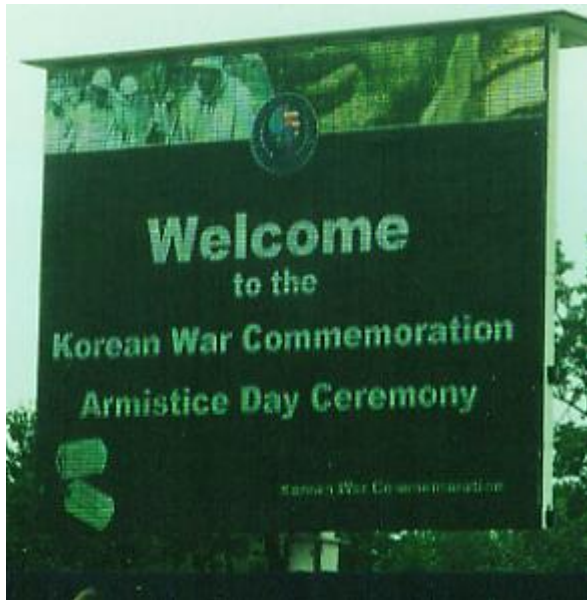
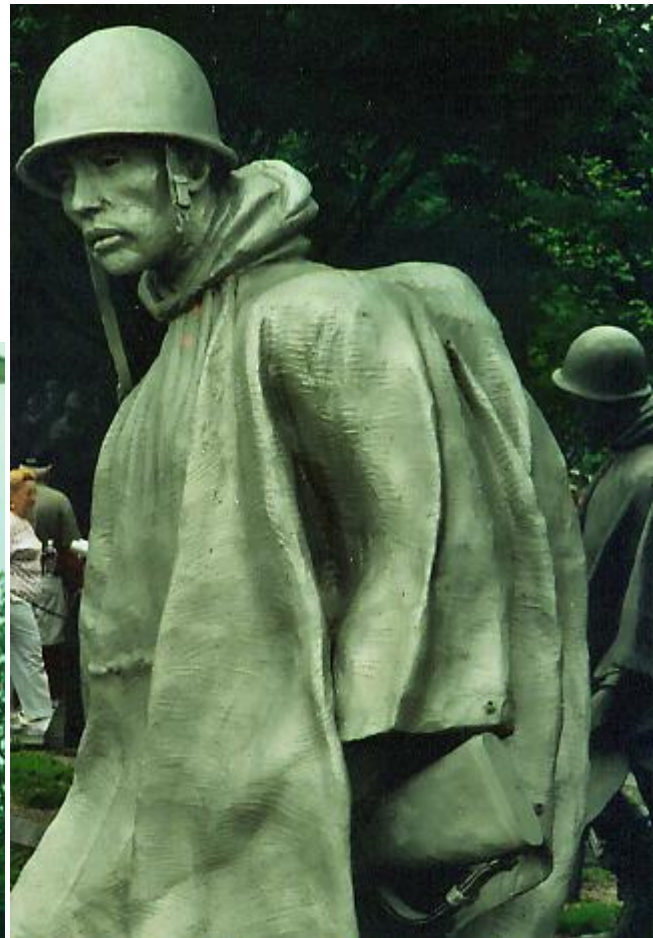


50th Anniversary of the End of the Korean War, The Mall, Washington, D. C., July 27, 2003
(Text and Pictures by Gerald F. Merna)



Welcome Sign



Rifleman, Squad Patrol, Korean War Memorial



Approaching Patrol, Korean War Memorial, Washington, D. C., July 27, 2003



Top & Below: Patrol, facing front and rear, Korean War Memorial



Marine Merna Brothers, Gerald F. (Jerry) and James E. (Jim), who served in Korea with 1stBn, 5th Marines 1952-1953. A third Marine brother (Richard) also served in Korea. (Jerry was later assigned to Easy Co., 2nd Bn, 5th Marines)



Jerry

Jim

Rich



General Peter Pace, U. S. Marine Corps, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Addresses participants at 50th Anniversary Celebration of the end of the Korean War on July 27, 2003. (Seated to the right of Gen. Pace is U.S. Postal Service Chairman of the Board Robert F. Rider, also an Army Korean War Veteran).



Gen. Pace recovers Challenge Coins from Marine Aide (Captain) to present to Jim and Jerry Merna



Front side of Challenge Coin Presented to Jerry and Jim Merna by Gen. Pace



Reverse side of Gen. Pace's Challenge Coin



Gen. Pace with three Gold Star Mothers



Merna Brothers hold one of the several wreaths at the Korean War Memorial



Korean Performers



Jim and Jerry Merna with US Deputy Secretary of Defence Paul Wolfowitz



Jerry with USPS Chairman of the Board and Mrs. Robert F. Rider



Col. Robert D. Taplett USMC (Ret.) and Jerry Merna. Col. Taplett was the CO, 3rd Bn, 5th Marines at the Chosin Reservoir where he earned the Navy Cross and two Silver Star Medals; Col. Taplett, who died in Dec. 2004, is also the Author Of "Dark Horse Six," his Korean War "call sign." (MCI Center, Washington, DC, 26 July 2003 (50th Anniversary Celebration End of Korean War)