



QUEENSLAND KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL - CASCADE GARDENS

CELEBRATIVE EDITION 61ST ANNIVERSARY OF ARMISTICE 27 JULY 2013



60th anniversary of the Armistice 27 July 2013

The Queensland Korean War Memorial, within the Cascade Memorial Gardens, Gold Coast, Australia honours the Australian and Korean veterans of the Korean War, whilst at the same time recording thanks to our generous Benefactors. It was a gift to the people of Queensland by these benefactors and those hundreds of veterans and volunteer supporters who strived for two years to see their dream come true.

www.koreanwarmemorial.com.au

CASCADE GARDENS BROADBEACH GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA

This iconic Cascade Gardens, Broadbeach, Gold Coast, Queensland is enshrined in the Gold Coast's heritage shaped as it was from traditional indigenous ownership, to the European settlement of the Hinterland, to the coastal strip development. The park is enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities who gather regularly as families groups and individuals. It is also used to commemorate and celebrate the memory of the past and serving members of the Australian and New Zealand Forces. Cascade Remembrance Gardens is uniquely located and has been set aside as a place of reflection and a celebration of peace. It embraces two of Australia's most significant War Memorials - the Kokoda Memorial Walk and Memorial Wall and The Queensland Korean War Memorial amongst others.

The Korean War Memorial Wall is aesthetically valuable, both for its high level of workmanship and its design. The murals of the Memorial create a story of the Korean War, including Australian, South Korean and Allied involvement, brilliantly displaying those aspects for which the Memorial is designed. The Memorial is set in a picturesque setting with a backdrop of Australian trees and shrubs surrounding traditional aboriginal meeting grounds. The design of the Korean Wall shows a series of ten relief murals that represent the different forces of Navy, Army and Air Force in addition to specialised units of Artillery, Armour, Medics and Nurses, with additional murals for those Missing in Action and Prisoners of War. Special features are those depicting the struggles of the Korean people and a special memorial to the Pusan Australian War Memorial in South Korea. The central prominent sculpture of a Korean War era Australian soldier depicts the figure as a sentinel at ease overseeing the commemorative site. A dedication plaque rests to the front of the main memorial wall, positioned on a raised and angled desk plinth. Addition plaques at the left and right flanks of the Memorial Wall are displayed in both English and Korean languages to explain the involvement of the Australian forces in the Korean War.

The memorial wall is flanked by a remembrance garden, with three flag poles, flying the Australian, Republic of Korea and United Nations flags. Additionally, at the southern end there is a special tribute to the land forces of the Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) including original battlefield stones presented by the Gapyeong County, Republic of Korea, and on the northern end, a remembrance area for the Korean veterans and citizens. The area is aesthetically enhanced by two Korean 'pagodas' and appropriate plantings of flora. The Korean War has been referred to as the "Forgotten War" and the expanse of the wall allowed the designer to create a visually attractive and informative display to remember. It was also an unforgiving war of attrition in the perilous times of an international Cold War, an Iron Curtain, an evolving United Nations and the spread of communism. This cold hard edged part of history is conveyed in the hard lines, sharp edges and cold greys of the memorial. The natural terrain provided a flat viewing area to the front with an elevated section at the rear of the wall that lent itself to the creation of a wonderful backdrop. In addition a 2 metre garden wide bed which extends the length of the wall has been established in an Asian style garden. Large boulders, imported from Gapyeong County, Republic of Korea, have been strategically placed in the garden with select plants. The placement of the boulders forms an integral part of the landscaping, and also acts as a means for soil retention.

The focus of the memorial's forecourt central podium is the Taegeuk or Yin Yang Symbolising the involvement of the Korean population. The Taegeuk is the major central symbol of the Korean flag. The national flower of Korea the Rose of Sharon, is represented in the panels with three hundred and forty flowers representing a fallen Australian. The central figure and focal point of the Memorial, The Unknown Veteran was inspired by a photograph of a 3RAR serviceman standing next to a frozen lake in deep contemplation. This is a representative of all the veterans who served and will inspire others who pass by this Memorial. The dominant colours of the memorial are done in shades of grey. The wall cladding is of granite stone tiles. The murals and central figure have been cast in pigmented epoxy glass reinforced concrete. The design, now viewed by countless visitors and veterans has been lauded as an outstanding interpretation of War and those who sacrificed and suffered in the cause of peace.

WE REMEMBER THE AUSTRALIAN FORCES IN KOREA 1950 TO 1957



The inaugural meeting at Beenleigh RSL with Government Whip Margaret Keech MP, the ladies auxiliary and representatives of Korea Veterans and the Korean Communities of SE Queensland



Distinguished guests, Veterans and benefactors of the Queensland Korean War Memorial Dedication at the Unveiling of the Unknown Korean War Soldier and Memorial Wall 2011



The Construction Team: President Joseph Ahn AKWMQ, Project Manager Maurie Pears, Members of AKWMQ, GCKS and AQKV with Designer David Yardley

It was a tremendous effort by the Gold Coast City Council, the RSL and the Korean and Australian Associations to unite the various Government authorities, kindred communities, associations, churches, veterans and individuals to the common cause of honouring the Australian and Korean veterans and civilians who served in that fight for freedom.



Early Korean Church Elders at the Foundation Meeting

The Korean War Memorial was a Korean Church and Gold Coast Korean Society initiative since 1990 when Korean Church Elders conducted the first Church Prayer meeting to remember the Australian Korean War veterans. This was followed by annual celebrations with the Association of Queensland Korean Veterans funded completely by the Gold Coast Korean Society and Korean communities. Over this period a strong affiliation was formed with the Association of Queensland Korea Veterans which lasts to this day.



Korea Veteran members of the AQKV



Early Gold Coast Korean Society Executives.

The first “Australian Forces in Korea Monument Committee” was established by the GCKS, Elders Lee and Byun, in January 2009 when Lt Colonel M B Pears MC (Retd), a Korean War veteran, was asked to seek the necessary approvals from Government and oversee construction of a memorial to veterans.



The Gold Coast Korean Society- early Remembrance meetings

Selection of sites followed and discussions were held with GCCC and the Mayor Ron Clarke. Later, on 28 July 2009, Joseph Ahn was appointed by the GCKS to form the AKWMQ Trust and continue the project for the GCKS with the Gold Coast City Council. This combined AKWMQ Ltd Trust, under the leadership of Joseph Ahn did so much to obtain domestic and international support for the construction of this Gold Coast memorial. Cascade Gardens was selected and approved by Council. Margaret Keach MP representing the Premier Anna Bligh met with Maurie Pears and Joseph Ahn and the Council approved drawings were signed off by the Premier at Parliament House Brisbane. The Gold Coast City Council, appointed Maurie Pears as Project Manager to design, construct and dedicate the Memorial in association with the benefactors.



Joseph Ahn President AKWMQ and Ladies



Handover of Kapyong Stones Joseph and Maurie

The Australian Korean War Memorial Ltd (a trust limited by guarantee) Chairman Joseph Ahn, was a group of distinguished members of the Korean communities in Queensland anxious to honour our Korean War veterans. They obtained support from the Consulate in Sydney and directly from overseas with the ROK Government. Australian interests were represented by the Korean War Memorial Ltd Trust Chairman Maurie Pears, supported by Directors Michael Sing Lawyers and the Accountants For Free Enterprise. These two official joint teams, Korean and Australian, and many other associated friends and supporters, pulled together with kind hearts and busy hands, to complete the Memorial.



Missing in Action in Korea – Bronze of Remembrance



British and Australian Veterans of the Korean War



Unveiling Party Headed by Premier Anna Bligh, Consul General Jin Soo Kim and Minister Park.



TSS Cadet Unit Catafalque Party with Alan Whelan RSL

THE MEMORIAL WAS UNVEILED BY PREMIER THE HONOURABLE ANNA BLIGH MP AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S CONSUL GENERAL JIN SOO KIM ON 20TH AUGUST 2011;

On this day Queensland saw a dream come true. A dream for the local Korean Gold Coast communities who have done so much to honour our veterans over the last twenty years and a dream for our Australian Korean veterans themselves, Navy, Army and Airforce that, one day, a memorial to their dedication and sacrifice would stand in the public eye for many years to come.



The Queensland Korean War Memorial, a joint effort by Korea and Australia, is a gift to the citizens and veterans of Queensland.

Our major benefactors, The Republic of Korea, the Commonwealth of Australia's Federal Ministry of Defence, the State of Queensland, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Gold Coast City Council, the Returned and Services' League, the Australian Korean War Memorial Queensland, the Gold Coast Korean Society and the Association of Queensland Korean Veterans all provided the extensive funding for the placement and construction of this major Memorial Wall. The majority of the Korean Communities in Queensland are now Australian citizens fully absorbed within our Nation. But, it was not only their generous funding that built this memorial. It was also the passion and the devotion from 1990 onwards, of the hundreds of volunteer committees, associations, churches and individuals, both Korean and Australian, who gathered around the veterans and worked to bring this project to fruition. Our motto was "warm hearts and bust hands".



Premier Anna Bligh with The Southport School Cadet Unit, Unveiling with CG Jin Soo Kim and Light Horse



**Presentation of commendation awards by ROK Minister Patriots and Veteran Affairs Park and visiting VIPs
Former Mayor Lex Bell, General Mark Kelly DVA, Margaret Keech MP, Steven Ciobo MP**

The Memorial tells a story, with a series of murals and bronzes, of the many Australian units that served in Korea over the years 1950 to 56. They also show the sacrifices of the Korean people in War.



United Nations Cemetery Busan ROK, where rest our Australian dead and refugees moving south under invasion threat.



Royal Australian Navy: HMAS Sydney, Vengeance, Anzac, Arunta, Bataan, Shoalhaven, Warramunga, Murchison, Tobruk, Condamine, Culgoa and fleet air arm squadron.



Royal Australian Regiment 1, 2, and 3 battalions, K force: Korea, Yongju, Chongju, Pakchong, Uijongbu, Chuam-ni, Maehwa san, Kapyong, Kowang san, Samichon, Maryang san, the Hook.



Royal Australian Air Force: 77 squadron P51 Mustang and Meteor jets, 36 Transport Squadron C47

Royal Australian Navy. A crucial aspect of the Korean War was that it was fought over a peninsula surrounded by the sea on three sides. Control of the sea allowed the forces of the UN to bombard targets with naval gunfire, land shore parties and blockade North Korean sea traffic almost at will. Naval aircraft were vital in preventing North Korean forces from completely overrunning the peninsula. Australian destroyers and frigates were employed on the west coast mainly patrolling, engaging shore batteries, gunfire support, harassment, carrier screening, support for island operations and evacuation cover. The threats of mines, air attacks and counter bombarding were present. Freezing weather conditions tested men and equipment beyond the normal hazards of high seas, storms, typhoons, extreme tidal conditions and uncharted and shifting mud flats.

Shore batteries remained a constant hazard for RAN ships operating close to the Korean Coast. On 16 November, 1952 HMAS Anzac engaged in a lengthy gun duel against four 76 millimetre guns sited in caves near Cho Do. HMAS Anzac was anchored when first fired on and, even once underway, the ship was restricted in manoeuvre by nearby shoals. Controlled by Lt. A J Robertson, Anzac's gun quickly found the range and pounded the enemy battery, but not before 50 shells had been fired. ANZAC fired 174 shells in return, silencing the battery after 43 minutes in possibly the longest running naval engagement of the war.

The largest scale naval operation of the Korean War was the amphibious landing at Inchon, near Seoul, beginning on 15 September 1950. The landing was risky because of the great range in tides but it went ahead as planned and was instrumental in forcing the North Koreans into a precipitous retreat. Eleven RAN vessels and three Fleet Air Arm squadrons served in the Korean waters during the course of the war. The units were aircraft carriers HMAS Sydney and Vengeance, destroyers HMAS Anzac and Arunta, frigates HMAS Bataan, Shoalhaven, Warramunga, Murchison, Tobruk, Condamine and Culgoa. Fleet Air Arm comprised the 805, 808 and 817 squadrons. One assessment of HMAS Sydney's air operation effectiveness credits their aircraft destroying 66 bridges, seven tunnels, 2060 houses, 495 junks/sampans, two locomotives, 159 railway trucks, seven rail sidings, 38 sections of railway line, five water towers, 15 guns and about 3000 enemy casualties. Aircraft from HMAS SYDNEY were hit by ground fire on 99 occasions and nine aircraft were lost to this fire. Her aircraft had flown 2366 sorties at the completion of her last patrol on 25 January 1952.

Looking back on three years of the Korean War, Chinese Premier Mao Tse-tung wrote: "The important reason that we cannot win decisive victory in Korea is our lack of naval strength. Without naval support, we have to confine our operations to frontal attacks along a line limited by sea. Such actions always entail great losses and we are seldom capable of destroying the enemy. In March 1951 I suggested to Comrade Stalin to make use of Soviet submarines in Asia under some arrangement that the Soviet Union would not be apparently involved in the war: Comrade Stalin preferred to be cautious lest it might give the capitalists imperialism the pretext of expanding the war to the Continent. I agreed with his point of view. Until we are better equipped for victory, it is to our advantage to accept agreeable terms for an armistice". A total of 5771 Royal Australian Navy Officers and sailors served in the Korean War. The RAN casualties were three killed in action and two missing in action lost at sea.

Royal Australian Regiment. Three great Australian battlefield leaders, Lieutenant Colonel's Charles H Green, Ian B Ferguson and Frank G Hassett (later General Sir Frank Hassett) in turn commanded 10,844 heroic Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) officers and infantrymen during the war. To fully comprehend the moral greatness of these three admirable and imposing soldiers we suggest you purchase the book "The Fight Leaders" by authors D. Butler, A. Argent and J. Shelton published by the Australian Army History Unit. "Reflect on 3 RAR, the first battalion into action in the Korean War. It was not well equipped or trained for war in the bitter Korean climate. Hurriedly it was reinforced by volunteer K Force enlistments and soldiers from the other two battalions. For the first six months it fought up and down the Korean peninsula, always in the forefront of the fighting. It ate the hard rations and slept when it could, often in a scrape in the ground in temperatures down to minus 15 degrees Celsius. It took many casualties and defeated the North Koreans and Chinese in every encounter". General Sir Frank Hassett 1998. "Most of our weapons were old fashioned; we had no weapons such as aeroplanes, artillery and tanks which are indispensable in modern warfare. Instead we fought only with human wave tactics; great numbers of men have been sacrificed. It was indescribably miserable". Chinese POW 1951. "In the moonlight our effective killing range was about 10 metres and our killing time about two to three seconds – the time it took for their heads and shoulders to appear above the edge of the ridge and for them to run to the forward fighting pits.

As soon as shapes appeared out of the gloom our soldiers would produce as much rapid fire as possible". Major Ben O'Dowd recalls in April 1951.

Officers and Infantry of the Royal Australian Regiment were honoured with 110 British Imperial Decorations and 99 mentioned in Despatches Awards from 1950 to 1953. Fourteen members of the Royal Australian Regiment received United States foreign awards. Significantly 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment were awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation by the President of the United States of America "for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of combat duties in action against the armed enemy near Kapyong, Korea on 24 and 25 April 1951".

RAR bravery and superior ability justified twelve Battle honours including Kapyong and at Korea, Sariwon, Yongju, Chongju, Pakchon, Uijongbu, Chuamni, Maehwa San, Kowang San, The Samichon and Maryang San. "The victory of Maryang San is probably the greatest single feat of the Australian Army during the Korean War". Robert O'Neill – historian. The five day Battle of Maryang San is in an animated video format consistently presented every day at the Australian War Memorial in the Korean War theatre display.

RAR war casualties are – 275 killed in action, 22 missing in action presumed killed and 23 prisoners of war, 22 of which survived severe ill treatment and returned to Australia. Private Horace William Madden, George Cross, 3RAR, died 6 November 1951 as a prisoner of war of malnutrition and ill treatment. Private John Rogers Hall R.H.U., missing in action, lost at sea en route to Australia on 3 October 1952.

Royal Australian Air Force. The most important role for airpower was to prevent North Korean ground movements. This became critical to the overall course of the war as well as tipping the balance on many occasions at a tactical level. It was this requirement that made the presence of 77 Squadron RAAF so desirable for amongst other reasons this unit was in the region with the appropriate equipped combat aircraft, the P-51 Mustang. "I'd like to get those Australian fighters, too ...the squadron pilots are first class and we particularly need over Korea long range fighters like the Mustangs ...I am going to take out those North Korean airfields. I am not going to have their planes killing my airmen without hitting them where they should be hit". General Douglas MacArthur – 1950.

We would then land at K2 airfield, Taegu...rearm and refuel, take off for a further mission sometimes even contacting a target very close to the airfield, land back at Taegu for rearming and refuelling again (perhaps even twice more), complete a further mission and, finally, return to Iwakuni in Japan. All this was done on dead reckoning, a combination of time and distance, airspeed, course and a cockpit full of military topographical maps of differing scales. We had no navigational aids other than mental calculations and map reading abilities ..." Sgt. Ray Trebilco – July 1950.

"My immediate reaction when this Chinese or Korean started firing at me was, hell, I've got to get away from this or I'll either be dead, or a POW. And then, when he presented himself as a target, my immediate reaction was, hey, here's my target, I'll have a crack at shooting him down. You don't have time to think about anything else". Pilot Officer Bill Simmonds – May 1952.

During the three years of the Korean War, 77 Squadron flew from six different airfields in about 18,800 sorties destroying 1400 enemy vehicles, 100 railway locomotives and wagons, 16 bridges, 3700 buildings and an unknown quantity of enemy aircraft. 193 Royal Australian Air Force Officers and pilots served in the Korean War. RAAF casualties were – 17* killed in flying action, 18 missing in flying action presumed killed and six Prisoners Of War all of whom survived severe ill treatment and returned to Australia. (This does not include the unfortunate loss of six RAF pilots attached to 77 Squadron.)

All 339 Australian servicemen are honoured at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery, Busan, South Korea and at the Yokohama War Cemetery, Japan. Further, 12 Army, three RAAF and one RAN Australian serviceman who died after Armistice on operations designated as non warfare service from January 1954 to November 1956 are respectfully honoured at the Commonwealth War Cemetery, Yokohama, Japan, the Kasugano European Cemetery, Kobe, Japan and the United Nations Memorial Cemetery, Busan, South Korea.



Veterans all



The Kapyong Stones with Council



Consul General Jin Soo Kim arrives



Local Veterans



Republic of Korea Veterans of War



Mayor Ron Clarke OAM at Opening - Cr Eddie Sarroff with Keith Payne VC - DVA Alison Stanley and Mark Kelly

As Allies we fought and died together in victory and defeat. We left our 358 dead and Missing in Action in Korea, in honoured graves; cared for today in the hearts and arms of the Korean people.

On Korean Veterans Day 27 July each year Australia will remember, together with the Republic of Korea and its citizens, a war that indeed paid a price for freedom.



OK Minister Park with Premier Bligh



Federal Member Steven Ciobo MP inspects the site on completion



Arai Park VP AKWMQ and war veterans at the Turning of the Soil



Australian and Korean veterans join the VIP group for a celebration of Peace and Goodwill between Australia and the Republic of Korea at the Turning of the Soil. They exchange memories with Consul General Jin Soo Kim, War Correspondent Korea Harry Gordon and GCCC Councillor Eddie Sarroff



Association of Queensland Korea Veterans join visitors



ROK Defence Attaché Colonel Dee Ahn, General Digger James MC and Keith Payne VC with Official Party.



AQKV Committee, Jim Blake and John Fry, with Interstate visitors. The Vacant chair is in remembrance of veteran member Stan Bombell recently deceased.



3 RAR veterans of Kapyong in silent homage to comrade veterans of the Battle Fields of Korea



Visiting veterans from Sunshine Coast and Lismore with local veterans



Keith Payne VC with TSS Cadet Corps



President AQKV John Fry Welcomes Guests.



Chaplain and Elder dedicate the Memorial



The beautiful ladies of our volunteer support group



The Korean Delegation welcomed by the Master of Ceremonies at celebration of Peace.



Veterans all



Our guests of honour Consul General Jin Soo Kim and Mrs Kim with ROK Veteran



The Dedication Bronze



Busan Korea - Lest We Forget



Happy Days are here again



The Captains and the Kings depart. Our memories live forever within the Memorial.

The Queensland Korean War Memorial was Designed by Screenart David Yardley, Constructed by W3D Constructions Ross Wolbers

***Major Benefactors:** Republic of Korea, Department of Veteran Affairs, Queensland Premier's Department, Gold Coast City Council, Australian Korean War Memorial Queensland Ltd, Association Queensland Korea Veterans Inc and the Veteran and Korean Communities of SE Queensland. **Construction Team:** Project Manager Maurie Pears, GCCC Ross Greenwood, President AKWMQ Joseph Ahn Committee, RSL Surfers Paradise Alan Whelan, AQKV Committee, GCKS Committee.*

Authorised by M B Pears, the Queensland Korean War Memorial Friendship Society; PO Box 1, Isle of Capri, Q 4217. Australia; Photographs Alan Fortunato



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