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WHY WE WON IN KOREA AND IRAQ

Posted by Dave Hughes on October 23, 2011 at 3:46pm [View Blog](#)

The American Public's view of all wars was formed by the 'unconditional surrender' and total occupation of both Germany and Japan at the end of WWII. It has always muttered that we didn't 'win' in Korea because there was an armistice. And we aren't occupying Iraq now. We are pulling out by December.

Let me tell you what we won, in Korea at the overall cost of 34,000 American soldiers dead, with 8,126 still missing. 67 of those soldiers were Killed with over 225 wounded just in my little 200 man Company K, 7th Cavalry unit.

After the US made a solemn agreement in 1945 at the end of WWII with the Soviet Union that the Communists could control 'North Korea' above the 38th Parallel, while we would control South Korea until an independent government was formed. Then, in June, 1950, after the last of our troops were gone from democratic South Korea, communist North Korea, backed by both China and the Soviets invaded South Korea. President Truman would not let that stand, so sent in American troops, - including me, immediately after I had graduated from West Point. The mission was to EXPELL the North from the south.

General Douglas MacArthur not only pushed the North Korean Army out but pursued them to their utter destruction and probable - ala WWII occupation - to the Yalu River. The new Chinese government with a massive army had other ideas. They counterattacked in the winter of 1950 and even pushed south to recapture Seoul. But the 8th Army under Gen Matt Ridgeway and Gen Van Fleet hit back, and by November, 1951 pushed them back across the 38th Parallel again. And concluded a truce in 1953, which still holds.

I had my hardest fighting of that war over 15 days of September-October 1951, losing all 6 of my officers, and 154 of my 169 men before stopping one of their 600 man battalions on Hill 339 and kicking off another battalion on 'Bloody Baldy' - Hill 347 - on October 7th, 1951. While capturing 129 Chinese prisoners of war.

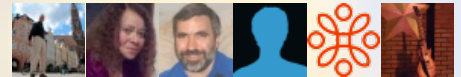
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DR. EINSTEIN'S GRAVE STONE

by Tanja Britton

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DR. OTTO EINSTEIN

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Lt. David R. Hughes
the day after Hill 339

As the truce was signed, my Hill 347 is still inside the De-militarized zone dividing free and prosperous South Korea (roughly along the same line we agreed to in 1945), from the still dangerous, North Korean dictatorship which made its miserable political bed and is still sleeping in it north of the DMZ.



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March 23, 2016 all day - [Stargazer's Theatre and Event Center](#)



PINE FOREST SPRING SHOW & SALE

April 23, 2016 at 10am to April 24, 2016 at 3pm - [Lewis Palmer High School](#)



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So whenever I meet annually with my surviving troopers of Company K, all in their late 70s or 80s, I reiterate that we Won in Korea, 60 years ago. Our job was to expel the Communists. And we did just that. Mission accomplished. And that those 4,479 Americans who died in Iraq are leaving it far, far better than when they came in, after taking down their Dictator, and building up a representative government. Mission also accomplished. Neither in Korea or Iraq, have our soldiers died in vain.

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