WE'RE NOT TRYING TO START AN ARGUMENT, BUT...

The belief held by many that any effort to include the names of KIA/MIA on the Memorial would only cause more delays in its construction needs to be looked at from a cynical viewpoint.

The planning started 10 years ago.

At any point along the way, the decision about names could have been placed before the veterans of the Korean War.

It was not.

In 1989 when Graybeards first started querying procedures surrounding the Memorial planning, we were told to not ask questions — to go through the Freedom of Information Act if we wanted to know facts.

In 1989 the questions of names could have been placed before the veterans of the Korean War.

It was not. Not officially, that is.

Graybeards did begin an active campaign that resulted in informing every member of KWVA about the controversy.

Now we have been told there will be no official KWVA action asking for names on the Memorial. We have been told there will not be any effort by KWVA to call attention of this vital subject to the Congress or the President of the USA.

We have been told that it would be necessary to go back down the bureaucratic path of getting approval from the various boards and commissions involved.

Well, maybe.

Every country boy knows there's more than one way to skin a wildcat.

Pres. Clinton has been asked to appoint only one member from each of the our involved boards/commissions with personal instructions from him to immediately resolve all problems of the Memorial. That system would work — so why must we say that only the present convoluted process can be followed?

So — let's ask Mr. Clinton again to just 4 people to work.

"They" have spent about one-third of the donated money and still do not have an approved design for even the first statue.

Did you know that?

Do you know about the in-fighting in Washington over just who is going to take the profits from selling the souvenirs of the Memorial? See the middle column on this page. ALSO SEE AGES 38 AND 40 FOR MORE ACTS!

**WILL THE MEMORIAL BE PRIVATE PROPERTY MANAGED FOR PRIVATE PROFIT?**

Last February 14 at the KWVA Council meeting, General Davis casually mentioned the "copyright battle" in Washington, DC is one of the newest and biggest problems/threats facing construction of the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

Nothing further was said during the Council meeting.

However, Graybeards has been asking questions since that date and has been told the following as being HARD FACTS. And the bottom line is this: in the shadows stand a person or persons, a company, or a group, apparently OWNING COPYRIGHT of the planned Memorial. That means the Memorial might not be simply public property standing on federal government soil owned by American taxpayers.

That means the Memorial might be a profit-making property for the copyright owners. And if you or I want to simply take a photo of it — or maybe make a tee-shirt to sell to raise funds for your chapter and use a likeness of the Memorial on it — we might then be IN VIOLATION OF COPYRIGHT LAW.

That happened to veterans involved in selling tee-shirts with an image of the 3-servicemen statue at the Vietnam Wall. That 3-man sculpture was thought to be part of a great national memorial.

Now, those veterans who made the tee-shirts have been found guilty in United States District Court and judgment of $359,442.92 has been rendered against them.

And you thought the Korean War Veterans Memorial will be public property? Think again!

Ted Sampley, a highly-decorated veteran of Vietnam and publisher of "U.S. Veteran News And Report" "primarily used the drawings (of the 3-servicemen statues) on T-shirts and other items" and offered them "to the public in an effort to raise funds for continuing work on obtaining a full accounting of American POWs in Vietnam and other related issues."

One result is the $359,442.92 judgment against him.

Sampley told Graybeards that the Korean War Veterans Memorial also is going to be copyrighted and we will then learn that the Memorial could be a profit-making property — and not truly a Memorial to those who served and died in the military service of this great nation.

**GRAYBEARDS ASKED OFFICIALS FOR AN EXPLANATION**

Graybeards asked the ABMC and KWVMAB for their explanations of the alleged copyright agreements...and asked ARE THERE such agreements in existence? And if so, who authorized and signed such agreements?

Here is their answer:

**FROM ABMC**

"Reference your fax of March 8, 1993, only Colonel Badger, our Engineer and Acting Secretary has knowledge of any copyright matters concerning the memorial. He is presently on leave. I will ask him to draft something when he returns."


**THEN CAME THIS:**

**ABMC CONFIRMS COPYRIGHT PLANS ARE BEING MADE**

"Reference your fax of March 8, 1993, Fred Badger cleared the following with the Army Corps of Engineers lawyers:

"In accordance with the rules of the National Design Competition conducted for the Korean War Veterans Memorial, ownership of the winning designs for the memorial is vested in the U.S. Government. Consequently, the winners have no basis for a copyright. The artisans who are developing the statuary and mural walls, however, do have certain rights. Our legal advisors are seeking an equitable solution whereby all parties involved in the development of the design, to include the U.S. Government, will receive adequate compensation when their work is copied. A solution in the nature of that being contemplated by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Association and the artists of its memorial is presently under consideration."

Signed: "BILL RYAN; March 25, 1993.

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As of press time for Graybeards, KWVMAB has not replied.