 40th Division's David Lewis. Lewis scored a knockout with the punch in the IX /corps boxing finals. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.



NOT ONE OF THEM LASTED—Bernardo Pacheco, right slams a hard right into the face of Clarence Weston, 3rd Division, during the IX Corps boxing tournament. Pacheco swept to the championship with two knockouts and a TKO. rotation was the only stopper the 40th mauler came across. He rotated two days before the eighth Army meet. Photo by Pfc Richard Maulucci.

By this time the division was hungry for some more big titles and that is just what they got from the touch football team in the 223rd Regiment. After scrapping through in the division meet the pigskin enthusiasts rolled to top-heavy wins in the Corps finals. That left them but one thing to conquer, the Eighth Army meet, which is the top rung of the latter for touch football.

The 223 rallied and won the opening contest 20-8 over Seoul City Command to set the stage for the finals against the 25th Division. When the game was over the headlines weren't big enough to describe the contest itself.

With the two teams tied 7-7 at the end of regulation play, they battled through two six minute overtime periods with no results and then, with darkness coming on, entered a sudden death play off. An intercepted pass was turned into a touchdown and the 40th had themselves the crown and their only unbeaten team of the year.

An upstart Division Artillery team paid no attention to the experts who had tabbed Special Troops as the team to beat in the basketball competition as they disposed of the favorites in the semifinals and then cut short a 223rd bid to gain honors.

The following week DivArty met a rugged 3rd division team and lost. Two weeks after that the reason became more apparent as the 3rd won the Army title and represented Korea in Far East tourneys.

The 224th Regiment waited till the snow was flying before they got their hands on a division title. By putting three men on the division's boxing team they piled up enough points to gain the trophy.

The big boom of the boxing season fell when the well conditioned pugilists from the 40th swarmed all over their opponents to win the Corps title with eight men of the division reigning as champions. Three of those winners went on to cop Eighth Army Titles.

Band Is Division's Globe Trotters

One hundred thousand miles of travel on the back of a two and one half ton truck, better than 750 appearances add up to one thing ... the service record of the 40th Infantry Division Band.

The band, honored last year both by the government with a Distinguished Unit Citation and by the 12th ROK Division with a letter of commendation, have one motive in mind in their assignment, raising the morale of the men in the division.

Present bandmaster, SFC Edward S. Carroll, Mt. Clemens, Mich, looked over his past fourteen months with the outfit pointing out a few of the highlights.

"Three engagements stick in my mind over the others," Carroll commented, "The biggest of all of course being the recent 40th Division review. It was an impressive ceremony and the band gave out with all they had. Another division review, the 45th's Division's was also a highlight."

"Probably the most interesting for the members of the band," he continued, "was the trip to Inchon last January when we played for the

repatriated prisoners going back to the Communists. It was interesting to note the reactions of the Korean people to our music and also interesting to us when they put on demonstrations of their own."

What SFC Carroll didn't

mention though was the countless ceremonies they have played for honor units and visiting dignitaries such as Mr. Harold Stassen, United Nations Economic Coordinator; Vice President Richard M. Nixon, Syngman Rhee and Marilyn

Monroe.

To this list could be added the names of every leading military official to visit the division area.

Over the period of two and one quarter years the band has had nine different combos, with four of them

operating at one time during the fighting. Presently they have one six-piece combo and a sixteen man dance band furnishing most of the musical entertainment for the division.

It was with these combos and dance band that much of that 100,000 mile total was racked up over the dusty back roads of Korea. When the division was "in the line" these were the musicians that were unlimbering their sweetest notes to provide some relaxation for ears exhausted by the shriek of shells overhead, the whine of bullets and the crumping roar of exploding mortar rounds.

In addition to the small musical aggregations, bandsmen with a talent for the accordion have gone along with the chaplain as he visited the bunkers looking over "No-Mans-Land." There must have been a puzzled Communist or two as the strains of the hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," went rolling over the barbed wire toward the hungry Red guns.

The men who make up this outfit are all military musicians, many of them coming from other units in the division.



The 40th Infantry Division Band . . . Music morning, noon, and night

NO MAN'S LAND: TERROR IN THE NIGHT



Airmen Keep eyes Open, Traffic Moving

Airmen of the 40th Infantry Division piloted their light aircraft from dawn until dusk throughout the Korean War, Soaring aloft at an hour when most soldiers were first awaking, the division aviators flew to the front lines to perform their duty as the eyes of the artillery.

Sentinels on watch from above, the airmen observed the positions of the Communists throughout all the daylight hours for possible targets and threatening moves.

Although enemy camouflage was excellent, rarely did a day go by when an aerial observer did not sight enemy bunkers or an artillery piece, and immediately radio its position to the artillery.

Three to five miles within enemy territory, at altitudes of 50 to 6000 feet, flew our light aircraft, in spite of accurate flak and withering ground fire, reporting targets for fire missions, taking aerial photographs, and waging psychological warfare by dropping leaflets over enemy lines. The airplanes also took infantry patrol leaders on orientation trips over no-man's land to allow the foot-soldiers to better understand the area within which they were fighting.

At the war's peak, the 40th's flyers flew twenty one surveillance missions a day, during 16.5 hours of the twenty four hour day.

But combat missions tell only half of the story of the 40th's aviators; 40th helicopters helped fly the wounded to hospitals whenever they were called upon; the multi-passenger L-20 sped hemorrhaged



THE LONG MARCH- With the familiar rice paddies outlined by a light blanket of snow, men of the 40th Division march silently toward the front to cut off an enemy flanking movement.

fever cases to Seoul for quick medical attention; and lastly, the aircraft flew thousands of administrative flights, expediting the travel and work of the 40th Division personnel. Like a miniature airline, the 40th's aircraft whisked staff officers to their appointments, the plains on their rounds, and visiting dignitaries to their business; the speed of the 40th's airline increased the efficiency of the division. During

the war, like all forward outfits, the Air Section accomplished many moves; easily and quickly the section shifted to a new location without any interruption of its surveillance missions or of its administrative service.

A need was felt during the Korean conflict to change the Aviation Section to a full-fledged company, organic to the division; on 1 August 1953, the 40th Infantry Division Aviation Company

(provisional) was formed.

Vital to the existence of the Aviation Company were its skilled aircraft mechanics, who daily scrutinized the division's aircraft for tell-tale signs of trouble and monthly, performed major inspections on their ships, toiling to keep their craft sage and airworthy. Devoted to their duty, the 40th Division aircraft mechanics proudly labored to make their ships Korea's finest ships Korea's finest.

QM Supplies Keep 40th Fit

The Army is said to move on its stomach. It is up to the 40th Quartermaster Company to provide this stomach for the men of the 40th Division.

During the last six months of the division's stay in Korea, Quartermaster handled 22,000 tons of rations to keep the Fireball men going. As an added sidelight to the food service they provide, Quartermaster has their ice cream plant running full steam to get out three servings a week to all units.

Combating the cold weather was another task of the service conscious company. Mufflers, parkas, sleeping bags and other winter issues, totaling 560 tons of warmth were issued through channels. To keep that vehicle moving and that stove burning they received, stored and issued 35,000 tons of POL products over the six month period.

Though their main efforts are directed toward food, clothing and fuel supplies, Quartermaster has numerous repair sections. These sections look proudly to the fact that savings on repaired equipment ran into the thousand dollar figures as they put 5,000 items back on a working basis for the division.

It is their job to keep the men clean and keeping them moving are two different things, but Quartermaster took over both as speedometers ran up a staggering average of 100,000 miles per month while moving the division and in daily operations.

They are the "good humor men" of the 40th.



MARILYN—Top USO entertainer, in the mind of men of the 40th, is Marilyn Monroe. Twelve thousand braved the snow to see the popular actress.

Strength Administered By Chaplains

The Chaplains of the 40th Division have brought one of America's greatest freedoms in to the foxholes, bunkers, and post-truce chapel. They have lived, worked and died with the men of the Division, offering them inspiration at a time when it was most needed, proving that on a battlefield, that Chaplains and faiths are not in competition but in cooperation.

On the average of 300 services are held each month at various units in the Division area. Before the truce, when it was difficult for many men to gather at any one place at a particular time, there were as many as 1,000 services each month with an attendance of over 24,000. There are from 50,000 to 78,000 men contacted by the Chaplains in one way or another each month. This is an average of three contacts per man per month, and keeps the Division's 17 Chaplains always on the go.

Besides their many regular duties, the Chaplains are always loading themselves with extra work. Making holiday decorations, acquiring chapel accessories, and assisting AFAK projects are all the part of the daily routine to them. With the use of organs, lights, candies, and drapes in seven quonset-type chapels, they have brought stateside services to a tactical area.

The Chaplain has to be a Catholic priest, a Jewish Rabbi, and a protestant minister as the circumstance or time may require. They are always willing to be of help and to stress the importance of religion and the Church in the principles of daily living. The men accept them as their Chaplain, regardless of faith, because the soldier who is fighting for this freedom, realizes that there are many roads that lead to God.



Nixon, Rhee, Monroe, Top Guest List at 40th

Marilyn was here!

Harold e. Stassen, United Nations Economic Coordinator, was here the same day and said, "This is the stiffest competition I've ever run up against, even when I was running for the Republican Presidential nomination."

Marilyn Monroe was here and she took the 40th Division by storm as an estimated 12,000 crowded the Grenadier Palace to see her. With the cry of "Marilyn, Marilyn!" the men of the "Fireball Division" met their most famous guest.

Topping the long list of political celebrities was Vice President Richard M. Nixon and Syngman

Rhee, President of the Republic of Korea. Other well known names such as Stassen, Senator William F. Knowland, Congressman Robert C. Wilson, Congressman Gerald R. Ford, Secretary of the Army Robert Stevens, Dr. John A. Hannah, the Assistant Secretary of Defense; former Chief of Staff of the Army General J. Lawton Collins; and the present Chief of Staff of the Army General Matthew B. Ridgway, came to visit.

Three high officials of the clergy brought their blessings to the men of the "Sunburst". Bishop William Martin, President of the National Council of Churches of Christ;

Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York and Bishop Paul Ro, Korean Bishop, all brought messages during the Christmas Holidays.

Miss Monroe was not the only cinema favorite to bring her talents to the 40th. Debbie Reynolds, Carleton Carpenter, Roy Acuff and his Grand Ole Opry crew, Walter Pidgeon, Don Taylor, Piper Laurie, Betty Hutton, Audry Dalton, Maxie Rosenbloom and Johnny Grant came and left a lasting impression with the men of the Division.

Gen. Johnson Says Goodbye



Brigadier General Max S. Johnson

To the Officers and Men of the 40th Division:

I take this occasion to extend to each of you my heartiest congratulation for a task well done, and every good wish for your future. I considered it one of the richest privileges of my service to be a member of the Division. Those days will always be among the happiest of my life. The Fortieth was, and I am certain it still remains, a close-knit group, welded together into unity of spirit by its leaders and by the courage and tenacity of its men.

I am sure that names so closely associated with the Division-famous name-not only of tactical but also strategic significance, will bear witness to the superb quality of service rendered by those who comprised the 40th Division.

MAX S. JOHNSON
Brigadier General, General Staff
DC/S-P&CO

Scherrer's MESSAGE



Colonel Edward C.D. Scherrer

I believe that all men now, or previously, in the 40th Division will agree with me that our service in the Fireball Division was a most fortunate and productive period of our lives. It was tough. It was a sacrifice. But all worth while things in life demand sacrifices.

You men of the 40th Division have a real right to be proud of the Division's outstanding accomplishments even under the most trying conditions. You have won a stake in America and in the free world. You have done it the hard way-the soldier's way. There is none more noble. There is none of greater value to our country and to our families and friends. Hold your head high in memory of your service in Korea in the 40th Infantry Division. God be with you and may we meet again.

E.C.D. SCHERRER
Colonel GS (Armor)
Chief of Staff

Cleland Recalls Division Spirit



Major General Joseph P. Cleland

General Cleland's message During the period 2 June 1952 through 17 April 1953, I had the privilege of serving as your Commanding General in Korea. It was not only a pleasure to serve with the enlisted men and officers of this fine fighting outfit, it was an experience which I shall never forget. The courage an ESPRIT DE CORPS of the 40th while in combat was only exceeded by their grim determination to do the best job possible and then improve on it.

I can only hope that the future will always find units of such caliber ready to defend the United States and the principles for which we stand.

My best wishes to all former members of the 40th Infantry Division and to those who are carrying on the traditions of this magnificent unit.

JOSEPH P. CLELAND
Major General, USA
Commanding General
Fort Bragg,
XVIII Airborne Corps



Vice President Richard M. Nixon

GaitherLauds AFAK, Work



Major General Ridgely Gaither

It is a privilege, as one your former commanders in Korea, to express my best wishes to the members of the 40th Infantry Division in this the last edition of the "Fireball" which will reach all of you.

Both those of you who will go to new assignments and those of you who will carry the colors to California, go with pride that accompanies the knowledge of having helped to write a fine chapter in the pages of our country's history.

The fact that General Eaton and his 40th California National Guard Division has undertaken to continue to help the Kenneth Kaiser High School and other such worthy projects in Korea, makes the 40th Infantry Division a continual and living example to the free peoples of the world that is commendable and without precedence.

RIDGELY GAITHER
Major General, USA
J3, Far East Command

Curtis Message

My best wishes to the soldiers of our Division, who are taking its colors back to California. The record of achievement won in Korea, will be a treasured memory to everyone who had the privilege of membership in the 40th Infantry Division.

JAMES O. CURTIS JR.
Colonel GS
J3 Division Hq FEC

Facts 'N Figures On 40th Division

Facts and figures of interest concerning the 40th Division: - 342 days of combat. - 618 days on line. - More than 33,000 men used by 40th while in Korea. - On the last day of fighting the Communist pumped in 4,700 rounds on the Division and got better than 11,000 in return. - 336 men of division killed in action. Now famous landmarks that the 40th controlled include Kumwha Valley, Hill 449, Tokkoli, Sandbag Castle, Heartbreak Ridge, Punchbowl, Green Nob, Luke's Castle. - Men of the 40th have received 2 Congressional Medals of Honor, 9 Distinguished Service Crosses, 246 Silver Stars, 675 Bronze Stars for merit, 3,110 Commendations. - Five generals have Commanded the Division in Korea; Major General Daniel H. Hudelson, Major General Ridgely Gaither, brigadier General J.F.R. Seitz and Brigadier General William J. Bradley. - 857 days in Korea.



Famous Flag at Sandbag Castle



DIGGING IN—Pfc Carl Brennan, left, and Cpl Lyle Hammelman, both formerly with the 160th Infantry Regiment's Company I, take a breather from their digging. The position was a new firing emplacement at the Punchbowl. Photo by Pfc Nathan buschman.

Eleven Division Men Honored With Nations Highest Awards

(Editors note—Experts the following story concerning Medal of Honor winners were taken from the story on the Division's second anniversary in Korea written by Sgt John Walsh)

Every unit has its heroes when the men are committed to battle, but the degree of these deeds vary. This is a story of eleven men who excelled under pressure of battle.

June 14, 1952 broke as cold and misty as any other morning in that late Spring, giving no indication that before the sun set that day, two men would etch their names in the annals of their regiment, Division and Country.

Blond haired, Bible reading, Corporal Clifton Teamer Speicher, Company F, 223rd Infantry Regiment, was to talk with his buddies about his girl back home, his fancy car that he drove everywhere (because like all Infantrymen, he disliked walking) grab a few hours sleep and then climb to glory on a hill called 449 at dawn on the fateful fourteenth.

Before he left his buddies, who were pinned down by small arms fire from the Communist positions, and charged a harassing machine gunner, Speicher promised, "I'm going to come back." Though twice hit and severely wounded by grenade fragments and small arms, he twice regained his footing and stormed into the Communist bunker to kill the crew and silence the weapon. Then, unassisted, he came off the hill, his job done . . . his promise fulfilled, collapsed and died of his wounds.

On the same day, on the same hill, Sergeant David B. Bleak, Shelley, Idaho, of the 223rd Regiment's Medical Company, volunteered to accompany the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Section on a patrol.

Moving out with the attackers into Communist trenches, he was attacked by three of the enemy, whom he killed in self-defense, in hand to hand fighting. He threw himself over the body of a wounded man to absorb the shock of an exploding grenade. Regaining his feet,

Bleak picked up another wounded comrade and started down the slope with the man on his back, only to be encountered by two more attackers. The powerful Sergeant used his bare hands to kill the Reds. It was only after he had carried the wounded soldier to safety, that Bleak would allow his own wounds to be treated.

Added to the list of the nation's Congressional Medal of Honor winners are the names of Corporal Clifton Teamer Speicher and Sergeant David B. Bleak.

The Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award was earned on the field of battle by nine men while the 40th division saw action. First to gain the honor was M/Sgt William D. Cathcart, 224th Infantry Regiment, in the early days of 1952.

Captain Willard J. Hardy's heroic stand against a platoon of attacking Reds earned the DSC for the company commander from the 160th Regiment while Sgt. Michael Magelinski, 223rd Regiment, received the same award for his actions on a patrol in the Punchbowl.

Credited with killing twelve advancing Communists and single handedly thwarting their offensive, Sgt George R. Baldwin, 223rd Regiment won the award. Soon after SFC Albert F. Griffin, 224 Regiment was honored.

Another member of the 160th Regiment was given the DSC for heroism, Sgt William L. Smythe. A dramatic act of heroism at Luke's Castle brought the honor to Lt. Bromfield B. Nichol Jr, 140th Tank Bn., while the action of Lt. Charles E. Bamford III Co K, 223rd Regt on the Fourth of July brought a similar award.

Last to win the DSC was Lt. Richard S. Agnew Co K, 223rd Inf Reg for his action in the waning days of the fighting.

These are the names of the men who led the charges that will go down in the annals of the division's history along with those of the Army.

Signal Keeps 40th Informed By Wire, Photos

Probably no other company in the 40th Division has their fingers in more pies than the ambidextrous 40th Signal Company.

Name any branch of communication, telephone teletype. Radio, photo or carrier pigeons, and you'll find the 40th Signal's answer to the problem.

Although more men come in contact with the telephone than any other phase of communication, few know of the job the Signal people go through to keep it working. From the men at the switchboard, who handle up to 500 calls an hour, to the man on top of the pole, they cover the division like the proverbial blanket.



HIGH WIRE MEN—Responsible for keeping the communications system of the division in top working condition, Pfc Carl Woll, Left, and Cpl Mile Aquilan check the telephone wires for possible damage. Photo by Sgt Bruce Blakesley

The radio section is as nearly as wide spread as the telephone crews. You may find a group of them working in the repair shop or up on top of a mountain at a lonely radio relay station. They are up there to keep the division aware of the current events, both military and social. Like other repair sections in Signal, radio repair is classified as a third echelon maintenance for equipment that needs technical repair that needs technical repair that can't be handled in the field.

Although it appears to be a glamorous occupation on the surface, the photography section is no bed of roses. The "man behind the camera" has but a minor role in the production of a picture. Once back at the lab the work on the picture the snapped begins.

The big job is the "behind the scenes" action of captioning the picture, developing the negative and reproducing the print. Add up all the pictures taken at various ceremonies, aerial photos, and portraits and you come up with the staggering monthly average of 6,300 prints turned out by the section.

Top emergency photos can be produced in two hours, with the full section concentrating their efforts on it, while the general shot takes from 24 to 48 hours depending on the work load the section is carrying at the time.

With the exception of mails, the 40th Signal Company is keeping their fingers busy to make sure the communications pie is just right.

THE FIREBALL

The FIREBALL is an authorized publication of the 40th Infantry Division, APO 6. It is prepared and published weekly under the joint supervision of the Public Information Office and the Troop Information and Education Office for Division personnel. Views and expressions are not necessarily those of the Department of Army. This newspaper uses AFPS material.

Brigadier General William J. Bradley	Commanding
LT. Col. Leolus L. Wall	TI&E Officer and Public Information Officer
Sfc Richard E. Diet	Editor (Souvenir Edition)
Sgt Fran D. Ryan	Editor (Regular Editions)
Pfc Charles W. Giddens	Ass't Editor (Regular Editions)
Pfc Richard Maulucci	Photographer
Staff Writers	
Sgt Conrad E. Larson	Cpl John D. Pormen
Sgt John B. Walsh	Cpl Tom McNeill (224)
Cpl Joe B. Kirkbride	Pfc Rodger Mazzai (160)
Cpl Robert S. McLean	Pfc Jan Van der Lugt (223)
Pfc Paul M. Bartholomew	
Printed at Nippon Times Tokoy, Japan	