

on an unknown hilltop in a forgotten war  
two nations would unite  
and give courage new meaning

# OUTPOST HARRY

"We held."

HELLENIC FORCES



AN ARCHANGEL FILMS PRODUCTION "OUTPOST HARRY" EDITED BY JORDAN DERTINGER  
ART DIRECTOR IAN ASHENBREMER PRODUCED BY CHRISTOS EPPERSON & MICHAEL EPPERSON  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER MIKE PAGOMENOS WRITTEN BY MICHAEL EPPERSON DIRECTED BY CHRISTOS EPPERSON

# OUTPOST HARRY

Production of Groundbreaking Korean War Documentary  
Underway from the Creators of "The 11th Day"



The soldiers of the Greek Expeditionary Forces called it Outpost "Haros"—the Greek name for Death. It was classic wartime humor, a dark pun borne of a hopeless mission. More than 88,000 rounds of Chinese artillery would pound Outpost Harry—a tiny Korean hilltop no bigger than Times Square, 425 yards ahead of the front line.

Defended each night by a single company of American or Greek soldiers, the Chinese had anticipated an easy capture. Over a period of just over a week, vast waves of Chinese Communist Forces would flood into Harry's trench lines—more than 13,000 soldiers in all. And yet each of the five companies ordered to hold Outpost Harry, when its turn came, held it.

The nightly Chinese assaults would advance and recede with each passing day—a relentless tide that would churn up a roiling, bloody flurry of hand to hand combat. On the night of the first attack, June 10, 1953, the Chinese had outnumbered Harry's defenders by 30 to 1.

"All total, there was a reinforced CCF regiment of approximately 3,600 enemy trying to kill us," said Captain Martin Markley, commander of K Company.

"There was no time to formally prepare the troops spiritually for the possibility of their death in the battle that was about to take place."

By morning, all but a dozen GIs had been killed or severely wounded. But they had held the hill.

The relentless attacks would continue throughout the week, each evening bringing a flood of Chinese soldiers pouring through barbed wire, and on the worst nights, into Harry's trenches. "We could see them out there near the wire, falling right on top of each other. It just wasn't human," said Pvt. William McLennan, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, "I guess they wanted Harry. But they didn't get it. They told us to hold it. We did."





*Images from the front lines, provided by director Christos Epperson. These photos and more like these will be included in the new documentary about the Korean War called "Outpost Harry."*

On the seventh day of the siege, Outpost Harry's defiant, week-long survival and its continued defense were entrusted to the Greek soldiers of Peter Company, Sparta Battalion. Just before the midnight hour of June 17, an entire regiment of nearly 3000 Chinese soldiers burst forth from their positions and stormed the hill's northern slope.

According to official U.S. military records, "Company P of the Greek Battalion, refusing to withdraw, closed in and met the attackers in a furious hand to hand struggle in which many of the enemy were driven off. The aggressors regrouped, quickly attacked a second time, and again gained the friendly trenches. Immediately, the Greek Forces launched a series of counterattacks. After two hours of close-in fighting, the aggressors were again routed and the friendly positions restored."

It was the last defeat the Chinese Communist Forces could endure in their pursuit of Outpost Harry. Their failed adventure had, in eight days, cost them 4200 casualties. Their entire 74th Division had been decimated. And for the first time in the annals of U.S. military history, five rifle companies together—four American and one Greek—would receive the

prestigious Distinguished Unit Citation for the outstanding performance of their shared mission.

Despite its unparalleled intensity, the heroism it engendered, and the international camaraderie uniting its brothers-in-arms, the siege of Outpost Harry is a battle unknown to most, in a war too many have since forgotten.

Director-producer Christos Epperson and writer-producer Michael Epperson are proud to announce a new documentary film project dedicated to telling this inspirational story, through interviews with its surviving American and Greek veterans and dramatic re-enactments of key events of the battle. The project was inspired by executive producer Mike Pagomenos, whose father George, an Outpost Harry survivor, recently published his Korean War journal in the Greek language.

Following closely in the wake of critical acclaim for the Epperson brothers' recent World War II documentary, *The 11th Day*, Archangel Films looks forward to sharing a never-before-seen glimpse into the harrowing ordeal these Greek and American veterans of the Forgotten War met with such courage, and endured with such sacrifice. **GA**

# OUTPOST HARRY

U.S. Veteran Interviews



The Outpost Harry film crew attended the 15th annual reunion of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association held from June 15th through June 18th at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Des Moines Iowa. This reunion commemorated the 53rd year anniversary of the battle for Outpost Harry. 32 veterans were interviewed for the film.

*Donors continued from Page 6*

Robert H (Bob) Baker, Sam Buck, Lupe P Carrasco, Dan Carson, Peter Chacho, Jack Coffey, Jerry Cunningham, James H Davis, James E Day, Robert Dornfried, James W. Evans, Henry W. Flaack, John Gallaspy, Leonard E Godmaire, Edward J Hanrahan Jr., James Jarboe, Richard R. Kilgen, Gerrard F Lang, Gordon B Lowery, Joseph E. Manley, Martin Markley, Richard L Martinet, James K. McQueen, Robert H Orheim, Don R Patton, Francis X Riley, Raymond J Scherrman, Charles Scott, Charles Seeman, Philip C. Smith, Claude L Williams, Mark H Woods and Stanley Zatorski.

**Thank you all for your generous support!**

## ARCHANGEL FILMS CREW JOINS US AT THE REUNION

A group of enthusiastic young independent documentary filmmakers from Archangel Films attended the reunion in Des Moines this year. They set up a suite near our meeting rooms to film and record interviews with members of the Association.



**Christos Epperson, Director/Producer, makes some stills of our members and guests.** (Jarboe)



**Francis Riley in the hot seat, facing Director of Photography John Hall and Writer/Producer Mike Epperson.** (Jarboe)



**Fueled with an ample supply of coffee Editor, Jordan Dertinger, goes through the photographs from one of our OP Harry veterans photo albums. He is organizing a large reference library and scanning those that might be used in the OP Harry Documentary.** (Jarboe)

During the reunion 28 interviews were conducted and much research information was collected. At the end of the reunion the film crew moved on to the Washington DC area from Des Moines to interview retired **MG Jack Singlaub** who commanded a Bn. of the 15<sup>th</sup> Regiment that defended OP Harry in April and May of 1953. They are preparing to go the island of Crete in Greece in September to continue with interviews with some of the Greek Survivors of OP Harry. Greek Survivors will be holding their first reunion since their time in Korea.

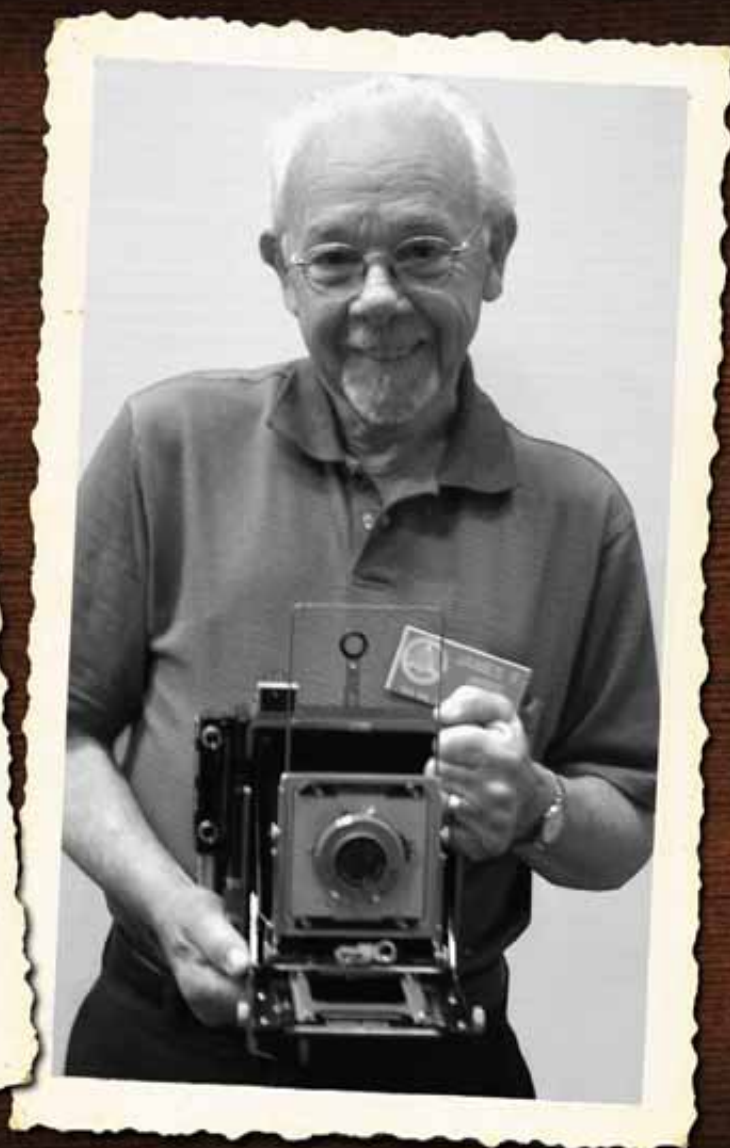
Executive producer, **Michael Pagomenos**, will be there as well as his father OPHSA member **George Pagomenos**. Our Secty/Treas, **Doug Jones**, is hoping to make the trip. He has fond memories of his trip home on the same ship with the Belgian and Greek Battalions. With a couple days shore leave in Greece he remembers being treated like Royalty by the Greek people.

**Ian Ashenbremer**, the Art Director for the OP Harry documentary was also with the crew. Our own **Warren Sessler** is acting as technical adviser for the film as well as supplying everything from weapons to sandbags and uniforms for the actors who will take part in some recreated scenes for which no pictures or film exist. Warren's business is supplying these items to the movie industry. He had just finished supplying props, weapons, uniforms etc, for Clint Eastwood's new unreleased film concerning the battle for Iwo Jima in WWII.

The reenactments are planned to be filmed in Northern California in October/November in trenches, and bunkers especially built to look like the real thing!

The completed film is expected to be shown at our reunion in Fort Benning, next June. We wish them well in this project. The potential for millions to see and hear our story on TV is truly just around the corner.





Combat photographer Jim Jarboe is shown holding the same camera in 1953 and 2006.



**THE MNIMI FOUNDATION FOR MODERN HELLENIC HISTORY AND CULTURE**

2443 FAIR OAKS BOULEVARD #172 • SACRAMENTO, CA 95825 • TEL 916-973-1120 • FAX 800-886-3792 • WWW.MNIMI.ORG

In conjunction with its *Outpost Harry* documentary film project, The Mnimi Foundation organized the 1st annual reunion of Greek Veterans of the Korean War, held on September 16th and 17th 2006 in Gazi, Heraklion Prefecture, Crete, Greece. This was exactly 53 years and 3 months to the day that Peter Company of Sparta Battalion walked onto Outpost Harry. Dimos Gaziou (the local town council of Gazi) provided meeting places at the Town Hall and at the Candia Maris Hotel in Amoudara.

His Eminence Metropolitan Sotirios of Korea conducted a Sunday memorial



service at the Church of Saint Nicholas in Gazi. It was appropriate that the memorial service took place at Saint Nicholas since the Greek Army Chaplain Archimandrite Andreas who conducted the services for the soldiers of the Greek Expeditionary Force, re-established the Orthodox Church of Korea at Saint Nicholas in Seoul, in 1953.

Interviews for the *Outpost Harry* documentary were carried out in the Anoghia Suite of the Apollonia Beach Hotel in Amoudara, September 14th - 18th 2006.



Greek Korean War Veterans gathered together with His Eminence Metropolitan Sotirios of Korea.





Outpost Harry veteran **Doug Jones** and **Captain Stephen B. Sale**, Commanding Officer of the United States Naval Base in Souda Bay, Crete, together with Korean War Veterans outside the Kiboto Restaurant in Amoudara, Heraklion, Crete on September 17th, 2006.



Signpost at the 38th Parallel in Korea 1953.



Korean War Veteran **Nikolaos Andreadakis** (Forward Observer of Peter Company, June 1953) receiving the Outpost Harry Survivors medal from **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association.





*Outpost Harry* executive producer and Mnimi Foundation board member **Mike Pagomenos** being interviewed by **Katerina Milona**, a reporter, from the *Patris* Newspaper. **Costas Kefalogiannis**, consultant to the Gazi Town Council, listens to the interview.

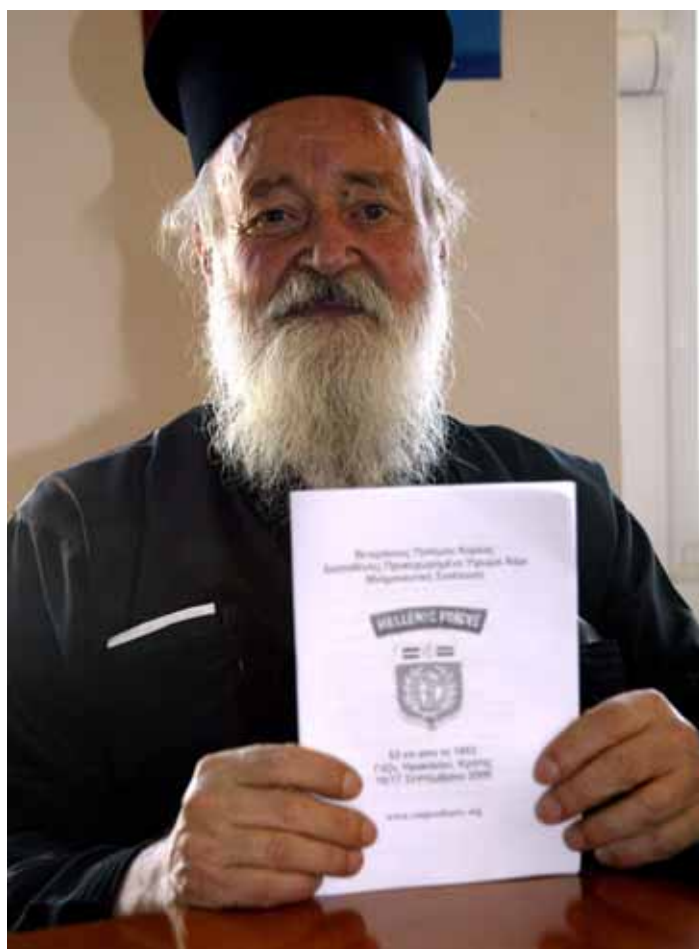
This first-ever reunion of Greek veterans of the Korean War was organized by Mr. Pagomenos, whose father George, an *Outpost Harry* survivor, recently published his Korean War journal in the Greek language.



Korean War Veteran **Konstantinos Skaltsas**, Captain of Peter Company in June 1953, referring to a map as he discusses the *Outpost Harry* battle.



Korean War Veterans, from front left to back right. **Drakos Mountoufaris**, **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis**, **Doug Jones** (Secretary and Treasurer of the *Outpost Harry* Survivors Association), **Konstantinos Skaltsas** (Captain of Peter Company, Sparta Battalion).



Korean War Veteran **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis** showing a program of the reunion.

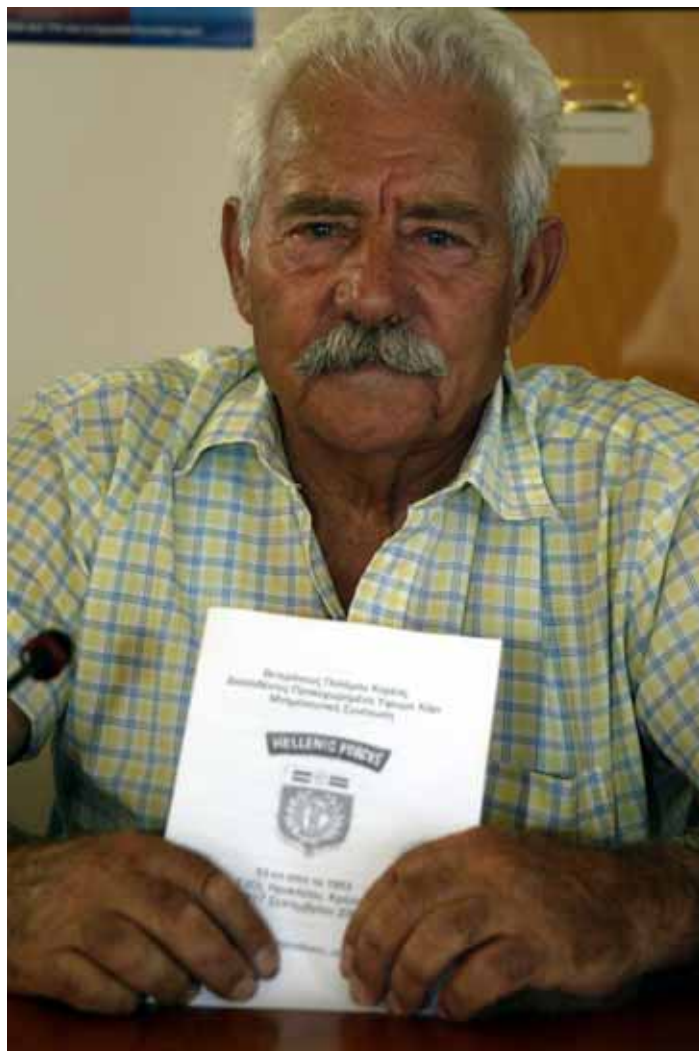


Korean War Veteran and Outpost Harry Survivor **Ioannis Saridakis** sitting in front of the *Outpost Harry* documentary film cameras. Saridakis was a machine-gunner during the siege of Outpost Harry on the night of the 17th/18th June 1953.





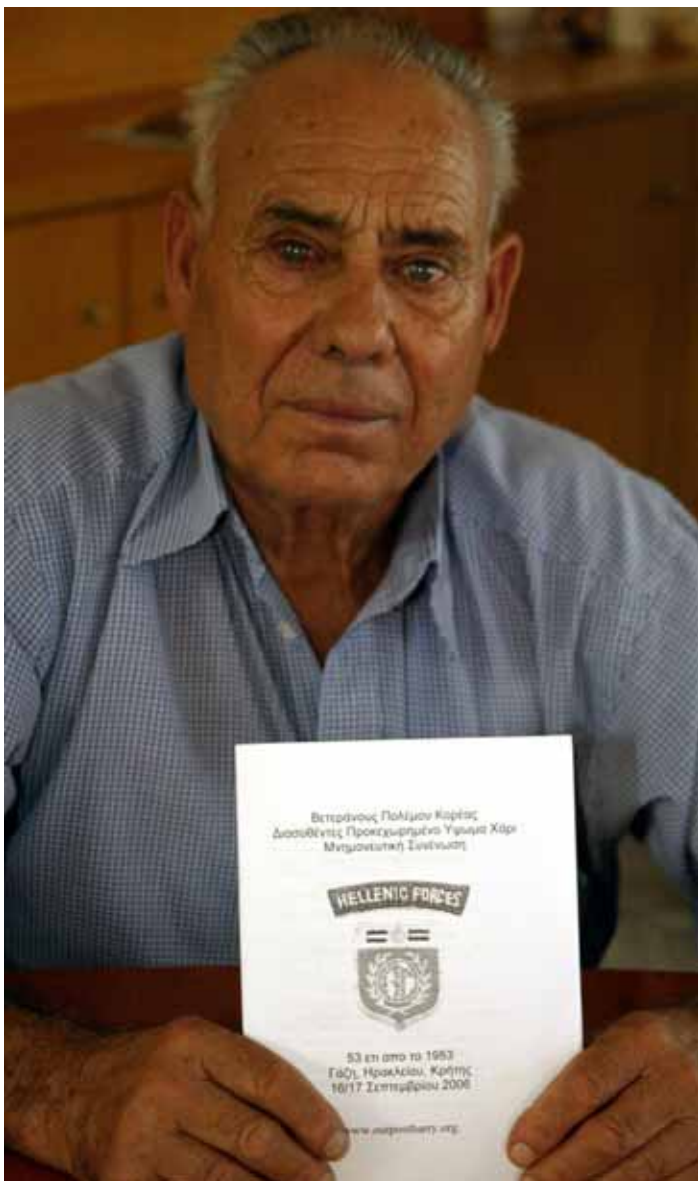
His Eminence Metropolitan Sotirios of Korea.



Korean War Veteran **Nikolaos Sifakis**. During the siege of Outpost Harry he transported ammunition to the MLR.



Korean War Veteran **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis** looking at photographs of Peter Company in the Third Infantry Division's 1953 Year Book.



Korean War Veteran and Outpost Harry survivor **Aristofanis Androulakis** showing his reunion program. During the siege of Outpost Harry he transported ammunition to the MLR.

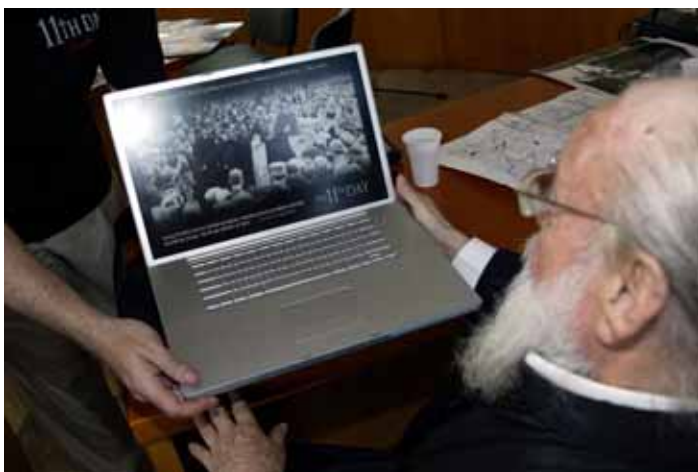


Korean War Veterans **Captain Konstantinos Skaltsas** and **Lieutenant Konstantinos Pissiotis**, both of Peter Company. Pissiotis was the only Greek officer to be injured on the night of the 17th/18th, June 1953 and went on to meet **Captain Martin Markley** of King Company at a hospital in Tokyo.



Korean War Veteran **George Pagomenos**, Squad Leader on Outpost Harry, holding an Outpost Harry Survivors medal.





Korean War Veteran **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis** watching the Mnimi Foundation's first documentary film, *The 11th Day* (Battle of Crete) on a laptop computer.



Korean War Veterans (from left to right) **Drakos Mountoufaris**, **George Pagomenos**, **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis**, **Doug Jones**, **Mr & Mrs Konstantinos Skaltsas**, **Konstantinos Pissiotis**, and **Aristofanis Androulakis**.



Korean War Veterans (from left to right) **George Pagomenos** (Squad Leader on Outpost Harry), **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis**, **Doug Jones** (Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association), **Konstantinos Skaltsas** (Captain of Peter Company on Outpost Harry), **Konstantinos Pissiotis** (Lieutenant and Platoon Leader on Outpost Harry).



Korean War Veterans' Outpost Harry Survivors medals ready to be presented during the medal ceremony at the Greek Outpost Harry Survivors Reunion. (Candia Maris Hotel in Amoudara, Crete, September 17th, 2006)

(left) Korean War Veterans **Aristofanis Androulakis** and **Athanasios Anagnostakis** with a program of the Greek Outpost Harry Survivors Reunion.



(left) Korean War Veterans and Outpost Harry Survivors **Doug Jones** (Sergeant in L Company) pointing at a photograph, and **Konstantinos Skaltsas** (Captain of Peter Company)



Korean War Veterans **Athanasios Anagnostakis**, **Aristofanis Androulakis**, and **George Pagomenos**.



Korean War Veteran **Aristofanis Androulakis** listening to **His Eminence Metropolitan Sotirios of Korea**.



Korean War Veterans **George Pagomenos**, **Aristofanis Androulakis** and **Athanasios Anagnostakis**.





**Captain Stephen B. Sale**, Commanding Officer of the United States Naval Base in Souda Bay, Crete, and Korean War Veteran / Outpost Harry survivor **Aristofanis Androulakis**.



Greek Korean War Veteran receiving the Outpost Harry Survivors medal from **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association, at the Greek Outpost Harry Survivors Reunion at the Candia Maris Hotel, Amoudara, Heraklion, Crete on September 17th, 2006.



Korean War Veteran **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association, awarding the Outpost Harry Survivors medal to Korean War Veteran and Outpost Harry Survivor **Ioannis Saridakis**.



Korean War Veteran **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association, awarding the Outpost Harry Survivors medal to Korean War Veteran and Outpost Harry Survivor **Stylianos Polemarhakis**.



(right) **Ambassador of Korea to Greece Mr. Chung Hae Moon** at the podium during the reunion of the Greek Outpost Harry Survivors at the Candia Maris hotel in Amoudara, Crete on September 17th, 2006.



Korean War Veteran **Konstantinos Skaltsas** (Captain of Peter Company, June 1953) receiving the Outpost Harry Survivors medal from **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association.



(From left to right) **Mike Pagomenos** with Korean War Veterans: **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis**, and **George Pagomenos**.



Korean War Veteran **Konstantinos Pissiotis** (Platoon Leader of Peter Company, June 1953) receiving the Outpost Harry Survivors medal from **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association.



Mnimi Foundation board member and executive producer of the Outpost Harry documentary **Mike Pagomenos**, introducing Korean War Veteran **Doug Jones** the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association.



Korean War Veteran **Aristofanis Androulakis** (Ammo Truck Driver to the MLR for Outpost Harry, June 1953) receiving the Outpost Harry Survivors medal from **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association, at the Greek Outpost Harry Survivors Reunion at the Candia Maris hotel, Amoudara, Heraklion, Crete on September 17th, 2006.



Korean War Veterans and Outpost Harry Survivors: **Drakos Mountoufaris** of the 3rd Platoon of Peter Company (foreground) with **Ioannis Saridakis** (30 cal. Browning machine-gunner.)

Korean War Veteran **George Pagomenos** (Squad Leader of Peter Company, June 1953) receiving the Outpost Harry Survivors medal from **Doug Jones**, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association.







Mnimi Foundation board member and Greek Outpost Harry Survivors Reunion organiser **Mike Pagomenos**, shaking hands with the Mayor of Gazi who kindly sponsored the conference room on behalf of the people of Gazi (Candia Maris Hotel, Amoudara, Crete, September 17, 2006.)



**Captain Stephen B. Sale**, Commanding Officer of the United States Naval Base in Souda Bay, Crete talking with Korean War Veteran **Doug Jones**, Secretary and Treasurer of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association.



(right) Korean War Veteran Antonis Giasakis together with Konstantinos Skaltsas. Giasakis was on Outpost Harry, between the 16th and 18th of June 1953, with a Browning Automatic Rifle.



Original photograph of Korean War Veterans (from left to right) **Ioannis Mavromanolakis** (seated), **George Pagomenos** (standing), **Nikolaos Andreadakis** (seated) and another unidentified soldier.



Korean War Veteran and Outpost Harry Survivor **Ioannis Saridakis** wearing the Outpost Harry Survivors medal when he was interviewed on the 18th of September for the Mnimi Foundation's *Outpost Harry* documentary film. Saridakis was a machine-gunner on a 30 cal. Browning machine gun during the siege of Outpost Harry between the 16th and 18th of June, 1953.





**Nikolaos Andriadakis**, Forward Observer, (second from right) photographed with unknown soldiers.



Korean War Veterans standing either side of the Press Officer from United States Naval Base at Souda Bay.



Korean War Veteran **George Pagomenos** showing the Third Infantry Division 1953 Yearbook to **Konstantinos Pissiotis**. This is the very first time Pissiotis has seen the Yearbook. He did not receive one when he was in Korea because he had been wounded and was sent to a hospital in Tokyo, Japan.



Greek Veterans of the Korean War gather around **His Eminence Metropolitan Sotirios of Korea**. Standing to his right is Outpost Harry survivor **Konstantinos Skaltsas**, Captain of Peter Company, Sparta Battalion.





Korean War veterans and survivors of the Battle for Outpost Harry, **Rev. Nikolaos Koutsaftakis** of the Hellenic Forces Sparta Battalion, and **Doug Jones** of the U.S. Army's 15th Infantry Regiment. Photo taken at the Greek Korean War Veterans and Outpost Harry Survivors Reunion, Amoudara, Heraklion, Crete, Greece on September 17, 2006. This event, the first-ever reunion of Greek veterans of the Korean War, was funded and organized by the **Mnimi Foundation** in conjunction with its documentary film project, *Outpost Harry*.