

# Korean War Armistice day observed here in Warm Springs, July 27, 1996, With a Parade



Leading the parade is Bill Towner with his wheel chair and carrying the Eagle staff. following with the Colors from L to R Riggie Winishut, Sid Miller, Wilkins Leonard Kirby Heath, and



The Children and grand children of Chester Van Pelt, join in the parade with the veterans.



Eugene Greene on a float with his family during the veterans parade in recognition of the Korean Veterans.



Rifle Squad with Russell Graham playing Reveille as flag is being lowered to half mast. From L to R, Kirby Heath, Elton Greeley, Sid Miller, Chesley Yahtin, Tony "Big Rat" Suppah, Ray Moody and Frank Lucio stand at attention.

Veterans from various points in the northwest gathered here in Warm Springs to observe the Korean War Armistice day, July 27, 1996, to pay tribute to all of those who served during the Korean conflict.

July 27, 1995, a Korean War memorial was dedicated in Washington D.C. On that day President Clinton signed into Public Law declaring July 27th the Korean War Armistice Day and it will be observed until year 2003, where all flag across the country will fly at half mast.

Chesley Yahtin, of Warm Springs was the Grand Marshall of the first annual Armistice day parade. Yahtin, is a member of the, "Chosin Few." The survivors of the big siege at Changjin Reservoir in North Korea. One of the toughest battles in any war was fought where the Americans faced terrific odds, not only being out numbered by at least five to one and more, but also by the bitter cold weather as winter comes pretty tough in North Korea. Facing these terrific odds of the Chinese Army and the bitter cold, Americans were dying from fighting and by freezing to death.

There were other members of the Chosin Few here to join Chesley in the parade. The Northwest Indian Veterans Association came in good force to join in on the observance of the special day. The Army Recruiting Station from Bend, Oregon was also on hand with representatives in the parade. There were other veterans from various parts of the northwest present joining the big parade.

The local veterans were pleased to see such a turn-out of so many veterans in the parade which included vehicles decorated for the occasion. Eugene Greene who was unable to march in the parade but with his family had a well decorated float.

The activities started in front of the former administration building with Reveille by Russell Graham, as the American Flag was lowered to half mast. Then a prayer song by Tony "Big Rat" Suppah, and the gun salute and again taps by Russell Graham to commemorate all those who served in the armed forces during the Korean War. The parade to the longhouse led by Bill Towner, on his wheel chair with the Eagle Staff, followed by the colors with local vets and the visiting groups and floats.



Jack Quiency, second from the left and members of the Northwest Indian Veterans Association came to join in with the activities here in Warm Springs during the day commemorating the

Korean War Armistice day. There were several Veterans here to celebrate this great day.

The dinner served at the long house by Neda Wesley, and her helpers was great. The menu was just about what ever you wanted from traditional roasted Salmon to Roast Beef with all the trimmings. After lunch names of all the veterans were read aloud starting out with those who served during the Korean conflict. Than the rest of the local veterans names were read. A little gift was given to each veteran who was present. A coffee mug depicting the world representing the WWI, WWII,

Desert Storm and Occupational Forces, on the front side with the inscription, Warm Springs Tribes honors veterans of all wars. On one side was the outline of Korea, with the parallel, Changjin Res. Hungnam, Seoul, and Pusan. On the other side of the mug was the outline of Vietnam with Hanoi, DaNang, and Saigon.

All the Veterans who were here were said it was just great to have been a part of this gathering and enjoyed the day and looking forward to another.