



Defense Prisoner of War / Missing Personnel Office



*Research and Analysis Overview
Mr. Dan Baughman*



Agenda



Overview of Korea Loss Locations/Research Projects

JPAC J-2 Operations

Korean War Archival Research

Question and Answer Panel

Break



Korean War Analysis

Northeast Asia Division



- Who we are
- Scope of the Korean War accounting mission – where the missing men were lost
- Research effort – major projects:
 - POW camp survey
 - Battlefield and air loss research



Korean War Analysis



- Research and Analysis Directorate,
Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office,
Arlington, Virginia
- Conducts research on unaccounted-for
servicemen from the Korean War and from
the Cold War in Asia
 - Works to resolve cases
- Supports outreach to families, veterans,
concerned citizens, and Congress



Where the Missing Men Were Lost

Major Remains Concentrations in North Korea



POW Camp Burial Sites (1,200)

Apex (270)

Camp 5 (492)

Death Valley
Camp (250)

Unsan/Chongchon Area (1,549)

Kuryong (176)

Kujang (270)

Unsan (250)

Kunuri (403)

Pyongyang
Cemetery (185)



Chosin Reservoir Area (1,079)

Valley #1 Camp (41)

Yudamni (199)

Sinhung (92)

Twiggae (244)

Koto-ri Cemetery
(30)

Hungnam
Cemetery (49)

Suan Camps (220)

DMZ (89)

• *Estimated numbers of remains are in parenthesis*

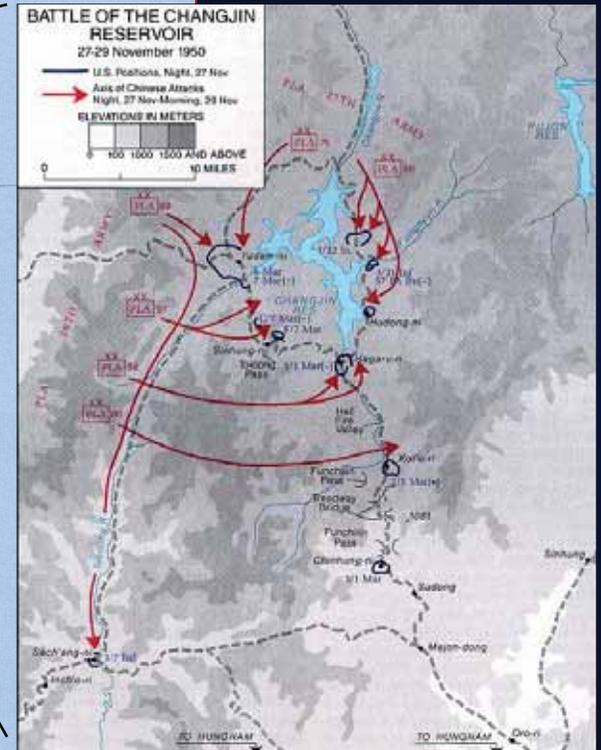
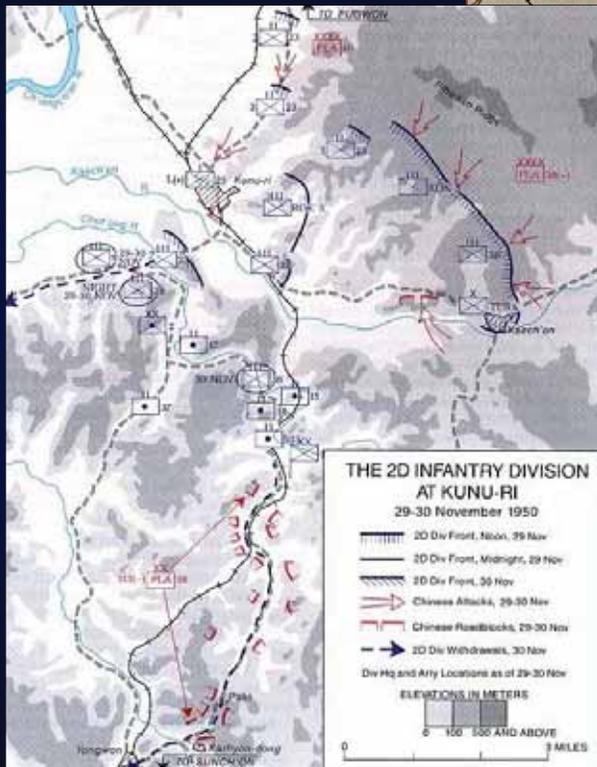
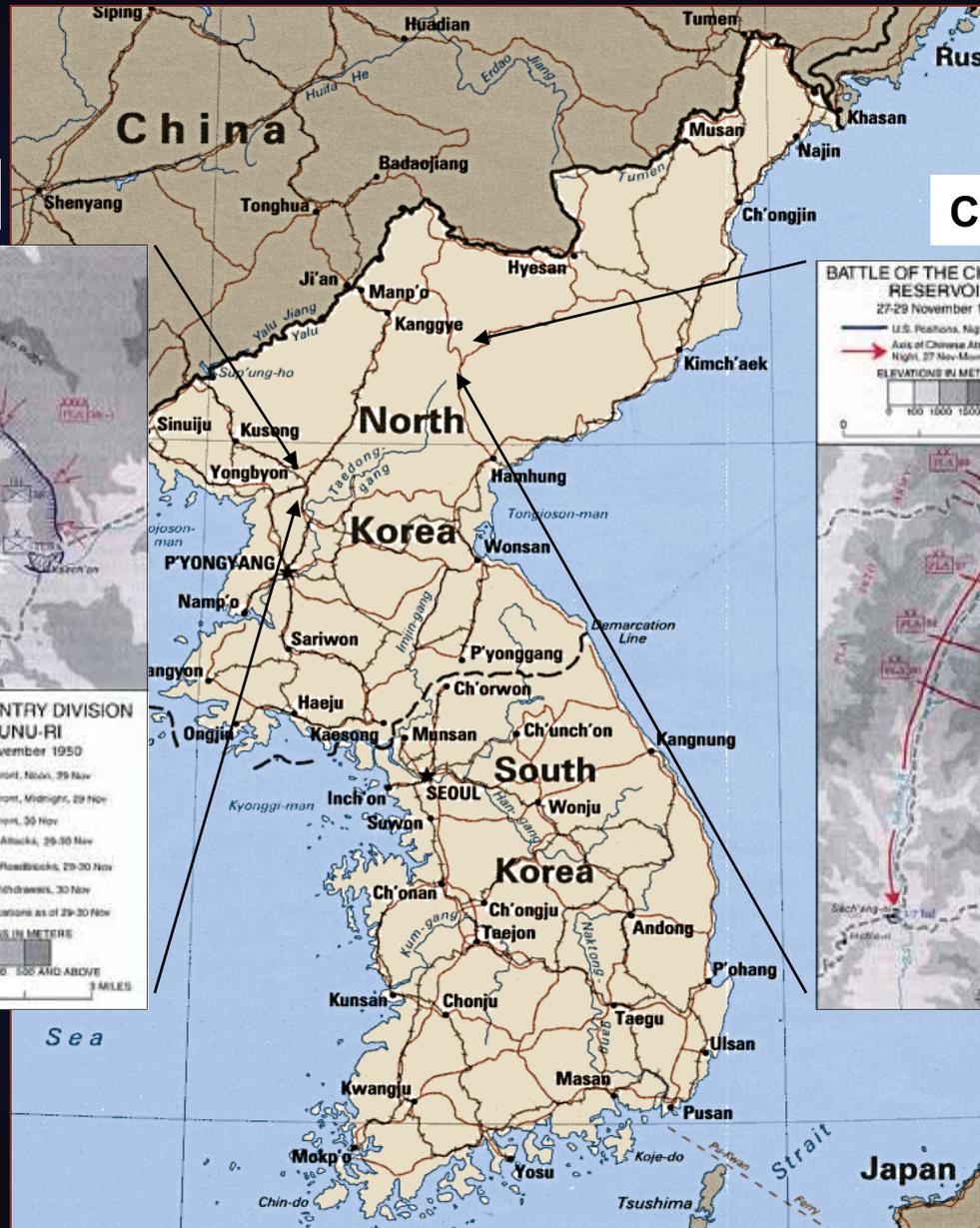


Major Ground Battles – North Korea



CHONGCHON RIVER

CHOSIN RESERVOIR



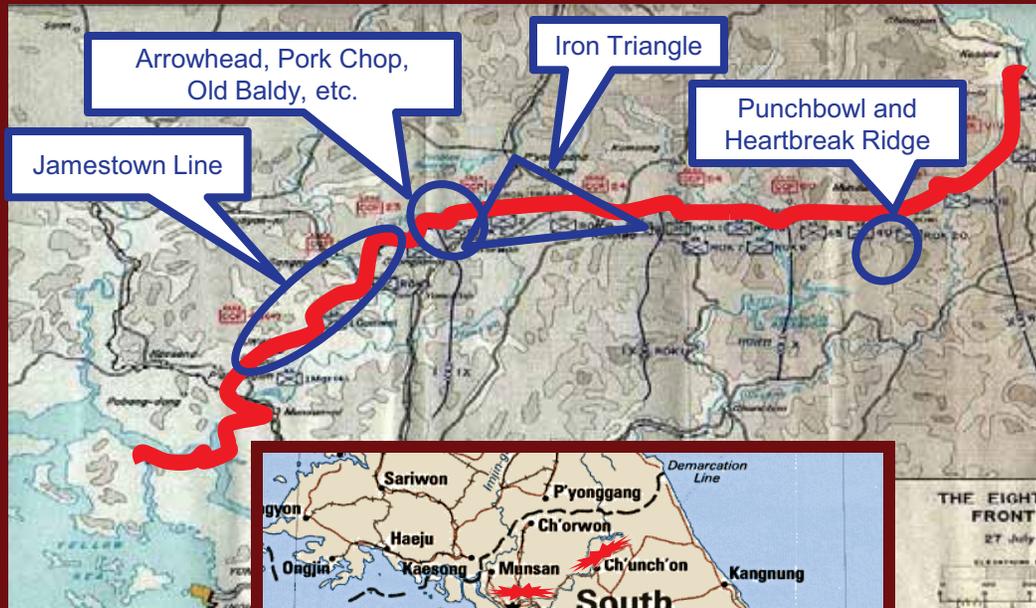


Where the Missing Men Were Lost South Korea, 1950-1951





South Korea 1950 - 1953



**DMZ-Area
1000
Losses**



South Korea

- 1000 LOSSES
- 440 UNKNOWN BURIED IN THE PUNCH BOWL

The Air War Over Korea



MIG Alley

Major Radar Installations

Road/Railway Lines

Yalu River Bridges

Communist Airfields

Chinese Air Defense Concentrations

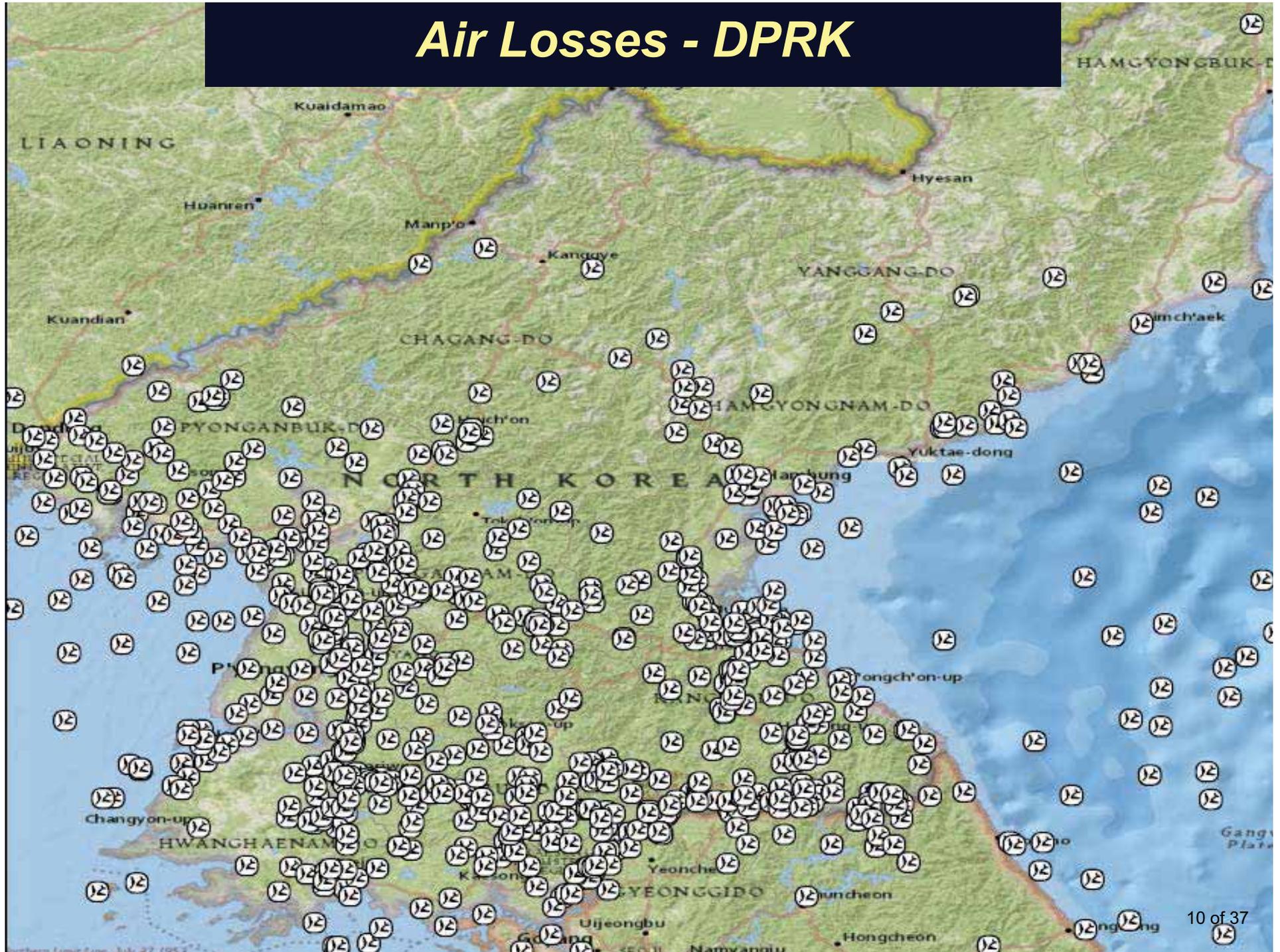


Chinese Peoples Volunteers Air Force Operations Area

Thermo Electric Plants

Major U.S. Airfields (K- #)

Air Losses - DPRK





Air Losses - ROK



Research Effort *– Major Projects –* **POW CAMP SURVEY**

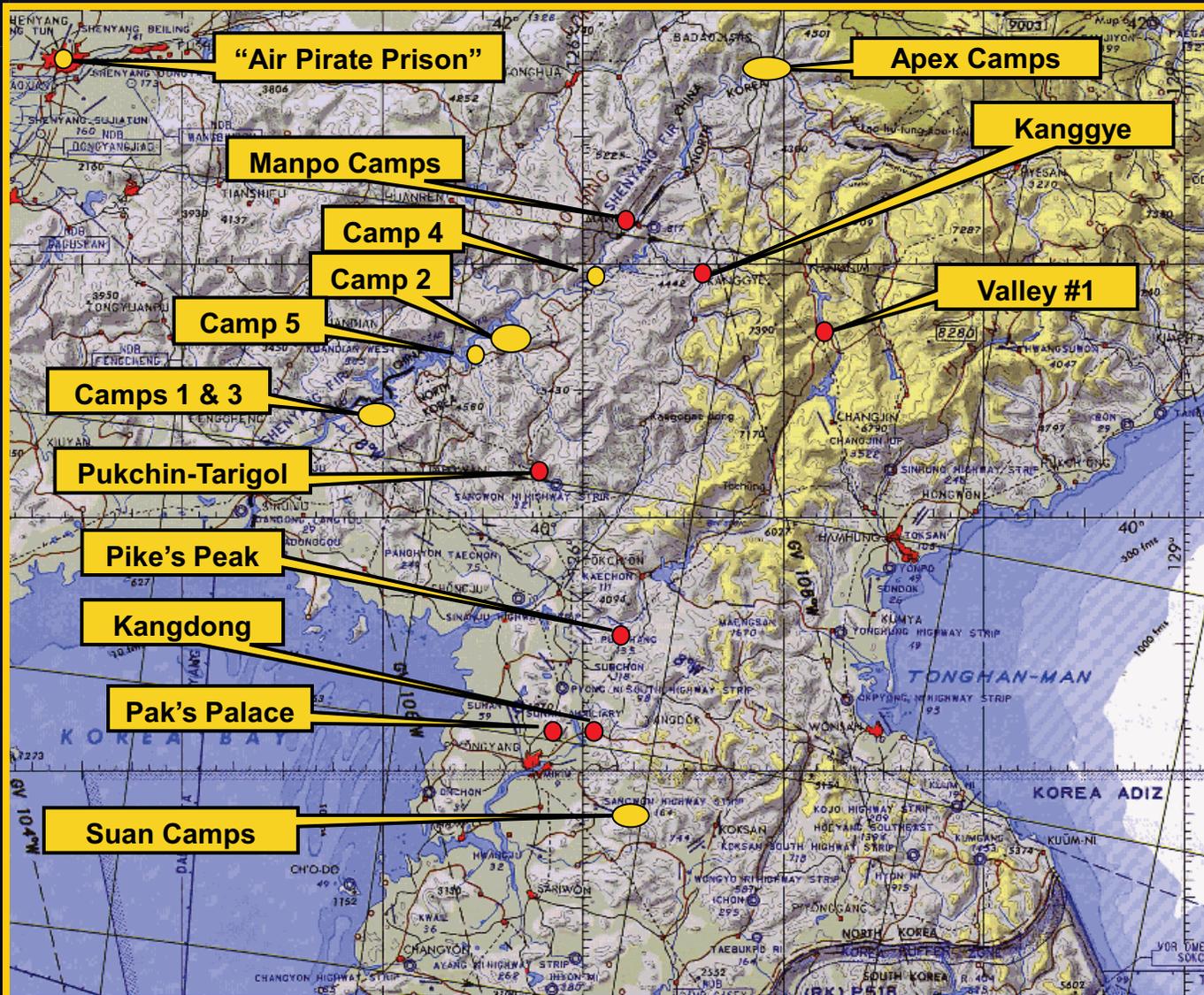


Determine/verify POW Camp Locations:

- Pinpoint cemeteries
- Determine POW populations
- Track POW group movements
- Determine march routes
- Identify United Nations' Cemeteries

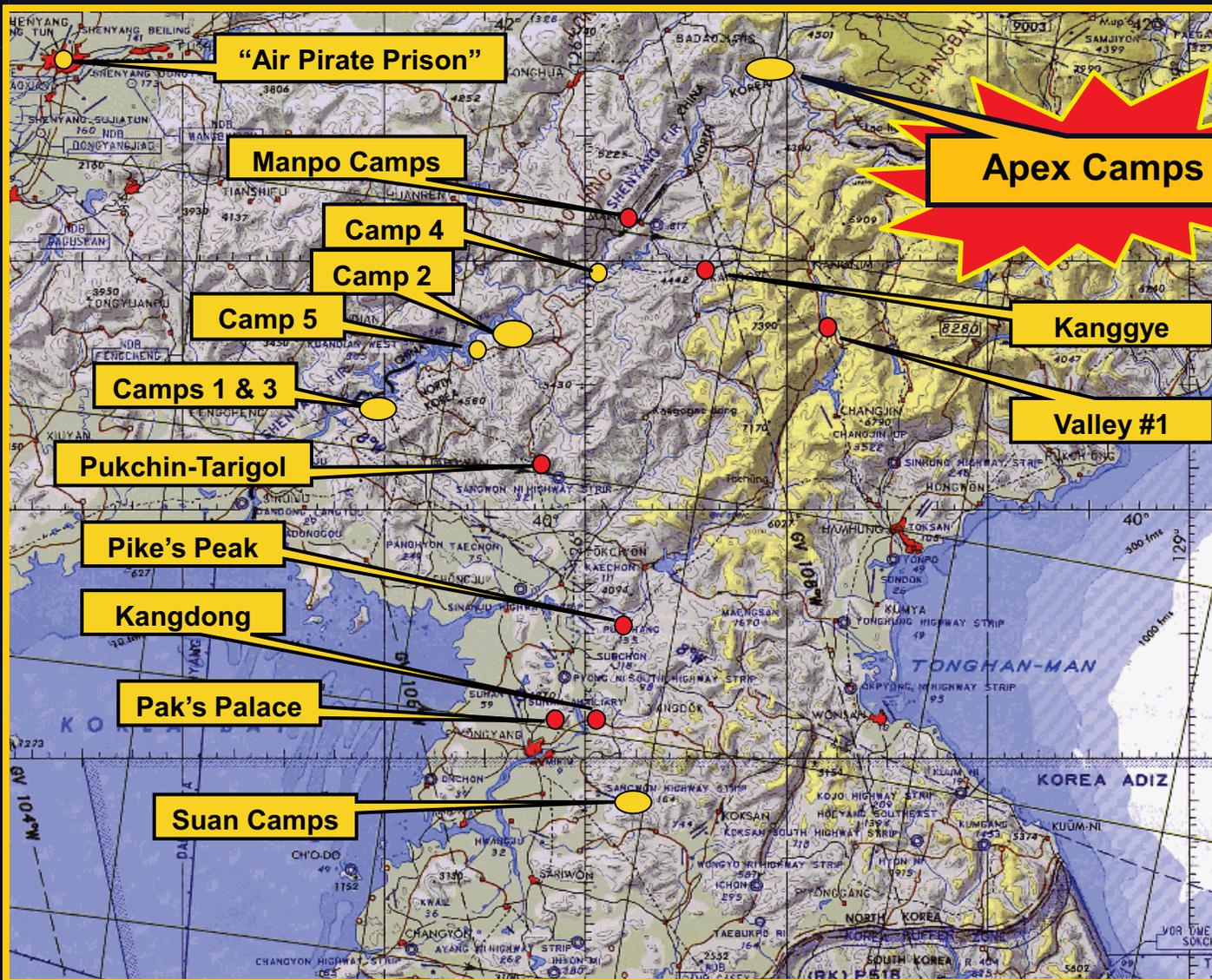


POW Camps





POW Camps

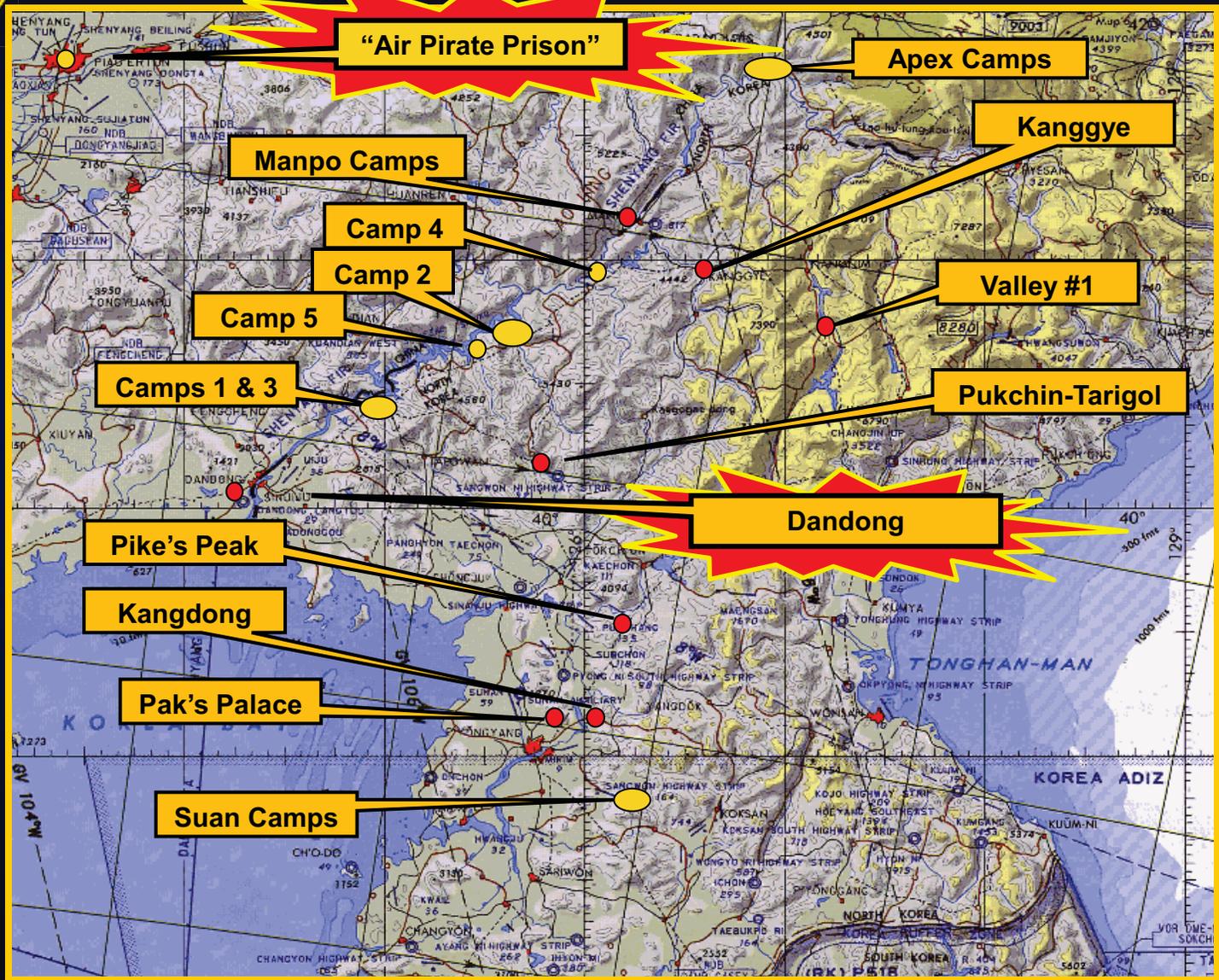


LEGEND

- = TEMP. HOLDING CAMP
- = PRISON CAMP



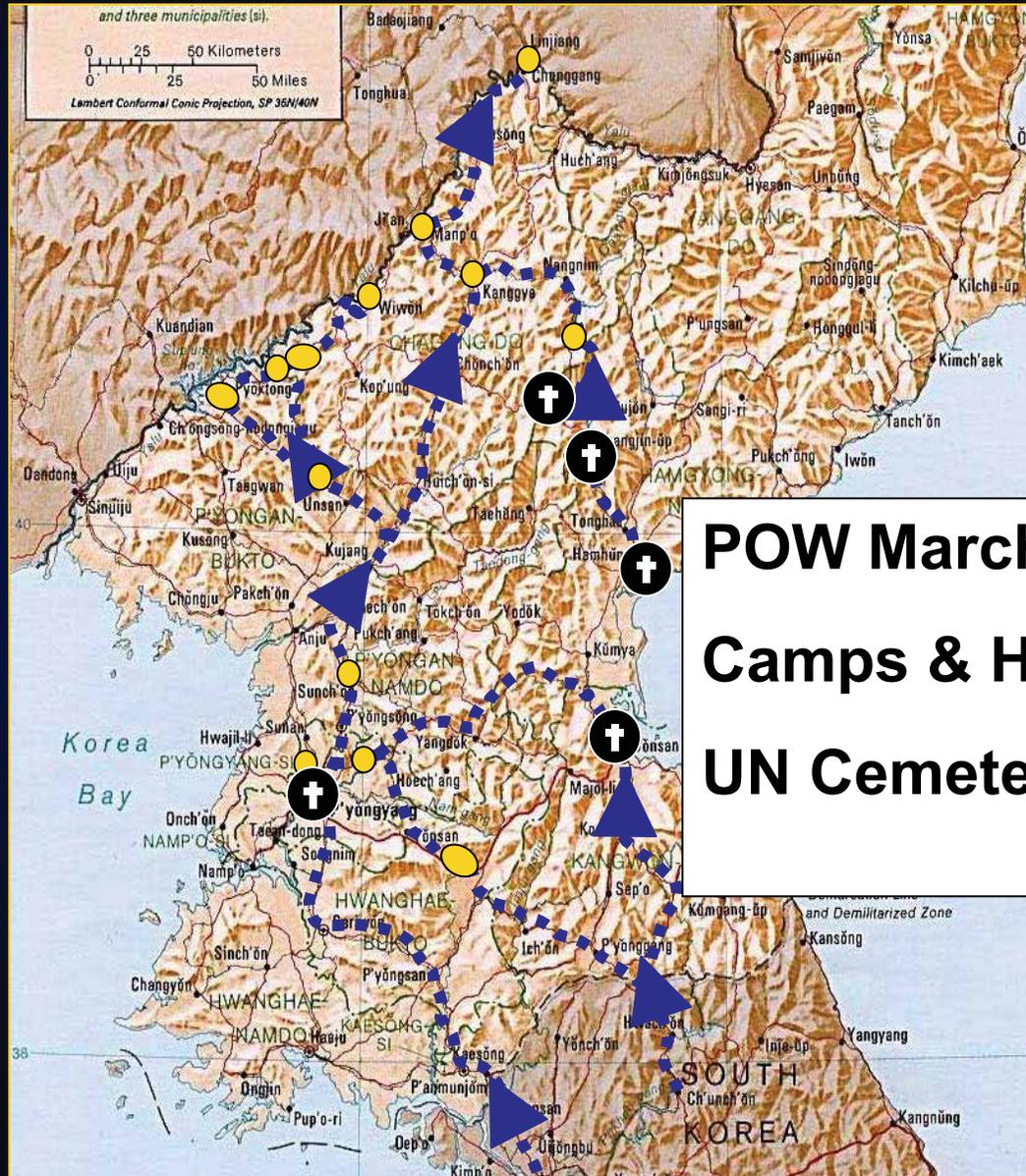
POW Camps



LEGEND

- = TEMP. HOLDING CAMP
- = PRISON CAMP

POW March Routes and UN Cemeteries



POW March Route➔

Camps & Holding Areas ●

UN Cemetery ●



POW March Routes – South Korea





POW Lists



- Johnnie Johnson List
 - 495 name list of early war POWs who died July 1950 – October 1951, mainly at remote “Apex Camps” plus other points en route
- List of 944 / 389
 - 1953-1962 priority list of U.S. unaccounted-for servicemen, submitted to the Communists
- Persons in MIA / Captured Status, November 1953 (MICAP List)
 - Index of returned POWs and POW / KIA casualties they knew about



POW Lists



- Seoul / Pyongyang blackboard lists
 - Early war POWs captured July/Aug 1950, placed their names on school blackboards in Seoul and Pyongyang
- Neilson / Henderson list
 - No original exists. Reconstructed from secondary references, 15 names of USAF men as possible POWs



POW Camp Survey



- Summary findings: Information developed to support JPAC search and recovery teams and identifications
 - Identified 12 camps and 6 UN cemeteries for investigation
 - Tracked movement of 2,400 known + suspected POWs
 - Joint Field Activity remains recoveries from POW march routes and DPRK unilateral recoveries

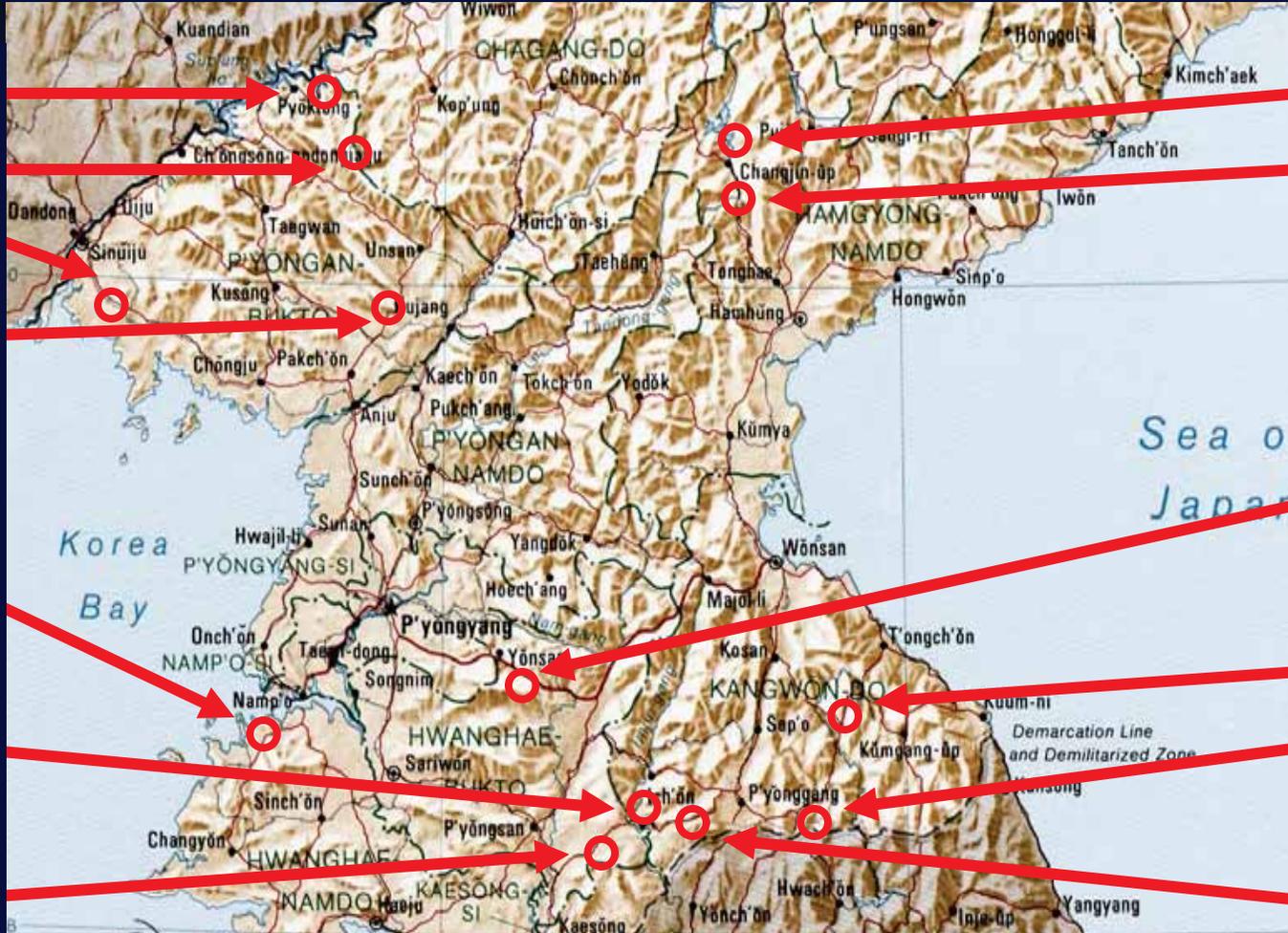




North Korea Unilateral Remains Turnovers "K-208"



21
1
5
23
1
14
1



44
3
83
1
9
2

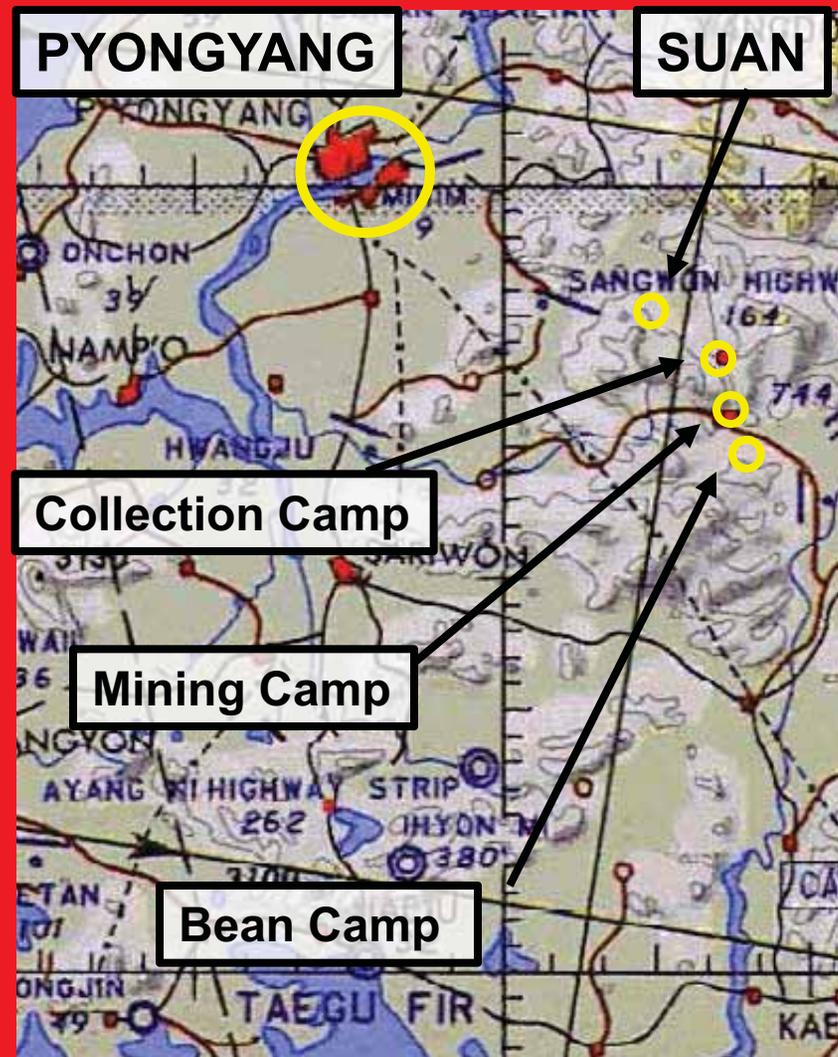
Site location / Number of boxes of remains



Suan POW Camps



- **POWs Captured**
 - FEB - MAY 1951
- **POW Camp Survey indicates**
 - 220+ POW Deaths
- **North Koreans returned**
 - 75 boxes of remains
1990 – 1993
 - Substantial co-mingling
- **93% DNA FRS Representation**
 - 36 Identifications





Research Effort – Major Projects – Battlefield and Air Loss Analysis



- Determine loss sites for battlefield casualties and aircraft shoot-downs
- Recent focus:
 - Unsan, DPRK
 - Kujang, DPRK
 - Kaecheon, DPRK
 - Chosin Reservoir, DPRK
 - Pusan Perimeter, ROK
 - Northern ROK, near DMZ
 - Dandong, PRC



**DEFINE LOSS POPULATIONS AND CONCENTRATIONS IN
SUPPORT OF JPAC SEARCH AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS**



Veterans Oral History Program



- Attended 161 unit association reunions since 1996
- Logged over 2,200 interviews
- Divisions, separate regiments, air units, multi-service events, ex-POW associations, and state associations
- Over 700 POW returnees
- Veterans' recollections clarify loss incidents, assist in locating grave sites

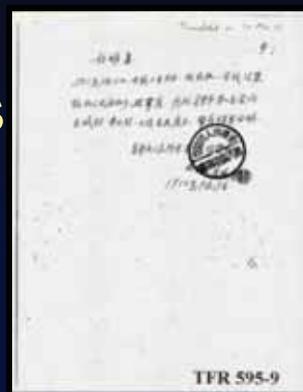




China-Related Research



- Russian MOD archives at Podolsk – Chinese documents
- Chinese Peoples Liberation Army Records
- Open source documents in China and U.S.
- DPMO/CILHI/JPAC delegations – survey operations in China



Chinese Air Defense report of 1952 fighter crash in Dandong



Chinese map and mission report of 1956 Cold War shoot-down incident



CILHI/JPAC surveys/ recoveries of 1950, 1952, 1953 Cold War, Korean War shoot-down incidents



Chinese PLA Archives Information



Korean War
shoot-down
reports on:

4 F-86 Sabre

1 RB-29

Super-fortress

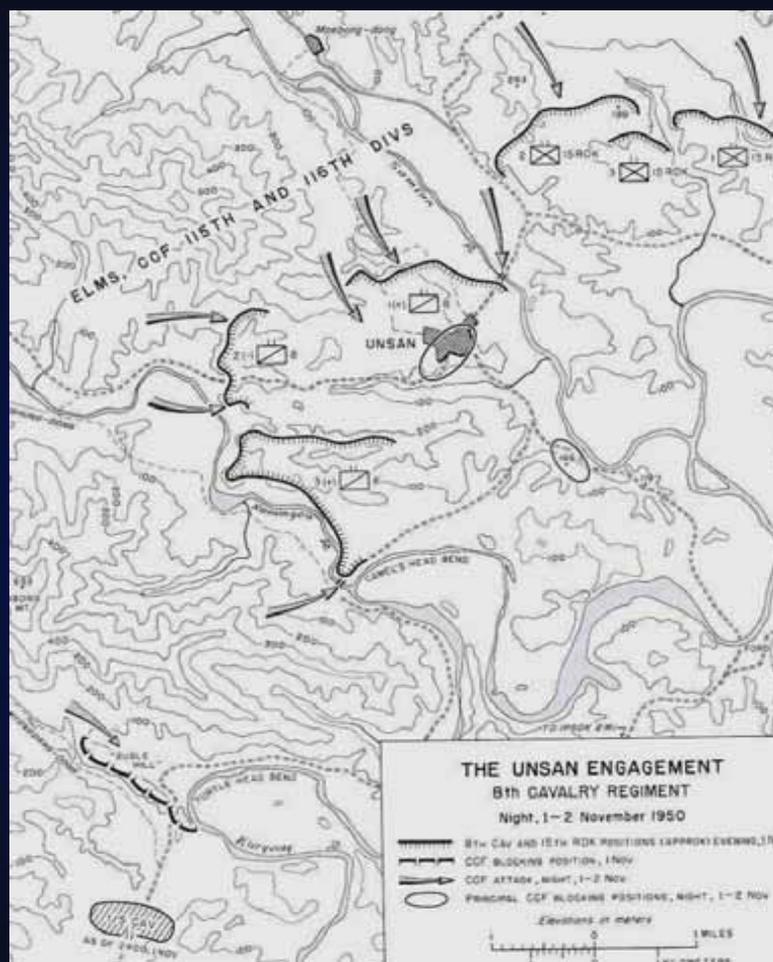




Battlefield Analysis at Work



- Battle of Unsan
 - 293 unaccounted-for
 - Sources:
 - Oral history interviews 1997 – 2005
 - U.S. Army field search data (Cases 310, 383)
 - 5th & 8th Cavalry Regiments' war diaries, November 1950
 - Korean War Crime (KWC) File – 134, 142
 - POW Records (NARA)

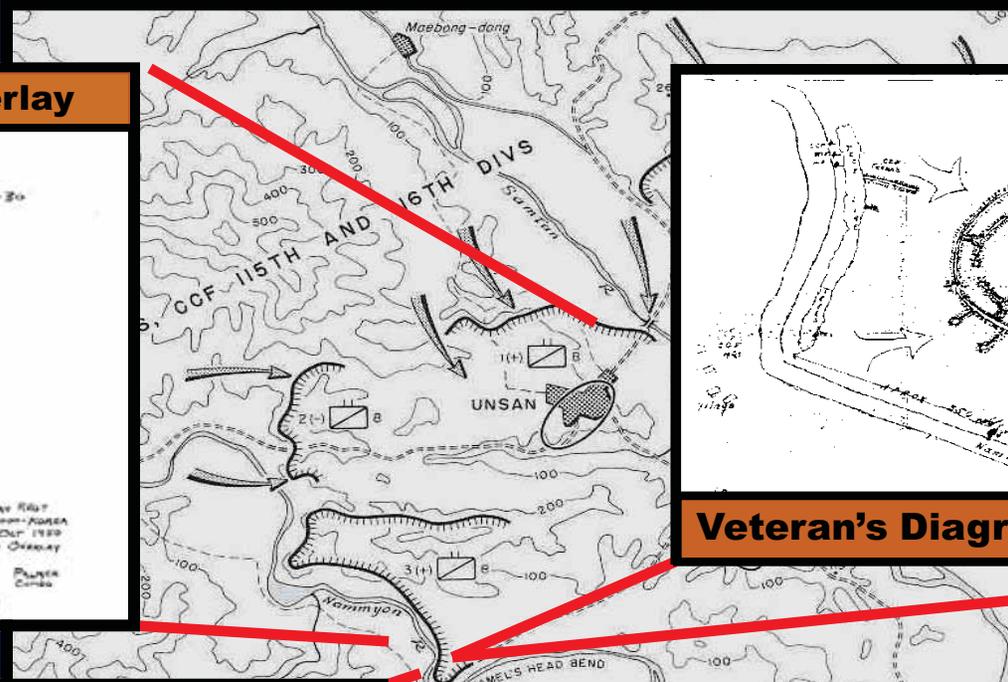




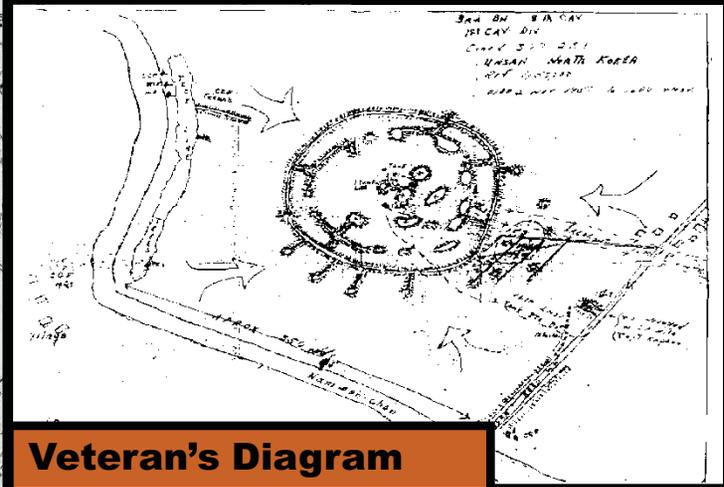
Battlefield analysis at Work



Unit Disposition Overlay



Veteran's Diagram



Battlefield Today

THE UNSAN ENGAGEMENT
8th CAVALRY REGIMENT
 Night, 1-2 November 1950

- 8TH CAV AND 15TH ROK POSITIONS (APPROX) EVENING, 1 NOV
- CCF BLOCKING POSITION, 1 NOV
- CCF ATTACK, NIGHT, 1-2 NOV
- PRINCIPAL CCF BLOCKING POSITIONS, NIGHT, 1-2 NOV

Elevations in meters

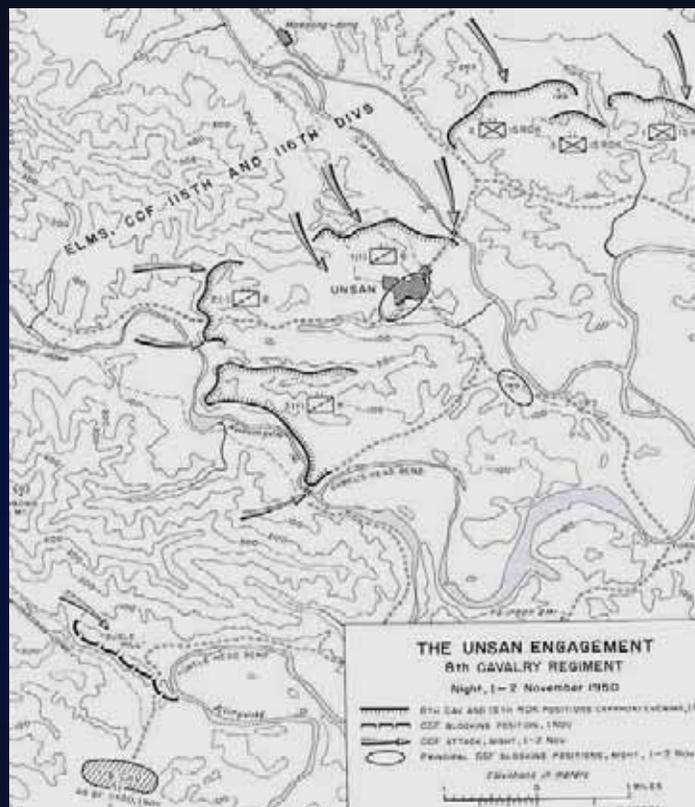


Unsan battlefield search and recovery operations results



Battle of Unsan

- 293 unaccounted-for
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 - Oral history interviews 1997 – 2005
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 - Korean War Crime (KWC) File – 134, 142
 - POW Records (NARA)



Joint Field Activities:

1996, 1997, 2000 – 2005

DPRK Unilateral Returns:

1990 – 1993, 2007

- 18 missions resulting in U.S. remains recoveries.

- 34 identified from joint field activities
- 18 identified from DPRK unilateral returns



Chosin battlefield search and recovery operations results



Chosin Reservoir, East Side

- 549 Servicemen Unaccounted For

Sources:

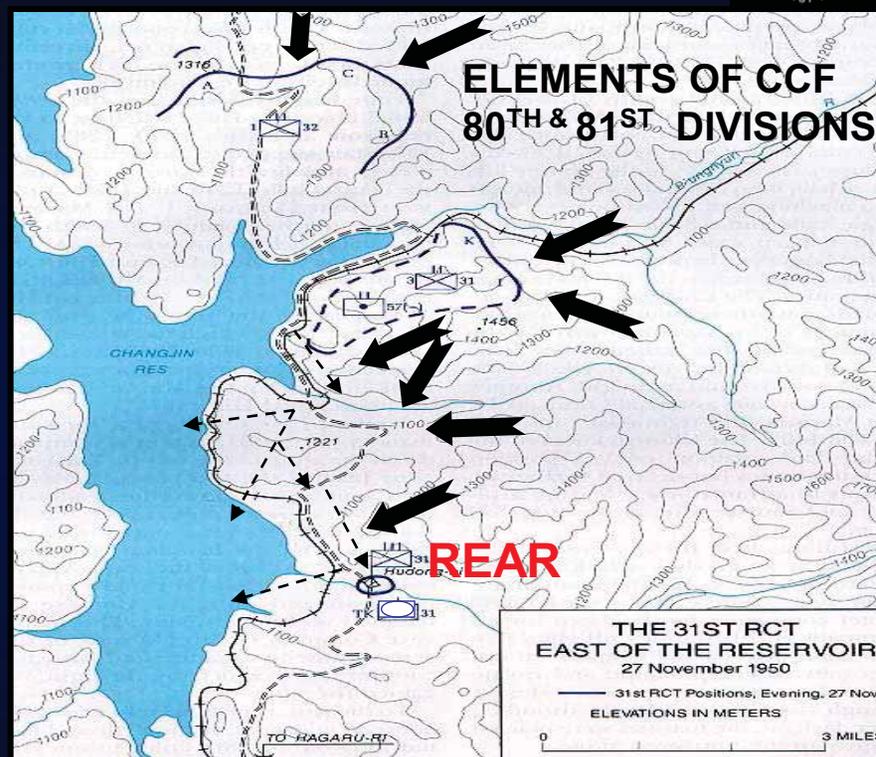
U.S. Army Field Search Data
(Cases 372, 376, 380, 435, 437, 439)

- 31ST Regimental Combat Team
After Action Report

- Oral History Interviews 1997-2005

- U.S. 8TH Army Graves Registration Records

Joint Recovery Operations 2001-2005



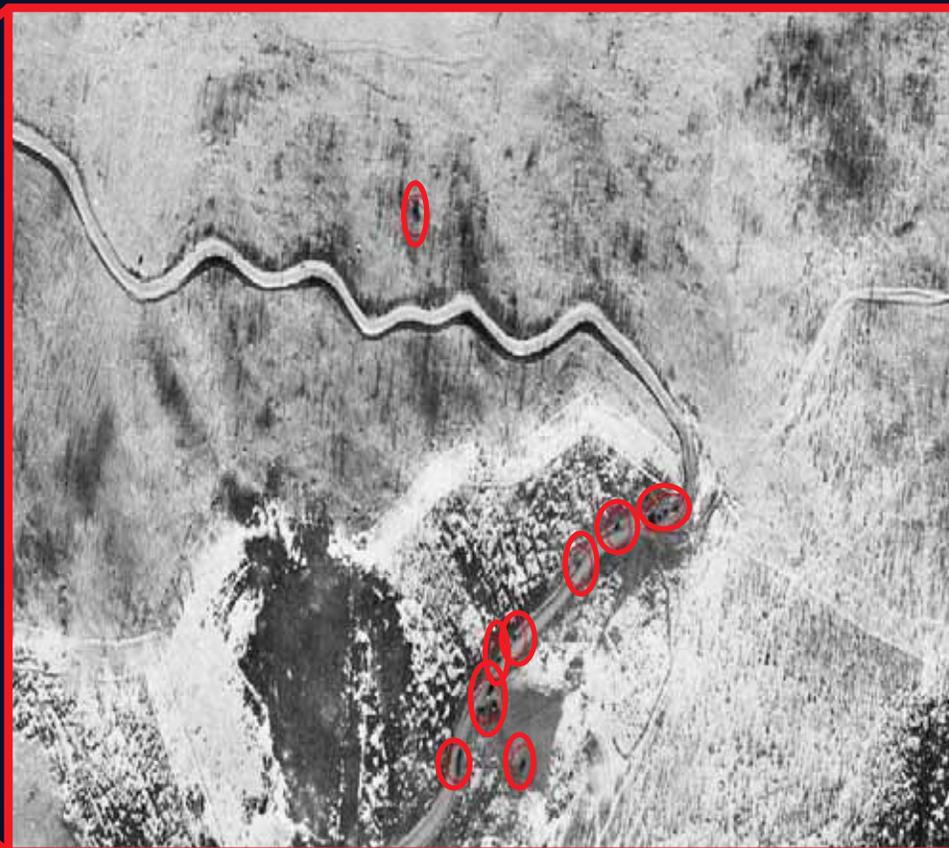
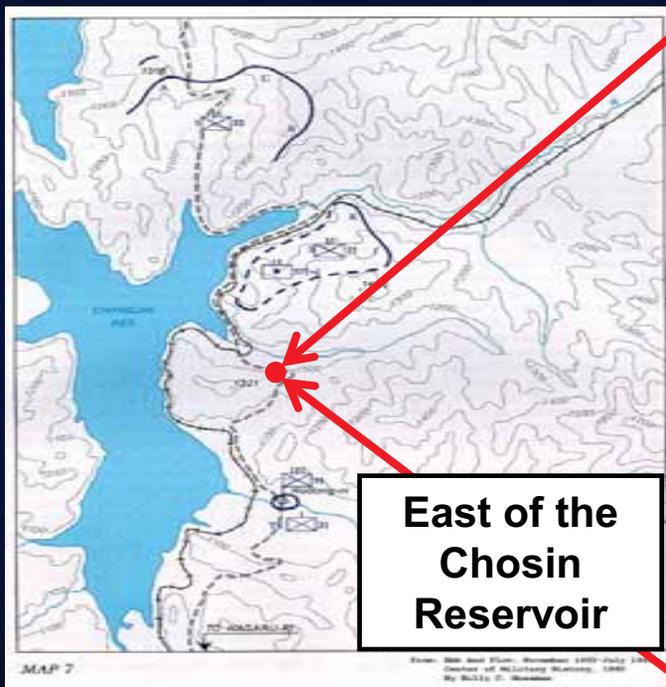
13 missions resulting in remains recoveries on the Eastern side, Chosin Reservoir.

24 identified from Joint Field Activities.

8 identified from DPRK unilateral returns
(also 5 Punch Bowl USMC ID'S)



Wartime Imagery of the Chosin Reservoir Area



Task Force Faith (31st RCT) near Hill 1221



Battlefield / Air Loss Analysis At Work Recent Developments



F4U-4 air crash site –
November 1950

B29, 3 F-86 crash sites –
1952, 1953

Punch Bowl,
K-208 POW Camp
Unknowns

POW march routes,
1951 ground battles,
F-80 crash sites

ROK archives initiatives,
Mil Hist Compilation Institute,
Services

24th, 25th Infantry Division
battle sites,
July-September 1950



Unsan, Kujang, Chosin
battle sites
1st Cav, 1st MarDiv, 7th ID
Nov-Dec 1950



Korean War Analysis

POW Camp Survey/Battlefield and Air Loss Research Outreach



MARVIN EARL BITTRICH
Sergeant First Class (SFC), United States Army

Personal information: SFC Marvin E. Bittrich, RA-98765432, served in B Company, 1st Battalion of 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division (2nd ID). He was reported Missing In Action (MIA) on 30 November 1950 and, absent evidence of continued survival, the Army issued a presumptive finding of death for him on 31 December 1953. SFC Bittrich does not appear on the "Johnnie Johnson List" or in the "Missing in Action, Captivity" report compiled from returning Prisoners of War (POWs).¹ Field Search Case 320F.

General military situation and circumstances of loss: By late-November 1950, U.N. forces had reached the high-water mark of their counter-offensive against the North Koreans. Having driven the enemy from South Korea, they followed their South Korean allies in the drive north of the 38th Parallel. As U.N. forces raced toward the Yalu River, 180,000 "volunteers" from the Chinese Army entered North Korea and prepared for a massive surprise attack. While Communist Chinese Forces (CCF) slipped south, the 2nd ID was working north. It had crossed the Ch'ongch'on River and was only some 60 miles below the Yalu River. The 2nd ID represented the "front line" for central Korea. Unfortunately, the amount of ground under their command and the speed of their advance had left units too spread out to withstand an attack by a large enemy force.

Good descriptions of the November 1950 battles of 2nd Infantry Division can be found in the books, *Disaster in Korea: The Chinese Confront MacArthur* by Roy E. Appleman, Texas A&M University Press, 1989, and *The River and the Gauntlet* by S.L.A. Marshall, Time Incorporated, 1962. At the end of the war, over 4,000 repatriated American POWs were debriefed concerning whom they had seen while a POW, or whom they had seen fall on the battlefield as they were captured. None reported seeing SFC Bittrich. As nearly as we can determine, SFC Marvin E. Bittrich was never alive in enemy hands, but apparently fell, unreported or unobserved, during this fighting withdrawal. Efforts at resolution, including preparations for future work in North Korea, continue.

Continuing efforts to resolve Korean War loss cases: In an effort to achieve the fullest possible accounting of missing U.S. servicemen, DPMO and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), formerly the Army's Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii (CILHI), have negotiated with the government of North Korea for access to crash sites, battlefields, and prison camps cemeteries.

3 April 2012

¹ The "Johnnie Johnson List" was compiled by Army SGT Wayne A. "Johnnie" Johnson, who was captured in July 1950 and repatriated in August 1953. His list had nearly 500 names, of the so-called "Tiger Group" (mostly from the 24th Infantry Division) who were captured early in the war. The men on this list died at or en route to North Korean POW camps. The "Missing in Action, Captivity" report was created from the debriefings of almost every POW who returned to military control during Operation Little Switch (some gaps) and Operation Big Switch (pretty complete). They were asked to review MIA rosters and to point out everyone whom they remembered as POWs, or whose loss they recalled just prior to capture.



Case Summary Reports



Korean War Analysis Keeping the Promise



“ The entire battalion was engaged in a night long fight against a greatly superior force of Chinese and it was only a heroic stand such as made by your brother that enabled his battalion to survive and fight for a way of life we know is right.” *

*** Letter to next of kin of a 5th Cavalry Regiment Soldier killed in action at Unsan, 4 November 1950, written by his company commander.**



Defense Prisoner of War / Missing Personnel Office



“Keeping the Promise”