September 2002 For Army Print Journalists No. 53

Post-30-

Command Information Division, Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, Department of the Army

THE FRONTLINE
Serving the Army of One
August 1, 2002
Serving the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

"Suicide is second only to automobile accidents as the cause of deaths for Fort Stewart soldiers… ."

Suicide:
The silent battle that rages within
Suicide Warning Signs
DANGER AHEAD

One invaluable quality of an effective leader is his unflinching concern for the welfare and well-being of his soldiers. This is true in war and peace.

If soldiers have problems, whether personal or professional, a respected leader will do all that's possible to help him men and women confront their problems and resolve them. He may, in the process, need help from others. But, help he must.

Suicide is a problem, a serious problem. The loss of just one life is one too many, and everything must be done to discourage and prevent someone from taking his life, thus destroying a family — his, his squad's and the Army's.

This article on "Suicide—The Silent Battle That Rages Within," was written by Spc. Robin M. Tenney, a staffer with Fort Stewart's FRONTLINE and appeared in the August 1 issue. It comes complete with a Suicide Helpcard and Suicide Warning Signs.

The article begins: "Suicide is second only to automobile accidents as the cause of deaths for Fort Stewart soldiers… ." Cause enough to discuss suicide and other real-world issues in post newspapers.

Concerned leaders and functioning post newspapers should do everything possible to inform and educated the readership about the negative effects of suicide. More, much more, than one life is lost in a suicide. And that's one life too many.

.

Post-30-, a publication of byte-size information for Army newspapers, is produced by the Command Information Division, Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, Department of the Army, 1500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-1500.

Chief of Public Affairs, DA
Maj. Gen. L. D. Gottardi

Deputy, Chief of Public Affairs, DA
Brig. Gen. Robert E. Gaylord

Chief, Command Information *Division*
Col. Stephen T. Campbell

Director, ARNEWS
Mr. Gary Sheftick

ARNEWS Civilian Correspondent
Mr. Joseph Burlas III

ARNEWS Military Correspondent
Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Chief, Army Newspapers
Master Sgt. Jon Connor

Post-30-'s Text and Graphic Blandishments
Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian (Ret.)

Tel: 703-692-6822

(*E-Mail*: Beyligg@hqda.army.mil
or
Gary. Beylickjian@us.army.mil
or
Gbeylick@msn.com)

Final Draft

Korea Chronicles

By Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian (Ret.)
Korea—H-Co., 7th Inf., Regt., 3rd Inf. Div. (1951,52,53)

"No One Will Cry For Me!"

When the guns are silent and the heavy bluish cloud of spent gunpowder dissipates, the horror of war once again becomes a reality. We had just repelled an enemy attack, and as in all armed conflicts, the outcome, on both is never pretty.

Death and destruction are the constant. Both are ugly side of war.

No beauty is born in battle, only savagery. Yet, among the collapsed bunkers, the half-buried trenches, the destroyed fox holes, and the demolished gun emplacements, there are miracles galore. Men emerge alive, some unscathed, some wounded and some clinging to life, yet alive.

Their uniforms are filthy; their hands and faces dirty. Their facial expressions frozen by numbness. They not only fought an armed enemy, but death itself and won on both counts. Ironically, life and death share the same stage in war. Both are key players.

Participants in battle have little time to reflect or ponder about living or dying; there's no time when shells explode around you and machineguns chatter with each burst of six rounds and chaos abounds. Kill or be killed rarely enters the mind; defending, protecting, surviving reign.

An officer who had served in World War II told me during my early days in combat that destiny rules. Some soldiers go through battles with few scratches. Others see only a brief moment of war's horrors and succumb. And for still others, destiny carries them through the horrors and deposits them into old age. They become combat veterans. The pages of destiny's book, the captain told me, can't be torn out, replaced or rewritten. And the ink is fast.

After a certain age, a combat soldier who lives to old age is left only with what was. Some of us would wish that certain memories would fade or go away. But, that won't happen. It would be rewriting destiny's book.

Much of what I saw and heard along the battle lines of Korea are still with me — some in living color. I learned early that battles are fought by the young; the wars are planned by the elders. The young always suffer the most; they have more time to suffer. To see men in their late teens and early twenties struggle to survive in battle and to remain whole is most heart wrenching. And the most encouraging.

I saw first hand as one soldier struggled while his friend's fought for life after both took part in the battle I noted earlier. I wished for quite some time that I had not been a witness to their plight because of its emotional drain. But, on further reflection, I was thankful I did. It fortified and certified what I had been told about the bond that unites soldiers who live and die while in harm's way.

In war a soldier's soul is in heaven; his body is in hell.

(continued on page 18)

Explanatory Reporting

By Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian (Ret.)

Most Army journalists do a good job reporting the news. They answer the basic questions: *who, what, when, where,* etc.

Unfortunately, only a handful of Army reporters go beyond the basics; they explain and clarify the news as well.

James Reston, a member of the NEW YORK TIMES, noted some years back that "*You cannot merely report the literal truth; you have to explain it*."

The literal truth he was referring to were the facts of a story.

Journalists write to share their observations, thoughts and ideas with others. It's what communications is all about: it's what journalism is all about: it's the process of transferring meaning.

Writers are recognized as effective when they present facts that are quickly and easily understood. And, many Army journalists do a great job of intelligently informing readers. They observe and describe events on post and apply good judgment in selecting the peg that best represents the news value.

"You cannot merely report the literal truth; you have to explain it!"
James Reston, New York Times

But, are they are simply reporting what Reston referred to as "the literal truth?" Shouldn't there be some explanation to accompany the news story?

I'm not implying investigative or exposé reporting or even the possibility of editorializing, but instead — *explanatory reporting.*

Explanatory reporting tells readers not only *what, where, when* and of events, the "essential truths," as John Hightower of the AP, once described them, but also the often ignored *why* and *how,* the *effects* followed by the *cause* of a news event.

We sometimes refer to explanatory reporting as "*in-depth reporting*"; others may call it "*background reporting.*"

Professor Curtis McDougall, reknown journalism professor, noted that explanatory reporting "*takes readers behind the scenes and helps them make sense out of facts.*"

Again, and this is important to remember, explanatory reporting is not a license to write investigative reports. It's a technique for amplifying facts stated in the lead and the need to explain and clarify further.

During a mid-1960s Army newspaper workshop in Stuttgart, Germany, I used a news story, one of several examples, that answered the necessary questions, yet left readers reading mere "surface facts" when there was more to the story. I borrowed the phrase, "surface facts," from an early 1950s journalism article by Robert E. Gast, another NEW YORK TIMES staff member, to underscore my point about some Army reporters not delving deeper into a story.

A battalion officer was promoted to first lieutenant, and the initial story focused on that singular event. This appeared in the mid to late 1950s.

Had the reporter gone below the surface, he would have discovered that, now 1st Lt., Don Holleder, was an all-American football player on the West Point's early 1950s football team, having played quarterback and later, tight end. That in itself was a story and would have added greatly to the promotion story either in the article or as a sidebar.

In another story, a reporter focused his attention on a veteran who learned to paint—not with his fingers—but with his toes. He had lost both arms during a battle in Vietnam.

What the reporter failed to uncover was that the veteran had not only served in Vietnam, but also in World War II and Korea, and received wounds in each of the wars.

The veteran's son called the post newspaper to reveal those facts which the reporter failed to uncover. "Surface facts" had blanketed the reporter's story.

Let's look at a more up-to-date topic which several newspapers publish: the on-post "Town Hall" meetings. Several posts hold such meetings annually, others semi-annually.

Most papers which publish Town Hall stories give readers a rundown of the topics discussed at the meetings, a "laundry list of items." The items are then published in a "Q and A" format.

These same papers start off by listing the names of a representative from the post, almost always the commander, sometimes the inspector general and sometimes the chaplain and always the post sergeant major.

The story continues with names of representatives from housing areas or complexes. Then comes the list of problems, and responses from the post. Items printed often are in order of their airing.

One newspaper introduced the story by first recounting backgrounds of each panel member and the statement that "*they were there to listen and learn and to make the post a better community.* " That summation took up nearly three paragraphs.

Among the concerns of several housing area representatives were speeding vehicles, vandalism, children's safety, gangs of youth roaming through housing areas, scattered trash, lack of lighting around playgrounds and some drivers failing to pay for gas at the self-service stations. There were a few more.

The story began with sterile facts: *This is what happened yesterday and the following persons were present and listened attentively to concerns and would consider ways and means of resolving the issues*. Period.

In comparison, Fort Belvoir's EAGLE tackles its periodic gatherings called Town Talk, by honing in on the most significant concerns voiced by housing reps. Other details such as those present on both sides were mentioned, but later in the story. The intro of the story was led off by the most significant elements of the meetings — problems.

But, that's not all to the coverage of Town Talk. Fort Belvoir's PAO Don Carr and BELVOIR EAGLE editor, Wayne V. Hall, compile a four page insert for the issue after the meetings, and describe in detail, problems discussed and actions taken to resolve them. Town Talk is also televised over the post's closed-circuit TV.

The highlight of the coverage is that the BELVOIR EAGLE targets the most significant issues mentioned at the meeting, and discusses the cause and effects of those issues. The *what* element is prime, so too is the *why* and *how*.

Explanatory reporting has a potential downside. Do reporters, in their quest to go so deep into a story, lose their so-called objectivity values? An argument has been made that "opinions" often can creep in articles written by overzealous reporters who want to "cover all the bases." And just how deep is "in-depth?"

Exposé and investigative reporting are not welcome. This point must be underscored. Significant facts that add to a story's value are. Do the facts support and advance the theme and news relevancy? Accuracy , brevity and clarity not withstanding.

Enterprising Army reporters look for facts that lie not only above, but also below the surface and they must judge well which is relevant and which is not. Such reporters are "complete reporters," practicing "explanatory reporting."

From where I sit

The role of the NCOIC:

To manage or not to manage the post newspaper

By Master Sgt. Jon Connor
Chief, Army Newspapers

In the last edition of Post-30- (August No. 52), an article was written concerning the role of the command information officer and the post newspaper. This month, I'd like to expand on that regarding the role of the "managing editor" of post newspapers.

U.S. Army Alaska's CIO and Army Civilian Print Journalist of the Year, Brian Lepley, told a tale that is becoming all too familiar in Army Public Affairs shops. And that is the expanding role of CIOs and the non-commissioned officer-in-charge regarding the production of the post newspaper.

As Lepley so justly stated: "The CIO is the managing editor of the post newspaper." He also stated: "The editor runs the paper but the managing editor must know what's going on."

Finally, Lepley gave us a litany of duties that the CIO should be doing: 1) read locally-produced copy 2) review at least the layout of the front, commentary, and any double trucks 3) monitor the story log and be advised of missed deadlines 4) be the consultant for the editor, when asked, on deciding which events get covered and the type of coverage each event receives.

In a nutshell, that's it! And for those shops that do have CIOs and do all that, count your blessings.

I felt, however, that more explanation was needed for the new-to-be NCOICs who may have had a different view of this position.

Different philosophies have existed over the years on the responsibilities for those ranked staff sergeant and sergeant first-class serving as an NCOIC. Of course, those pondering were usually sergeants major. The fact is, nothing has changed regarding NCOIC duties, but now more is demanded.

In the PA career field, I recall hearing it stated when I rose through the ranks that the NCOIC doesn't normally get involved with the day-to-day operations of the post newspaper; that the regular duties of writing and photography, layout and design, and content were a thing of the past.

"...the NCOIC doesn't normally get involved with the day-to-day operations of the post newspaper; that the regular duties of writing and photography, layout and design, and content were a thing of the past."

What it boils down to is this. What shape is your particular PA shop in?

If it has an experienced editor, an adequate staff consisting of soldiers, civilians and contractors, and an active CIO, the NCOIC most likely doesn't have to get involved with the daily operations of the newspaper.

But, if your shop has an inexperi-

enced editor, a light staff and has no CIO, the NCOIC most likely needs to offer his expertise, experience and become a member of the newspaper staff.

Every shop is going to have different variables. Notice I didn't say a young, inexperienced editor. The Army has civilian editors who may be seasoned in life and in years, but lack some basic journalism skills.

Likewise, there may be a young soldier-editor with some college or even a degree in mass communications or journalism, who has little of life's experiences – including an understanding of the Army. Their news judgment lacks experience, and worse yet, a real understanding of what Public Affairs really is, why it exists, and what the role of the newspaper is in assisting the commander to get his message out – loud and clear.

Copy editing and proofreading are but two more skills most young journalists and inexperienced editors need help in.

If it is determined by the Public Affairs Officer -- with input possibly from the CIO -- that the new NCOIC should be integrated into the newspaper staff, then a newspaper staff meeting is needed soon. The purpose of the meeting is to assess the strengths and weaknesses of everyone and determine who is best at doing what.

Editors should not feel usurped nor intimidated. Editors should welcome this extra staffer who can offer technical assistance and experience.

Most young (age) editors lack the ability for mid- to long-term planning. It's not a slam on youth; it's just not a skill most people develop early in life.

The NCOIC can offer many things depending on his particular experiences and schooling. Additionally, the NCOIC learns about many upcoming post events, command goals, and observances through weekly meetings at the company and other higher-level meetings he routinely attends.

More and more people coming up the ranks are becoming very familiar with the software and hardware needed to crank out copy, take digital photos, and slap them into a page using various desktop publishing programs.

Eventually, all would-be NCOICs should have experienced this as they come up the ranks. For some older folks, like me, the days of really cutting and pasting don't seem that long ago. And producing electronic publications wasn't one of the skills necessary during my formative years in Army journalism. While interested to learn, it was not properly developed because of the lack of day-in, day-out familiarity associated with desktop publishing. However, the theory behind the layout and design of a newspaper is the strength NCOICs brought to publications in recent years.

Copy editing and proofreading are but two more skills most young journalists and inexperienced editors need help in.

It's kind of interesting to note the word edit is within the job title editor. Yet, it seems some Army editors suffer from inadequacy in this area. No amount of expertise in desktop publishing is going to improve them.

It takes constant reading of the AP Stylebook and becoming familiar with it to improve. It takes reading other well-respected civilian newspapers and seeing how their writers approach stories, usage of AP style, story arrangement, etc.

A managing editor can also assist the editor in the weekly critique of the post newspaper. If you're PA shop isn't doing one, it needs to!

The critique is simply having the editor lead a discussion on reviewing the post

newspaper, page by page, and gathering staff opinion on what was good, bad and ways to improve. It's like an After Action Review. It should be conducted when the newspaper is delivered around post.

It must be understood this is not a session to lay blame, but rather try to interpret the final product so everyone can learn how to do something great or how to avoid unwanted mistakes. Bottom line, it's sharing of information so everyone is on the same sheet of music.

Besides the critique, the editor should be addressing things like next week's coverage on the front page, the question of the week, commentary page content, photo events for picture pages or double trucks and coverage for the sports page.

It's also a good idea to spend some time on the issue two weeks out. And, when appropriate, to start some long-range planning on events like Christmas, the back to school issue, major observances, annual training exercises, etc.

All too often, everyone is working hard during the week, each in his own little world, and then everyone comes together on production day without any real understanding of each other's challenges and accomplishments. Yes, the editor should be the best person to know how well his staff is doing, but all too often, he is busy with layout and design of the entire newspaper.

The NCOIC can work directly with the staffers to hear what walls they may have encountered and share knowledge on how to best accomplish the particular assignment. This one-on-one type of intervention can save the editor much time to do other vital things.

The list can go on and on about what the NCOIC can do for the PA shop tasked to produce the post newspaper.

Whether it's writing a commentary, shooting a double truck accompanied by a self-written story, copy editing, sharing experiences, or simply having that open door to answer any and all questions from the editor down to a newly assigned journalist, the NCOIC should be an integral part of any newspaper staff in today's Army.

Too many PA shops are finding themselves short staffed and with inexperienced journalists. I have yet to meet an editor who wouldn't want one more person on his staff.

NCOICs, if they haven't done so already, need to look within themselves and assess how they can they best help their PA shop.

After all, does a seasoned journalist's love for his craft really die after attaining a certain rank? I trust not.

Feedback: *The Role of the NCOIC*

Master Sgt. LaToya E. Sizer, I Corps, Fort Lewis (Northwest Guardian)

As the I Corps and Fort Lewis PAO SGM, although master sergeant, I am involved in the post newspaper, the NORTHWEST GUARDIAN. The main reason for my involvement is that I taught at DINFOS (BJC--1995-1998). The TDA requires an E9, two E5's and three E1-E4. There is no mid-level NCO to mentor and train the young soldiers, so my being involved in the post newspaper is a must.

I believe that as a senior NCO my involvement should be very limited, but because of the gap between ranks, it's my duty to train the soldiers and ensure they are putting together a quality newspaper. I write for the NORTHWEST GUARDIAN when I find time and when the newspaper staff is overwhelmed. I'm always overwhelmed (smile), but I can put a story together in 30 minutes. My young soldiers may need an entire day to write the same story, so I don't mind stepping up to the plate, at times, to take some of the load off of them.

The newspaper staff consists of an E5 editor (who has just two years in the Army and has never been to the Editors Course), three Pfcs (who all have less than two years in the Army), a GS-9 civilian writer, a contracted photographer and contracted lay out and design person.

Because of my background in teaching and public affairs, my boss, Lt. Col. Stephen Barger, the I Corps PAO, added this extra duty to my job description. I am not listed on the masthead, I do not run the newspaper (nor do I want to), but I do mentor, coach and train the newspaper staff, and I write and take photos from time to time. Command information has always been near and dear to my heart, so I enjoy being involved in the newspaper; however, at this level, I don't want to be in control of it because that's what young sergeants are for.

Staff Sgt. Rhonda Lawson, NCOIC, 28th PAD, Afghanistan (Freedom Watch)

As NCOIC of a public affairs detachment, I don't normally have time to take an active role in the newspaper. At Fort Lewis, I try to keep a hands-off approach as much as possible, although I do check my journalists' stories before they're turned in to the editor. I do this for two reasons: 1) Being a PAD NCOIC requires a great deal of admin and soldier support issues, which preclude me from taking an active role with the newspaper, and 2) Although I feel I am proficient at newspaper writing, I do not want to take over the editor's job. I have worked it out with the editor that he gives me the stories first, then I will distribute them to the PAD journalists. This helps me and the commander to know what and how many stories our journalists are writing, and keeps them from being overwhelmed. It also keeps communication lines open with the newspaper staff so they'll know if the PAD will be turning in any stories that week.

However, in Afghanistan, I take more of an active role with the newspaper because we are the staff. If the journalists don't write, then we can't produce a newspaper. I help edit the stories and assist with layout, but I leave the story assignments to the editor. The danger in this, however, is putting yourself in the position where you're so heavily depended on that you wind up doing most of the work. It's important to keep a balance because even in a deployed environment, I still have broadcasters to oversee, and I still have some amount of admin work to do. The NCOIC is not the editor. Do not fall into this trap, because as a 46Q, it is easy to do.

This is not to say that I don't write, because I do. Although I don't contribute regularly to the newspaper, I try to maintain my skills as much as possible. This is also important because it sets the example for my journalists. It's easy to edit someone else's work, but it's vital that the soldiers who fall under me know that I practice what I preach.

Master Sgt. Sally Toomey, 2nd Infantry Division, Korea (Indianhead)

When I was at Fort Benning, I didn't feel the need to be involved in the day-to-day newspaper tasks, but I did step in to help coach writers, especially the new DINFOS grads. They needed more guidance and feedback than they were getting. I talked them through preparing for interviews, developing the focus of the story, etc. I only wrote a few stories, mostly when Lori Egan, the Bayonet editor, needed help because folks were tasked out, on leave, etc.

Here in 2nd ID, I've got a heavier hand. Sgt. Heather Hilton still manages the newspaper production and direct supervision of the soldiers --and quite well. But the young soldiers here were in dire need of coaching when I arrived. We've vastly improved interviewing techniques, and they're slowly learning to think beyond the obvious when they're pitched a story from a unit. All this goes with them being new to the Army and the Public Affairs career field. We tend to get only fresh DINFOS grads here, so they have a lot to learn and we really dump it on them.

I think the difference between the Installation and Division newspaper staffs is in the full-time civilian editor slot at installation and the young NCO managing the newspaper at Division. At installation, the civilian editor can focus on being in charge of the newspaper. But they still need to work with the NCOIC to manage soldiers' time and other commitments. It has been my experience that there is a rift between the civilians and soldiers on our newspaper staffs. The civilian editor and PA supervisor have to work together and speak with one voice. In the Division, the supervisory chain is obviously more direct. The Specialist or Sergeant that we have as an editor here is often as inexperienced as the young staff writers and their personal maturity level plays a large part. Because of the organization of the Division PA shop, there is often no junior NCO to handle the day-to-day soldier stuff, so the NCOIC has to keep a

handle on it. Also, the soldier/editor has numerous other duties, leading PT, inspecting soldier's rooms, making formations, accountability, counseling (although the civilians do that too--or at least should be) training, exercises, CQ and other company duties. For that reason I have to jump in more often here. At any rate, I never hesitate to devote time to coaching the young writers because they so desperately need it, and I have the experience and background to share.

You can't just push them out of the DINFOS nest and expect that they will miraculously understand their new world and be able to write about it. Our readers are a tough crowd who will spot an error in a story and take it personally. Our young journalists want to get the story right. Although they may on any given day feel like we're being too critical, I have yet to send one on to their next assignment without them knowing that they've learned something and they are better reporters and writers than when they first arrived.

Master Sgt. Steve Miller, Fort Bliss, Texas (Monitor)

I often write stories for The Monitor here at Fort Bliss because our staff is perpetually shorthanded. My other involvement with the paper is occasionally proofreading pages and most weeks I travel to the printer and do a quality-control review of our cutlines and headlines before the paper goes to press for that week.

I try to leave the copy editing and the layout and design work to the editor and our younger troops so that they can learn those skills. They also do most of the proofing of the pages.

In a perfect world, the NCOIC needs to be involved, but only from a mentoring aspect. We should not be writing because there are too many supervisory tasks that need to be done (if you're too involved with the paper, these tasks don't get done or aren't done as well as they should be).

Sgt. 1st Class Warren Wingard, U.S. Army, Japan (Torii)

As the USARJ PA NCOIC I provide basic oversight; assist with copy editing; pass on assignment ideas and requests to the editor and ensure our folks can get access to who or where they need to go to tell the story. I am management/administration for the sections. During loss of the editor or several troops due to missions and leave, I have picked up the slack and got as deeply involved as needed. I do not write for the paper and do not feel that the NCOIC should. The editor manages his or her people.

It is my job to train the junior NCO journalist and to ensure they have all the tools and means needed to complete their mission. In turn it is the junior NCO's job to train those troops in his or her charge.

Words, Phrases and Their Particulars

"*The sergeant admitted the firefight appeared to be broadening.*" The word "admitted" is incorrectly used. "Admitted" can be used when a person directly answers a question, not when her or she simply volunteers a comment. The reliable "said" would have been a better choice.

***"His survivors includes his widow, to whom he married in 1977, three sons and a sister living in northern Maine."* You can't marry your widow! In the example, strike the parenthetical — the phrase in the commas.**

"Each of the members voiced their concerns about the dam holding fast."* Once again, we see a plural pronoun referencing a singular noun, in this case, "each." (Besides, the sentence is a little wordy.) *"Members voiced their concerns… ."

***Emigrate and immigrate:* A person "emigrates from" a country or a person "immigrates to" a country. Note the required accompanying prepositions: "to" and "from."**

***"He was enamored about his image as a hard-charging soldier."* "Enamored about" is not a recognized idiom. "Enamored" takes "of" or "with." A person is "enamored of" another person, and "enamored with" a thing.**

***"If or when the call is sounded, the unit is prepared to take part in the action."* The phrase, "if or when" is not necessary. Use "if" or "when," but not both.**

Correction

In the previous Post-30-, I incorrectly stated that *Brig. Gen. Robert E. Gaylord* had been the chief of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command before returning to OCPA, DA. General Gaylord served as the Recruiting Command's Deputy Commanding General—East.

Consider All Facts, Think Before Writing

An effective journalist thinks out a story before writing it. His first task is to fully understand the subject he intends to write about. Until this is achieved, developing an idea or presenting it forcefully becomes difficult.

Once the writer knows what he is going to say he should determine how much the story is worth. And once the scope of a story is determined, organization of facts must be considered.

The lead the reporter writes must tell readers what's to come later in the story. In a news story, once clearly, concisely and simply expressed, the five "Ws " arouse the readers' curiosity enough to lure them to read the remainder of the story.

Suppose, however, the reader wants more details. That's where the development of the story requires the writer to think more about his presentation.

Are there enough important details to warrant lengthy explanations? Are readers uninformed and in need of more information or do they already know most of the facts? And, how about space limitations?

From the beginning to the end, the writer must think a story through. How well he does his job depends on reader acceptance of his story.

Sportswriters Should Develop Sidebars

Sports writing offers a real challenge to imagination and creativity. Here are a some ways top-notch Army journalists can make the sports pages more colorful and interesting.

- Learn as much as possible about the unit's athletes — their sports backgrounds. Ambitions, records and abilities — for possible feature or sidebar stories.
- Study stories of other Army sports journalists for ideas.
- Vary sentence and paragraph length.
- Avoid the host of clichés common in sports.
- Don't let a feature story become a cut-and-dried delivery of facts.
- Learn to write the combination or roundup story.

Sports pages should be laid out boldly—large headlines and photos. As in all page layouts, the point here is to snatch readers' attention and get them involved in the stories. Sports pages are popular among soldiers; most soldiers often turn to sports pages after scanning the front page. Give them something to look forward to.

Sgt. Peter Fitzgerald, 2000 Keith L. Ware and Thomas Jefferson Military Print Journalist of the Year, is in Germany, serving as the PA NCO of the 7th Sig. Bde.

Maj. Michael Lawhorn has been assigned as Fort Irwin's PAO. The major commanded a PAD and produced the TALON in Kosovo several years ago. The TALON is still active.

The Recruiting Command's RECRUITER JOURNAL has added an assistant editor to its staff. He's Walt Kloeppel, an experienced writer of outdoor activities and editor still of the KENTUCKY BOWHUNTER MAGAZINE.

Master Sgt. Richard Puckett has been selected to succeed Master Sgt. David Schad as the PAO NCO to the Sergeant Major of the Army. Sergeant Schad is scheduled to retire in a few months.

Spc. Charles Siler, formerly editor of the INDIANHEAD, the weekly tabloid of the 2nd Inf. Div., in Korea is headed to Fort Eustis. Sgt. Heather Hilton, who was editor before Siler, is back editing as well besides being named as the division's Command Information NCO. Hilton and Siler contributed to the Indianhead's receiving its second Journalist Award. Maj. Brian Maka is the PAO.

Fort Hood's sports pages have come alive thanks to the creativity of Spc, Charles Goff, who's been the paper's sports editor. Goff writes and photographs almost all of the sports material.

Sgt. Shawn Woodard, senior staff writer with Fort Jackson's LEADER has produced numerous interesting, informative and well-written articles. Woodard was previously editor of the 2nd Inf. Div. INDIANHEAD.

The SCOUT, Fort Huachuca's CE broadsheet has made many dynamic changes in its looks and content. Bold and innovative layouts have become its trademark thanks to the creativity and experience of its editor, Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks.

Sgt. 1st Class James A. Yocum, assigned as NCOIC of Fort Carson's PA shop, is on his way to AFN—Europe, where he'll be with the network's Operations branch. Before his assignment at Fort Carson, Yocum was an instructor at DINFOS.

Sgt. Bradley Rhen has taken the editor's seat of HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY, the CE broadsheet of the 25th Inf. Div. In Hawaii. Rhen, previously assigned to USARPAC, served as editor Fort Myer's PENTAGRAM and won a Journalist Award for the paper.

ARSENAL ACCENTS, monthly tabloid of Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark. has a new editor, Bill Bischof. Formerly a reporter with several commercial newspapers, Bischof holds a degree in journalism from University of Central Arkansas.

New Chief of Command Information

Col. James M. Allen has been named Chief of Command Information, DA. He succeeds Col Stephen T. Campbell, who has been assigned as Chief of Public Affairs, TRADOC.

Col. Allen, formerly Chief of Plans Division, OCPA, DA, has an extensive background in journalism as reporter and later as publisher of a string of commercial newspapers.

Col. Stephanie L Hoehne, previously, Deputy Chief of Public Affairs, is now chief of the newly formed Strategic Communication Division, OCPA, formerly known as the Plans Division.

FROM The FIELD

Army newspapers shown on this page have honed in on two serious problems plaguing the nation: child abduction and the West Nile Virus infection. Unlike most commercial newspapers, which focus heavily on news accounts on abductions and virus infections, Army post and unit newspapers provide readers a service: preventive ways and means to avoid losing a child to an abduction or to being infected by mosquitoes carrying the West Mile Virus. One newspaper in the collage dealt with a problem presently unique to the military: government credit card abuse.

The majority of the Army's massive community depends on post or unit newspapers for news and information that informs, educates and enlightens; this has been borne out in numerous tests dating back to the 1960s. That Army newspapers serve as positive influences on men and women in and out of uniform was boldly underscored during the 1970s.

Unfortunately, we have among us newspapers which ignore real-world issues as though they don't exist or are no consequence. These papers live by the twisted guideline: *"Don't air dirty linen in public,"* until something serious happens. Then comes the rush to perform a service that should have been printed earlier on the pages.

The Army still has a group of post and unit newspapers committed to providing a service to their readership, spotlighting not only the professional but also the personal needs of the men and women, military and civilian who populate their installations:

***Left* —** The Fort Knox INSIDE THE TURRET, "Tips For Parents, Children Prevent Child Abductions**,"** by **Spc. Carmen Heflin,** editor **Larry Barnes,** published Aug. 22. ***Top center* —** Connecticut National Guard CONNECTICUT GUARDIAN, "Charge Card Abuse: Are You Guilty," by **Sgt. 1st Class Debbie Newton**, author and editor, published in August. ***Bottom center* —** Fort Myer's PENTAGRAM, Mosquitoes Test West Nile Virus Positive, by **Spc. Chuck Wagner**, editor **Beau Wittington,** published Aug. 2**.** ***Right* —** Walter Reed Army Medical STRIPE**,** "Reduce Your Risk Of West Nile Infection, no byline, published Aug. 2. ***Right center* —** Fort Rucker ARMY FLIER, "Know Health Risks Of West Nile Virus," by **Spc. Denise A. Williamson,** editor **Staff Sgt. Montigo White**, published Aug. 8.

Veterans remember...
The Forgotten War

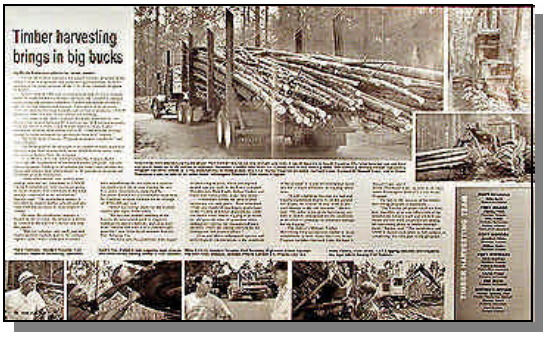
MEMORY HEALER

Top left — An excellent presentation by the August 2 PENTAGRAM, Fort Myer's weekly tabloid, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War, July 27, 1953. Story and photos by **Dennis Ryan**. ***Right —*** Another effective presentation by the June 27 Fort Huachuca SCOUT, weekly broadsheet, focused on the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall. Story and two photos by **Sgt. Jessica Inigo**. The third by **Katherine Goode**. ***Lower right —*** The Feb. 7 (the postman just delivered the issue) INSIDE THE TURRET, the Fort Knox weekly broadsheet, published an informative and interesting display, "Handy Barometer—Palms May Indicate The Future," by Spc. **Stacie Mitschke**. **Mitschke** left the Army several months ago. ***Lower right —*** Double trucks, once a center piece for tabloids and newsletters, have found their place in broadsheets. The June 20 issue of Fort Stewart's FRONTLINE, carried an interesting two-page spread, "Training For The Real World," story by **Pfc. Katherine Robinson**, supporting photos by **Spc. Mason Lowery** and **Pfc. Natalie Schlotman**.

Spectrum
Handy barometer
Palms may indicate the future

Training for the real world
Marne soldiers make it real at National Training Center

Top left — Good timing can often result in great photographs. This photo on page one of the July 4 Fort Hood's SENTINEL (broadsheet) shows soldiers loading simulated ammunition to a hovering UH60 Blackhawk during an exercise. It was snapped by **Spc. Lisa Jendry**, a member of the 4th PAD, stationed at the post. ***Right —*** One of the best — and unique — Op/Ed pages in Army newspapers belongs to the Fort Belvoir's BELVOIR EAGLE (tabloid). A relevant commentary written under it's Forum section almost always becomes the topic of its "Eagle On The Street," Q and A. The one shown focuses on leadership. The commentary under Forum was written by **Spc. Casondra Brewster** and the question, "What Do You Think Makes A Good Leader?" is asked of six members of the post and published in the July 25 issue. **Wayne V. Hall** is editor. ***Lower left —*** Unique to say the least is the continuing column in the Fort Huachuca SCOUT (broadsheet). The post's commanding general, **Brig. Gen. James A. Marks** and his wife, **Marty**, speak to members of the post via their own weekly column, "Team Talk." This has to be a first in Army newspapers. Bravo to the person who came up with this idea.



Top center — Big and bold photo grabs attention and that's what this layout does. It appeared in the July 12 BAYONET, Fort Benning's broadsheet. The accompanying article was written by **Angela Sachitano** with a photo by **Lori Egan** for back up. ***Top right —*** A two-time J-Award winner, CASTLE (newsletter) produced by the Corps of Engineers, Savannah, Ga., continues to publish outstanding articles and great layouts. The article on timber harvesting was written by **Mindy Anderson**, herself a J-Award winner, and was published in the June/July issue. ***Left —*** The PACIFIC CONNECTION (newsletter), published by the Corps of Engineers, Honolulu, has steadily reshaped its pages, and they're becoming more attractive with each issue. **Michelle Cain** is editor.

Excellence in Verbal and Visual Presentations

FRONTLINE (Fort Stewart—*broadsheet*) for "Suicide: The Silent Battle That Rages Within," by **Spc. Robin M. Tenney**, published Aug. 1 *(Cover example.)*
FRONTLINE (Fort Stewart—*broadsheet*) for "Training Warriors Not To Kill—Soldier-Violence Not Always Contained To Battlefield" also for "Soldier Relies On Training To Face Chaos, Tragedy," both by **Pfc. Katherine Robinson.** Also for the layout in the two-page spread "Avn Bde Commander Bids Hunter Farewell," written by **Sgt. Akilah Clarke** and photographed by **Jim Jeffcoat, Sgt. Jon Cupp, Spc. Dan Willshire** and **Pfc. Natalie Schlotman.** All published July 25.
BELVOIR EAGLE (Fort Belvoir—*tabloid*) for the commentary "Patriotism Alive, Well In America," by **Wayne V. Hall,** published July 11.
COURIER (Fort Campbell—*broadsheet*) for the commentary "Good Leadership Means More Than Just Giving 'Direction'," by **Staff Sgt. Mark Swart**, published June 27.
HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY (Schofield Barracks—*broadsheet*) for the single page feature "Aloha Tower Marketplace... Ambiance With Touch Of Island Flair," by **Spc. Stephanie L. Carl**, published July 18.
BELVOIR EAGLE (Fort Belvoir—*tabloid*) for the layout in "Camps For Belvoir Kids," story by **Wayne V. Hall**, published Aug. 1.
SENTINEL (Fort Hood—*broadsheet*) for the Barracks Lawyers column "Mobilizing, Demobilizing? How To Keep Your Civilian Job," **by III Corps SJA**, published Aug. 1.
SENTINEL (Fort McPherson—*tabloid*) for the layout in "Standing Tall, Posted At The Gate—Law Enforcement Activity Says Goodbye To Canine Companion," by **Spc. Neil C. Jones**, published July 12.
STRIPE (WRAMC—*tabloid*) for its commemorating World War II columnist, Ernie Pyle, story by **Bernard Little**, published July 19. Also in the same issue: a warning to readers from WRAMC's Legal Assistance Office that identity theft is on the rise.
DESERT VOICE (Camp Doha, Kuwait—*newsletter*) for an excellent July 2 issue. **Spc. Anna-Marie Carey** and **Spc. Christen Coulon** are co-editors.
LEADER (Fort Jackson—*tabloid*) for its continuing column "Ask ASAP," which focuses on substance abuse. The third of six articles discusses "Jitters" and was published July 18. "Ask ASAP" is written **by Donna Nicosia.**
CITIZEN (6th ASG, Germany—*tabloid*) for the spread "Work Council: Leading The Way For Local Nationals In 6th ASG," story and photos by **Maria Higgins**, published July 16.
AZUWUR (OR, NG—*tabloid*) for "Married To The Military," no byline, published in June issue. **Colleen J. Breeden** is editor.
BAYONET (Fort Benning—*broadsheet*) for "Countdown To School," story and photos by **Bridgett Siter**, published July 19.
MISSILE RANGER (White Sands Missile Range—*tabloid*) for "You Work Hard For Your Money—Protect it," by **Donna Braun**, published July 12.
HERALD-POST (26th ASG, Germany—*tabloid*) for "What If—Heidelberg Community Practices Force Protection," by **Rick Haverinen**, published July 11.
EAGLE'S EYE (Recruiting Battalion—Great Lakes—*newsletter*) for its marked editorial and graphic improvements. **John C. Heil III** is editor.
STRIPE (WRAMC—*tabloid*) for "Investing In Your Future With TSP," by **Jocelyn Olympio**, published June 14.

PARAGLIDE (Fort Bragg—*broadsheet*) for an excellent July 11 sports page, published July 11. **Sgt. Christopher Stape** is sports editor.
SEOUL WORD (34th SG, Korea—*tabloid*) for "Preparing For Upcoming Elections," by **C.E. Nitkowski**. Also for "The Lautenberg," by **Capt. S. Dennis Kim**. (The Lautenberg refers to the Gun Control Act of 1986 which went into effect in 1996.) Both published July 5.
SOUNDOFF! (Fort Meade—*tabloid*) for "Hazardous Materials," by **Jennifer Siciliano Shayne**, published July 25.
FRONTLINE (Fort Stewart—*broadsheet*) for the commentary "You Know You're In The Army When …," by **Spc. Robin Tenney** and **Pfc. Katherine Robinson**, published July 11.
LRDISPATCH (COE, Little Rock—*newsletter*) for the layout in "Ozark Powerhouse Crew Puts Finishing Touches On In-house Packing Box, Wear Band Repair Work," story by **Jamie Oliver** and photos by **Toby Isbell**, published August.
CANNONEER (Fort Sill—*broadsheet*) for the photos in "Soldiers Steady Aim, Breathe, Trigger Squeeze," by **Spc. Matt Meadows**, published Aug. 1
GUIDON (Fort Leonard Wood—*broadsheet*) for the layout in the double truck, "Army Turns 227—All Services Join Celebration," story by **Spc. Maurice Smith**, photos by **Sgt. Ron Issacs**, **Pfc. James Ramierz** and **Spc. Maurice Smith,** published June 20.
LAMP (Fort Leavenworth—*tabloid*) for "Making Things Go Boom," by **Pfc. Adrian A. Lugo**, published July 11.
BAYONET (Fort Benning—*broadsheet*) for "Dangers Found At Bottom Of Bottle—Supplements Damage Vital Organs, Body," by **Spc. Douglas DeMaio**. Also for the commentaries "A Letter To The New Bride," by **Bridgett Siter**; "Cheating Cheats All Of Us," by **Rich McDowell**. Also for the layout in "Families Flock To Fireworks," by **Angela Sachitano**. All published July 12.
WARRIOR LEADER (4th Region, ROTC—*tabloid*) for an excellent July 8 issue. **Bob Rosenburgh** is editor.
FRONTLINE (Fort Stewart—*broadsheet*) for the commentary "Father Knows Best," by **Pfc. Katherine Robinson**. Also for the layout in the two-page spread "Raider Brigade" and "Six Signs Off Net," story by **Spc. Laurie Kemp** and **Spc. Robin M. Tenney**. Both published June 13.
ARMY FLIER (Fort Rucker—*broadsheet*) for "Doo-be or Not Doo-be,— Rucker Drug Use Increases, lower Than Army's Average," by **Pvt. Matthew Roe**. Also for the editorial "Mentor Young Soldiers," published June 13.
MONITOR (Fort Bliss—*tabloid*) for display in "Bliss Shows Off Its True Colors," story and photos by **Master Sgt. Steve Miller** and **Sgt. Aaron Thacker**, published July 11.
TULSA DISTRICT RECORD (COE, Tulsa—*newsletter*) for "Interstate-40 Bridge Collapse—Tulsa District Responds," by **Capt. Robert Corrales**, published in May.
POINTER VIEW (West Point—*tabloid*) for "New Cadet Fulfills Father's, Own Dream," story and photos by **Jim Fox** and for the commentary "Yankees Motto: You Can Never Have Too Much Of A Good Thing," also by **Fox**. Both published July 12.
ENGINEER UPDATE (Hq, COE, Washington, DC—*tabloid*) for the commentary "People Make 'America The Beautiful'," by **Col. (Chaplain) Lowell Moore**. Another excellent issue, published in June and edited by **Bernard Tate.**
RECRUITER JOURNAL (Hq, Recruiting Cmd, Fort Knox—*magazine*) for "Reflections Of A Recruiting Company Commander," by **Pearl Ingram**. Also for "Coping With A Slump," no byline. Also for "ASVAB Career Exploration Program," by **Diana Lee White**. All published in the August issue.
CRUSADER (98th ASG, Germany—*tabloid*) for an excellent July 5 issue. **Olivia Feher** is editor.
CENTURION (Recruiting, Bn., Pittsburgh—*newsletter*) for its marked editorial and graphic improvements. **Janet Heyl** is editor.
SCOUT (Fort Huachuca—*broadsheet*) for "Memory Healer—Veterans, Sierra Vista Pays Respect, Love to Arizonans Who Gave Their Lives Through Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall," by **Sgt. Jessica Inigo**, published June 27.
LAMP (Fort Leavenworth—*tabloid*) for its four-page special dedicated to "Back To School" articles and announcements, published July 25. **Spc. Melissa McEntire** is editor.

More names to both lists: Journalists — Mark Heeter (Crusader); Melody Fields and Alexandra Williams (Herald Union); Neil C. Jones (Fort McPherson Sentinel); Publications — Pentagram, Fort Myer, (2nd award); Translog; MTMC, Freedom Watch, Afghanistan. Freedom Watch is currently the Army's only daily AR 360-1 publication. And Jerry Harben editor of MEDCOM's Mercury

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Two Awards

Tim Hipps; Sandy Riebeling; Bridgett Siter; Stacy Harris

One Award

Larry Barnes; Tonya Riley; Nel Lampe; Dave Snyder; Jean Offutt; Wayne V. Hall; Mitch Frazier; Adriene Foss; Michael Meines; Rick Brunk; Lucille Anne Newman; Casondra Brewster; Monica Garreau; Harry Noyes; Mindy Anderson; Kim Rieschling; Roger T. Conroy; David Ruderman; Irene Brown; Karl Weisel; Tom Larscheid; Michael Mowrer; Linda Lyly; Rachael Tolliver; Robert Fox; Fred-Otto Egeler; Barbara Sellers; John Rickey; Jim Fox; Denny Cox; Mark Heeter; Melody Fields; Alexandra Williams; Neil C. Jones

PUBLICATION AWARD

Three Awards

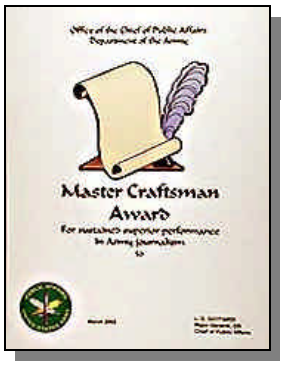
Army Flier; Courier

Two Awards

Inside the Turret; Casemate; Herald Union; Frontline; Guardian; Fort Riley Post; Ironside; Monitor; Castle; Pentagram

One Award

Guidon; Belvoir Eagle; Fort Dix Post; Desert Voice; Herald-Post; Pointer View; Torii; Talon; Lamp; Seoul Word; On Guard; Duty First; Training Times; Prairie Soldier; Citizen; Redstone Rocket; Fort Carson Mountaineer; Castle Comments; Mercury; Alaska Post; Bulletin; Bayonet; Benelux Meteor; Tobyhanna Reporter; Riverside; Indianhead; Banner; Tiefort Telegraph; Outlook; Paraglide; Phoenix Rising; Signal; Kwajalein Hourglass; Buckeye Guard; Countermeasure; Bear Facts; Tower Times; Leader; Medical Minute; Globe; Fort Hood Sentinel; Triad; Warrior Leader; Mountaineer (Madigan Army Med. Cent.); Engineer Update; Recruiter Journal; Yankee Engineer; New York District Times; Blue Devil II; Missile Ranger; Northwest Guardian; Standard; Constellation; Soundoff!; Indianhead; Freedom Watch; Translog; Connecticut Guardian



Lori Egan—Fort Benning *Bayonet*
Carolee Nisbet—Fort Dix *Post*
Rick Brunk—Fort Leonard Wood *Guidon*
Larry Barnes—Fort Knox *Inside the Turret*
Irene Brown—West Point *Pointer View*
Karl Weisel—104th ASG *Herald Union*
Verdelle Lambert—Savannah District *Castle*
Lisa Reape—Fort Drum *Blizzard*
Jerry Harben—*MEDCOM Mercury*

AUSA Presents Master Craftsman Recipients Lapel Pin, Letter

The Association of the United States Army will recognize recipients of OCPA's Master Craftsman Award by presenting them with a label pin and a letter.

The pins, the size of a nickel, has the inscription, "Public Affairs" across the top and "Master Craftsman" along the bottom. The Army Public Affairs seal is on the face of the pin.

The letter will be signed by John Grady, AUSA's Director of Communication and great supporter of Army journalism. AUSA also takes an active part in the annual Journalist of the Year awards ceremony at the Pentagon.

Letters and pins will be sent from OCPA's Command Information Division.

From page 2

Battles can last an hour or many hours or even days, and once ended, NCOs and officers have an important responsibility: to assess damages to men, equipment and fortifications. Priority is always the men. *Everyone* must be accounted for and cared for whether or not they are injured, wounded or dead.

The attack that day, although not fierce compared to others, caused severe damage from heavy shelling. Several fortified bunkers collapsed, some weapons were made unusable, trenches dug to seven and eight-feet were now four or five feet. Telephone lines severed.

A check of my platoon revealed: one man injured, two damaged emplacements. The injured soldier was treated and later opted not to be evacuated.

Ammunition was low and trips to the (ASP) Ammunition Supply Point to replace spent ammo was a must. There's always a concern the enemy would regroup and attempt another assault, and we'd be low on ammo. After checking my platoon, I headed to the rifle company Command Post to give my report.

On my way along of what remained of one of the trenches, I came across several men kneeling by a soldier who was lying on his back. A medic was bandaging his abdomen. I recognized one of the men as a squad leader, a sergeant. The wounded soldier had a tight grip of the sergeant's left sleeve.

It appeared the wounded man had a sucking wound, a wound to the abdomen that often makes a sucking sound with each breath. Not a pretty sight, especially when the wound is large and blood is everywhere. I didn't know the sergeant's name; we wore no name tags on our uniforms back in that Army. I thought I had seen him before. I offered help, but the medic preferred I just talk to the soldier to calm him. There wasn't much to say.

What I saw and heard in that chance meeting, however, impacted me emotionally.

The wounded soldier holding tight to the sergeant's sleeve — kept saying something about a "promise." Puzzled I looked at the sergeant, who said he was the soldier's squad leader. They were good friends he said. He had promised the wounded man he'd get him back stateside safely and in one piece. A promise he made several times, he said shaking his head.

The soldier, the sergeant said, had been in the wrong place at the wrong time. He had occupied a firing emplacement he shouldn't have. "Doc," the medic was busy trying to dress and redress the wound, working feverishly to stop the blood which had now covered the entire field uniform, and not getting better. There was blood everywhere.

And then I heard the wounded soldier utter a statement that lives with me to this day: "I can't die, sarge, he said softly, "No one will cry for me!"

That griped me with emotion. My eyes swelled with tears. The sergeant was going through the same emotions. He turned to me and said the soldier had no family. The Army was all he had. That's why he joined; he was RA (Regular Army). As I turned my head to one side to get a firmer grip of myself, the soldier grabbed my hand and said that his squad leader couldn't let him die. It was a promise he had to keep. I assured him his sergeant would do his best.

By then the stretcher bearers arrived and I helped place the soldier on the stretcher. He was now covered with red. The sergeant was truly depressed, muttering as he went along with the stretcher and helped hold the IV bottle as they moved away from me.

By late afternoon, members of the heavy machinegun platoon worked quickly to restock each gun position with ammo. We had fired nearly 15,000 rounds.

As I went about rechecking the gun emplacements, I couldn't help but think about that soldier and his squad leader. And I thought about my friend Lyle who was killed in 1951 by an artillery shell that wounded me. I understood the pain the sergeant was going through. It's not easy!

As leaders, sergeants are responsible for their men — their well-being, welfare, health, training, morale and everything else. The troops expect that! They want that! But, some things are beyond a sergeant's grasp and control. Miracles that are both life and death on the battlefield go beyond those who wear stripes, bars, leafs, eagles or stars. They belong to the divine spirit almost all frontline soldiers pray to for help and guidance. And, I don't mean destiny.

By late afternoon, by chance, I met the sergeant as I and several men worked on one of the positions. He told me his friend was dead. And as he did, he looked at his left sleeve. Without a second breath he said: "He was wrong, you know, when he said 'no one will cry for me!' I did!" And I told the sergeant I did as well. It was a really tough moment for us both.

Come May and November, I told the sergeant, An entire nation will cry for all soldiers; your young friend will be among them.

He nodded his head and thanked me. We shook hands and said, "See ya later!"

Several weeks later, I was told the sergeant had been Killed In Action. He too will be among those for whom we'll grieve and cry. I have for nearly 50 years.

Like many who fought in the Korean War, I continue to remember fellow soldiers who gave their lives in a conflict called, "The Forgotten War." How can we ever forget those courageous men who fought and died on the mountain slopes and in rice paddies of far-away Korea: "… to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met!"