



“United Nations 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong”

**April 23 (Friday), 2021 2:00 P.M. at the Korean War Monument
Frank C. Gardner & Veterans Memorial, Lake Alfred, Florida**

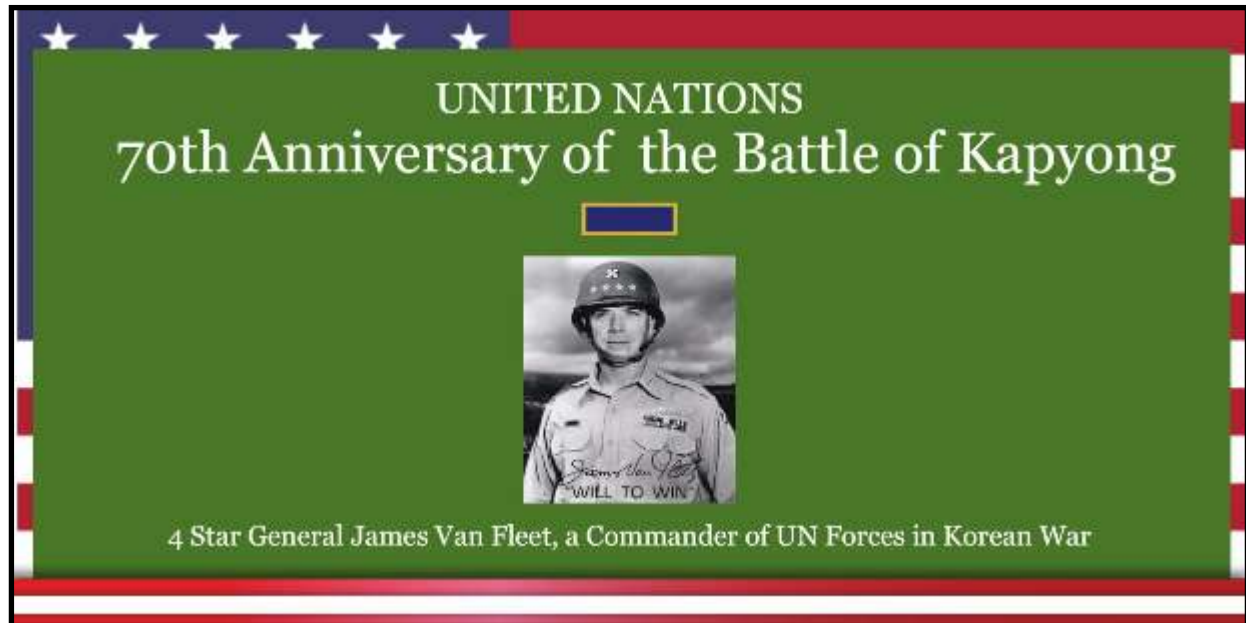
**“Complimentary Dinner and Gift Presentation for Korean War Veterans”
4:00 P.M. at VFW Post 4289, 2441 7th St SW, Winter Haven**

In Partnership with KWVA Chapter 159, The Royal Canadian Legion Post 144, VFW Post 4289

**R.S.V.P. to HooJung Jones Kennedy & Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy event co-chairs
by April 10, Tel: 863-215-7807 or email hjjones@bell.net**

“United Nations 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong/Gapyeong

EVENT PHOTOS





Korean War Monument at the Frank c. Gardner & Veterans Memorial Plaza, Lake Alfred, Florida, U.S.A





**The Korean flag is proudly flying at the Korean War Monument
Lake Alfred, Florida**



Major(Ret'd) Don Kennedy and HooJung Jones Kennedy, Event Co-Chirrs and Co-Sponsors



HooJung Jones Kennedy's Speech.

Good Afternoon. Ladies and Gentlemen, Korean War Veterans and distinguished guests. Thank you for all your support.

It is our honour to organize the "United Nations 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong/Gapyeong" ceremony to remember and honour our Korean War Veterans. "The Battle of Kapyong" is the United Nation's greatest Victory fought on April 23rd-25th, 1951 during the Korean War.

Chinese and North Korean Forces attacked the west central region, in the valley of the Kapyong River which was protected by the 27th British Commonwealth Infantry Brigade. The defensive position was established by Australians on Hill 504 and the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry 2 Battalion (2 PPLCI) on Hill 677 with the 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment in reserve.

Fierce fighting forced the Australians to withdraw, which exposed the Canadians to massive enemy attack. The battle of Kapyong raged through the night. The 2nd PPCLI were surrounded by the enemy who had blocked their supply route. The supplies of ammunition and emergency rations were air-dropped by the US Air Force. The support from the 1st Battalion, Middlesex regiment enabled them to maintain their position, which was vital to the Brigade's defence. During the battle, 2PPLCI lieutenant, Mike Levy, who understood Chinese, requested "Danger Close", an artillery attack on their own position.

4 Star General James Van Fleet, a commander of the 8th Army and the UN forces awarded the "Distinguished Unit Citation" to the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, A Company, 72nd Heavy Tank Battalion and the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment for their extraordinary bravery at the Battle of Kapyong. The "Distinguished Unit Citation" was later changed to the "United States Presidential Unit Citation".

At the battle, a total of 47 were killed and 99 were wounded. (3 Killed in the U.S force, 10 killed in the Canadian force, and 32 killed in the Australians force) which were relatively light compared to the heavy casualties inflicted on the enemy (over 1,000 killed).

They helped to save Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea and prevented millions civilian casualties. We will remember these brave fallen heroes.

(HooJung is a co-author of "Canadians Our Heroes 1950-1953 Korean War")



The Ik Koom Chang, President and members of the National Unification Advisory Council of Miami Chapter and the members of the Korean Cultural Association attended the ceremony.



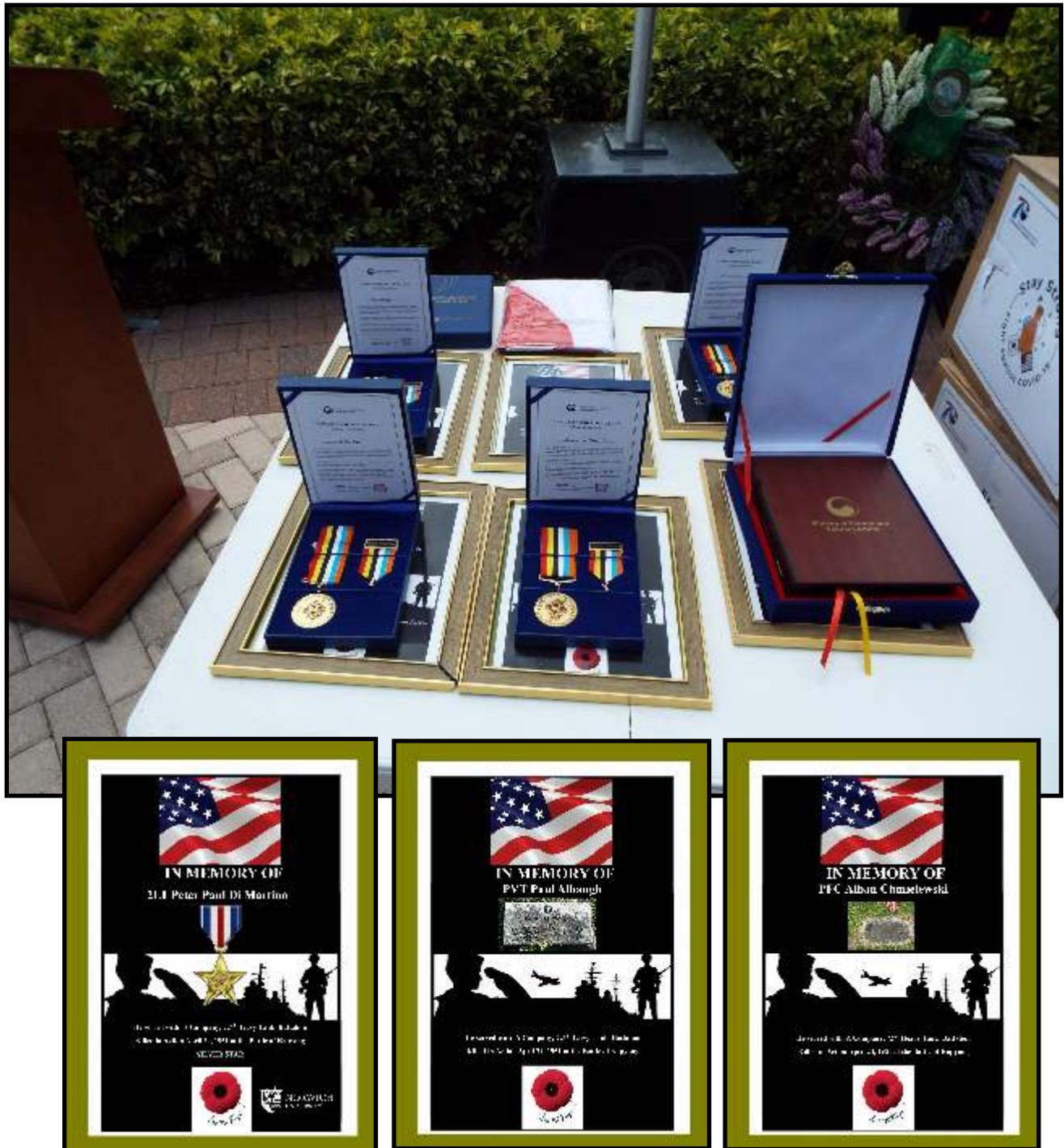


Korean War Veterans, their family members and distinguished guests attended the ceremony.



VFW Post 4289 Winter Haven Honor Guard

Ambassador for Peace Medal Presentation



“3 Ambassador for Peace Medals” presented to fallen soldiers of the “Battle of Kapyong”

- 1. 2LT Peter Paul Martino, A Company, 72nd Heavy Tank Battalion KIA April 24, 1951**
- 2. PVT Paul Albough, A Company, 72nd Heavy Tank Battalion KIA April 24, 1951**
- 3. PFC Alban Chmielewski, A 72nd Heavy Tank Battalion KIA April 23, 1951**



2 Ambassador for Peace Medals presented to

4 Star General James Van Fleet, Sr, and Capt. James Van Fleet Jr, (MIA)



Mr. Taylor Sanchez, Director of Hon. Senator Marco Rubio laying a mum.



Mr. Luis R. Laeacuenta, Director of Senator Rick Scott receiving a mum from HooJung Jones Kennedy, event co-chair.



Mayor Nancy Daley, City of Lake Alfred delivering her welcome speech.



Consul General Kim Young-jun thanking the Korean War Veterans.



Florida Congressman Darren Soto delivering his remarks.



Lake Wales Mayor Eugene Fultz thanking the Korean War Veterans.



Mr. Taylor Sanchez, Director of Hon. Senator Rick Scott and Mr. Luis R. Laracuente, Director of Senator Rick Scott delivering Florida Senators's remarks to honor the Korean War Veterans.

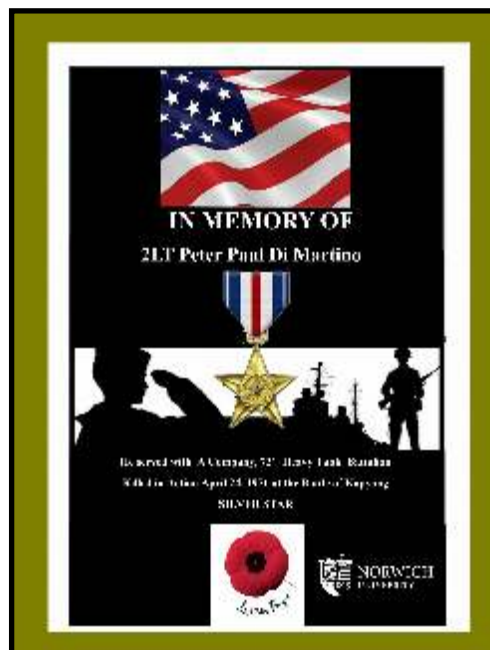
Consul General Kim Young-jun generously donated 3,000 KF-94 Korean masks to The Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 159 Sunshine State, The Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 Pinellas County and VFW Post 4289.

The Korean government has donated over 2 million masks to Korean War Veterans around the world.

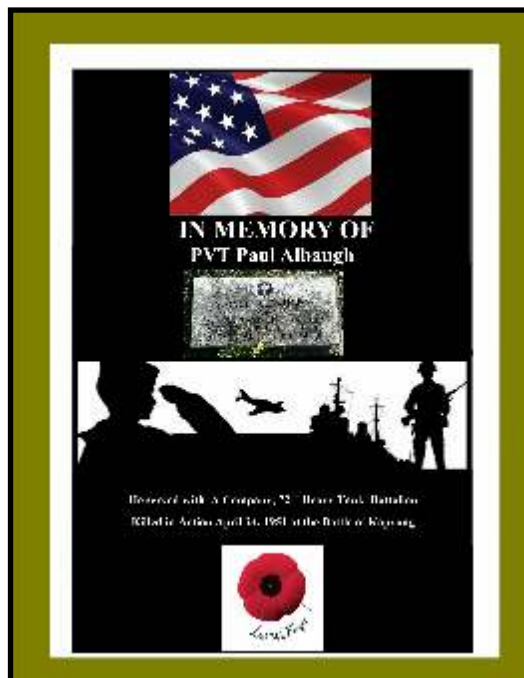




Consul General Kim Young-jun presented Ambassador for Peace Medals to Joseph McChristian, a Grandson of General James Van Fleet and a nephew of Captain James Van Fleet, Jr. as HooJung Jones Kennedy holding their tribute photos that she designed.

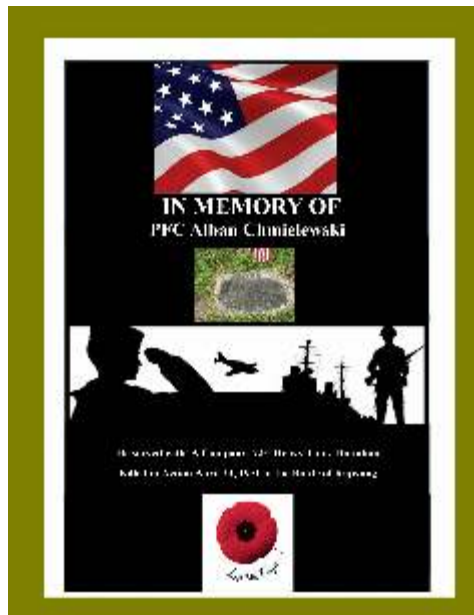


Consul General Kim Young-jun presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal of 2LT Peter Paul Di Martino to Brigadier General (Ret'd) Richard Blunt, a former US Commander in Korea. He received the Ambassador for Peace Medal on behalf of the Norwich University in Vermont (a military college) where 2LT Di Martino graduated. His medal will be displayed at Norwich University to remember his heroic bravery at the Battle of Kapyong.

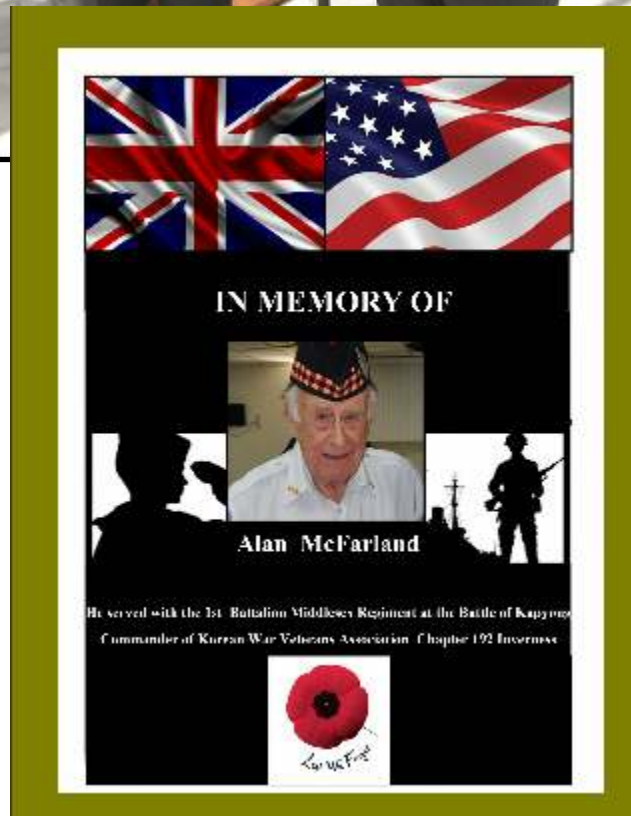


Consul General Kim Young-jun presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal of PVT Paul Albaugh to Byron Hamilton, Vice Post Commander of VFW 4289 Winter Haven. The medal will be shipped to VFW 788 Post Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

They will present the Ambassador for Peace Medal to family members of PVT Paul Albaugh at a family reunion on July 10th , 2021.



Consul General Kim Young-jun presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal of PFC Alban Chmielewski to Stanley Carter past post commander of VFW 2420 LakeWales.



Consul General Kim Young-jun presented the Memorial plaque of Alan McFarland to Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy. Alan McFarland served with 1st Battalion, Middlesex regiment at the Battle of Kapyong and he was a past post commander of the Korea Veterans Association Chapter 192 Inverness. He was our friend who died alone on Christmas day and there was no funeral service for him due to Covid-19.



HooJung Jones Kennedy presenting an “Appreciation Certificate” to Byron Hamilton who provided outstanding support to honour Korean War Veterans for many years. He is also the President of the Fallen Warriors of Polk County Foundation that raised the funds and erected the Korean War Monument in February 28, 2015.

HooJung Jones Kennedy was a special guest to the Korean War Monument unveiling ceremony in 2015. Since 2015, HooJung and Don have presented over 180 Ambassador for Peace Medals to U.S., Canadians and British Korean War Veterans living in Florida.



Korean War Veterans laying the Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 159 Sunshine State wreath at the Korean War Monument. (Front to back) 4 Korean War Veterans -Frank Anderson, Dave Sears, Frank Blachly, John Goodman



Mayor Nancy Daley, the City of Lake Alfred laying a wreath.



Consul General Kin Young-jun laying a wreath at the ceremony.



Don and HooJung laying The Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 Pinellas County wreath.



The president (Mr. Ik Koom Cahng) and members of the National Unification Advisory Council Miami Chapter laying a wreath at the ceremony.



The president (Mr. Choi Chang Gun) and members of the Tampa Bay Korean Cultural Association laying a wreath and bowing.



“United Nations 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong Wreath” with American and Korean flags.



Various wreaths at the Korean War Monument



Lisa Williams, a mother of a fallen soldier, laying a mum at the Fallen Warriors of Polk County Monument.



Byron Hamilton, Vice Post Commander of VFW 4289 Winter Haven and the President of the Fallen Warriors of Polk County Foundation, receiving a mum from HooJung Jones Kennedy.



Group Photo with the Korean War Veterans

Left to Right (Front) Korean War Veterans - Frank Blachly, Dave Sears, John Goodman

Left to Right (Back) Korean War Veteran Gerard Piltoff, Mr. Joseph McCristian, Consulate General Kim Young-jun, Korean War Veteran Frank Anderson, Nancy Daley, Mayor of the City of Lake Alfred, Florida Congressman Darren Soto, Mayor Eugene Fultz, Mayor of the City of Lake Wales

Group photo with the Korean War Veterans and Korean community.





HooJung Jones Kennedy, Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy Event Co-chairs thanking MS. Judy Schelfo, Event Coordinator for the City of Lake Alfred for all her support to honour the United Nations Korean War Veterans.



“Appreciation Dinner for the Korean War Veterans and invited guests”. They have received various gifts from HooJung and Don Kennedy.



Mr. Joseph McChristian, a grandson of General James Van Fleet explaining about how his uncle Capt. James Van Fleet went missing in action during the Korean War (on April 4th 1952 bombing mission to Haeju, North Korea) and how much his grandfather loved Korea. He said that General James Van Fleet's last words when he departed from Korea that he does not expect his heart to be returned since he is leaving his heart with the Korean people.





Korean War Veterans, their family members are enjoying the delicious Fish and Chip dinner.

HooJung Jones Kennedy baked the “American Flag” cake made with blueberry and raspberry soaked in the Canadian maple syrup and “Thank you Korean War Veterans” cake made with carrot, walnuts and cream cheese whip cream.



It was our honour and pleasure to organize the "United Nations 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong/ Gapyeong" to honor and remember Korean War Veterans who fought alongside each other.

We send our special thanks to the Korean War Veterans and their family members, dignitaries Consul General Kim Young-jun, his dedicated staff and invited guests who attended the ceremony despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

We also send our thanks to Lt. Colonel Park Byoung-gun, Office of the Defence Attaché, the City of Lake Alfred's staff, VFW 4289 Post Winter Haven, VFW 2420 Lake Wales and many dedicated volunteers helped to organize the "United Nations 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong/ Gapyeong".

These wonderful event photos were taken by Ms. Margarita Martin, Human Resources Manager of the City of Lake Alfred.

Thank you very much for all your support honoring the fallen heroes of the Battle of Kapyong/ Gapyeong. We believe that their spirits were with us including Alan McFarland who was a Kapyong Veteran at the memorial ceremony as taps was played by Danny Vega a 98 years old WWII Veteran. May God provides his divine love and embraces them all.

We Will Remember Them.

By HooJung Jones Kennedy and Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy, Co Event Chairs

