



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RADOS

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

JOHN

R.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1948

**Year Discharged:** 1951

**Unit / Squadron:**

9TH INFANTRY DIVISION

COMPANY "G", 1ST BATTALION TROPIC REGIONS TEST CENTER (TRTC)

**Medals / Citations:**

SILVER STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/5 BRONZE STARS

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Corporal John Richard Rados honorably served in the United States Army / CPL John Rados was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Material Clerk / Corporal Rados was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry under enemy fire in combat conditions / Corporal Rados was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained during combat operations

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Eustis, Virginia - Fort Eustis is a United States Army installation in Newport News, Virginia / Camp Abraham Eustis was established as a coast artillery replacement center for Fort Monroe and a balloon observation school / It was named for Brevet Brigadier General Abraham Eustis, a 19th-century U.S. military leader who had been the first commanding officer of Fort Monroe, a defensive fortification at the mouth of Hampton Roads about 15 miles east at Old Point Comfort in what is now the city of Hampton / Camp Abraham Eustis became Fort Eustis and a permanent military installation in 1923 / In 2010, Fort Eustis was merged with nearby Langley Air Force Base as Joint Base Langley-Eustis and its former sub-installation Fort Story was re-aligned as a Naval installation

**Miscellaneous:**

John Rados attended Holy Name of Jesus Parochial School, School #44 and Boys Vocational High School / John Rados was a General Office Clerk for the New York Central Railroad prior to entering active service with the U.S. Army in 1948 / John Rados was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 and American Legion Post #735 / John Richard Rados passed away on 12 February 2001 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 9th Infantry Division was created as the 9th Division during World War I, but never deployed overseas / In later years, it would become an important unit of the U.S. Army during World War II and the Vietnam War / It was also activated as a peacetime readiness unit from 1947 to 1962 at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and Fort Carson, Colorado, and from 1972 to 1991 as an active-duty infantry division at Fort Lewis, Washington / Nicknamed the "Old Reliables", the division was eventually deactivated in December 1991

The Tropic Regions Test Center maintains an array of test areas in a variety of jungle and tropical open lands and coastal environments / The Tropic Regions Test Center accomplishes its mission using a combination of highly trained Army civilian personnel and support contractors / The test center's mission is to plan and conduct tropic environmental development tests on a wide variety of military electronic systems, materials, weapons, and equipment of all conceivable types, sizes, configurations and uses

The Silver Star Medal is the United States third highest military decoration for valor that can be awarded to any person serving in any capacity with the United States Armed Forces. The medal is awarded for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States. The gallantry displayed must have taken place while in action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RADTKE

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

CARL

R.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:** 1951

**Year Discharged:** 1954

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Carl R. Radtke honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Carl R. Radtke passed away on 22 September 2013 and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RAKISKI

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

FREDERICK

M.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Frederick M. Rakiski honorably served in the United States Air Force / Frederick Rakiski was stationed at Sampson AFB, Geneva, New York

**Base Assignments:**

Sampson Air Force Base, Geneva, New York - Sampson AFB was established initially by the United States Navy as a Naval Training Station (USNTS Sampson) in 1942 and named after Rear Admiral William T. Sampson / At the end of World War II, the base was closed, but with the outbreak of the Korean War, the United States Air Force took interest in the former Naval Station for use as a Basic Military Training (BMT) Base / In February 1951, training started for 16,000 Air Force recruits of the Air Training Command (ATC) / The mission of Sampson AFB was to provide formal basic training for all male and female enlisted personnel not having sufficient previous military training; to establish and operate such assembly, processing and separation station as specifically directed; to provide a comprehensive counseling program for Basic Indoctrinated personnel in order that these airmen may be most effectively assigned in accordance with Air Force requirements; and to maintain training programs for accomplishing rehabilitation of garrison prisoner / With the end of the Korean War and cutbacks in the military budget afterwards, Air Training Command discontinued its basic training school at Sampson AFB on 1 July 1956 / Shortly thereafter, ATC discontinued Sampson's 3650th Military Training Wing / By the time it was closed, over 300,000 airmen received basic training at Sampson AFB in preparation for service in the Korean War, as well as service in USAFE, Far East Air Force, and other United States Air Force major commands both in the United States and around the world / Today, the majority of the former Air Force base is abandoned

**Miscellaneous:**

Frederick Rakiski was employed by Republic Steel, Blasdell, New York / Frederick M. Rakiski passed away on 10 April 2026 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** REED

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

FRANKLIN J.

**Address:** 882 SOUTH PARK AVENUE

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Year Entered:** 1950

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

5TH CAVALRY REGIMENT, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| PURPLE HEART                                 | KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL            |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL          | UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL    |
| COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE                     | MARKSMANSHIP BADGE              |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION | ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL               | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL              |

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Private Franklin J. Reed honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Frankin Reed was deployed to Korea at a Light Weapons Infantryman / Private Franklin Reed was Killed in Action on 30 January 1951

Franklin Reed enlisted in the Army in January 1949 but was given a dependency discharge in October 1949 and moved to Reserve status / Reed was recalled to active duty status in October 1950

Franklin J. Reed Franklin is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, District of Columbia

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Camp Stoneman, Pittsburg, California – Camp Stoneman was a United States Army facility located in Pittsburg, California / The camp was named after George Stoneman, a cavalry commander during the American Civil War and Governor of California / The Camp served as a major troop staging area for and under the command of the San Francisco Port of Embarkation (SFPOE) / The camp operated during World War II and the Korean War / The camp opened 28 May 1942 as a staging point for units deploying to the Pacific Ocean theater of World War II / In addition to being a staging area for troops in transit, the Pacific Coast Transportation Corps Officer Training School was located at the camp / The camp also housed prisoners of war with the Italian Service Unit of the 18th Italian Quartermaster Service Company, which was based at the camp / Camp Stoneman was decommissioned as a military post in 1954

## Miscellaneous:

Franklin Reed was a graduate of St. Brigid's Parochial School and a South Park High School Junior when he quit his studies to seek employment / Reed was a South Buffalo Railway Fireman, a Pressman's Apprentice for the Buffalo Courier Express newspaper and the Buffalo News / Franklin J. Reed was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holly Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 5th Cavalry Regiment ("Black Knights") is a historical unit of the United States Army that began its service on 3 August 1861, when an act of Congress enacted "that the two regiments of dragoons, the regiment of mounted riflemen, and the two regiments of cavalry shall hereafter be known and recognized, as the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth regiments of cavalry respectively and continues in modified organizational format in the U.S. Army / On 3 March 1855, the 2nd Cavalry Regiment (later to be known as the 5th Cavalry Regiment) was activated in Louisville, Kentucky with troopers drawn from the states of Alabama, Maryland, Missouri, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Virginia / On 9 April 1865, the 5th Cavalry was selected to serve as the Union Honor Guard for the surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Courthouse / During World War II, the 5th Cavalry fought in the battles of Los Negros, Leyte, and Luzon / After the surrender of Japanese forces, the 5th Cavalry was part of the occupation forces / The 5th Cavalry Regiment saw action in Korea during the Korean War and left the country on 7 December 1951 after 549 days of constant combat / During the Vietnam War, the 5th Cavalry Regiment was deployed to Vietnam in September 1965 / In Vietnam, 5th Cavalry units participated in twelve campaigns, including Operation Thayer, Operation Pershing, Operation Tet Offensive, Operation Jeb Stuart III, Operation Toan Thang II and Operation Cheyenne Sabre / Six 5th Cavalry Regiment Troopers received the Medal of Honor in the Vietnam War / The remaining units of the 5th Cavalry regiment left Vietnam in January 1973

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Cavazos, Texas and was formed in 1921 / The 1st Cavalry Division has served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan as well as Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / The 1st Cavalry was deployed to Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1965 and 26 March 1971 officially marked the end of duties in Vietnam for the 1st Cavalry Division / The service of the 1st



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War was not without a price / As a grim reminder of their remarkable legacy, the 1st Cavalry Division experienced casualties of 26,592 Wounded and 5,464 Killed In Action / The 1st Air Cavalry refers to the 1st Cavalry Division of the U.S. Army, which was the first Airmobile Division / This division is known for its air assault infantry capabilities and has a rich history, including significant operations during the Iraq War, where Apache Longbows from the division engaged in battles against Iraq's Republican Guard / The division continues to provide scalable combat-ready forces and is capable of conducting operations globally / Recently, the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade conducted a change of command ceremony, highlighting its ongoing operational relevance

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** REESOR  
ROLAND J.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Roland J. Reesor honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Roland J. Reesor passed away on 20 March 2025 at the age of 89 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** REESOR  
ROLAND J.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Roland J. Reesor honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Roland J. Reesor passed away on 20 March 2025



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **REGER**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**FREDERICK R.**

**Address:** BRIARWOOD DRIVE

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1952

**Year Discharged:** 1953

**Unit / Squadron:**

804TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Frederick R. Reger honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Frederick Reger was twice awarded as "Soldier of the Month"

**Base Assignments:**

Camp San Luis Obispo, California - Camp San Luis Obispo (formerly called Camp Merriam) was established in 1928 and is the original home of the California Army National Guard / The camp served as an Infantry Division Camp and Cantonment Area for the United States Army during World War II and also served as a Prisoner of War camp / During the Korean War, from early January 1950 to late 1953, the camp was used by the US Army for Signal Corps training / There were eight weeks of basic combat training, shorter than the usual 16 weeks for combat arms, followed by technical schools covering all aspects of the signal corps, from lineman and teletype, to cryptography

RAF Greenham Common - Royal Air Force Greenham Common or RAF Greenham Common is a former Royal Air Force station in Berkshire, England about 55 miles west of London / Opened in 1942, RAF Greenham Common was used by both the Royal Air Force and United States Army Air Forces during the Second World War and the United States Air Force during the Cold War / After the 1948 Berlin Blockade and the 1950 invasion of South Korea by the Korean People's Army, the perceived threat from the Soviet Union rose / On 23 April 1951, RAF Greenham Common was made available to the United States Air Force by the British Ministry of Defense as a Strategic Air Command base, with joint operations with the Royal Air Force units / RAF Greenham Common was closed in September 1992

**Miscellaneous:**

Frederick Reger graduated from West Seneca High School and prior to entering the military, Reger worked for the New York Telephone Company / After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Frederick Reger returned to work for the New York Telephone Company / Reger was a member of Telephone Pioneers of America / A lifelong resident of West Seneca, Reger was employed by New York Telephone for 46 years and retired as an engineer for NYNEX / Frederick R. Reger passed away in 14 September 2013 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca,



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

New York

804th Engineer Aviation Battalion - The 804th Engineer Battalion, Aviation was constituted on 18 June 1941 and activated at Schofield Barracks, Territory of Hawaii on 21 July 1941 / The unit was redesignated 804 Engineer Aviation Battalion on 1 August 1942 / When new airfields were needed or damaged airfields repaired, the Aviation Engineers cleared sites, graded and graveled them allowing fighter planes and transports to operate on runways

**Name:** REIFORD, SR.

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

CHARLES E.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Charles E. Reiford, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles Reiford was a retired Electrician at International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local #41 / Reiford was a Eagle Scout and Scout Master / Reiford was a lifetime member of the Hamburg Moose Lodge #992; Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #1419 and American Legion Hamburg Post #527 / Charles E. Reiford, Sr. passed away on 13 May 2024 at the age of 91 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** REUSCH

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

WILLIAM E.

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** TSGT

**Year Entered:** 1951

**Year Discharged:** 1955

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

AIR FORCE OCCUPATION MEDAL (GERMANY)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Technical Sergeant William Edward Reusch honorably served in the United States Air Force / TSGT William Reusch trained as a Material Management Specialist / TSGT Reusch served 36 months of foreign service, including a deployment in Germany

William Reusch received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force on 7 January 1955

**Base Assignments:**

Lockbourne Air Force Base, Ohio - The former Lockbourne Air Force AFB is located in Franklin and Pickaway counties twelve miles southeast of downtown Columbus and just east of the Village of Lockbourne / In 1974, it was renamed Rickenbacker Air Force Base and is home of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, the first Air National Guard unit to fly KC-135 tankers / The Army Air Forces activated the base in June 1942 and was then named the Northeastern Training Center of the Army Air Corps / It provided basic pilot training and military support / The facility was renamed Lockbourne AFB and the 55th Fighter Wing was established there in December 1947, where it converted from the P-51 to the F84C Thunderjet / On Sept. 11, 1951, the 91st Bomb Wing moved to Lockbourne / It was to become one of SAC's longest-lasting and most versatile wings / The 121st Air Refueling Wing (now stationed at the base) began as component of the 55th Fighter Wing / In 1974, the base was renamed in honor of Eddie Rickenbacker / The base was recommended for closure by the 1991 Commission, but as a result of a proposal by the State of Ohio, the 1993 Commission recommended that Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base (ANGB) be realigned rather than closed / The Commission decided to retain the 121st Air Refueling Wing and the 160th Air Refueling Group in a cantonment area at Rickenbacker ANGB / In August 2001, a groundbreaking ceremony was held to mark the start of construction for a new, consolidated Navy and Marine Corps Air Reserve Center at Rickenbacker International Airport

**Miscellaneous:**



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

William Reusch retired from Conrail after 38 years of service and was a Championship Homing Pigeon Flyer / William Edward Reusch passed away on 7 November 2025 at the age of 94 years old

The Army of Occupation Medal is a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in either Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan or Korea / The original Army of Occupation Medal was intended only for members of the United States Army, but was expanded in 1948 to encompass the United States Air Force shortly after that service's creation / The Navy and Marine equivalent of the Army of Occupation Medal is the Navy Occupation Service Medal, which features the same ribbon with its own medallion and clasps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** REVILLE

**Hometown:** EAST AURORA

PAUL

M.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1952

**Year Discharged:** 1955

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Petty Officer 3rd Class Paul Michael Reville honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 Paul Reville was assigned as an Aviation Electronics Technician (AT) and was stationed with the Fleet Air Service Squadron-114 (FASRON-114) in Kodiak, Alaska

PO3 Paul Reville received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy on 26 January 1955

**Base Assignments:**

Naval Air Station Kodiak, Alaska - NAS Kodiak was built between September 1939 and 1944 as the main forward operating base for the defense of Alaska / During World War II the facilities included an airfield, a seaplane base and a submarine base / In 1972, the Air Station was turned over to the US Coast Guard

**Miscellaneous:**

Paul Michael Reville passed away on 1 January 2020 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** REYNOLDS

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

RICHARD K.

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Richard K. Reynolds honorably served in the United States Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Reynolds worked for the Federal Aviation Administration for over 30 years / Reynolds was a member of the U-Crest Fire District as a volunteer firefighter and served as Fire Commissioner and District Treasurer / Richard K. Reynolds passed away on 6 October 2025 at the age of 94 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans

June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** REYNOLDS

**Hometown:** BLASDELL

ROBERT

B.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Robert Bruce "Cowboy Bob" Reynolds honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge, Robert Reynolds worked for 30 years at the Ford Buffalo Stamping Plant / After his retirement from Ford, Reynolds reopened the Reynolds Tool and Die Corp / Robert Reynolds was a longtime member of UAW Local #897 / Robert Bruce "Cowboy Bob" Reynolds passed away on 27 September 2022 at the age of 91 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RICE

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

LEROY I.

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Leroy I. Rice honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his retirement, Leroy Rice was employed as a Bus Aid for many years / Leroy I. Rice passed away on 2 May 2024 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RICHTER

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

JERRY J.

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Jerry J. Richter honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

6



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RIMBECK

**Hometown:** ALDEN

JOSEPH

A.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** SK3

**Year Entered:** 1952

**Year Discharged:** 1956

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS RANKIN (LKA-103)

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

NAVY OCCUPATIONAL MEDAL

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Storekeeper Petty Officer 3rd Class (SK3) Joseph A. Rimbeck honorably served in the United States Navy / SK3 Joseph Rimbeck was assigned as a Storekeeper and served aboard the USS Rankin (LKA-103)

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph A. Rimbeck passed away on 9 February 2023 at the age of 90 years old

Navy Storekeeper (SK) involves several key responsibilities: Ordering and Stocking: Storekeepers are responsible for ordering, stocking, and issuing repair parts, clothing, and general supplies / They maintain financial records, accounting systems, and inventory databases for supplies in shore-based warehouses and ships' storerooms / Storekeepers conduct inventories and manage stock control records / Storekeepers requisition, receive, identify, store, and issue aviation supplies and spare parts

USS Rankin (AKA-103/LKA-103) was a Tolland-class attack cargo ship in service with the United States Navy from 1945 to 1947 and again from 1952 to 1971 / Rankin was named after Rankin County, Mississippi and commissioned in Charleston, South Carolina on 25 February 1945 / She joined the Pacific Fleet on 1 April 1945 and joined the USS Enright (DE-216), unloading her cargo at Okinawa / During her 17 days at the Battle of Okinawa, the ship faced more than 100 air raids by kamikaze / All ammunition was offloaded between air raids / Rankin departed Okinawa on 28 June 1945 in convoy for Saipan / Hostilities ended during loading operations, her ammunition was offloaded, and the ship sailed for the Philippines, arriving Manila on 9 September 1945 / The ship returned home, and on 10 March 1947 / Rankin was decommissioned on 21 May at San Francisco and entered the Maritime Commission's National Defense Reserve Fleet at Suisun Bay, California / Rankin was recommissioned on 22 March 1952 and joined the Amphibious Force, Atlantic Fleet / On 18 July 1958, Rankin was among the amphibious forces which landed 5,000 U.S. Marines in Lebanon, in response to a



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

request from the Lebanese Government for assistance in averting civil war / During the Cuban Missile Crisis of October and November 1962, occasioned by the discovery of Russian intermediate-range ballistic missiles in Cuba, Rankin operated in the force which was marshaled in Cuban waters / Effective from 1 January 1969, Rankin was redesignated LKA-103 and reclassified Amphibious cargo ship / In late July, she took on Marines and equipment and deployed to the Mediterranean, returning to Norfolk on 13 December 1969 / Rankin was decommissioned for the second and final time on 11 May 1971 at Little Creek and sunk as an artificial fishing and diving reef, six miles off the coast of Stuart, Florida / As a result of her service during World War II, Rankin was entitled to wear the ribbons associated with the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic–Pacific Campaign Medal with one star, the World War II Victory Medal, the Navy Occupation Service Medal with an Asian Clasp, the National Defense Service Medal, and the China Service Medal

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Navy Occupation Service Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was "Awarded to commemorate the services of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel in the occupation of certain territories of the enemies of the U.S. during World War II" and recognized those personnel who participated in the European and Asian occupation forces during, and following World War II / The medal was also bestowed to personnel who performed duty in West Berlin between 1945 and 1990



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RINGLE

**Hometown:**

HENRY

L.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Henry Louis Ringle honorably served in the United States Air Force / Henry Ringle was deployed to Korea for one year

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Henry Ringle retired from National Fuel after 37 years / Ringle served as the Business Agent for IBEW 2154 for 6 years / Henry Ringle was a member of the East Aurora Moose Lodge 370 and a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 4781 in Ocala, Florida / Henry Louis Ringle passed away on 4 February 2023 at the age of 89 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RIVARD

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

GERALD

P.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Gerald P. Rivard honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Gerald Rivard was a member of the Niagara Frontier Football Association and longtime member of the Belle Watling Running Club / Gerald P. Rivard passed away on 22 October 2023 at the age of 93 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** ROACH

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

JOHN

R.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** KOREA

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

82ND AIRBORNE

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

John Richard "Dick" Roach honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Roach graduated from Black Hills State University, where he played football and was a Little All American two years in a row / Richard Roach began his career as a high school teacher and coach, moving to college and then professional football / Richard Roach enjoyed a distinguished career as a professional football coach over almost four decades, with significant accomplishments in the NFL, CFL, and USFL / Roach spent 21 seasons in the NFL, served primarily as Defensive Backs Coach, including notable stints with the Kansas City Chiefs, New England Patriots, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Buffalo Bills, and Seattle Seahawks / Roach played an integral role with the Buffalo Bills from 1987 to 1998, helping the team to four consecutive AFC Championship titles and Super Bowl appearances (1990-1993) / In later years, Roach coached in the CFL with the Montreal Alouettes and Hamilton Tiger-Cats, and in the USFL with the Michigan Panthers, earning playoff appearances and division finishes / John Roach participated in 27 NFL playoff games (winning Super Bowl berths with the Bills) and multiple CFL and USFL postseasons, contributing to division championships and playoff victories / John Richard "Dick" Roach passed away on 19 August 2025 at the age of 92 years old

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into hostile areas with a U.S. Department of Defense mandate to be "on-call to fight anytime, anywhere" at "the knife's edge of technology and readiness / Primarily based at Fort Liberty, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division / The division was organized on 25 August 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia and later served with distinction on the Western Front in the final months of World War I / Since its initial members came from all 48 states, the division acquired the nickname All-American, which is the basis for its "AA" on the shoulder patch / The division later served in World War II where, in August 1942, it was reconstituted as the first airborne division of the U.S. Army and fought in numerous



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

campaigns during the war / In April 1965, the "All-Americans" invaded the Dominican Republic / Spearheaded by the 3rd Brigade, the 82nd deployed in Operation Power Pack / During the Vietnamese Tet Offensive, which swept across South Vietnam in January/February 1968, the 3rd Brigade was enroute to Chu Lai within 24 hours of receiving its orders / The 3rd Brigade performed combat duties in the Hue – Phu Bai area of the I Corps sector / Later the brigade moved south to Saigon, and fought in the Mekong Delta, the Iron Triangle and along the Cambodian border, serving nearly 22 months

**Name:** **ROBINSON**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**RICHARD**

**O.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** 1LT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

First Lieutenant Richard O. Robinson honorably served in the United States Army / 1LT Richard Robinson was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Robinson was born in Watertown, New York / Richard Robinson was a graduate of St. Bonaventure University and a 1958 graduate of University of Buffalo School of Law, where he was the Associate Editor of the Buffalo Law Review / Robinson practiced law for more than 55 years, focusing on plaintiff litigation, working for the Law Offices of William J. Flynn, and was a partner in the Law Offices of Moynihan, Scalzo and Robinson; Robinson, Wittig, and Speller; Robinson Speller / Richard Robinson formed Richard O. Robinson, P.C. and in 1987 formed Robinson & Rossi. P.C. / In 1973, Richard Robinson presented and argued a case before the Supreme Court and was also admitted to the Bar of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit / Robinson was a three-term town justice from 1962 to 1973, and served on the Town Board and Town Planning Board/ Richard Robinson was a member of the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce for over 50 years / In 1969, Robinson was honored as Town of Grand Island Professional Citizen of the Year / Richard O. Robinson Passed away on 29 December 2014 at the age of 80 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **ROBINSON**

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**RICHARD G.**

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS.

**Rank:** SSGT

**Year Entered:** 1949

**Year Discharged:** 1953

**Unit / Squadron:**

TANK BATTALION, 2ND MARINE DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

KOREA SERVICE MEDAL W/5 BRONZE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Richard G. Robinson honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT Richard Robinson was assigned as a Tank Leader and received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat operations

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Lejeune - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Robinson was employed as a Cafeteria Counterman at Lancaster High School prior to joining the U.S. Marines on 29 December 1949 / Richard Robinson was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 / Richard G. Robinson passed away on 9 June 1984 at the age of 52 years old and is interred at Saint Mary of the Assumption Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

The 2nd Tank Battalion (2nd Tanks) was an armored battalion of the United States Marine Corps which was based out of the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina / It fell under the command of the 2nd Marine Division and the II Marine Expeditionary Force / During the Korean War, most of the battalion's personnel immediately augmented the 1st Tank Battalion / It also provided the cadre for the 8th Tank Battalion, a wartime expansion force battalion / Garrison duty on the East Coast of the US involved support to routine deployments in the Mediterranean and Caribbean / 2nd Tank Battalion units became involved in two interventions in Lebanon, the Cuban Missile Crisis deployment, the Dominican



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Republic and the Guantanamo Base defense effort

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** ROMANCHOCK  
CHARLES

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Charles "Chuck" Romanchock honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles "Chuck" Romanchock passed away on 18 March 2018 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** ROSE SR

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

WARREN

A.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1952

**Year Discharged:** 1954

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Warren A. Rose, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / Warren Rose was assigned as a Combat Medic with the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Warren Rose retired from Dunlop Tires after 30 years of service / Warren A. "Rosey" Rose, Sr. passed away on 27 July 2018

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Hood, Texas / It was formed in 1921 and served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan and in Operation Freedom's Sentinel / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / In the summer of 1950, North Korea attacked South Korea, and the 1st Cavalry Division was rushed to Korea to help shore up the Pusan Perimeter / During the Korean War, the 1st Cavalry Division suffered 3,811 killed in action and 12,086 wounded in action



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** ROSENBERY, JR.

**Hometown:** SNYDER

RICHARD L.

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREAN

**Service Notes:**

Richard L. "Pike" Rosenberry, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard L. "Pike" Rosenberry, Jr. passed away on 27 January 2024 and his remains were cremated



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **ROTT**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**RAYMOND T.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Raymond Thomas Rott honorably served in the U.S. Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond Rott was a former Battalion Chief for the Buffalo Fire Department / Raymond Thomas Rott passed away on 3 December 2023 at the age of 89 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RUCHALSKI

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

NORMAN

T.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Norman T. Ruchalski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Norman T. Ruchalski passed away on 8 July 2025 at the age of 95 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RUGG

**Hometown:** HOLLAND

RICHARD

W.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** LT COL

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant Colonel Richard W. Rugg honorably served in the Air Force / LT COL Richard Rugg served during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Rugg worked in the Holland Central School district for 27 years as a teacher, vice principal, and coach / Richard W. Rugg passed away on 14 September 2017 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RUNO

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

ALFRED

A.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** SSGT

**Year Entered:** 1948

**Year Discharged:** 1952

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

NYS MEDAL FOR MERIT

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Alfred A. Runo honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT Alfred Runo was assigned as a Mortar Unit Leader / Runo served on Guam from December 1948 - February 1950, and in Japan and Korea from August 1950 - July 1951

While stationed in Korea, SSgt. Runo participated in the assault and seizure of Inchon; the capture and securing of Seoul; the Wonsan-Hungnam-Chosin Campaign in Northern Korea; and operations against enemy forces in South and Central Korea. As one of the "Chosin Frozen", Runo came close to loosing his toes

SSGT Alfred Runo received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 1 August 1952

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Alfred Runo was employed by Bell Aerospace, Wheatfield and Blaw-Knox, Buffalo before retiring / Alfred A. Runo passed away on 25 January 2023 at the age of 91 years old and interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Cold War Service Medal Act authorizes a service medal for those in the military between September 1945 and December 1991 who served on active duty for 24 consecutive months during the Cold War; were deployed outside of the continental U.S. for a period of at least 30 days during the Cold War; or were a member of a reserve unit called to active duty to participate in exercises or operations directly related to the Cold War

The Combat Action Ribbon (colloquially "CAR"), is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

The NYS Conspicuous Service Cross may be awarded to any current New York State citizen or person who was a New York State citizen while serving on federal active duty; whose entire service was honorable subsequent to the time of receipt of the citation while serving in the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or in the Army female nurse corps,



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

and who has received a personal decoration issued by a brigade or equivalent higher headquarters. The Conspicuous Service Cross may also be awarded to any citizen of New York State, who while serving with the allied forces, received a personal decoration published in order issued by a brigade or equivalent higher headquarters

The NYS Medal for Merit may be awarded to any current New York State citizen or person who was a New York State citizen while serving on federal active duty; or, a non-New York State citizen who is an active member in the New York State organized militia, and as an active member in the New York State organized militia, served with units of the New York State organized militia while on federal active duty for purposes other than training and/or annual training; whose entire service was honorable and who were recipients of a valor, achievement, commendation, or meritorious service decoration, of a lesser degree than required for the award of the Conspicuous Service Cross, or whose service was in direct support of combat operations while serving in the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard / This medal shall be awarded only to those persons whose entire service, subsequent to the time of receipt of the citation, shall have been honorable



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RUSSELL

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

JOHN

A.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

John A. Russell honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Russell was a episcopal priest, psychotherapist and professor of social work / John A. Russell passed away on 28 December 2025 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery , Buffalo, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **RUSSO**

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**JOSEPH C.**

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Joseph C. Russo honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Russo graduated from Buffalo Technical High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Russo went to work for the Erie County Sheriff's Department Civil Department, retiring in 2004 after 20 years of service / Joseph C. Russo passed away on 19 November 2023 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **RUSSO**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**PHILLIP E.**

**Address:**

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Phillip E. Russo honorably served in the United States Air Force / Phillip Russo was stationed in Alaska / Phillip Russo earned a Master's Degree in Education during his military service

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Phillip Russo taught for 31 years in the Maryvale School System before retiring in 1990 / Phillip E. Russo passed away on 30 December 2022 at the age of 93 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RUSTOWICZ

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

FLORIAN

E.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

ARMY SIGNAL CORP.

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Florian E. Rustowicz honorably served in the United States Army / Florian Rustowicz was assigned as a Communications Technician during his enlistment in the Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Florian Rustowicz joined the IBEW Local 41, where he worked as a Master Electrician for 44 years in Buffalo / Rustowicz was a member of the IBEW for 67 years and served as President of Kaisertown Coalition / Rustowicz was a long-life member of the Buffalo Museum of Science / Florian E. Rustowicz passed away on 22 March 2023 at the age of 93 years old and interred at Mount View Cemetery, Cambria, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RUTKOWSKI

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

NORBERT

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:** 1953

**Year Discharged:** 1955

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "C", 88TH ENGINEER BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Norbert Rutkowski honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Norbert Rutkowski was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado for 24 months assigned to Company "C", 88th Engineer Battalion

Sergeant Norbert Rutkowski transferred to the Army Reserve to complete 8 years service under the Universal Military Training and Service Act

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Carson, Colorado - Fort Carson is a United States Army post located directly south of Colorado Springs in El Paso, Pueblo, Fremont, and Huerfano counties, Colorado / Camp Carson was established in 1942, following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and was named in honor of the legendary Army scout, General Christopher "Kit" Carson, who explored much of the West in the 1800s / The 89th Infantry Division was the first major unit to be activated at Camp Carson / During World War II, over 100,000 soldiers trained at Camp Carson. Along with three other infantry divisions: the 71st Infantry Division, 104th Infantry Division and 10th Mountain Division / More than 125 units were activated at Camp Carson and more than 100 others were transferred to the mountain post from other installations / Camp Carson was designated Fort Carson in 1954 / In the 1960s, mechanized units were assigned to the fort and it was expanded to the 137,000 acres / Throughout its history Fort Carson has been used for large force-on-force maneuver training / Comprehensive maneuver and live fire training also occurs downrange at Fort Carson / Exercises and deployments continually hone the skills of Fort Carson soldiers / In 2003, most Fort Carson units were deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom / Troops from the 984th Military Police CO, 759th Military Police Battalion were also sent in support of the guard mission at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba

**Miscellaneous:**

Norbert Rutkowski was the owner of the Four R Construction and Urban Plaza / Rutkowski was the Past President of the Town of Cheektowaga Employees Association and a retiree of the Town of Cheektowaga / Norbert Rutkowski was a Cub



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

and Boy Scout Leader at Queen of Martyrs / Norbert Rutkowski was a member of the Southtown Walleye Association and a member American Legion Francis J. Donovan Post #1626 / Norbert Rutkowski passed away on 3 July 2025 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / Together, the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard constitute the Army element of the reserve components of the United States Armed Forces / Army Reserve Soldiers receive the same training as active-duty Soldiers / Army Reserve Soldiers combine civilian experience with military training to provide specialized skills for military missions around the world / The reserve components of the United States Armed Forces are military organizations whose members generally perform a minimum of 39 days of military duty per year and who augment the active duty military when necessary



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** RYAN, JR.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JAMES

F.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** A1C

**Year Entered:** 1950

**Year Discharged:** 1954

**Unit / Squadron:**

729TH AIR CONTROL WING (AC&W)

**Medals / Citations:**

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** KOREA

**Service Notes:**

Airman First-Class James Francis Ryan, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / AIC James Ryan was assigned as a Senior Radio Intercept Operator / AIC Ryan was stationed in Korea, Japan and China

**Base Assignments:**

Air Force Training Center, Kessler Air Force Base -Biloxi, Mississippi - Keesler Air Force Base is part of the Air Education and Training Command, and its primary mission, since 1941, has been training / The emphasis is on high-technology training in a number of fields, primarily in the electronics specialties

Robins Air Firce Base - A major United States Air Force installation, Robins AFB is located in Houston County, Georgia, just east of the city of Warner Robins / The base is named in honor of Brig Gen Augustine Warner Robins, the Air Force's "father of logistics" / The host unit at Robins AFB is the 78th Air Base Wing (78 ABW) which provides services and support for the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex and its tenant organizations

Robins AFB is the home of the Air Force Materiel Command's Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex (WR-ALC) (FLZ) which is the worldwide manager for a wide range of aircraft, engines, missiles, software and avionics and accessories components

**Miscellaneous:**

James Ryan attended Holy Family School and St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, James Ryan worked at Merchants Mutual Insurance Company / Ryan later formed his own insurance agency with two friends, forming Stanton, Dauer & Ryan / James Ryan retired in 1997 / James Ryan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 and active with the Troop I Post and served as commander from 1999 to 2002



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

/ James Francis Ryan, Jr. passed away on 8 February 2013 at the age of 83 years old

A Radio Intercept Operator was tasked with monitoring, collecting and interpreting military voice and electronic signals from countries of interest

The 729th Air Control Squadron is a Control and Reporting Center (CRC) assigned to the 552d Air Control Group, 552d Air Control Wing / The 729th's mission is focused around providing air control (radar) services for combat air operations / Officially, the 729th provides a mobile, combat-rated, senior radar element of the Theater Air Control System for worldwide contingencies / Additionally the 729th provides combat and control of joint air operations by conducting surveillance identification, weapons control, Battle Management and theater communications data link

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses