

ESSAYS

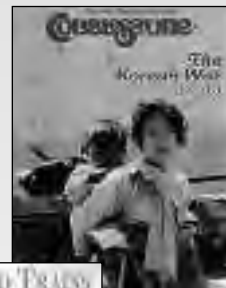
Teaching About the Korean War: The Korean War Commemoration Committee

By Martha D. Kennedy-Lindley

The 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee (KWCC)
1-866-KOREA50 or 703-604-0831, www.korea50.mil



The entire text and illustrations of *Cobblestone* and *Peacebound Trains* plus their teacher's activity guides are available at the KWCC web site www.korea50.mil. *Peacebound Trains* is also available in bookstores (ISBN: 0618040307).



Photos of publication covers are from the KWCC web site.

Five decades after the end of the Korean War it continues to remain the “forgotten war” in many textbooks. Often, neither students or teachers know much about the Korean War period. In 1998, the 105th Congress of the United States established the Korea War Commemoration Committee (KWCC) to honor the 50th anniversary of the Korean War. Consisting of military and civilian members, including representatives from the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard.

KWCC Goals:

- Identify, thank, and honor veterans of the Korean War, their families, especially those who lost loved ones.
- Recognize and remember the Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIA).
- Recognize the contributions of women and minorities to their nation during the Korean War.
- Provide the American public with a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons, history, and legacy of the Korean War.
- Inform future generations of Americans of the U.S. military's contributions to the nation in maintaining world peace and freedom through preparedness and engagement.
- Recognition of United Nations forces engaged in preserving the peace, freedom, and prosperity of the Republic of Korea.
- Ensure commemoration events strengthen and unify the bonds of friendship and relationships throughout the world focusing on the 22 countries that fought as allies and the adversaries.

The Commemoration Program offers a variety of products and services to educators to enhance and extend the teaching of the Korean War and the contributions of the veterans.

Among the products available are (1) single copies or class sets of a special Korean War edition of *Cobblestone* magazine, (2) single or small group sets of *Peacebound Trains* by Haemi Balgassi, a Korean War story for elementary students, and (3) a set of ten posters: one map, one chronology/timeline, and eight theme posters.

The posters include a map poster, designed by Patrick M. Reynolds, the syndicated cartoonist who draws *History Flashbacks*. The poster is a map of Korea at the time of the Korean War. It includes the major military operations of the war and drawings of typical military members from all countries involved in the Korean War. This poster is also available in a smaller size without the activities—this size is suitable for small group activities. (Approximate size 35”x40” or 11”x17”).



The Chronology Poster is a timeline of the significant events of the Korean War. Both the Chronology and Reynolds Posters have teacher activities on the reverse side. (Approximate size 27”x35”).

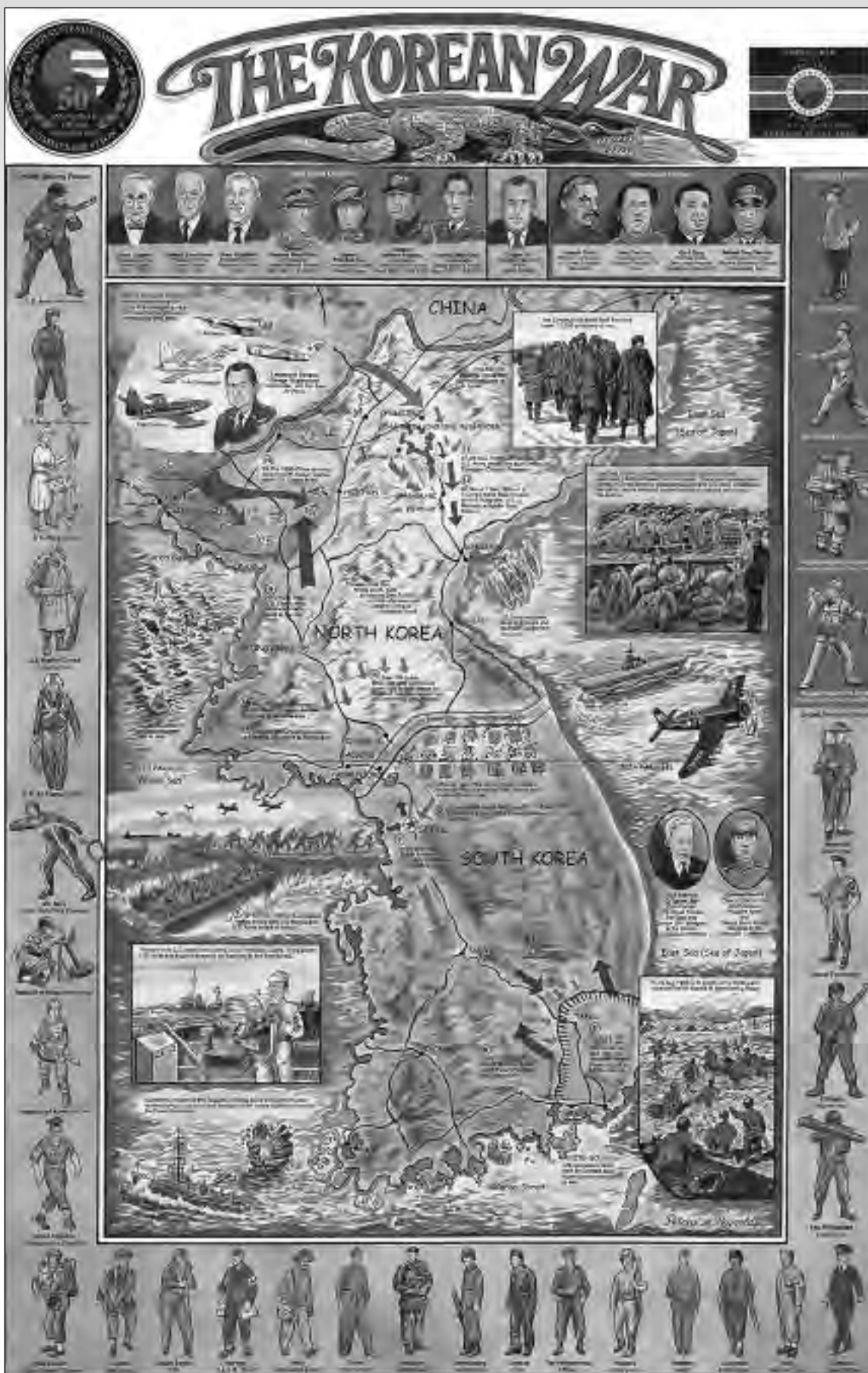
The eight 18”x24” theme posters present their themes with historical photographs: Women in the Korean War, POW/MIA's of the Korean War, The Immeasurable Cost of Freedom, The Elusive Peace, Defending the Frontlines, Supporting the Frontlines, Air Power, and Man Your Battle Stations.

Suggested lesson plans are also available through KWCC. Topics include Korean War and Geography, long and short units on the Korean War, 1950s and the Korean War, and the Korean War and the Cold War.

The Korean War Commemoration Committee's web site has a wealth of valuable background information, including fact sheets, citations for all Korean War medal of honor recipients, A-Z factoids, and contact access to the committee.

All items are free while supplies last. There is no shipping charge and the KWCC maintains the right to limit quantities. For additional information contact:

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35" x 40", full color poster of a map of Korea at the time of the Korean War, designed by Patrick M. Reynolds. See back of this poster on next page. Courtesy of KWCC

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The backside of the Reynolds poster is filled with educational content. At the top left, there is a section titled '50th Anniversary of the Korean War' with a circular logo. To its right is a world map titled 'Nations Involved in the Korean War' with a list of countries and their flags. Below the map is a 'United Nations Fourth Year of the Korean War' section with more flags. The bottom left features a crossword puzzle titled 'The Korean War Crossword'. The bottom center has a 'Timeline' section with a horizontal axis from 1945 to 1953, detailing events like the end of WWII, the start of the Korean War, and the Korean War Armistice. The bottom right contains a 'Word Search' and a 'Korean War' logo.

Above: Backside of the Reynolds poster with reproducible teacher activities such as flag matching, timeline, crossword puzzle and word search. The flags are circa 1950. Courtesy of KWCC

The frontside of the poster is titled 'A Salute to the Women of the Korean War'. It features a large introductory paragraph and several smaller sections with photographs and captions:

- 'They Were Proud and Eager to Serve': A group photo of women in military uniforms.
- 'They Filled Every Frontier Station': A woman in a uniform working at a desk.
- 'They Cared for the Wounded': A woman tending to a patient in a hospital bed.
- 'They Drove Home Cars': A woman driving a car.
- 'They Demanded Courtesy': A woman in uniform standing at attention.
- 'They Drove Buses': A woman driving a bus.

 The bottom of the poster includes a small circular logo and the text: '50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee - 1271 Allens Road & Highway 101 - Arlington, VA 22202 - Visit our Website at http://www.kwcc.com'

MARTHA D. KENNEDY-LINDLEY, JO1, USNR, the Education Program Coordinator at the Department of Defense Korean War Commemoration Committee, is responsible for a national education program designed to thank and honor Korean War Veterans and their families, while educating the public about the lessons of the Korean War and the sacrifices of the veterans. She has undergraduate degrees in Journalism and English, and a graduate degree in American Studies. She has taught pre-school through graduate school, and has developed several award-winning education programs, including a community safety program. Currently, she is a recalled Naval Reservist.

Example of typical theme poster with actual photographs from the Korean War. Courtesy of KWCC



Map of Korean Peninsula taken from: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/korean_peninsula.gif

Today that have been translated into English. Biographies of the authors accompany presentations of some of their works.

Title: Korean Studies Review

URL: <http://www.koreaweb.ws/ks/ksr/ksrndx.htm>

The *Korean Studies Review* is an electronic journal associated with the print journal *Acta Koreana*. From this web page one can access timely reviews of works dealing with Korea. The archived reviews date from 1998 through 2002.

Title: DPRK—North Korea

URL: <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/~caplabtb/dprk/>

This site offers short articles about North Korea organized by topic. One can find articles, for example, about North Korea with respect to Japan or about North Korea and the U.S. Within each category, the articles are grouped by month and year, with many topics covered between 1998 to 2002.

Title: National Museum of Korea

URL: <http://www.museum.go.kr/eng/index.html>

In addition to a room-by-room “tour” of the exhibition halls, there are also cyber-tours of the National Museum. There is a sub-page to assist in locating Exhibition Facilities throughout Korea; this page is organized by category and region, and alphabetically. In the “Related Sites” section, a list of links to private, public, and university museums is given.

JUDITH S. AMES, Ph.D., formerly associated with the Japan Society in New York, is currently an editorial and computer consultant.

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