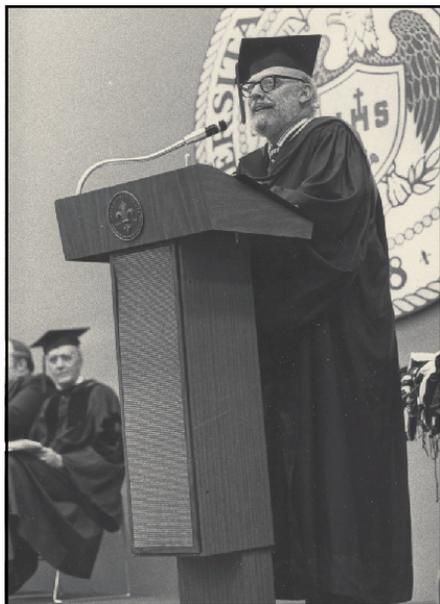


## From the Regimental Historian & Archivist

### Colonel Howard Levie

*Our history:* COL Howard S. Levie, who retired from active duty in 1963, reached a milestone in the history of our Corps when he celebrated his 100th birthday on 19 December 2007. Levie appears to be the first and only Army Judge Advocate to reach the century mark and the oldest living Judge Advocate of any service. He lives today in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

Born in Wolverine, MI, on 19 December 1907, Levie graduated from Cornell University's law school in 1930. He practiced law in New York City until entering the Army in September 1942. Shortly after Levie joined up, his wife Blanche did too—enlisting in the Women's Army Corps. Although Blanche did not remain in the Army for a career, she and Howard were together until she passed away in 2002.



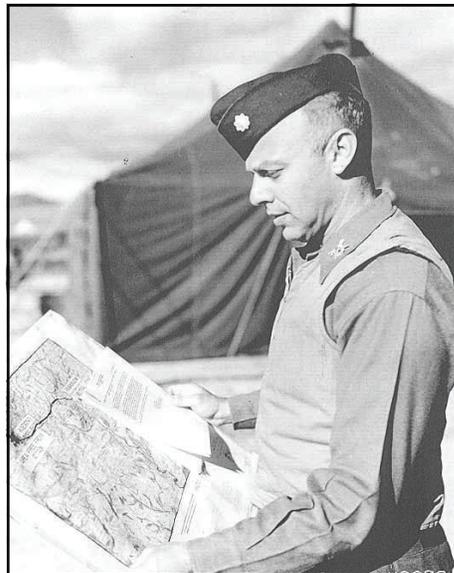
COL Levie speaking at Saint Louis University School of Law where he was a professor from 1964 to 1976.

During World War II, Levie served as an anti-aircraft artillery officer in New Guinea and the Philippines. After the end of hostilities, then CPT Levie became heavily involved in supervising the repatriation of American and British prisoners of war from China, Korea, and Japan. This experience triggered a life long interest in prisoners of war—and war crimes and the law of armed conflict.

In September 1946, Levie accepted a Regular Army commission in the JAG Department and served in a variety of assignments over the next 17 years. The most historical event of his career—although he did not know it at the time—was his assignment to the staff of the U.N. Command Armistice Delegation in July 1951. While in this job, then LTC Levie was tasked with drafting an armistice agreement that would—temporarily—end the fighting on the Korean peninsula. Levie drafted a 26-page, 63-paragraph document that, after many months of negotiation, was signed by the Chinese, North Koreans, and U.N. Forces. As a formal treaty has yet to be concluded—after more than 50 years—Levie's armistice continues to preserve the peace in Korea today.

Before retiring from the Corps in 1963, Levie served as the Chief of OTJAG's newly created International Affairs Division and as the Staff Judge Advocate at the Southern European Task Force (then in Verona, Italy). During this last assignment, Levie was often called upon to provide legal advice on NATO SOFA matters in Italy.

In retirement, Levie spent 10 years teaching at the St. Louis Univ. School of Law. He then settled in Newport, Rhode Island, where he was on the faculty of the



COL Levie in Korea, 1952.

Naval War College for 20 years – until retiring, at the age of 89.

Levie wrote seven books about law and war, edited 13 others, and wrote a multitude of articles. His last article was published in 2002, when he was 95. Levie now lives in an assisted living facility in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

**By Fred Borch, Regimental Historian**

*Send me your history: If you have an interesting piece of JAG Corps history, including photographs, please send it to me at...*

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