



24th Infantry
Division



9th Infantry
Division



8th Army

John James Dwyer
Sergeant U.S. Army
21 November 1950 – 20 August 1952

John was born on 1 March 1928 in Jersey City, New Jersey. He attended grade school and high school in Linden, New Jersey, graduating from Linden High School in 1946. After high school he went to work for Standard Oil of New Jersey (later ExxonMobil Corporation) as a Messenger and later as a Clerk. At the same time, he started working toward an engineering degree in the evening at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, New Jersey. John was drafted into the Army as a Private on 21 November 1950 at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and underwent basic training. Upon completion of training he was assigned to the Far East Command and arrived in Korea in May 1951. There he was assigned to Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 5th Regimental Combat Team, which was attached to the 24th Division, 8th Army. The Division had been fighting in Korea since June 1950. After his arrival in Korea, the 5th RCT advanced north through several areas of North Korea, arriving at Hwachon on 10 February 1952. Shortly thereafter the 5th RCT was assigned to guard the prison camp at Koje-do Island, while the 24th Division returned to Japan where it served as part of the Far East Reserve Forces. John arrived at the prison camp on 24 February 1952 and served there until he was detached from the 5th RCT on 9 March 1952 for return to the States. He arrived in Seattle, Washington, on 1 April 1952 and was ordered to Fort Dix, NJ. There he was assigned as Operation Sergeant in the 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, until he was discharged there as a Sergeant on 20 August 1952. John was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Korean Service Medal. John returned home to Linden and resumed working from 1952 to 1957 for Standard Oil of New Jersey, where he had been placed on Military Leave while in the Army. He moved to Millington, New Jersey, in 1956, continuing to work at Standard Oil for another year. In 1957 he moved to Allentown, Pennsylvania, followed by two more moves to Emmaus and Macungie, Pennsylvania, over the next 27 years. While still in New Jersey, John completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering at New Jersey Institute of Technology in 1957. From 1957 to 1983, he worked for Air Products and Chemicals, Incorporated, in Allentown as a Mechanical Engineer. In 1984 he moved to Houston, Texas, where he conducted a private consulting engineer practice specializing in compressors and turbines until 1995, when he retired. In 1998, John returned to live in Allentown until 2001, when he moved to and settled in Lower Macungie Township. John married **Dorothy Catherine Gorman Dorsey** (born 21 December 1932) on 6 January 2001 in Emmaus. John's parents were **John Joseph Dwyer** (15 August 1901 – 15 December 1987) and **Margaret Theresa Casey** (5 January 1902 – 11 January 1983).



Koje-do Prison, 1952