DIARY OF MY MARINE CORP LIFE
WHERE ABOU TS FROM DAY 1 - AUG. 9TH 1949
John K. Homan

Joined the Marines Aug. 9th 1949 at Albany, N.Y. Arrived at Parris Island, S.C. Boot Camp Wed. Aug. 10th 1949. Spent 11 weeks and left for furlough on 29th of Oct. I arrived at Camp LeJeune, N.C. on Nov. 9th. Went to tent camp and was in supply Co. 2nd service Bn. 2nd Marine Div. Left on 2nd of Feb. 1950 for duty with H Co. 3rd Bn. 6th Marines, back at Camp LeJeune. On May 2nd 1950 left for 5 months cruise to Mediterranean aboard U.S.S. Worcester C.L. 144. First port call Lisbon Portugal then a landing on the Island of Malta. The 23rd of May. From there to Augusta Bay Sicily arriving on 26th of May then to Bizerte Tunisia around the 2nd of June 1950 then to Naples, Italy. From the 8th to 16th June, visited a castle which was built in 1279, five days out to sea arriving in Genoa, Italy on the 21st June. From Genoa to Laspezia, Italy, arriving on 26th. Next port call Golfe Juan, France arriving the 3rd July 1950. Visited Cannes and Nice during the 12 days. Out to sea five days made landing on Suda Bay Crete, 19th of July 1950. Next port Athens Greece arriving on the 20th of July. We anchored at Piraeus, naval port of Greece, on 27th of July left for duty aboard midway H41, arriving on the carrier and stayed until the 12th Aug., we completed duty on the U.S.S. Worcester 29th July 1950. Next Port call Famagusta, Cyprus Aug. 10-11 1950. We then transferred from midway to Leyte C.G. 32, on 12th Aug., staying aboard the Leyte until Aug. 14th Transferred was made from midway to the Leyte at Beirut, Lebanon. Transferred from Leyte to Buxtor on 14th Aug. At Suda Bay, Crete, left the 15th for Port Said, Egypt arriving on 17th went through Suez Canal at 11:02 am Came out at 5:00 pm. From there to Colombo, Ceylon arriving on the 28th of Aug., for refueling which took about
7 HRS. THEN PASSED SINGAPORE ON 1ST SEPT. 1950 AND ON TO KÖBE JAPAN ARRIVING ON 9TH OF SEPT. STAYED AT KÖBE UNTILL 17TH WHEN FIRST MARINE DIV. ARRIVED, THEN BOARDED U.S.S. BAXTER (BEAR) APR 23RD 3 DAYS AT SEA AND ON THE 21ST OF SEPT. 1950 MADE INCOM LANDING

" NOW THE REST IN HISTORY AS BEST AS I RECALL "
LANDED AT INCHON 21ST OF SEPT. 1950, Fought UP TO AND PASSED SEOUL UNTILL THE 1ST OF OCT. FROM THERE WENT BACK TO INCHON STAYED ABOUT WEEK AND BOARDED SHIP HENRICO APR 45 ON OCT. 11TH AND HERGED FOR WONSAN, LANDED IN NOV. AND PUSHED HARD AND FOUGHT FOR 14 DAYS FROM NOV. 27TH TO DEC 11TH 1950 AT WHICH TIME WE WERE SURROUNDED WITH 120,000 CHINESE TROOPS. TEMPERATURES 30 BELOW ZERO WIND CHILL ABOUT 100 DEGREES. WE WERE 16,000 MARINE, 4000 ARMY, BRITISH, ROYAL MARINES AND SOUTH KOREANS, FOUGHT 14-DAY DOWN SINGLE ROAD 96 MILES TO SEA. GOT ABOARD SHIPS AT HAMUNING, THE SULTAN USNS GEN. DANIEL I. SULTAN, STAYED UNTILL 14TH DEC. LANDED AT BUSAN LEFT ABOARD LSD ON 15TH FOR MASON ON 16TH DEC. STAYED UNTILL 13TH JAN 1951. FROM THERE WENT ABOARD JAPANESE 1ST FOR POHANG ON 16TH JAN. ON 23RD LEFT ON A 23 DAY PATROL AND MET SOME GODS, WHILE THERE OUR CO. WAS GIVING CREDIT 4 TIMES FOR THERE OUTSTANDING WORK. ON 21ST OF FEB. WE LEFT POHANG BY TRUCKS FOR WANJO, WHICH TOOK US 2 DAYS. STAYED THERE UNTILL THE 28TH OF FEB. FROM THERE TO HOENGSONG WHERE WE MET ENEMY AND FOUGHT UNTILL THE 5TH OF MARCH, FROM THERE WENT TO KONGSUNNYON AREA FIGHTING IN THE HILLS AND PUSHING THE ENEMY BACK. ON 17TH OF MARCH WE WERE AT HONGCHOW, WAITING FOR FURTHER WORD. ON 18TH MARCH WE WERE RELIEVED BY THE 5TH MARINES AND WENT INTO RESERVE. ON THE 2ND OF APRIL 1951 MOVED OUT BY TRUCKS TO CHUNCHON THEN WALKED 5 MILES AND SET UP FOR A FEW DAYS THEN ON 5TH OF APRIL AT 5 MIN THREE WE CROSSED THE 38TH PARALLEL ANO
Set up for night by the blow out bridge. In morning moved out to Kansas line. Set up on 8th and dug in good positions. On the 10th April 1951 I went into BN. And with 4 others was awarded the Bronze Star. I received the award for Col. Homer J. Zetlengburg. Went on patrol the 15th April. We received small arms and mortar fire. No one hurt, climbed a 1500 ft. mountain. The 13th of April was made C.P.L. We stayed at the Kansas line until the 17th April at which time we went and moved out on 21st for the Quantico Line, stayed for few days. Set up 5 miles north from Hongchun, from April 28 to May 1st moved out on a patrol on the 2nd. The 3rd May at noon I received word I was going home. We were on a hill engaged in a fire fight. I left the boys at 5 PM and headed for BN. On the morning of 4th May we boarded trucks for Airport. Stayed all night at Airport in the afternoon boarded planes for and landed at field nine miles from Pusan. Then took trucks into Pusan and set up a tent. From 5th to 9th of May. Then we boarded Gen. W.F. Hase at Pusan sailing for Kobe Japan at midnight of 9th, arriving at Kobe 11:15 AM. The 11th stayed until 12:30 PM. The 12th May at which time we headed for States. Arrived at Treasure Island, Calif. on the 26th of May. We passed under the Golden Gate Bridge at 10:15. Stayed at Treasure Island for 5 days and by T.W.A. headed for N.Y. Airport, at 6:00 the 31st May went on 30 day leave then in June headed for Scotia N.Y. Naval Supply Base where I stayed until my discharged on Nov. 1952 as a S/Sgt; Civilian Life.
SHIPS ABOARD WHILE SERVING WITH MARINES FROM 1950-1951

(1) SHIP ON DURING CROSSOVER - CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. APRIL 22-28
RANDELL APA 224

(2) TO MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE MAY 3rd TO AUG 27th 1950
USS WORCESTER (CL-144)

(3) FOR 2 DAYS IN MAY WHILE MAKING LANDING ON THE ISLAND OF MALTA 21st TO 22nd
USS DYRESS (DD880)

(4) MADE TRANSFER FROM WORCESTER TO LEYTE JULY 29th TO AUG 12th
USS MIDWAY (CVG41)

(5) OFF MIDWAY AUG 12th - 14th TO THE
USS LEYTE (CB32)

(6) GOING FROM SUVA BAY CRETE TO KOBE JAPAN AUG. 14th TO SEPT 19th
USS BAXTER (BEAR) APA 237

(7) FROM HUNGNAM - PUSAN KOREA 11-14 DEC. 1950
USNS GEN. DANIEL I. SULTAN

(8) USNS GEN. W. F. HARSH - FROM PUSAN TO KOBE JAPAN AND ON TO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. THE 9th MAY TO 25th MAY 1951
"PLACES I WAS STATIONED AT"

(1) PLT. 64 CO. G. 2<sup>nd</sup> REG. BN. MCRO PARRIS ISLAND SOUTH CAROLINA

(2) SUPPLY CO. 2<sup>nd</sup> SERVICE BN. 2<sup>nd</sup> MARINE DIV. (F.M.F.) CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.

(3) "H", CO. 3<sup>rd</sup> BN. 6<sup>th</sup> MARINES, 2<sup>nd</sup> MARINE DIVISION (F.M.F.) CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.

(4) "H", CO. 3<sup>rd</sup> BN. 7<sup>th</sup> MARINES 1<sup>st</sup> MARINE DIVISION C/O F.P.O. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

(5) KOREA JAPAN 9<sup>th</sup> SEPT UNTIL 17<sup>th</sup> ON TO INCHON 21<sup>st</sup> SEPT 1950

(6) NAVAL SUPPLY BASE AT SCOTTY, N.Y. UNTIL MY DISCHARGE NOV. 1952