

Memory of Forgotten War screened in April, 2013 at Pilgrim Place, Claremont, a retirement, ecumenical faith community of scholars, missionaries, and church leaders. Some had served for many years in Korea and other parts of Asia. All worked for democracy and social justice. Our host, Pat Patterson, wrote this poem the week before we showed our film.

KOREAN WAR

**Sixty years since
the end of the war
and still no Peace Treaty
The Armistice stands
between north Korea and the US
like a broken scarecrow
above the wrecks
of lives mine fields memories
divided families north and south
highly militarized 38th parallel
Always an excuse for not
answering north's bid for talks
always including six parties
never answering face to face
always demonizing the leaders
pitying the people
giving them a little food but no peace
But why the United States
will not talk peace
with Pyongyang
why keep pushing
this impoverished country
further into threats
of nuclear war
is political nonsense
Of course an unsettled
Cold War conflict
serves its purposes
a government to bully and blame
when China and Russia
are too big and profitable
half a peninsula
for military bases and war games
a training ground
for US military and national guard
a strategic location in East Asia
an example to point to
capitalist success in the south
Marxist failure in the north
a way to perpetuate war mongering
a Cuba in the Caribbean
a North Korea in Asia**

Pat Patterson was Northeast Asia Secretary of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries in the 1970's and 80's. She was a participant in the NCCC-USA East Asia Committee and led the delegation to North and South Korea in 1986, helping produce the policy paper on "Peace and Unification on the Korean Peninsula." Retired in Claremont, CA, she continues to work for justice and peace and write poetry, personal and political.

<http://www.mufilms.org/films/memory-of-forgotten-war/articlespress/#.WcWj1a3My3a>