

# State honors Korean War veterans



Photo by 1st Lt. Anthony Deiss

The Korean War Memorial sculpture, left, was dedicated Sept. 18 at the Capitol complex in Pierre.

By Spc. Shannon Crane  
129th MPAD

An older man wearing a Veterans of Foreign Wars cap sits in his camp chair with a slight smile on his face. He opens the program he received only moments ago and skims through the pages, patiently waiting for the ceremony to begin. A ceremony that, to him, has been worth the wait.

The South Dakota Korean War Memorial dedication ceremony was held Sept. 18 in Pierre to honor the men and women who served in what is known as the Forgotten War.

“It’s been a long time coming, but they finally managed to get it done,” said Erwin Kost, a U.S. Army veteran who served as a supply room typist at Fort Eustis, Va., during the Korean War.

The day’s events began with a parade starting at the intersection of Poplar and Capitol Avenues, showcasing everything from National Guard units to various marching bands to floats.

“This is fantastic!” said Jim McPhee, a U.S. Air Force veteran who served as a medical entomologist during the war. “It’s never, ever too late to recognize a veteran.”

The dedication of the memorial was held near the Capitol.

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# Camp Rapid completes POW, MIA memorial

By Spc. Mark Watson  
129th MPAD

A man sits quietly under a tent listening to a soldier giving a speech. The man, slightly more hunched over than he was when he was younger, looks at the American flag to his left, and then behind the speaker to a different flag, one that is dedicated to him and thousands of other men and women who served in the military. His hat, slightly cocked to one side offers no relief from the sun, yet he

wears it proudly. It is adorned with several patches and words. One patch reads Stalag III C. Running the length of his maroon

garrison cap are the words, Former Prisoner of War.

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Photo by Spc. Mark Watson

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Birnbaum, the state sergeant major of the South Dakota National Guard, left, The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Michael A. Gorman and former POWs stand by one of the plaques during the unveiling ceremony.

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## Commander's Corner

### AG Comments

We have finally gotten all of the units home that were serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom One. Very recently the 1085th returned from Kosovo. The 665th Maintenance Company will complete its security mission at Joe Foss Field and EAFB prior to the first of the year. As our soldiers have done in the past, the performance of the soldiers in these units has been outstanding. The same can be said of the Joint Force Headquarters and other support personnel that supported the deployed soldiers. The soldier readiness processing, equipping, and training provided the kind of soldier care we can all be proud of. Preparing our soldiers, their families and employers during the deployment process is critical to mission completion and the eventual family reunion process.

The three units currently serving in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom Two continue to excel at their missions. The 2/147th Field Artillery Battalion, the 153rd Engineer Battalion and the 216th Fire Fighter team have reached the half-way point in their scheduled 12 months "Boots on the Ground." I used to say the time has gone by fast, but I no longer say that after I had a conversation with a mother of three. She told me if I thought it was going so fast, I needed to spend a little time with her three kids.

In August I was happy to have gotten the opportunity to visit the 109th Engineer Group serving in Afghanistan. They are doing a great job managing the engineer effort for the Coalition Joint Task Force in the Afghanistan Theater of Operations. Their morale was excellent and the leadership of the 25th Division, the Engineer Group Higher Headquarters, had many laudatory comments about Group's performance.

As our units come home from the deployments and activations, it is important that all of our soldiers and airmen understand how to access the veterans' benefits to which they are entitled. I want to make sure

that each and every member understands that we want them to stay in the National Guard. We understand that the current optempo has caused many to assess their future military careers. Some of those who have attained 20 years of service may choose to retire. Some who have less than 20 years of service may also make a decision to get out of the Guard. We understand that families and employees are part of the decision process on whether to continue National Guard service. It is important for all of you to know how grateful we are as a state and nation for the sacrifices our service members, their families and employers have made to continue this fight against terrorism. We will be eternally grateful to each of you answering our nations call.

The National Guard has a long-standing and proud history of service to our state and nation. Since 1636 Americans have answered the call to serve in the National Guard. The National Guard has been relied on to respond to our state and nation's natural disasters, civil disturbances, and security missions. When called we have responded to help win our nation's wars. This proud tradition of service and self sacrifice has seldom been more evident than what it has been since 11 September 2001. The SDNG has mobilized almost 75% of our forces. The performance of our members and units has been truly beyond expectation. You would be hard pressed to find units that could match the performance of South Dakota National Guard units. Soldiers and airmen are the cornerstone of our success and will continue in the future of the South Dakota National Guard. One of the real keys to our future lies in the experience and professionalism our soldiers have gained since 11 September. It is more important than



ever that we retain the future leadership of the South Dakota National Guard. We ask each of you to seriously consider staying with the best, the South Dakota National Guard. Thank you again for your dedication and service, and I wish you and your families nothing but the best.

**Michael A. Gorman**  
MG, SDNG  
The Adjutant General

the Coyote

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### CSM Comments

The State Family Readiness Program held their State Workshop on Sept. 24-26 in Spearfish. Family members, soldiers and volunteers from across South Dakota gathered to attend the workshop.

The Workshop allows time for South Dakota National Guard volunteers to come together to share ideas, offer each other their support and to network.

Judge Thomas Webb was the keynote speaker for the Workshop. Judge Webb's life story "You can make a difference" focuses on making a positive difference in a negative world. He has experienced life from a perspective not commonly shared by individuals who live in this part of the world. His dynamic message to value and appreciate the qualities of other people is delivered with a sense of humor that was inspiring, thought provoking and entertaining. Judge Webb was an orphan from Korea, who shares his life of living on the streets of Korea and his lessons learned after being adopted by his American family.

He gave insight on how to deal with issue in our lives. Many of these issues are the issues that our deployed soldiers and families are facing today.



The Workshop included a testimonial by Fran Hinton who deployed overseas with the 109th Medical Battalion. She talked of her deployment and issues that affected her while deployed and the personal problems she now endures upon her return. She gave a powerful and thought provoking testimonial that painted a real picture of what our soldiers are facing. She has issues that are a result of the deployment but she is being proactive in resolving her issues and seeking assistance.

The entire workshop was educational and informational. I hope all our soldiers appreciate the hard work their families do at home for them. I feel the job they do in many respects is harder and more difficult than our jobs are as soldiers.

**Michael L. Birnbaum**  
CSM, SDARNG  
State Command Sergeant Major

## Guard engineers help rebuild Afghanistan

By Spc. Mark Watson  
129th MPAD

Three years ago this September, America came under attack from terrorists, and now South Dakota has residents fighting the war on terrorism in Afghanistan. After nearly four months in Afghanistan, South Dakota Guardsmen have made progress in restoring the security and stability to the country.

Members of the 109th Engineer Group, based in Rapid City, deployed to the war-torn country May 17 and are the command and control center for engineer units from several countries.

“We are supporting the war fighters, providing them life support items such as tents, shower and latrine facilities,” Col. Nancy Wetherill, the Group’s commander, said. “We help with force protection, building burms, hescos, large wire baskets filled with dirt, and guard towers.”

zone, Wetherill said in some places you wouldn’t know it.

“Some of the larger bases are like Camp Rapid or Ellsworth Air Force Base,” she said. “You don’t get a taste for the country. Some soldiers haven’t even been off Kandahar or Bagram.”

As the command section of Task Force Coyote, the 109th has more than 1,800 soldiers from the U.S., Korea, Poland, Slovakia and Australia under its command.

It also has about 30 mine dogs to locate and civilian de-miners to destroy land mines. In one of the most heavily mined countries in the world, some estimated 10-15 million land mines in Afghanistan alone, the de-miners have their work cut out for them.

“There are still a lot out there,” she said. “We’ve made a small dent, but it is time consuming. In places where the Russians laid mines, it is very predictable where the

they will be.”

Although the soldiers have been deployed for not quite four months, some are already returning home on their two weeks leave. One soldier, who is tentatively scheduled for leave in November, said he is learning a lot about the Afghani people.

“You see the people here and you feel how lucky you really are,” said Spc. Michael Kroells, a member of the operations section. “They are poorer than anyone could imagine. A lot own one or two sets of clothing, a pressure cooker to cook meat and maybe a tent. You will see one person drive by in a new car and then the next guy will be walking with a donkey. They are either really rich or dirt poor.”

Kroells said much has changed for the Afghani’s since the Taliban were ousted.

“A lot of the people really appreciate us,” he added. “The kids are always happy to see us and the adults will greet us with a smile. They have told us so much has changed since the Taliban have gone. Before, they had a curfew of 6 p.m. If they weren’t in their houses by then, they would be shot at. Now they are free.”

All things considered, Wetherill said the Afghanistan mission is a good mission.

“If we have to be somewhere, Afghanistan is not a bad place to be,” Wetherill said. “It’s a very good mission for the 109th Group. It definitely has its challenges. We have to plan more than we did at A.T. We’ve trained for this type of mission before and I couldn’t ask for a better staff. From the top to the bottom, everyone is doing a great job.”

“We are contributing to the security and stability of Afghanistan, so in the future, the Afghani people can resist incursions and remain free and stable.”



Photo by Spc. Chris Ripka

**Lt. Col. Bill Freidel of the 109th Engineer Group, middle, talks with other soldiers from Task Force Coyote in Afghanistan.**

The unit also directed the building of dining facilities, brigade and battalion tactical operation centers and perimeter defenses.

Even though the 109th is in a combat

mines will be. They are spaced the same and have the same distance between rows, but where the Taliban members move in, the mine fields are unpredictable. They move the mines to where we don’t think

# National Guard supports Korean War

By Sgt. Wes Nowitzki  
129th MPAD

They may not have physically fought in hand-to-hand combat or even fired a round at a hostile enemy, but when their number was called they went willingly, swiftly and did what was called upon them.

Valor, bravery, selfless service and patriotism are just a few words that describe the men and women who serve in today's military. These brave men and women are sacrificing their lives for freedom just like so many did more than 50 years ago during the Korean War.

The Army National Guard mobilized about one third of its total strength which included more than 138,600 soldiers from 43 units to serve in Korea. Many other units and soldiers were activated for state-side duties. This was the National Guard's largest mobilization of the last half of the 20th century, and it was also the most combat the Army Guard would see during those same 50 years.

South Dakota activated three units from the Army and Air National Guard during the Korean War. The 196th Regimental Combat Team, which consisted of the 196th Infantry, 147th Field Artillery Battalion, 200th Engineer Combat Company and a medical detachment. The 109th Engineer Battalion and the 175th Fighter Squadron were also activated during the war.

The 196th was activated Sept. 1, 1950, and was sent to Camp Carson, Colo., where for 10 months its soldiers underwent rigorous basic and advance training. When the unit first arrived at Camp Carson it was considerably under strength, so over those ten months draftees and reservists were assigned to the unit.

The 196th left Camp Carson July, 1951 and arrived in Haines, Alaska, Aug. 3. From Haines, the unit traveled 800 miles by motorcade, which was the longest overland movement of any army unit since the close of World War II. The unit arrived at its permanent duty station, Fort Richardson, Alaska, Aug. 25, 1951.

Beginning in March, South Dakota Guardsmen from the 196th

were released from active duty and replaced with soldiers from the United States Army. The 196th was activated for just under 24 months. In Sept. 1, 1952, it was officially reactivated into the South Dakota Army National Guard.

The 109th was the first volunteer militia organized in Dakota Territory in 1884 and 1885, so it's no stranger when it comes to being deployed. Its first deployment started during the Spanish-American War and saw action in the Philippines. The unit also served in World War I and World War II, where it participated in campaigns with the 34th Infantry in North Africa and Italy.

Their Korean deployment started on Sept. 3, 1950, where for ten months the battalion trained at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The 109th, like the 196th, was also under strength, so for those ten months the unit was filled with draftees and retirees. Then in June 1951, the unit loaded-up and sailed to Europe where it was assigned to the 11th Engineer Group and was stationed near Mannheim, West Germany. The 109th completed many engineering projects during its deployment like bridges, buildings, and other engineering necessities that the Army needed. Beginning in the spring of 1952 the unit was gradually released from active duty as replacements arrived. By Sept. 3, 1952, the unit was reactivated into the South Dakota Army National Guard.

More recently, the 109th has been deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 175th Fighter Squadron was mobilized in Sioux Falls on March 1, 1951 and remained there until the following August. After August the unit, which flew the P-51 Mustang, moved to Ellsworth Air Force Base to support the B-36 bombers that were stationed there and to perform air defense duties. The unit was released from active duty Dec. 1, 1952.

For many of these soldiers and airmen, deployments are a harsh reality of war. This harsh reality has been shown recently with all the deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, but the state has gotten through it before and it can get through it again, and the veterans of the Korean War are proof of that.

## CURRENT SOUTH DAKOTA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD DEPLOYMENTS



# Extended units return to families

By Spc. Mark Watson  
129th MPAD

It was a day some had waited 18 months for, the day when they would see their families again. For members of two South Dakota National Guard units, their days of being separated by half a world from their families are over.

The 842nd Engineer Company returned to the U.S. July 21 after serving in the Middle East since June 3, 2003, and a week later, they were back in South Dakota. The 740th Transportation Company soldiers, who thus far have been deployed longer than any other South Dakota unit, landed in the U.S. early July 28 ending their 18-month long deployment.

"I don't believe it's real yet," said Spc. Ronald Voeller, shortly after he and the rest of the 740th landed in Colorado Springs, Colo. "It just feels like we are home on a couple weeks leave and then will be heading back."

The 740th activated Feb. 11, 2003 and spent several months at their mobilization station, Fort Carson, Colo., before deploying to the war zone April 19, 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

For the units, their homecoming has been a long time coming as they both were extended past their "one year, boots on the ground" tour of duty. In April, when the amount of insurgent attacks in Iraq increased dramatically, the soldiers were told that they would be staying past their expected return date and would be staying for another 90 to 120 days. For the 740th, the order to stay came as they were only days out from returning to the states. Many of the soldiers were devastated.

"It wasn't too bad the first time we were extended," Sgt. Brandon Peery, said, referring to an extension they received months earlier. "We hadn't been there a full year, so we kind of expected it. But the second time we were extended it was pretty hard. We were sealing our connexes and were getting ready to go home."

Delivering that order was a trying experience for the leaders of the unit too.

"It's probably the hardest thing I'll ever have to do, walk in that tent and tell my soldiers that they are not going home," said



Photos by Kristen Strisell  
(above) Cpt. Wyatt Hansen, commander of the 842nd Engineer Company, holds a bag of candy as he and his family parade through the downtown streets of Belle Fourche, S.D. (left) Pick-ups and convertibles filled the streets of Milbank, S.D., and people from the surrounding communities lined the sidewalks during the welcome home parade for the 740th Transportation Company.

1st Lt. Shyla Rohlf's.

The 740th was extended, as were other transportation units, because the Army was in need of their capabilities. The 842nd received their order to stay about the same time. They however, were attached to the 1st Armored Division, so when the 1st Armored was extended, so were the South Dakota soldiers.

Tasked with "moving dirt" the 842nd built roads, leveled areas for tent cities, constructed by-passes and created barriers.

"The troops performed admirably," said

Capt. Wyatt

Hansen, commander of the 842nd. "They outperformed many of the engineer units that were there and provided outstanding support to the 1st Armored Division.

"We constructed a lot of things for the Army and the Iraqi people. I am really proud of these soldiers and everything we accomplished," he added.

While the 842nd was busy in and around the Baghdad area, the 740th made transportation runs into and out of Iraq,

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# Units overcome deployment challenges



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hauling supplies and equipment for nearly every major combat unit involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom. They logged more than 2 million miles during their 15-months in theater, traveling within miles of the Turkey and Syria borders and back into Kuwait.

“A lot of our mission miles were through treacherous terrain, dangerous roads and conditions, and to be able to go 2.3 million miles and have no one killed or seriously injured is very impressive for a transportation unit to say,” said 1st Lt. Travis Eastman, a platoon leader with the 740th.

However, on the last mission immediately before the unit was extended, Sgt. Jason Veen was wounded when an Improvised Explosive Device exploded by his truck, causing the windshield to shatter, cutting his face. He was able to make a full recovery.

It was this attack that drove the magnitude of the war home, but it was previous IED attack that brought the reality of the war to the Guardsmen.

“An IED hit a (Military Police) escort about 20 feet in front of me,” Voeller said. “That’s when the reality set in that this is a real war. We were shot at before, but never saw the people who shot at us. Half the time we wouldn’t realize it until we arrived at camp and saw holes in our trucks or connex.”

Likewise, the 842nd came under attack on only a handful of occasions which caused no injuries.

Beyond their engineer missions, the 842nd participated in a mission of a non-military type, Operation Caring Hands.

“One thing they gave us the opportunity to do was to participate in Operation Caring Hands,” said Spc. Michelle Vice. “We went into schools and handed out school supplies, glue and pencils and also personal hygiene items like toothpaste and toothbrushes, then showed them how to use them. The kids really enjoyed that, and it was really a nice thing to be able to do.”

Now that the deployment is over, many of the soldiers have big plans. However, most will relax, spend time getting reacquainted with family and some look forward to the little things.

“I am looking for some privacy, pampering and a good American steak,” Vice laughed.

Although both units were extended, the soldiers were taken away from their families and they all faced the uncertainty of war, most said they were glad they had the opportunity to serve.

“It was an experience that not everyone can say they did,” Vice said. “It is something you never hope you get to do, but it is something to feel proud of.”

Hansen agreed. “It was an experience of a lifetime,” Hansen said. “If anybody ever forgets this, they won’t remember anything. It will be imbedded in our minds forever.”

Photo by Spc. Mark Watson  
(above) Spc. Ethan 740th Transportation Company soldiers were greeted by many distinguished guests as they unloaded from the plane that flew them into Fort Carson July 28, 2004 after a long flight from Kuwait.

Kristen Strisell  
(right) Spc. Donally Kranz reunites with his family shortly after the 740th arrived in Milbank, S.D., Aug. 1.



# State recognizes former POWs, MIAs

By Spc. Mark Watson

129th MPAD

“Nitch come, Grenades!”

Those words marked the end of one South Dakota man’s war and the beginning of his captivity.

Charles Dawes, Mitchell, S.D., and his unit were in Luxembourg, and November 29, 1944 marked a desperate day for him.

“German artillery was hitting all around us all day long,” Dawes recalled. “I was just lucky I was in my foxhole.”

When the sun set, Dawes and his fellow soldiers left their fighting positions and went into the basement of a nearby farmhouse.

“There were 60 of us in there sitting as quiet as we could, then we heard a German knock on the door with the butt of his rifle,” he said as he rapped three times on a nearby pillar. “‘Nitch come, Grenades’ the German said, which meant if you don’t come out he’s going to throw grenades down there. I was so scared. They told us that if we are ever captured, to take apart our rifle and throw one part this way and another part that way, so the Germans couldn’t put them together. I was so scared I didn’t even do that.”

And with that, the Mitchell man, who was drafted and had only been in Europe for slightly more than one month, the war was over.

Thirteen is an unlucky number for Steve Fousek. Thirteen is the number of days he fought in WWII before he was captured. It is also the number of other survivors and soon to be prisoners from two companies who made it through a German attack near St. Mere Eglise, France.

The war for Fousek began June 6, 1944, D-Day, as he, and thousands of other allied troops, stormed the beaches of Normandy, France. Utah beach was his destination.

“You hear so much about Omaha beach and how tough it was,” Fousek said. “Utah beach was no cake walk. It was tough.”

That night, he and the rest of his unit entered the town of St. Mere Eglise.

Thirteen days later, June 19, that fateful day, Fousek, along with the rest of H and F Companies came under attack. The massive German attack inflicted 248 casualties. When the smoke cleared there were only 14 survivors, Fousek included.

“That’s when my career as a prisoner of war started,” he said.

Friday, Fousek, Dawes and other former POWs, along with those missing in action, were honored at Mt. Rushmore.

“I’m here to honor the Ex-POWs and MIAs,” said Richard Dieter, a Vietnam veteran. “No one seems to care about the World War II vets. They don’t realize the grief they put up with. They went through hell. The Geneva Convention didn’t mean anything to their captors. They were beat. If they ate, it was leftover food. They went through hell for me and they deserve our respect.”

During the ceremony, Bill Lanning, with the Veterans Affairs Health Care System, said the men on the stage know the meaning of perseverance.

“Article Four of the Code of Conduct states; if I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information or take part in any action which might be



Photo by Spc. Mark Watson

**Steve Fousek, state commander of the American Ex-POWs, stands in front of the newly-dedicated memorial on Camp Rapid**

harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way,” Lanning said. “No American understands the meaning of keeping the faith better than these gentlemen sitting up here and we honor them.”

Maj. Gen. Michael A. Gorman, the adjutant general for the South Dakota National Guard, said he understood what it means to be a POW. His father was captured Feb. 17, 1943 near the Kassarine Pass in North Africa along with 12 other members of the 109th Engineer Battalion.

“I remember my dad didn’t like to talk about his ordeal with the family, but I know that it changed his life forever,” Gorman said. “Words are not enough to repay your sacrifice, but that’s what we are here to do today, to say thank you for your service and sacrifice. Without you we would not see the freedom and democracy that we have today. Remember, you are our heroes.”

# Re-enactors make historic journey

By 1st Lt. Anthony Deiss

129th MPAD

It began more than 200 years ago on May 14, 1804, when Meriwether Lewis and William Clark started their journey up the Missouri River to explore America's newest frontier. The Expedition's goals were ambitious: discover a possible water route to the Pacific Ocean, trade with American Indians and scientific discovery.

Now, two centuries later, volunteers from across the country dressed in bear skin hats and bright blue early 19th-century Army coats trimmed in red, are reenacting the historical journey for the Bicentennial Commemoration.

Leading the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition is Staff Sgt. Scott Mandrell of the Montana Army National Guard. Mandrell is portraying Capt. Lewis. He is doing his best to help America understand what the expedition endured and accomplished and how much the country has changed since then.

The Expedition was a military mission that consisted of about 40 personnel, including American soldiers, frontiersmen and French Canadian boatmen.

"Of those brave men, nearly a third of them were militia, or modern day National Guardsmen," Mandrell said. "Each of them provided special skills vital to the success of the expedition. William Clark himself was a militiaman who volunteered for the expedition."

The original Lewis and Clark expedition spent the late summer and early fall of 1804 exploring present-day South Dakota. The new Corps of Discovery first entered South Dakota Aug. 20.

The South Dakota National Guard has been there to support the expedition as it journey across the state. The Guard has supported the expedition with portaging boats, supporting media events, providing shower facilities, transporting personnel and providing medical support.

The first of these events took place Aug. 20 in Sioux City, Iowa, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the death of Sgt. Floyd of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The 147th Army Band of Mitchell, played prelude and postlude music for more than 1,000 people in two similar ceremonies. Re-



Photo by Spc. Mark Watson

**(above) The Corps of Discovery prepares to re-enact a meeting with the Teton Sioux along the Missouri River at Fort Pierre. (below) The 1742nd Trans. Co. conducts portaging operations of the 55 ft. keelboat around Oahe Dam in Pierre.**

enactors portrayed the authentic characters and events of Floyd's death and burial. Floyd volunteered for the expedition as a militiaman.

"Sergeant Floyd's service shows a precursor to the National Guard today," Staff Sgt. Tim Schorn, band member of the 147th. "His service shows a constant lineage that exists between the Guardsmen of then and the National Guardsmen of today."

The expedition then traveled to Elk Point

for Lewis & Clark Heritage Days Aug. 21 and 22. Members from the 727th Transportation Company of Elk Point, supported the event by assisting with a "Then and Now" display. Featured in the display were artifacts, uniforms and a comparison of military history from the early to today. The 727th also displayed their unit's Palletized Loading System (PLS).

The highlight of the Heritage Days event was a re-enactment of the election of Sgt.

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# Lewis and Clark and the Guard

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Patrick Gass to replace Floyd's leadership role. Immediately following the re-enactment election of Gass, members of the 727th held a Non-Commissioned Officer Induction Ceremony. The two events demonstrated then-and-now of how the U.S. Army promotes to the rank of sergeant.

The Expedition continued on to Vermillion to re-enact the Spirit Mound walk Aug. 25. Members from Co. B, 109th Medical Battalion, of Vermillion, were on hand to provide medical support for the event. Spirit Mound was a site that early Indian tribes believed to be inhabited by 18-inch tall devils armed with arrows. The original expedition didn't find the devils, but did find its first herd of buffalo. It is also where Joseph Field killed the exploration's first buffalo.

The journey continued on to Yankton for the 7th Annual Lewis and Clark Festival at Lake Yankton Aug 26 and 27. The festival is held every year to remember the moment Lewis and Clark met the Yankton Sioux Tribe. The Expedition's first meeting with one of the great Sioux tribes took place at Calumet Bluff, near the present-day Gavins Point Dam and city of Yankton.

South Dakota National Guard Brig. Gen. Raymond W. Carpenter welcomed the Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery to South Dakota during the festival at Yankton. He also wished them well as they face challenges on the journey ahead.

Members from the 200th Engineer Co. Multi-Role Bridge provided boat rides on the Missouri River to the public. Also, members from Battery C, 147th Field Artillery, of Yankton, displayed their HEMTT, (Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck) and rocket pod equipment. They also supported a climbing wall for visitors. Medics from Company B, 109th Medical Battalion provided medical support.

Portage of the 55-foot long keelboat and the two smaller "pirogues" over dams and inaccessible areas along the Missouri, was left to elements of the 88th Troop Command. Three 915 tractors and personnel from the 727th, 1742nd and 740th Transportation Companies provided support.

The Guard continued to assist the

expedition by other conventional means.

A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter from the 1085th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) of Rapid City, assisted the Expedition Aug 31, as it re-enacted the search for Pvt. George Shannon.

An aerial search for Shannon - from a Blackhawk helicopter - around the Snake Creek area near Platte offered a modern convenience to the search for Shannon that was done on foot 200 years ago.

The Guard continued to provide support as



Photos by 1st. Lt. Anthony Deiss

(above) The 147th Army Band performs at the 200th Commemoration of Sgt. Charles Floyd of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition in Sioux City, Iowa. (below) The 200th Engineer Co. gives boat rides to the public at the Lewis and Clark Festival in Yankton.

Photo by Sgt. Wes Nowitzki

(left) Command Sgt. Maj. Jerry Pope, left, presents Larry McLain, middle, and Scott Mandrell with a proclamation welcoming the Expedition to South Dakota.

and Fort Pierre/Pierre. The Expedition's next stop will be in Mobridge October 8-11. The expedition is scheduled to leave the state from West Pollock Oct. 15. Brig. Gen. Raymond W. Carpenter will wish the Expedition farewell as it leaves the state.

The Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition will continue its journey across the northwest over the next several years and return through South Dakota in 2006. The South Dakota National Guard will be there again to support the expedition on its journey home.



the Expedition portaged around Fort Randall, Big Bend, Fort Thompson, and Oahe Dams, making stops in Chamberlain

# Memorial serves as constant reminder

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The flags flutter again in the steady breeze, and his eyes once again leave the soldier to the black flag lofted above the rest. On the flag is the silhouette of a man, the words POW and MIA, and beneath the image, the words You Are Not Forgotten. This is the flag of the Prisoner of War and the Missing in Action.

For this day, Sept. 10, was dedicated to him. The speaker at the podium, Maj. Gen. Michael A. Gorman, the adjutant general, dedicating a memorial on Camp Rapid said this memorial will be here to honor all American POWs and MIAs.

"From this day forward, this POW/MIA Memorial and flag will be here to honor the service and memory of all American POWs," said Gorman. "It will also be a constant reminder of those who still remain missing as a result of their faithful service to this country."

More specifically, the newly erected memorial, located at the west end of Camp Rapid, is dedicated to members of the South Dakota National Guard who were captured and held as a POW.

Several former members of the 109th Engineer Battalion who are also former POWs helped unveil the memorial and the two pedestals with the names of the South Dakota POWs.

The memorial has been more than a year

in the making. It began in the spring of 2003 when Steve Fousek, state commander of the American Ex-POWs, approached Gorman and asked why the POW/MIA flag was not flown at Camp Rapid. That changed on Sept. 19, 2003 when a flag pole was dedicated at the memorial site and the somber flag was raised.

"It is only fitting that we dedicate this memorial on this date," Gorman said. "September 10th has been set aside in South Dakota this year as a day when we remember the service of our Prisoners of War and as a day when we remember those that are still missing."

Then addressing the former POWs he thanked them for their service.

"Without your sacrifices, and without the sacrifices of all the brave men and women who have served this country over the years, and continue to serve as we speak, the citizens of this country would not be able to enjoy the freedoms that we do today in this great nation."

Gorman also asked the public to review the names of the soldiers who will be memorialized in bronze to check for discrepancies in spelling or soldiers not listed. The names are of only South Dakota National Guard soldiers who were held captive. If you find an error, please contact Darald McElroy at (605) 737-6299 or Duke Doering at (605) 390-5421.

## Veterans remembered

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South Dakota Adjutant General Michael A. Gorman welcomed the veterans and their families to the ceremony.

Presentations during the dedication included the Lakota Korean Honor Song, singers Layne Larson of Pukwana and Joan Mercer of the U.S. Army Soldier's Chorus, and the award-winning El Riad Chanters of Sioux Falls.

Governor Mike Rounds then gave the keynote address and announced the unveiling of the Korean War Memorial sculpture.

The ceremony concluded with a fireworks display, a modern military aircraft fly over, and the release of more

than 26,000 red, white and blue balloons, one for every South Dakota Korean War veteran.

Elden Garrett, a member of the 147th Field Artillery Brigade from 1948 to 1956, said he was pleased with the ceremony and felt the memorial did justice for honoring the Korean War veterans.

"It's nice just to be recognized," Garrett said.

Still sitting in his camp chair, the older man wearing the VFW cap looks up at the sky when the balloons are released. He places his program under his seat, and as the sky becomes a mass of red, white and blue, he finally rises in an attempt to catch just one.

### POW/MIA MEMORIAL

#### **Bizerte, Tunisia, 1942**

Leroy O. Anderson  
Le Roy C. David  
Richard P. Griffin  
Robert J. Hackett

#### **Bataan, Philippines, 1942**

Theodore I. Spaulding  
ava, 1942  
Roy E. Stensland

#### **Kasserine, Tunisia, 1943**

Leo T. Baker  
Richard M. Behrens  
Kenneth W. Brandon  
William H. Caton  
Esquipula C. Gallegos  
Owen M. Gorman  
Kenneth P. Gourley  
Harold R. McGregor  
Wayne M. Hannant  
Royal I. Lee  
Robert J. Lodge  
Francis G. Murray  
Gordon J. Tjomsland  
William C. Weimer

#### **Cassino, Italy, 1944**

Kenneth K. Kalberg  
Richard Kiefer  
Raymond T. Martin

#### **Anzio, Italy**

Warren R. Evans  
Robert E. Turner

#### **Ponenuri, Italy**

Edward J. Graf  
Bartley W. Tillotson  
Germany  
Robert W. Lievan  
LaVerne F. Reynolds  
John F. Stephens

#### **France**

John M. Lukens