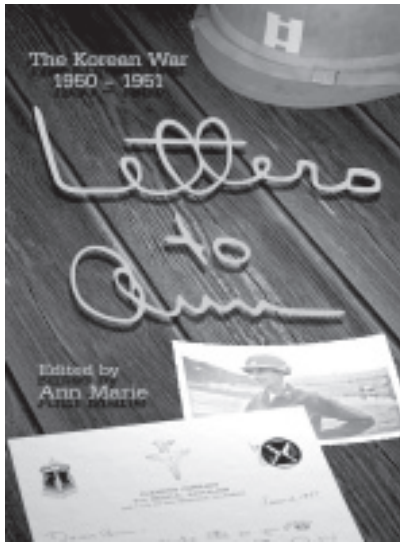


## John Hughes in Korea 1950-51

CPT **John F. Hughes** was a doctor who served in Korea in 1950-51 with the **Clearing Co, 7<sup>th</sup> Medical Bn.** During the time he was in Korea he sent home to his young daughter, Ann, a whole series of illustrated letters, one of which, page 69 of the book, is shown at right.

This letter was written 31Jan51 and shows a medevac helicopter picking up a patient from a ground ambulance. His drawing is a bit “off,” but from his description it was probably an OH-13 Sioux like the ones shown in the opening credits of the television show **M\*A\*S\*H.**



He described the destruction of Seoul as, “Every large brick building in Seoul was either destroyed or damaged to the point of uselessness.” But, despite that, he said the black market was in full swing the day after the American forces liberated the city from the North Korean forces. There you could find any item imaginable - even items that were next to impossible to obtain through regular supply channels.

After Korea CPT Hughes returned to his private medical practice until his death, at age 59. His daughter Ann, to whom the letters were sent, also died at age 59 in 2006.

A book of these letters, *Letters to Ann The Korean War 1950-51*, was compiled and edited by Ann Marie, the sister-in-law of Ann Hughes. The book, an 8.5”x11” hardcover, is available through Barnes & Noble at <http://www.BN.com> and Amazon at <http://www.amazon.com> then searching for “Letters to Ann The Korean War 1950-51.” It is ISBN 978-0-9893788-0-2.

All the photos shown here were taken by CPT Hughes and used with permission.



Patient being loaded/unloaded on to the litter of an OH-13 helicopter, evidently not in an area under enemy fire.



Some of the Medical Bn’s staff.



**Hughes** (on the R) and 2 other doctors.



**Hughes** standing along the perimeter of the camp.



7<sup>th</sup> Medical Company's area.



An OH-13 helicopter taking off from a rear area LZ.



**Jack Benny** visited the unit and "briefed" a live fire exercise.



The live rounds hitting the terrain in front of Benny's position.



US Navy Hospital Ship *Repose* at the dock in Korea.



Socializing by the Bn Commander's tent.



Take Ten, a USO troupe, performs near the front.



A Korean mountain reflected in a lake...it's blue when seen in color.



USS PCE(C)-898 (Control Patrol Craft Escort) tied up at the dock in a Korean port. It was later renamed Okpo, and transferred to the ROK Navy.

## From the Executive Secretary

I was very glad to see all the old and new faces at this year's reunion in San Antonio, TX. Thanks to all of you for making the effort to attend. I believe San Antonio was a great choice for this year's reunion. There certainly were plenty of things to do and see in the San Antonio area. I had a fun time and I hope everybody else did also.

I was very glad to see **MG Lanza**, 7ID commanding general, his aide, **CPT Case**, and **CSM Byers**, 7ID Command Sergeant Major, at the reunion. It was truly an honor to have them with us. Hopefully their visit with us will lead to an increased number of new members from the ranks of those currently serving on active duty.

This year we had a lot of open positions in the Officers and Directors ranks and we were fortunate that members stepped up to serve. Congratulations and good wishes to all of you as you carry out your new duties.

A committee was set up at the reunion to review our Constitution and Bylaws, and I am the contact person for that project. If you have any input, please contact me. My contact information is below.

I hope to see all of you at the next reunion in 2015 in the Joint Base Lewis-McChord area (formerly Ft. Lewis, WA). It will be nice to be able to see the reactivated 7ID "in action." See you in 2015!

Best wishes to all and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**John H. (Casey) Stengel**  
Executive Secretary

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