

Opinion

SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO!

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**T**ODAY... Wednesday, June 25, 2025, the world marks a significant date – the 75th Anniversary of North Korea's invasion of South Korea. I remember well the time, and the events surrounding the perilous affair. I had recently finished two years of my three-year hitch in the Navy and was stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas. And, more recently, had helped paint the planes for the Blue Angels, who were then flying the F8F Bearcats, prop driven planes.

The news came of War Clouds in the Far East – with America making some rapid moves – the largest of which was to freeze all Active Duty Military. That meant that I was now stuck for the duration of hostilities.

This latest debacle would change my entire life... primarily meaning that I would somewhere and somehow be involved in War. And, secondly, my active duty would extend for "who knows how long?" I was faced with new decisions to make; and, I would make them forthrightly.

I immediately agreed to re-enlist for six years, in order to receive a guarantee of Tech or Service School in Memphis, Tennessee. That would mean a minimum of nine years in the Navy; or, halfway to the time of retirement. That is, if I survived the hostilities at hand. All of this, and much, much more, came to pass! Went to War more than once! And, at this writing, I am older than dirt! Wiser perhaps! Retired? Yes! But, wilted and worn beyond pleasure or treasure.

Technically, the Korean War never ended... in 2025 we, as a nation, are still entangled with perils and obstacles which haunt the most intelligent.

**That's the way it was... SEVENTY FIVE YEARS AGO! AND, I WAS THERE!**

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