

The New Zealand Korea Roll

Honouring Those Who Served in the New Zealand Armed Forces in Korea 1950–1957

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Edited by PDF Cooke

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Introduction

On a peninsula of disputed claims for sovereignty, the Korean War started with an invasion of the south from the north on 25 June 1950. The north was assisted by the Communist world and the south by the West. The United Nations co-ordinated the defence assistance for the south, headed by US forces. New Zealand became one of 15 nations to offer military aid. The New Zealand Government formed an Emergency Force (soon renamed K-Force or Kayforce) based around a regiment of field artillery and support services. Hurriedly trained, the Kayforce Main Body departed by sea on 10 December 1950. It was expanded in August 1951 and was augmented by deployment of ships of the Royal New Zealand Navy. An armistice in July 1953 saw active combat cease, and NZ maintained a reduced presence in Korea until July 1957.

The two-volume history *New Zealand and the Korean War* by Ian McGibbon (Oxford University Press in association with the Historical Branch, Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, 1992-96) is the primary reference regarding New Zealand's efforts during that conflict. *New Zealand and the Korean War* is a must read for anyone interested in the role New Zealand played during the Korean War. In contrast this *New Zealand Korean Roll* is an attempt to list with brief notes the men who served in New Zealand units in Korea.

This roll is not intended in any way to provide an exhaustive résumé of each or any man's service. At best a thumbnail sketch is all that is intended. It is a small tribute to New Zealanders who served in Korea either in an active service role until 1954 or as part of the garrison troops until 1957, and a record of medals (where possible) that have been awarded to individuals.

The period of New Zealand's involvement had two distinct phases. The first phase was from the departure of the first two New Zealand Frigates HMNZS *Pukaki* and HMNZS *Tutira* on 3 July 1950 to the signing of the Armistice on 28 July 1953 and for a year afterwards. That date, 27 July 1954, is the first anniversary of the truce signed at Panmunjom, a date selected as the cut-off date for the award of the United Nations Medal for service in Korea. Subsequent service from 28 July 1954 until 31 December 1957 qualified the serviceman for the New Zealand General Service Medal (Non-Warlike) with clasp 'Korea 1954-57'. The fighting war was over, even though tensions remained. The NZ Operational Service Medal was also awarded if it had not already been received for some other operational service (such as in Jayforce in Japan).

This roll records elementary details of each person and their time in the war zone. In this respect the aim is still to be achieved for many of the men with more research still warranted. The sad fact is that several files have been lost or material was inappropriately culled from them many years later. Many servicemen have provided further details which has assisted a better understanding of the places they served and of wounds received and other factors. Sometimes memory has not been good as our men have grown older and some families do not know the story of their man's service. Some surnames have been provided in the early days of this record – and several of these are still without detail or it is still not known if the name provided is correct. A few such names have been provided but without a service number or forenames (or a nickname which cannot be verified) so they have not been included in this roll. Much information has been sourced in the unit and NZ Base HQ Routine Orders – which are often just the very basic detail for a posting, promotion or punishment.

What was the reason for going to Korea?

There are several reasons why men signed on for service in Korea quite apart from the fact that few knew where to find Korea on a map or anything about the country.

- a. Some joined Kayforce as they had not settled back into civilian life after WWII.
- b. Younger personnel who missed out on WWII service or service in the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan (Jayforce) wanted to follow other family members and therefore applied to join Kayforce.
- c. Some were looking for a chance to travel - their 'big OE'.
- d. The chance of earning better money than the jobs they held before enlisting drew several into Kayforce although this might not always have brought the rewards sought.

Where did a serviceman serve in Korea?

Unfortunately very little is contained on history sheets detailing the physical location of where personnel served. On the odd occasion there is a reference such as "...attached FAP to CATC Incheon" (attached for all purposes to Commonwealth Artillery Training Centre, Incheon) or "*Detailed for Guard Duties at Tokchong*" or the site where a soldier was wounded in action. Recourse has to be made to the War Dairies to ascertain where a person was at any particular date. That can be difficult with so little written material from which to extract or interpret the information. Dates of promotion were often recorded on Routine Orders but it should be noted that some men who attended Kayforce Officer Cadet Training Unit courses were posted to Kayforce as an 'other rank' and were only commissioned at the discretion of the Commander Kayforce, "... after a period of satisfactory service in the field...".

Many newspapers have been searched including the *New Zealand Herald*, *Dominion*, *Evening Post*, *Press*, *Auckland Weekly News*, *New Zealand Free Lance* and some provincial papers. Books about the Korean War have also been read principally to find out where certain actions took place and to link individuals to places. However, this has not been possible in the majority of cases.

This roll also attempts to record the honours and awards received by servicemen in the New Zealand Armed Forces for their individual service. The first awards were the Korea Medal (British and Commonwealth Forces) or the United Nations Medal for Korea, or both, and other subsequent awards, covering the period from 1950 to 1957. Personnel who enlisted in Kayforce but did not proceed overseas have not been included.

Recently discovered and extracted from a letter to the Secretary Onewhanga & District RSA written by the Army Secretary on 30 August 1963 is the following, "*I regret that the Nominal Rolls (embarkation rolls) were prepared for the Expeditionary Forces only (South African War, World War I and World War II) and do not cover the Emergency Force in Korea (New Zealand Kayforce) or Regular Force formations serving in Malaya.*" This omission was a strong motivation for this roll, as it was for Con Flinkenberg who assembled a list of New Zealanders who served in Vietnam from 1964 to 1972.

The record keeping of the Army 'Embarkation Rolls' or 'Flight Lists' and the 'Return to New Zealand Rolls' of time-expired personnel returning from Korea were not kept in the same manner as the Embarkation Rolls for those other wars. This need to create and retain records for posterity is a requirement that appears to have been ignored. Even today there is the threat that the rolls for the New Zealanders deployed to East Timor, or Afghanistan, are not established in the same manner as those of the world war Embarkation Rolls. There appears to be a number of fragmentary lists of medals issued, just as is the case for the Korean Medals, but there is no single consolidated list of all New Zealand personnel who served in the East Timor theatre of operations. It would appear as though the East Timor records have already been placed in the 'sometime later basket'.

Camps where Training was conducted for Korea

Initial training was done in Papakura, Waiouru, Linton, Trentham and Burnham Camps. Artillery Training was conducted mainly in Papakura, Waiouru and Burnham. Burnham Camp was the main area for driver training. Signals training was conducted in both Trentham and Waiouru camps at the Signals School. Smaller units that went to Korea were trained in the respective areas such as Trentham Camp for the RNZE personnel or at their unit locations. Some exercises were held in different areas such as at Tekapo and in the Clarence River area and several enjoyed their training in a rather lonely place west of Lake Taupo called Tihoi.

Numbers who served in Kayforce in Korea and Japan

The research for this roll commenced circa 2002. At the time of preparing this second edition, the following statistics emerge:

- a. 6619 names are on the Roll (includes 33 members of the Concert Parties who travelled on service or service-sponsored flights. Other Concert Party names are not located.) 7272 embarkations are recorded.
- b. 4549 Army names are included with 4933 embarkations (including the Concert Party).
- c. 2072 Navy names are included with 2043 embarkations (this is possibly some 200 short).
- d. 544 men completed two tours to Korea, with 212 of these being RNZN.
- e. 30 men completed three tours to Korea, 5 of these being RNZN; and
- f. 3 men completed four tours to Korea.

These figures changed as more research was completed. Multiple tours occurred when men returned to New Zealand on furlough or to attend commissioning courses, before returning to Korea. Some men were discharged from Kayforce and then re-joined for a second tour. There are other complicating factors around navy personnel including travel to Korean waters in one ship, transferring to another, then returning to New Zealand in the ship that they travelled up on or in the ship that they transferred to on arrival in Korean waters. In spite of this most of the naval men that went to Korea twice went from NZ on each occasion. Some naval personnel after they were discharged enlisted in Kayforce and served in the army in Korea. Conversely some men started their service in the army then transferred to the RNZN.

Several men were attested in Kayforce but were discharged before embarkation for a variety of reasons. These could include being medically unfit or below physical standards, recently married with a wife objecting to her husband's service, or not required resulting from earlier service or a previous attestation.

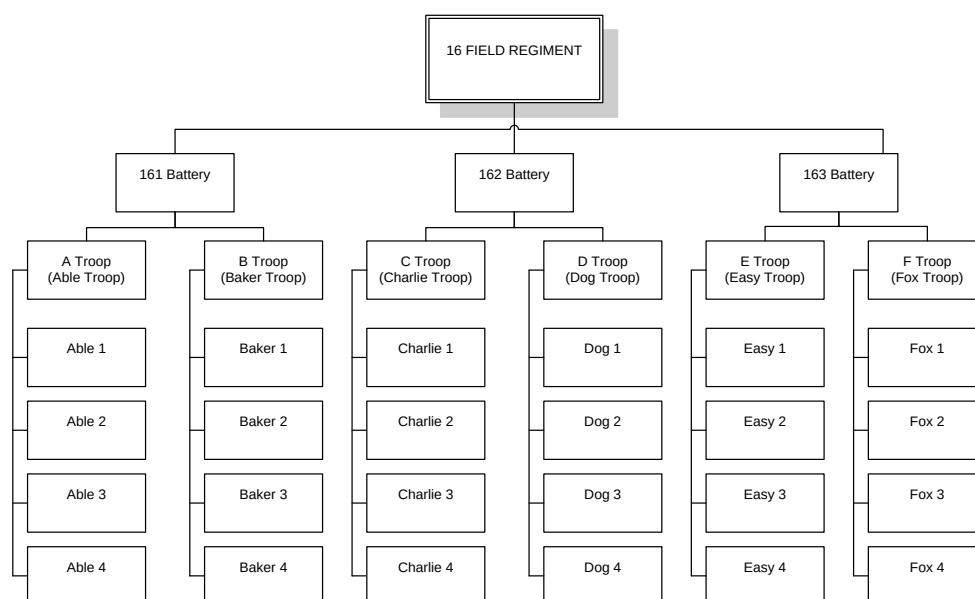
It is noticeable that there was a lack of standardisation when writing information on service records, e.g. some men were 'Posted to Active Service' while other were 'Placed on Active Service'. Nearly everyone was Marched In (M/I) to NZ Reinforcement Training Unit (NZRTU) on arrival in Japan or Korea but this was often omitted from documentation. Later arrivals were M/I to NZ Base HQ. One has to assume that M/I to NZRTU was the normal practice. Another disappointing missing date was the date a soldier entered Korea and later the date when they embarked or emplaned for return to New Zealand (RTNZ). Leaving a unit was to be Marched Out (M/O).

Army Unit Sizes

16 Field Regiment, Royal New Zealand Artillery, equipped with 25-pounder guns that had been well known to our gunners during WWII, was by far the largest New Zealand Army unit in Korea. The regiment consisted of three batteries (161 Bty, 162 Bty and 163 Bty) each of two troops. Each troop (A to F) had four guns, making a total of eight guns in a battery and 24 in the regiment. This was followed in 1951 by 10 (NZ) Transport Company, Royal New Zealand Army Service Corps, which stayed until 1956. Some drivers from this unit were attached to 16 Fd Regt. Members of the Royal New Zealand Signals Corps provided the third largest group of NZ Army personnel in Korea as communications were critical in responding to a call for artillery support. Smaller groups represented other corps whose members provided support and backup services to the two main units and were also found in Divisional HQ units. These included, inter alia, RNZAC, RNZE, infantry personnel of the NZ Regiment, RNZAMC, RNZAO, RNZDC and Military Police. Seventeen NZ Regular Force personnel, mainly NCOs, also gained combat experience while serving with British armoured units in Korea.

The diagram below shows an outline formation of 16 Fd Regt but does not include signals, transport and messing, workshops and artificer sections. Comparing Korea with Vietnam it is interesting to note that each battery had eight guns as opposed to the six with which 161 Battery was equipped when sent to serve in Vietnam. Each of the batteries had a name derived from the phonetic alphabet; 161 Bty was known as Peter Bty, 162 Bty as Queen Bty and 163 Bty as Roger Bty. This appears to have been mainly used for communication between 16 Field

Regiment Observation Posts and the battalions which they supported. Peter Battery was in support of 1 Bn the Middlesex Regt, Queen Battery supported 1 Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and Roger Battery supported the 3rd Bn Royal Australian Regiment.



Communication and Signals

Communications were extremely important in Korea particularly between 16 Fd Regt and the guns and the units requesting fire support. Most Royal NZ Signals personnel served in 1 Commonwealth Divisional Signals Regiment in one of the following sections:-

C Tp	Charlie Troop (Divisional Telephone Line Troop based at Div HQ)
D Tp	Dog Troop (Divisional Despatch Riders based at Div HQ.)
G Tp	George Troop (attached to 16 Fd Regt)
H Tp	How Troop (Commander Royal Artillery, Wireless Troop, Div HQ.)

Sea Travel to and from Korea

The first ships carrying Army personnel to Korea were the MV *Ganges* (Advance Party No.2), and the *Ormonde* (carrying the Main Body which left Wellington on 10 December 1950). The *Ormonde* called in briefly at Brisbane, where the troops marched through the city, and again at Manila, Philippines. On arrival at Pusan (now known as Busan) in the south-east the troops disembarked from the *Ormonde* to music provided by two brass bands, and a 'Negro silver band' which played *If I'd Known You Were Coming I'd Have Baked a Cake*. The TSS *Wahine* left Wellington on 2 August 1951 with the Kayforce Expansion Force. She ran aground on an unmarked coral reef off Masela Island in Indonesian waters.

The routes taken to get personnel to and from Korea were varied and interesting. Little can be gained from files and such information to hand has come from the memories of those who served. For example some travelled across the Tasman to Sydney on the *Wanganella* and travelled onward to Japan on the troopship *Devonshire*. Army security officers thoroughly searched the troopship *Devonshire* before nearly 1,600 soldiers embarked for Korea. Intelligence officers and bomb experts of the RAE helped in the search. Ship's engineers helped them examine the engine room. "We feared that Communists might try to sabotage the *Devonshire*", an unknown Army officer said. HMT *Devonshire* arrived at Kure 18 March 1952 and troops were disembarked. They then embarked on HMT *Empire Langford* for the trip from Kure to Pusan.

Air Travel

The only flights from New Zealand were by Tasman Empire Airways Ltd (TEAL) and RNZAF aircraft. In this record all flights from NZ except those by RNZAF were Teal flights.

Many soldiers flew on flights departing from Evans Bay in Wellington or Mechanics Bay in Auckland (on flying boats named *Apirima* or *Ararangi*) and later on land planes from Whenuapai, in Auckland and from Wellington airport and Harewood, Christchurch. Almost all Teal flights from NZ to Australia flew to Sydney, rarely to Brisbane, and thence by a variety of routes. Here they went by Qantas or British Commonwealth Pacific Airways (BCPA), an airline formed by the governments of Australia (50%), New Zealand (30%) and the United Kingdom (20%) or other chartered flights. BCPA was taken over by Qantas in 1954.

It is understood that some later Teal flights went all the way to Japan but uncertainty is still underlying. Some RNZAF Hastings did go all the way to Korea and some brought men from Australia who had flown from Japan on Qantas Flights. These RNZAF Hastings flights brought medical evacuees and time-expired NZ troops back to NZ on their return trips.

In April 1952 it was reported by the NZ Press Association that:

“Some adjustments have been made to the flight plan since departure dates from New Zealand were announced. The first two flights will still leave Auckland and Wellington on April 19, as originally arranged, but the schedule after that date will be amended as follows:-

No. 3 Flight, of 23 troops from Waiouru, will leave Wellington on April 30; No. 4 of 23 troops from Waiouru, will leave Auckland on May 1; No. 5, of 25 troops from Papakura, will leave Auckland on May 3; No. 6, of troops from Burnham, will leave Wellington on May 3; and the final six flights – three from Wellington and three from Auckland – will leave between May 14 and 29. From Sydney the troops will be carried to Japan by British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines (BCPA) and Qantas Empire Airways in six flights. The aircraft which take them to Iwakuni will bring home men being replaced....” [The Press, 3 April 1952, p8]

Iwakuni was a former Japanese Naval seaplane and shore base which became the main flight destination for service flights from New Zealand.

Some of the aircraft used by Qantas were Super Constellations and Skymasters. Some 23 servicemen emplaned Wellington on 30 August 1952 and 20 emplaned Auckland on 1 September. This group travelled in a single flight from Sydney and deplaned Iwakuni on 4 September. In a like manner personnel who flew from Wellington on 6 May 1953 and from Auckland on 7 May met together in Sydney and travelled in a Constellation to Japan. There may be other groups like those two groups that travelled and arrived at Iwakuni on 9 May 1953. Service records do not provide such information. On the odd occasion Part II Routine Orders might show the arrivals in Iwakuni.

For those who were in Burnham Camp and were marched out at 18.00 hrs to ‘emplanement’ (embarking on their plane, as shown on their service record), they travelled from Lyttleton to Wellington on the overnight ferry and flew from Wellington to Sydney the next day. Almost everyone who flew from Auckland, Wellington or Harewood went to Sydney with the exception of the RNZAF flights and travelled on by Qantas or BCPA to Japan.

Dvr George Hughes, provided this record of the journey to Korea:

“Embarkation leave, then left NZ from Mechanics Bay, Auckland in a TEAL Sunderland Flying Boat to Rose Bay in Sydney. Travelled the remainder of the journey to Japan by QANTAS Super Constellation aircraft via Darwin where we stayed overnight. Travelled onto Manila where the aircraft was refuelled before travelling to Guam where we stayed on a US Army Base for the night. On arrival in Japan we were taken to Kure where we stayed for about a week before travelling from Sasebo for three-days on the ship Wo-San to Pusan. We stayed in a British Army Transit Camp awaiting a train to Seoul the next day. This trip took 12 hours and on arrival at Seoul we were uplifted by 10 Tpt Coy vehicles and taken to our units.” [Hughes Coll]

Sometimes the journey to Korea had interesting differences to the 'normal' flight. One RNZAF Hastings flight from Whenuapai via Sydney, Townsville and Port Moresby turned back from Port Moresby to Townsville because of an outbreak of measles on board the aircraft which resulted in some passengers being hospitalised in Townsville. The passengers on another flight were faced with an uncomfortable wait at Guam when their aircraft required urgent repair. Those men had to sleep on the side of the airport as there was no accommodation available for them.

On arrival in Japan or Korea nearly everyone was marched in to the NZ Reinforcement Training Unit (NZRTU) on deplanement. The very earliest arrivals did not as some of these men comprised members of the RTU. This detail is often omitted from a soldier's Service Record, but it did occur as a routine event. Very few men did not march in to the Reinforcement Training Unit or pass through this unit.

Almost everyone who flew in to Iwakuni or arrived by ship in Japan experienced a two- to three-day trip from Sasebo to Pusan though some sailed to disembark at Inchon on the west coast. This trip depended on the weather and the ship which carried the troops. Few ships are known by name for the trip from Kure to Pusan but the troopships *Empire Langford* and *Wo-San* were among them. One Kayforce man was on the *Kongo Maru* which was wrecked off Kyushu during typhoon 'Ruth' while travelling from Pusan to Sasebo. Those in the Advance Party travelled from Sasebo to Pusan in the landing ship *Maxwell Brander*.

Later in the war servicemen on drafts such as the 20th Reinforcements travelled to Japan, were marched in to NZ Base HQ on deplanement in Japan. A small number flew into Tokyo and marched in to Brit Com Sub Area, Tokyo, and flew out from there.

Returning to New Zealand

By far the greatest number served the agreed time in Korea but several were returned early for a number of reasons.

- a. Medical evacuation.
- b. A family member had died, and the serving son was requested to come home to look after the family business or farm. Compassionate Return was arranged as for c. below.
- c. Wife not coping well with new in-laws, baby, illness or depression.
- d. Incurable servicemen who were in detention several times, numerous days of Confinement to Barracks and gave little value to the Army.
- e. A very small number were brought home under escort for bad behaviour such as pointing a loaded rifle at an officer or serviceman or using a weapon during a theft.

The return journey was just as varied as the journey to Korea. Travel from the New Zealand area where 16 Fd Regt and 10 (NZ) Tpt Coy were located to NZ Base in Japan often took two to three days and sometimes five days. This included a short sea trip from Pusan to Japan (virtually the same trip in reverse as travelling from Japan to Korea) before embarkation on a plane to Sydney or Auckland. An entry on a history sheet often shows little detail about those emplaned at Iwakuni on a given date. Some entries show a handful of men embarked on HMT *New Australia* at Kure 4 April 1954 (23 personnel) but a larger number embarked at Pusan 10 November 1954 for return to Sydney. The ship sailed from Kure to Pusan before sailing for Australia. These men completed the return to New Zealand on TEAL flights arriving at Auckland, Wellington or Harewood. In excess of 420 men embarked on 10 November 1954 on the *New Australia* and it took about seven days to ferry them from Australia to New Zealand. Sometimes these TEAL flights originated at Brisbane, but mostly they appear to have departed from Sydney. There is little to indicate or verify departure points for the final flight home so some as shown in this roll may be incorrect.

The HMT *New Australia* also sailed from Kure 22 March 1956 and at least 60 NZ servicemen embarked on this ship to return to Sydney. There may well be others. Only four ships have been identified to have carried NZ servicemen between Sasebo and Pusan

Fifty-one men embarked on SS *Changte* at Kobe, Japan, on 27 February 1954, for RTNZ via Hong Kong, Tarakan, Cairns and Sydney. They completed their journey to NZ by air from Sydney to either Auckland or Wellington. Another 10 men embarked on SS *Changte* on 26 May 1954 on a similar journey to NZ and three in 1955. Twenty-nine men embarked on SS *Taiyuan* at Kobe for travel to Australia. Seventeen sailed from Japan on 18 February 1954 and a further seven sailed from Japan on 7 May 1954 which only travelled to Australia and they too had to complete their return journey to NZ by air. In each case these men arrived back in NZ on a variety of dates as aircraft seats became available for Auckland or Wellington. A small number, only three identified so far, returned to Australia on the SS *Yunnan*.

Les Giddens deplaned Auckland 18 December 1952 from TEAL flight ex Sydney and flew onto Wellington the same day. (This was not a common flight pattern.) Another compassionate returnee was Leslie Hangar who emplaned on a flight from Korea to Tokyo, Qantas from Haneda Airport, Tokyo, to Sydney and TEAL to Auckland. Auckland was then asked to get him to Hastings as quickly as possible.

It is interesting to note that several flights arrived in Wellington or Auckland about 07.30 or 08.30 hours. The Short Solent flying boats cruised at about 220 miles per hour (354 kph) so this meant a late-night start for a flight from Sydney, Australia. It is estimated that the report time at the seaplane base or airport could be about 22.00 hrs (in Australia) and a departure time at midnight to reach NZ by 08.30 hrs.

Areas in which many New Zealanders served

Few places are mentioned in unit or soldiers' records. Sig Francis Robert (Bob) Thurston provided a brief account of where he and many others served. He wrote:

"I arrived in Korea in time for Operation Commando and left two years later after the Battles of the Hook. I spent that time in "G" Sigs Troop with RHQ 16th NZ Field Regiment when not on leave or in hospital. The area we were in was held by the units of the 1st Commonwealth Division and was north of the Imjin River which had to be crossed by any of three bridges

named after ducks, namely WIDGEON (on the west), TEAL (in the centre), and PINTAIL (on the east).

On the right of our (1 Comwel Div) area was a big-g-g hill named MARYANGSAN and another larger hill named KOWANGSAN or LITTLE GIBRALTAR or HILL 355. These were the objects of the attack of Operation Commando in 1951. On our left flank was the valley of the SAMICHON River which became the scene of the repeated Chinese attacks on "The HOOK" in 1953 just prior to the cease fire.

Beyond the SAMICHON were the villages of PANMUNJOM and KAESONG where the cease-fire negotiations were (and still are) being held. This site was identified by a single barrage balloon during the day and a solitary searchlight pointing straight up during the night. There were no civilians or villagers in this area. They had all been evacuated and their houses destroyed.

Our supply routes from Seoul were through the villages of UIJONBU and TONGDUCHON. Our flanking units were a South Korean Division on our right and a US Marine Division on our left. In our area were hills, and hills, and hills.

When I arrived in Korea in 1951 I was posted as a driver and employed as a driver of the 16th Fd RHQ Command Post Truck, a covered in van containing the HQ of the Regiment. As this vehicle was stationery most of the time I was additionally employed on shift work as a telephone switch-board operator. About halfway through my tour I was re-deployed as a linesman throughout the whole divisional area."

Overseas RNZN Entry

The RNZN discovered after the war that there was a shortage of manpower and many ex Royal Navy (RN) personnel were recruited and entered at HMNZS Cook, the RNZN Office at the NZ High Commission, London. On 1 April 1949 HMNZS Cook was re-named HMNZS Maori because of confusion between ships and shore stations of the same name. Several men entered the RNZN at HMNZS Cook and a matter of days later they were transferred to HMNZS Maori. Some of the information on RNZN Posting Cards and in files leaves many gaps. Some of the Writers (Navy clerks) who were responsible for each sailor's documentation left much out, leaving a researcher the task of trying to guess or ascertain from other sources how a sailor travelled from New Zealand. An example is like this. Leading Stores Assistant William Maddren was drafted to *Hawea* on 24 March 1951, serving until 30 April 1951. *Hawea* was already in Korea but how he travelled to join his ship is not known. He did not take passage in *Taupo* as that ship did not leave NZ until 29 August 1951. Was he flown up to Japan in an Army flight?

TSS Wahine

The official history gives 579 personnel embarking on *Wahine*. They were most of the Kayforce Expansion Force. It also notes that 12 men and women who embarked as ships staff returned to NZ after the shipwreck. This Roll does not include the ship's staff but contains only 563 names who were on the *Wahine* and went to Japan and Korea. Two were returned from Darwin, one over-age and one under-age. A further man went on to Japan but was returned to NZ through illness and because he had resigned his commission. This leaves one victim of the *Wahine*'s mishap so far not identified.

The *Wahine* sailed from Wellington on 2 August 1951. This ship was taking the Kayforce Expansion Force to Japan for service in Korea and had called at Cairns, where many had a boisterous night, and carried onto Darwin where again the NZ troops made their mark. At Cairns, Ken Fort and two other pipers led the NZ troops in a march from the wharf to town and back. Leaving Darwin *Wahine* sailed north and trouble occurred soon after. Some veterans did not tell their families much about their tour of duty in the Korean theatre. Not even when the ship ran aground at 05.40 hrs, 15 August 1951 on an unmarked coral reef off Masela Island in the Arafura Sea, Indonesia, north of Darwin, was this story related to their families. Not a life was lost on this occasion as the seas were calm and every person was taken on board the oil tanker *Stanvac Karachi* to Darwin. The *Wahine* however was a total loss. The troops were trans-shipped from the *Stanvac Karachi* to a Royal Australian Navy tug HMAS *Emu* which landed the men ashore to be accommodated at Larrakeyah Camp, Darwin, from 17 August 1951. It is interesting to note that two men were in the hospital in the *Wahine* and were admitted to hospital in Darwin after their rescue. Service records show "at sea" but no discharge date is given. Several accounts show men marched out from Darwin at 23.00 hrs, 31 August 1952, the departure time and their arrival at Iwakuni on 1 September 1951. Several men did not reach Iwakuni or Korea until late August or into September – such as 208223 Dvr Leigh.

Their ongoing passage from Darwin to Japan was by civil air (mainly Qantas or British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines) and flights from Darwin moved nearly everyone to Iwakuni, Japan. The dates that these men left Darwin and arrived in Iwakuni vary from August 1951 until mid-September because of the availability of aircraft to move them. Most interesting to know the flight times to Japan. Several flights left Darwin at 21.00 or 21.30 hrs for Japan and arrived late afternoon or early evening the next day and some flights left between 23.00 and 23.30 hours. Generally, flights left at similar times but arrived in Japan up to two days later. For instance, Dvr Andrew Phillips' flight is shown as departing Darwin 23.00 hrs, 4 September 1951 and arriving Iwakuni on 6 September 1951 (no time shown).

The *Wahine*'s crew and ship's conducting staff, plus one under-age and one over-age person, were returned to New Zealand from Darwin by air. From Japan the Kayforce Expansion Force men were mostly embarked at Sasebo, within one day after arrival from Darwin, and travelled by ship to Korea, disembarking at Pusan. In the Korea Roll wherever the Expansion Force is mentioned the reader should take note of this detail.

The 16th Reinforcements was the only reinforcement draft to travel to and from Korea by RNZAF Hastings aircraft. The north-bound route was from Auckland via Brisbane, Townsville, Manus Island, Guam, Iwo Jima and Okinawa to Japan and then to Korea. The return route was almost the reverse of the outward journey. Again on occasion one or two stops may be missed depending on the aircraft.

Emplaning at Iwakuni to return to New Zealand did not mean those who boarded the plane would arrive at the same airport or on the same day. Availability of flights and seats and whether Auckland, Wellington or Harewood was the closest to the serviceman's home governed the arrival back in New Zealand. For example some 67 men emplaned Iwakuni for RTNZ on 21 May 1952 so they may have flown to Australia in a Qantas Constellation aircraft and then flew on to NZ by Teal flights arriving in Auckland or Wellington over a two- or three-day period.

A short report in the Evening Post, Wednesday, 23 June 1954, p8, noted that "...*This was the final draft to arrive in Wellington by flying boat. In future all K Force men returning from Korea with homes in the South Island and the lower half of the North Island will arrive at Harewood, Christchurch.*" This now meant that return flights came in only at Auckland and Harewood.

It is now over 70 years since the North Koreans crossed the 38th Parallel in June 1950 and attacked South Korea starting the Korean War. As each year passes the difficulty becomes greater to accurately record the details of men and women involved in New Zealand's effort. Many New Zealand Korea veterans have already died taking their experiences with them.

Medical Services

New Zealand had no medical facilities of its own in Korea but was ably supported by British and Canadian units, 60 Indian Field Ambulance, Norwegian MASH and a Swedish medical unit. Some NZ soldiers passed through US Evacuation Medical units. Nearly all who needed further medical assistance were transferred to the British Commonwealth General Hospital (Brit Com Gen Hosp) formerly known as the British Commonwealth Occupational Forces General Hospital (BCOF Gen Hosp), located in Kure, Japan. This name was changed circa late 1951. Through this record I have mainly referred to it as Brit Com Gen Hosp. Another medical facility which is still somewhat unclear is the British Commonwealth Field Hospital Korea.

Compiling the Roll

Army Personal Record Cards were the first source which provided information for this roll. They only contained: service number, full name, date embarked and date returned to NZ. Some had dates of discharge or struck off the strength (SOS) Kayforce and posted to a TF unit. Some cards had STF (Serving Territorial Force) which showed previous army service and had a reinforcement or similar stamp. Others had Air, RAN, MN, TF, A(J) and A&N signifying other service. These were almost the only source for some the men in this Roll. Some of the soldiers' files have also disappeared. One file was sent, before we had photo copiers, to Army HQ Christchurch and was lost when a building in which it was stored was destroyed by fire.

It should be noted that many of the younger men who served in Kayforce when they arrived back in NZ, were required to complete their CMT obligations under the Military Training Act 1949.

An interesting problem which occurs is the different spelling of a man's surname that occurred in the same record making it difficult to know which is correct. Some names have variations such as Alister, Alistair, Alisdair, Alisdon and Alan, Allan, Alen and Allen.

Several men served during World War II in the RAF or RNZAF and became army officers and soldiers. Very few Royal New Zealand Air Force personnel served during the Korean War. Only four RNZAF personnel have been

verified as completing flying service in Korea, these men being attached to Royal Air Force Sunderland Squadrons based in Singapore. These RNZAF personnel qualified for Korea service medals when they became temporarily stranded in Korea when their aircraft broke down and they were involved in a few operational flights in Korea. Only two have been identified and are in the Roll.

The background of Kayforce members was varied and included barmen, clerks and storemen, coal miners and carriers, lawyers and labourers, wine makers and quarrymen, drovers and deer cullers, schoolteachers and shepherds. Many looked at service in Korea as their chance for an overseas experience as they ascertained that they might not be able, at that time, to afford such an adventure from their own pocket and resources.

Some families were represented by two or more brothers serving during the period 1950-57, e.g. the Collier boys - Cecil, Keith (also known as Tom), and Laurence (also known as Winkie); the Poulson brothers - Colin, Harry, and Mathew; the Tukaki brothers; the Newell boys, the Savage brothers (Norman, Hiram, and Ron), the Whaiapu brothers (Kitua, Ngatari and Alex), the Edgerton boys (Frank, Joe and Andy) from Invercargill, and others. At least seven families have been identified as having three brothers who served in Korea. Some brothers served with one in the RNZN and the other(s) in Kayforce, such as the Kennedy boys Brian, Colin and Keith, who on occasion were able to meet on the other's 'territory'.

A number of men from other nations also served in the New Zealand forces in Korea. To date those identified include: 10 were born in India, nine came from Fiji, seven Canadians, three from the Channel Islands, two from the Netherlands, and one each from Denmark, the USA, Jamaica. One man whose parents were French who was born in Vladivostok. Other nationalities may be represented. Samoa is taken as part of New Zealand as it was recognised at that time. Those from the United Kingdom were 164 and Australia 58 but several have not been accurately identified and counted. Of those who served in the RNZN 27% came from the United Kingdom. A small number came from Eire.

Of note is the sad death of a young soldier who after surviving the rigors of communist small arms, mortar and artillery fire was knocked over by a truck and killed six days after returning to New Zealand. Two sailors died while serving in Korean waters – one through enemy action. Another after serving in Korea, became an employee of a civilian company in New Zealand and was murdered in the street in Levin while walking home from work. These events are part of the story of Kayforce and the men who took part in that conflict.

Sporting Record

New Zealand's sporting record was well maintained during the Korean War with the Kiwi rugby teams successfully maintaining the national pride in this sport. However one RNZN rating received special regard for his sporting prowess. Able Body Seaman Sadd was left at HMS *Tamar*, Hong Kong, to take part in a boxing competition. On 26 April 1955 he won the semi-final Light Heavyweight Division by a TKO in the 3rd round. The next day he won the final of the Light Heavyweight Division by a KO in the 2nd round and on 10 May 1955 in the Earl Haig Charity Tournament he defeated the Hong Kong Amateur Boxing Association Heavyweight Champion by a KO after 45 seconds in the first round. In the opinion of CPO Herret, the coach of the RN Hong Kong Boxing Team, if this rating was properly trained he would be an excellent Olympic prospect.

Another Kayforce man, Kenneth James Boswell, had been a member of the rowing New Zealand Champion Four in 1936 and competed in the Empire Games in 1938. He was the NZ Double Sculls Champion 1939-40 and a member of the Wellington Provincial eight from 1934-40. It is not known if he was involved in that sport while serving in 16 Fd Regt RNZA in Korea.

Photographic Record

Ian Mackley became quite a legend with the number of photographs he took during his time in Korea. In March 1951 he was appointed the official Kayforce photographer as was Lt William Campbell a year later. Norman Pierson was also a noted photographer. Many photographs were taken in Korea and sent for publication in New Zealand newspapers and weekly magazines. The names and initials of the photo captions in the newspapers are sometimes transposed or are otherwise in error. This was particularly noticeable in documents printed in Japan that were later sent to New Zealand like the Souvenir Program of the 1952 New Zealand Kayforce Rugby Tour of Japan. The *Auckland Weekly News* and the *Weekly Press* provide some recognition of personnel and the conditions under which they were engaged while in Korea.

Behaviour

As with any large group, whether soldiers, sailors, football fans or pop concert goers, there is a range of behaviours from the very best through to the unacceptable because of an unwillingness to adhere to the rules of military or civilian life. For the most part it could be said that 10 percent were outstanding in almost every way; 10 percent were excellent soldiers and provided the solid base on which to build their units. On the other side 10 percent were

only fair soldiers and needed guidance, supervision and constant chivvying to keep them up to the minimum mark, and 10 percent were incorrigible and failed to meet minimum standards of behaviour, bearing and ability to do their job properly. In between these two extremes were the 60 percent who made up the bulk of the organization. Some had their difficulties with military law on numerous occasions while others suffered only minor and rare lapses against military procedures. These were the workmen that kept going and made the unit what it was. 'Esprit de Corps' was something that grew and even after all these years still binds the men of Kayforce and the crews of the frigates together.

The worst spent time in military detention. Time spent in confinement had an effect on reduction of actual time spent on service overseas e.g. 40 days detention reduces the time from one year 168 days service overseas to one year 128 days service overseas.

The results of detentions like these had an effect not only on the soldier but also on families. While in detention payments to support an elderly parent, his wife or children were often stopped, and detention could also affect active service bonus or other payments.

Offences that often featured include: failing to obey a written order, failing to appear at a place of parade, insubordinate language, breaking out of barracks, conduct to the prejudice, drunkenness, absence without leave (AWOL), being found in a prohibited area, and taking a military vehicle for his own use. It is quite amazing that one man received 27 days detention for taking a vehicle for his own use, while later another man received 7 days CB for both occasions he committed the same offence.

Attempts to destroy War Department property do not appear very often but one case includes attempting to burn officers' latrines. One man was charged for five such offences and received 90 days detention. Stealing public property (15 x 53-gallon drums of gasoline) and converting a vehicle to his own use a motor vehicle being public property. He was committed to Britcom M.C.E for 90 days, granted 23 days remission for good conduct. A very few were found asleep while on Sentry Duty which could have had a disastrous effect if attacked at night. Some of these offences resulted in committal to British Commonwealth Forces Korea (BCFK), Field Punishment Camp (later Centre), Pusan, to the Canadian Detention Barracks (Cdn Det Bks), the Britcom Military Corrective Establishment (BMCE) or confinement in the NZ Base HQ Guardhouse.

However more serious breaches that have been recorded in New Zealand newspapers include a Kayforce man using a weapon to rob a local person and another pointing a loaded firearm at an officer. One example was similar to this where the serviceman:

"...was charged for AWOL, breaking out of Camp, using threatening language and striking his superior officer, converting a vehicle for his own use and AWOL again. His service had a combined result of over 100 days in detention and over 20 days CB."

One man struck his superior officer with a Sten Gun while drunk and was sentenced to 12 months detention. Another soldier struck a superior officer on the head with a beer bottle. Drunkenness was no excuse for bad behaviour. This was not all one sided as during conversations with several Korean veterans at their reunions in Rotorua, Hamilton and Hastings it was noted by old soldiers that some officers lacked experience in their appointments and in man-handling skills. Some of these officers were known by the soldiers as 'educated idiots'.

One must also note that some behaviour was far from acceptable to the New Zealand Army. One serviceman was returned to New Zealand under escort, discharged from Kayforce and sent to civil prison to complete a year in jail. Another received a two-year sentence (subsequently reduced) and another was returned as incorrigible having accumulated 160 days detention, many days CB and Field Punishment, all within a period of a few months. Some other men received 15 months detention; at least two received 18 months detention.

Research on Kayforce incidents of AWOL showed that it appeared more frequent after the signing of the armistice. It appears that there was a growing lack of respect for military orders and rules after the armistice was signed as more men appeared to abuse these rules and regulations. Perhaps this was a result of less work requiring close attention to these rules and the fact that 'peace of a kind' had taken over from a fighting war. In a similar manner the care and respect for military vehicles and equipment also tended to increase. Some of these AWOL events took place after midnight and the soldier was not apprehended or reported back to his unit after six or seven in the morning. One does not have to think too hard to imagine what might have been the reasons for these events. Several of these events occurred the night prior to emplaning/embarking for return to New Zealand.

A number asked to have their punishment included in this record as it was their 'wake up' call and from it they became better soldiers. One such soldier became a great friend and helper of the compiler's parents and other older people. If more followed his 'wake up' call they may well have become better soldiers.

Medallic Recognition

Medals for Service in Korea

In brief there are five medals that have been officially approved to recognise service during the Korean War and its immediate aftermath as members of the New Zealand armed forces. They are:

- a. The **Korea Medal** awarded for service in theatre from 2 July 1950 until 28 July 1953. It should be noted to a small number of men received this medal in error as they did not arrive in Korea until after 29 July 1953.
- b. The **United Nations Medal** for Korea was issued for service from 27 June 1950 until 27 July 1954, the first anniversary of the Truce signed at Panmunjom. On 22 November 1961, the United Nations officially changed the name of the United Nations Service Medal to the **United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNKM)**.
- c. The **New Zealand Operational Service Medal** for any operational service on or since 3 September 1945.
- d. The **New Zealand General Service Medal 1998** (Non-warlike) in bronze, with clasp 'Korea 1954-57', for service from 27 July 1954 until 31 December 1957.
- e. The **Korean War Service Medal** awarded for service from the outbreak of hostilities on 25 June 1950 to the signing of the armistice agreement on 27 July 1953.
- f. Two further medals have been issued for service in Korea, but these do not apply to this record.

Further information about these medals may be found in the Appendices 1 – 3 and 7 - 9.

President's Medallion. In 1968 His Excellency Park Chung Hee, the President of the Republic of Korea, presented a personal token to the next of kin of New Zealand servicemen who lost their lives in Korea. The President's medallion was forwarded to each family.

Researching Medallic Entitlement

To confirm the claim that an individual served in Korea and was entitled to the Korea Medal or the United Nations Medal for Korea, the first authorised awards for service during the Korean War, requires considerable effort and research. Reference must be made to the Royal Warrants, RNZN Posting Cards, the appropriate Regulations, Part II Routine Orders, Flight Rolls and servicemen's record. There is also the need to establish whether the service person is entitled to the New Zealand General Service Medal (NZGSM) with clasp 'Korea 1954-57' (instituted by Regulation on 23 July 2002) for those whose service was not recognised by the previously mentioned medals. There does not appear to be a consolidated list of the recipients of the NZGSM or issues to next-of-kin who may have laid claims on behalf of their deceased family members.

Ronald McMillan was an early responder to my request for service names and numbers. He was most helpful but sometimes he was not able to provide more than a surname, for example, a sailor named Bond who took nearly 12 years to find the right man.

Last, but not least, is the problem of claims made by 'wannabees', a phenomenon that has appeared after nearly every conflict and in particular after the Vietnam War. These people appear at Anzac Day and Remembrance Day parades, and at the RSAs sporting the 'self-bestowed awards' and telling plausible stories of what they did during the conflict. These 'wannabees' obtained genuine medals replacing the original names with their own or very good copies, awarding them to themselves in order to present themselves as veterans.

All Korean veterans and the next-of-kin of deceased members are entitled to the New Zealand Operational Service Medal instituted on 23 July 2002. All Kayforce personnel and families are encouraged to apply for the medals to which they are entitled. These have become for many a family heirloom. Even more recent is the New Zealand Defence Service Medal which is also an entitlement for many Kayforce personnel.

Members of Kayforce who served from 1950 up until 27 July 1953 are entitled, upon making a claim through the Personal Archives, Trentham Camp, New Zealand Defence Force, to the Korean War Service Medal. This was issued on the 50th Anniversary of the armistice, signed to end active operations of the Korean War. Authority for permission to wear this medal was issued through the New Zealand Cabinet Office in early 2001 and reproduced in a letter (see Appendix 10) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade on 23 April 2001. It is understood that the initial number of these medals supplied to New Zealand for the Korea War Veterans was not sufficient to cover all claims made for this award.

The supplementary sources of the original medal entitlement rolls for the Korea Medal and United Nations Korea Medal no longer exist although parts do appear from time to time. It is understood that someone in their wisdom decided that these were no longer required as the information was on the service person's personal file and so the rolls were destroyed. In an effort to compile a roll such as this *New Zealand Korea Roll*, the problem with the sole

source being a personal file is that without a surname and initials or service number it is difficult to verify service in Korea. This creates the situation where to be 100 percent sure, every file in Base Records would have to be checked, and it is acknowledged that some personal records have already been lost thus making an accurate record an impossibility. Flight rolls to Korea are few. Many RTNZ flight rolls exist but there are considerable omissions in them.

A check of records reveals that a considerable number of Kayforce personnel had previous service in the RNZAF. Several former RNZAF personnel are shown as having served in Army units before transferring to the RNZAF but during the Korean War they moved back to the Army. A newspaper report in 1951 stated that 11 WWII Air Force Veterans were serving in Kayforce, including Lt Vernon Duley (Pahiatua), Lt Bob Chessum (Auckland), Lt Arnold Davey (Dannevirke), and 2Lt William Watson (Hawkes Bay). Lt P McMillan served in the RAF as a pilot in the United Kingdom during WWII. Could this have occurred as a result of no operational deployment of RNZAF units to the Korean War? Could it be that disgruntled servicemen changed service to ensure they got an overseas trip, some excitement, a big OE? Perhaps the answer to this will never be known with absolute certainty but several people in this record have echoed the sentiments that, *"I was discharged at my own request so I could join Kayforce as there was so little chance of getting one of the few vacancies for Regular Force personnel."*

Authority for Awards - Royal Warrants and Regulations

There has always been a Royal prerogative for the authorisation and establishment of a medal for service and the rules under which it may be awarded. The Royal Warrants, Command Papers, Routine or Special Orders and Regulations are listed in the Appendices in chronological order of the origin of each and show the progression from the original documents through to the amendments which were issued at later dates until a 'final' authority for the issue of a Korean Medal or the United Nations Service Medal for Korea.

Briefly the **Korea Medal** was awarded for service in theatre from 2 July 1950 until 28 July 1953 which was designated as the final qualifying date. Details of the qualifying dates required for each service are recounted in the Royal Warrants in the Appendices. It should be noted that the British Royal Warrant was repeated in New Zealand Army Orders as a means of broadening the awareness of the qualifications required.

The **United Nations Service Medal** with clasp 'Korea', for Service in Defence of the Principles of the Charter of the United Nations was issued for service from 27 June 1950 until 27 July 1954, the first anniversary of the truce signed at Panmunjom. The suggestion for the awarding of this medal came from the Philippines delegation to the United Nations in December 1950 and the authority for the award to the United Kingdom and Commonwealth Force was published on 6 November 1951.

On 10 October 1952, Mr F.B. Dwyer, the Army Secretary, answered an enquiry regarding the issue of medals. His response included the following:

"In reply to your letter of 1st October, I have to advise that the medals, to which your service with Kayforce entitles you, are not yet available for issue. The Korea Medal instituted by King George VI has not been struck. It is thought that some months will elapse, therefore, before it is available here. No information has been received on the availability of the United Nations Service Medal by this Headquarters. As soon as either medal becomes available for issue, those who qualify for it will be advised."

It should be noted the King George VI died before the medals were struck and therefore the Korea Medal carries the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

It is known that many of the United Nations Medals issued to New Zealanders were manufactured in France as 1350 such medals were despatched on 21 January 1954 by the Administration des Monnaies et Medailles, of Paris, to the Adjutant General Branch, Army Headquarters, Wellington. This was notified in a letter from the United Nations dated 10 February 1954. This consignment of medals was only to cover the awards due to New Zealanders up to 31 December 1953.

Of interest is the fact that the UN medal was struck in twelve languages: English, Amharic (Ethiopia), Dutch, French, Greek, Italian, Korean, Spanish (Columbia), Tagalog (Philippines), Thai, Turkish, Flemish (Belgian), Norwegian and Swedish and there were some differences in design. Some countries that had personnel serving in the United Nations forces in Korea did not name the medals to their service personnel. Most medals issued to New Zealanders for Korean service were named in small-impressed capitals, but a number of medals issued to RNZN personnel were issued un-named.

Replaced medals (for those lost) have also been issued un-named in many cases. This is really unfortunate as there is no provenance for the medals, and many families are aware of the value of a medal named to their family member. The best that can be done now is for the medals to be privately engraved but this leaves the problem of

people without any entitlement getting medals, including high-quality copies, from dealers and falsely naming them – unfortunately a phenomenon that is becoming more visible as the number of ‘wannabees’ grows.

Perhaps this roll will ensure that the number of ‘wannabees’ will remain small in spite of the obvious claim that their name was left off the list in error. The final source is at NZDF Personal Archives at Trentham Camp where more than one source will verify whether a person served in Korea or not.

Command Papers, Regulations and letters that supplement the Royal Warrants and provide the authority for issue of medals for service in the Korean War are found in the Appendices. The reproduction of the Royal Warrants and supporting documents follows as closely as possible the layout and format as in the original documents.

Time spent in detention meant that a small number of men did not qualify for a particular medal. This applied particularly to the PJM which required 90 days service and if a serviceman was placed in cells those days in detention often meant that the 90 days requirement was not achieved.

Kayforce Discharge Certificates

NZDF Personal Archives has a list of 3478 men who were sent a Kayforce Discharge Certificate. Each certificate was individually numbered and also contained the service number of the soldier for many of those who enlisted in Kayforce. These were sent by registered mail to the last known address of the soldier. Several of these were returned to Base Records, as it was then known, when the intended recipient had moved with no forwarding address. Sometimes the Post Office tried a second or third address before they were returned to Base Records. Several of these are still held on file. No Regular Force personnel received these certificates nor did many of the servicemen who were medically evacuated to New Zealand. Several men did not receive a Discharge Certificate but no reason has yet been identified. Several soldiers who were brought back to NZ as a disciplinary measure did not receive these certificates. Sadly several names on this roll cannot be matched to a service record and so some men in this roll are noted as having received a Kayforce Discharge Certificate but no further information has yet been found on their service!

The Post Office Registered Mail List only contains a date stamp, the Registered Mail number, surname and initials and the town to where the letter was sent. There is no army service number. Personal Archives has this list, an example of which is:

Kayforce Certificates of Discharge issued under Permit

1213	HARRIS	G.W.A	Te Awamutu
1214	HARRIS	J.	Hokianga
1215	HARRIS	L.M,	Onehunga

This record provides a name of a person who went to Korea but Personal Archives has had great difficulty finding some of these men without further information. There are about 20 to 30 of such men in this list about which the author has not been able to find more detail. This is the limited amount of information discovered to uncover a serviceman’s time in Korea. Some have been found from notices in the Kayforce Part II, Routine Orders.

RNZN Ships

Six RNZN frigates and the cruiser HMNZS *Royalist* served in Korean waters. The six former Royal Navy frigates which were obtained in 1948-49. They were HMNZS *Pukaki* (HMS *Loch Achray*), HMNZS *Rotoiti* (HMS *Loch Katrine*), HMNZS *Kaniere* (HMS *Loch Achray*), HMNZS *Taupo* (HMS *Loch Shin*), HMNZS *Hawea* (HMS *Loch Eck*) and HMNZS *Tutira* (HMS *Loch Morlich*). In December 1948 *Taupo* took passage to New Zealand with HMNZS *Pukaki* and HMNZS *Kaniere* with calls at Aden and Trincomalee to Singapore and then onto New Zealand.

Dates of Ship’s Service in Korean waters

On 29 June 1950 the NZ Government decided to send two frigates to Korea. HMNZS *Pukaki* was undocked and *Tutira* had returned from the islands voyage that day and both were hurriedly readied for war service.

Ship	Dates in Korean waters	Tasks	Remarks
<i>Pukaki</i> Formerly HMS <i>Loch</i> <i>Achanalt</i>	a) 3 July - 3 December 1950, b) 21 September 1953 - 28	Involved with escort and convoy protection duties and during the Inchon landings were part of the screening force. Also at Wonsan (east coast) to protect minesweeping operations. Mainly involved in patrols and escorts and monitoring the Armistice on the west coast of Korea. Korea Medal and UN Korea Medal. Later NZOSM, NZDefSM and KWSM. She sailed from Auckland on 21 September 1953 for Korean service to be part of the Far East Station and as such would operate from Singapore and Hong Kong as well as monitor the	Sailed via Port Moresby, east about New Guinea, the Philippines and Hong Kong to Sasebo, Japan.

	September 1954, and c) August 1955 - July 1956	Korean armistice. UN Korea Medal. Later NZOSM and NZGSM(K). Sailed from Auckland on 28 April 1955 for service in Malayan and Korean Waters. She Returned to NZ on 21 May 1956. NZOSM, NGSM(Malaya), NZGSM Korea 1954-57. Served as part of the 4th Frigate Sqn, British Far East Fleet.	
<i>Tutira</i> Formerly HMS Loch Morlich	3 July 1950 - 30 May 1951	<i>Tutira</i> had conducted some visits to NZ ports and exercises with the RAN and had just returned from a Pacific cruise on 29 June and was almost immediately readied and sailed from Auckland, Auckland on 3 July 1950 for service with the UN Naval Forces in Korea. Involved with escort and convoy protection duties, patrolling and shore bombardments and blockade duties along the Korean island and shoal strewn western coast of Korea. With <i>Pukaki</i> she controlled traffic entering the ports of Chinnampo and Inchon and escorted ships making the passage between them. and during the Inchon landings was a part of the screening force. Returned to NZ 30 May 1951.	Sailed via Port Moresby, east about New Guinea, the Philippines and arrived Hong Kong 19 July repaired any defects, re-stored and then sailed onto Sasebo, Japan.
<i>Rotoiti</i> Formerly HMS Loch Katrine	a) 7 October 1950 - 21 November 1951 b) 7 January 1952 - 19 March 1953	Involved on patrols and escort duties and visited Inchon and the Han River. In July 1951 she carried out an attack on an enemy gun position at Sogon-No Point (near Chinnampo Harbour) and captured two enemy soldiers. In August she carried out a similar attack in the same area but came under fire. AB Robert Marchioni was killed but his body was not recovered. He was the only RNZN fatal casualty caused by enemy fire. While en-route from Sasebo to Hong Kong on 25 October she received a distress message from the SS Hupeh, a British Merchant ship that had been boarded by pirates in the Yangtze River estuary. This was resolved without loss to Hupeh crew or the pirates. Arrived Kure then to Sasebo, Japan 2 February 1952 to replace <i>Hawea</i> . Involved in patrols and escort duties. Served mainly on the west coast of Korea and was in action in the Han River. Last UN warship to use the Han River. Was anchored in the Han River estuary to provide gunfire against enemy positions as support for a planned raid. <i>Rotoiti</i> lost two anchors in the hurry to get out of range when she came under heavy fire from three Communist shore batteries.	Sailed from Auckland for Korean waters via Darwin and Hong Kong to Sasebo Japan arriving 5 November. RTNZ Via Hong Kong, Borneo and Brisbane. Travelled to Korean Waters via Singapore and Hong Kong. Served mainly on the west coast of Korea in winter and summer.
<i>Hawea</i> Formerly HMS Loch Eck	a) 2 March 1951 - 8 March 1952 b) 4 August 1952 - 20 August 1953	Sailed from NZ to Korea to join the UN Naval Task Force. conducted patrols and escort duties mainly on the west coast of Korea. <i>Hawea</i> was the first RNZN ship to fire on an enemy gun position in this war. Also shelled rail traffic and tunnels. Provided navigational data for naval gunfire in the Han River estuary. Returned to NZ 8 March 1952. Underwent refit and maintenance at Devonport and left NZ 4 August 1952 for further duty in Korean waters with the British Eastern Fleet. Returned to NZ after the Armistice Agreement of July 1953 and arrived at Devonport 20 August 1953.	
<i>Taupo</i> Formerly HMS Loch Shin	29 August 1951 - 21 October 1952	<i>Taupo</i> travelled to Korean waters via Cairns, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Japan. <i>Taupo</i> was mainly involved on patrols on the east and west coasts of Korea and was involved in some shore bombardments on the east coast shooting at rail bridges and tunnels. She was involved in an action close to Yang Do Island (west coast close to North Korea) when some 15 sampans loaded with enemy troops were about to attack the island. <i>Taupo</i> sank ten but had to withdraw as communist shore batteries began to concentrate on the ship. <i>Taupo</i> steamed 58,000 Nautical Miles, was away from New Zealand 421 days and spent 311 days at sea. The ship fired 16,000 rounds of ammunition during its tour and wore out the barrel of the 4-inch gun.	With the outbreak of the Waterfront strike in 1951, <i>Taupo</i> was deployed to Westport from March to June. The ship's company manned the wharves and operated the coal mines. She returned to Devonport in July 1951 and made ready for departure to Korea in August 1951.
<i>Kaniere</i> Formerly HMS Loch Achray	a) 2 March 1953 - 2 March 1954	<i>Kaniere</i> was the last of the frigates obtained from Britain to serve with the UN in Korean waters. Travelled to Korean waters via Sydney, the Java Sea, Singapore and Hong Kong. Arrived at Sasebo, Japan 23 April 1953. Conducted patrols, escorts and provided some naval gunfire support and provided cover for minesweeping operations. Also evacuated wounded South Korean Guerrillas from some outlying islands above the 38th Parallel. From August 1953 to January 1954 <i>Kaniere</i> patrolled of the west coast of Korea in support of the ceasefire while the Armistice was negotiated. Served mainly on the west coast of Korea.	

	b) November 1954 - May 1955	Sailed from Auckland 19 July 1954 to serve attached to the RN's Far East Fleet. Was in Korean waters November 1954 - May 1955 and returned to NZ on 23 July 1955.	
	c) 1 April 1956 - 8 May 1957	Sailed from Auckland 1 April 1956 to join 3rd Frigate Squadron in Singapore. Detached for UN service based at Sasebo and conducted patrols on west coast of Korea monitoring the armistice. Served in the Far East Station in 3rd Frigate Squadron, British Far East Fleet.	
<i>Royalist</i>	8 October - 11 November 1957	See immediately below.	
<i>Bellona</i>		See immediately below within <i>Royalist</i> info.	

HMNZS *Royalist*

New Zealand's cruiser HMNZS *Bellona* did not serve in Korean waters. HMNZS *Bellona*'s service in the RNZN ended in 1955 and she sailed back to the UK to be returned to the Royal Navy. She arrived at Portsmouth 12 December and many of her crew transferred to HMNZS *Royalist* which was commissioned as a unit of the RNZN on 17 April 1956. After training and working up *Royalist* sailed from Portsmouth on 16 July 1956 was involved in fleet exercises in the Mediterranean which were heading towards Egypt and the Suez Crisis. Because the Suez Canal had been closed by the Egyptian president Gamal Abdel Nasser, *Royalist* had to come to New Zealand via Freetown, Simonstown (South Africa), Mauritius, Fremantle and Hobart, and arrived at Auckland on 20 December 1956.

It was not long before *Royalist* was re-commissioned and sailed from New Zealand on 20 May 1957 on the Second Commission. Six hundred and thirteen names are listed in the *Royalist* Second Commission Souvenir Booklet but not all served in the Korean part of the voyage. Several were in the ship for passage to Sydney to attend courses in Australia. A few caught up with the ship again at Darwin and one or two re-joined the ship in Singapore. Five weeks were spent with the RAN for working up exercises and several crew members attended courses at RAN training establishments such as HMAS *Cerberus* before heading off to Singapore where she arrived on 18 July 1957. Shortly after arriving in Singapore several RNZN Cooks and Stewards were replaced by 'Official' Chinese from the British Hong Kong Navy Service. One wonders whether any effort has been made to see that these men were later awarded the NZOSM on the NGSM(M) and NZGSM(K). At the same time thirteen 'un-official' Chinese, the laundrymen, a bootmaker and his assistant and a tailor and two assistants, arrived on board. Sadly there are no names for these thirteen men.

While in this area *Royalist* served in Malayan waters and conducted two bombardments on a suspected Communist bases in the Kota Tinggi area of South Johore. At the completion of this the ship proceeded onto Hong Kong for the first of several visits. Here the ship joined Fifth Cruiser Squadron of the Far East Fleet with HMS *Newfoundland* and HMS *Newcastle*.

Royalist returned to Singapore, refuelled and sailed for Penang on 24 August. She arrived early in the morning of 30 August 1956, the penultimate day on which the Union Jack was flown in Malaya. On 31 August *Royalist* fired a 21-gun salute in honour of the Federation of Malaya. After a brief stay she returned to Singapore on 6 September.

On 23 September 1957 *Royalist* in company with *Newfoundland* sailed for Hong Kong where she arrived 28 September. On 3rd October *Royalist* sailed for Japan and arrived at Yokosuka on 8 October. A three-day exercise with *Newfoundland*, *Tobruk* and *Anzac* took place 15-18 October, then *Royalist* sailed onto Kobe where an epidemic of Asian 'flu' swept the ship. On 25 October *Royalist* sailed from Kobe through the Inland Sea to Inchon on the west coast of Korea. Here Telegraphist Peter Mollison who had contracted Asian 'flu' died from the complications which followed. His death was the last fatal casualty suffered by NZ Defence Force personnel during the period 3 July 1950 - December 1957.

Royalist sailed onto Paengyong-do, a desolate and rocky island, arriving there on 1 Nov, had a game of soccer with a Korean Navy team and on the next day sailed for Pusan, on the south east coast of Korea with *Anzac*. Both ships arrived in the forenoon of 4 November and Telegraphist Mollison's funeral took place in the afternoon. On 6 November *Royalist* and *Tobruk* sailed for Sasebo, Japan but did not stay long sailing for Hong Kong on 11 November. The time in Japanese/Korean waters was for about five weeks from 8 October to 11 November 1957.

Although *Royalist* was the largest RNZN vessel to serve in Korean waters it spent a very short time in the area in comparison to the time the frigates spent in their deployments. Quite a number of men in *Royalist* had previous service in Korea as a member of the crew of one of the frigates.

Royalist returned to Singapore where the ship underwent a refit. On 20 February, 1958, a two-hour bombardment was carried out in an area to the west of Tanjong Punggai in south-east Johore believed to be occupied by Malayan terrorists. A further series of exercises in the Malayan area took place and the north-east Borneo ports of Sandakan and Jesselton (Kota Kinabalu) were visited in late March 1958. *Royalist* returned to NZ on 4 July 1957.

Extracts from Royalist Second Commission Book April 1957 - July 1958.

A search at Archives NZ, Wellington, through the Navy file series NA 18/36/75 '*Letters of Proceedings*' for the various ships, throws just a glimmer of light on a small number of crew names and their activities. There is the odd reference such as "*Ten Maori members of the Ship's Company, HMNZS Kaniere, sang Maori songs and performed haka much to the delight of the assembled guests.*" Very few names are mentioned in these Letters of Proceedings except for high-ranking visitors to the ship. The CO HMNZS *Kaniere* did state that one officer, four senior NCOs and twelve ORs embarked at Sasebo for return to New Zealand, but again no names. However the Christmas dinner menu was reported in detail so that was obviously very well received. One gem did appear regarding the boxing prowess of Able Seaman B.R. Sadd as noted above.

Several Naval names were provided by Ronald McMillan several years ago. Most were given with reasonable details but a few had only a surname and no service number and such Korea veterans were very hard to find. Others supplied information in a similar manner with crucial details lacking.

Shore Base ('Stone Frigate') HMNZS *Maori*

The Depot Ship in London was previously called HMNZS *Cook*, sometimes *Cook III*, and was located at one time in the NZ High Commission. Previously the name *Cook* had applied to Shelly Bay in Wellington and a shore base in Tulagi, Solomon Islands. HMNZS *Philomel II* and HMNZS *Wakefield* were both names used for the Navy Office in Wellington.

The Roll

The following pages record the number, rank, full name, ship or corps and sub unit of each individual and the dates on which he or she sailed from Auckland or Wellington and returned, after service in Korea, unless they were fatal casualties interred in Korea or Japan. The remains of some of these men have now been repatriated to NZ.

Almost all men who enlisted in the RNZN underwent initial training in HMNZS *Tamaki* or HMNZS *Philomel* and some took training in both before they were posted to a ship or other appointment. Unless shown otherwise this was a normal procedure, so is not included in an individual's bio notes to avoid countless repetition. If the reader starts in some other part of this book and wants more detail of the frigates please refer to the section below for further detail.

While a number of veterans' entries warrant further research, many servicemen provided additional information which gives a better understanding of the places where they served. Some even provided specific detail of wounds and other factors of their experience.

This record is not intended to provide a full resume of an individual's service and is compiled in note form.

This roll includes 4549 men from the NZ Army and 2072 from the Royal NZ Navy. There were only four men who served in the RNZAF in Korea during this period. The only women included, 11 in number were members of a Concert Party. Mrs Te Riu Ann Mitchell was apparently the only Maori woman singer to visit.

Where known the honours and awards received by the servicemen in the New Zealand Armed Forces for their individual service have been listed.

Finally, this is still an incomplete record of NZ's service in the Korean conflict. Whether a definitive record could ever be achieved is a moot point given the vagaries of record keeping and losses as outlined above.

Acknowledgements

My thanks must go *first* to my wife Finola who has supported my interest for many years, has rendered sterling service with this roll, proof reading and removal of many of my grammatical inconsistencies and frailties.

Thanks also to Mrs Peni Reti, who left New Zealand Defence Archives in 2008, and her staff who aided my research at Trentham Camp not only when compiling the roll for the first edition but also on other tasks I have set myself. The late Terry Quill was a great help as has been Matthew Buck, Ms Venus Meleisea, Karlene (Karley) Johns, Christine Edney, Craig Wellings, Julia Fink (also helped in other searches) and others at the archives who have continued to assist in many ways. I would have been somewhat lost in my searches without them. Since the first edition there have been several changes to the staff at Defence Archives, but the assistance has always been great.

This compilation has been made possible with the assistance of many people, particularly those veterans from the New Zealand Forces who served in the Korean War. My association with NZ Korean Veterans Association members has been of great benefit and many have assisted in the collection of material for this record. The major supporters in random order have been Doug Callander MNZM, Ian Mackley, Les Pye BEM, Laurie Stack QSM, Chas Sibun, Forbes Taylor MBE, Don Hay and Joe Collett. These have nearly all died since the printing of the first edition. Thanks also to Bruce Diggle and the Brooklyn RSA for the donation towards publication costs of the first edition. In the early stages of compiling this Korea Roll, Ronald McMillan provided a list of those who served with him in HMNZS *Hawea*. Additional help for this second edition has come from Ray Newport, Levin, and I was able to search through the RNZN Posting Cards under the control of Michael Wynd the RNZN Researcher/Historian at RNZN Naval Base Devonport. Thanks also to Mr Roger Perkins, in the United Kingdom who has provided comment and advice, particularly on the Royal Navy personnel.

Others who have contributed to the material in this book include Mrs Elizabeth Fisher, a genealogist friend, who responded to my request and provided many details from cemetery records. This material added the full names of several deceased Korean War veterans and provided the location of where their remains are laid or where they were cremated. I have also been greatly helped with information on Southland personnel by Bryce Horrell, a member of the Wellington Branch of the Orders & Medals Research Society. Several of the funeral homes in New Zealand and Australia assisted with birth and death locations and dates where they were not found in other sources. I am very thankful for their assistance.

Finally I thank the NZ Military Historical Society for publishing online this 2nd updated edition of the Roll, and Peter Cooke for editing it.

The Author

Howard Chamberlain was born in New Plymouth in 1942 and moved to Katikati in the Bay of Plenty where he went to school. He enlisted in the Royal New Zealand Engineers in January 1961 and served for over 31 years starting in Papakura Camp and then Linton and other camps in New Zealand. He served longer than three years in Malaysia and twice in Borneo in 1RNZIR taking part in the confrontation campaign between Malaysia and Indonesia from 1963 to 1966. Returning to New Zealand Howard re-commenced his trade of Engineer Instructor at the School of Military Engineering in Linton Camp. His early interest in military history resulted in his being asked “to look” after some of the Corps history and artefacts that were brought back to New Zealand by sapper officers after WWII. This work started about 1968 in a small room and culminated in the opening of a dedicated building for the RNZE Corps Memorial Museum in 1982. He has held the ex-officio appointment of honorary curator of the museum since 1968 and other appointments in the Engineer Corps Memorial Association, the Sappers Association and the RNZE Charitable Trust while in service, and since 1993 as a civilian in Defence HQ. He continued beyond retirement in 2006 and has now been involved with the operations within the museum for 55 years.

Over the years he has earned a reputation as a researcher and authority on medals and was the convener of the Wellington Branch of the Orders & Medals Research Society (O.M.R.S.) for 25 years until it was handed over and became the New Zealand Branch of the O.M.R.S. He was awarded the Society’s Gold Award in July 2008. In 1995 he published *Service Lives Remembered (The Meritorious Service Medal in New Zealand)* and in 2013 published the first edition of *The New Zealand Korea Roll*. He has also had articles published in military and medallic journals and magazines in United Kingdom and in New Zealand, including the *Medals Monthly*, *The O.M.R.S Journal*, the *National Lifeboat Association Journal* and the *Channel Islands Great War Study Group*. His other interests have been in music and he has sung with the Palmerston North Operatic Society, Wellington Opera Company, Wellington Gilbert and Sullivan Society and in several church and other choirs in New Zealand, Malaysia and Britain.

The New Zealand Korea Veterans Association (Inc) at the AGM in 2010 his name was unanimously confirmed as an Honorary Member of the Association.

Also available: *Service Lives Remembered – The Meritorious Service Medal in New Zealand and its Recipients 1895 – 1994*. ISBN 0-473-03047-0