

Colonel **Baek Joon-Ki** (Army Serial #210430)

Colonel Baek taught Taekwon-Do to the 1<sup>st</sup> Army Corps in the mid 1950s, then in 1955 taught Taekwon-Do to Foreign Troops and in 1957 performed in front of President Rhee. In 1959 he was a member of the historic Military Taekwon-Do Demonstration Team to Vietnam and Taiwan. In 1962 he helped create the Army Taekwon-Do Team. In 1963 he applied along with 10 others for the position as the head Instructor in Vietnam. As a Major he was approved by a 7-man panel of military generals and deployed as the Chief Taekwon-Do Instructor to Vietnam in 1964. This was an official process that was overseen by the ROK National Assembly. He assisted in compiling Korean Armed Forces Taekwon-Do Manual circa 1965. Colonel Baik was a member of Army Taekwon-Do Promotion Committee in the 1960s. He formed the Vietnam Taekwon-Do Association when he was Director of the Taekwon-Do Military Instructor's Group in October of 1965 and served as Honorary President. He performed a demonstration at the US Embassy in Vietnam that garnered much publicity. He taught Taekwon-Do using Korean terminology and commands to help infuse Korean culture. Then Major Baik also was the first Instructor there to teach General Choi's new set of Chang Hon Tuls (Patterns). Colonel Baik received a medal from the Government of Vietnam for his efforts teaching Taekwon-Do there. Around this time he was also promoted to 7<sup>th</sup> Degree (VII Dan) Black Belt by the Oh Do Kwan. It should be noted that Colonel Baik made clear that while some were using the Tae Soo Do name back in Korea, he was teaching Taekwon-Do and issuing promotion certificates that reflected the Taekwon-Do name. American, Australian and Thai soldiers were also exposed to Taekwon-Do during his assignment teaching in Vietnam. After that assignment ended, he would go onto serve as an attaché at a Korean Consulate in Japan. While there he was instrumental in supporting the Japan Taekwon-Do Association. Back in Korea he was active with the Korean Taekwondo Association and also served as the Kwan Jang Nim of the Oh Do Kwan from 1983 to 1988.

### **Kang Suh-Chong**

Grandmaster Kang was a very senior student of Chung Do Kwan founder Lee Won-Kuk. He eventually formed his own annex Kwan that he called the Kuk Mu Kwan. He was contracted as a civilian by General Choi Hong Hi to teach Military Taekwon-Do to those assigned the ROK Army Intelligence Division and served in that capacity for approximately 11 years. General Choi considered him on more than one occasion to be a potential ITF Presidential successor. Grandmaster Kang served as the Vice President of the ITF. Grandmaster Kang was the first President of the American Taekwon-Do Association (ATA), which was an early ITF National Governing Body (NGB) in the United States. The ATA would become one of the most successful independent Tae Kwon Do organizations in the world. He was Chairman of ITF Title Committee and the ITF Assistant Auditor in 1973. Grandmaster Kang toured Europe and Greenland in 1979 with General Choi, helping to set up the All-Europe Taekwon-Do Federation (AETF). The AETF served to bridge gaps between Western and Eastern Europe, created by the "Iron Curtain" of Soviet control during the "Cold War" period. After Grandmaster Kang became independent he would go onto hold positions as President of American Taekwondo Federation and Chairman of World Taekwondo Chung Do Kwan Federation. While most styles of Tae Kwon Do don't have a 10<sup>th</sup> Dan, Grandmaster Kang was reportedly to have been the first Chung Do Kwan student to be promoted to that level by

their Kwan founder, Grandmaster Lee. This “Original Master” of Taekwon-Do continues to be involved and was recently the guest of honor at a New York tournament.

Master-Sergeant **Kim Bok-Man** (Army Serial #0245228)

Sgt. Kim was an early member of the Oh Do Kwan. As a senior non-commissioned officer he was instrumental in traveling around to teach and hone the skills of the Military Taekwon-Do Instructors. In 1959 he was part of the historic team that performed in both Vietnam and Taiwan. In early 1963 he was recruited by General Choi to come to Malaysia where he assisted with the creation and finalizing of the next 15 patterns. There he was also instrumental in helping General Choi write the first English book on Taekwon-Do and organize the system of Taekwon-Do for him. His important influence is seen in the refinement of the Patterns with their symmetrical nature.

While in Malaysia he performed along with Master Woo Jae Lim demonstrations throughout the Malaysia peninsula, including command performances for the King of Malaysia and their Prime Minister. Sgt. Kim organized the Malaysian Taekwon-Do Association. His work included helping to establish Taekwon-Do not only in Malaysia, but also in Hong Kong, Singapore, The Philippines, Thailand, Brunei and Sarawak. His efforts in Southeast Asia, particularly Singapore earned him the title of Father of Taekwon-Do in that Nation. The groundwork he laid out played a significant role in helping to establish the ITF, of which he was a founding member. In 1970 Sgt. Kim went to the Philippines at the invitation of President Marcos. After the first demonstration of Taekwon-Do in the Philippines, Kim founded the Philippines Taekwon-Do Association. Master-Sgt. Kim’s influence was also felt in Europe, where he traveled to as well. When Grandmaster Kim became independent he would go onto form both the World Practical Taekwon-Do Federation and the World Chun Kuhn Do Federation. His latest book Taekwondo: Defense Against Weapons is an updated re-release of an earlier work titled Practical Taekwon-Do. He has also written Chun Kuhn Do: The Complete Wellness Art. Black Belt Magazine has referred to him as the founder of Tae Kwon Do and has also been called by some as the technical founder of the Art. At 80 years of age, he continues to travel the world to teach the Military Taekwon-Do along side of his innovations. In May of 2014 he is scheduled to teach seminars in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in Europe.

Corporal **Kim Jong-Chan**

Corp. J.C. Kim taught the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division circa 1957. He assisted with the first ever Taekwon-Do tournament in 1962. When the Korean Ministry of National Defense issued order #95 instituting Taekwon-Do training to the Military and Police he was the Chief Instructor who was largely responsible for the implementation. Corporal Kim helped compile the Korean Armed Forces Taekwon-Do Manual circa 1965. He went onto assist General Choi with training system circa 1965 and designed both ITF Flag and patch or crest that is worn on every DoBok. He was perhaps “The” key-founding member of the ITF and served as their 1<sup>st</sup> Chief Instructor when the ITF was formed in 1966. The 3-month school he advocated for was required in order for instructors to be dispatched overseas. Hence he, as the course’s first teacher, was the one who prepared the instructors for their teaching assignments abroad. Therefore his early influence in this area was immense as the ITF sent many Taekwon-Do instructors out of Korea to the far corners of

the globe. He taught in Southeast Asia before he immigrated to Canada where he organized the 1<sup>st</sup> ITF World Championships in 1974. Part of his responsibility was being the main instructor at the first ITF Umpire Course in Montreal Canada. Corporal Kim was a 6<sup>th</sup> Dan in 1973 and Chairman of the all-important ITF Technical Committee. He was a member of the 6<sup>th</sup> ITF Demonstration Team in 1979 that toured Argentina.

#### Lieutenant-Colonel **Kim Soo-Ryun**

Col. Kim was an early Military Taekwon-Do Instructor. Before he entered the Army he trained at a Chung Do Kwan affiliated gym in his hometown of Kwang Ju. According to Master Philip Hawkins who interviewed Grandmaster Kim stated that one of his early students was a young man from his hometown. This young student had innate abilities and eventually becomes a Pioneer Grandmaster himself. That student was Park Jung-Tae. (This is another prime example of how inaccurate the Wiki entry is, as Grandmaster Park is listed, but not his own teacher!) After making his mark teaching Taekwon-Do in the Army he applied with some 300 other applicants for a position as Military Taekwon-Do Instructor to South Vietnam. He was one of only ten applicants to be selected and was deployed to Vietnam in 1964 to teach the original Taekwon-Do for self-defense. While there he learned the new Chang Hon Taekwon-Do Tuls (Patterns) from General Choi himself on top of a hot hotel roof. Lt. Colonel Kim did a second tour teaching in Vietnam in 1968 when he was tasked to teach the Vietnamese Police at Headquarters and their Dalat Military Academy, supervising the teaching of approximately 300,000 students. This Academy was an elite school that was considered the West Point of the former Republic of Vietnam. The United Nations honored Grandmaster Kim with a Humanitarian Merit Award for his work and outreach in building friendships with the Vietnamese. At the request of the Shah of Iran he was dispatched by Korea to teach the Persians Taekwon-Do. Therefore he is the Pioneer of Taekwon-Do in Iran, having taught some 600 Troops there to instructor level. Today Iran is a powerhouse of WTF Taekwondo with a Regional WTF Training Center located there. Grandmaster Kim maintained communications with his former Persian students and even traveled back to Iran decades after his teaching assignment ended.

#### Lieutenant-Colonel **Kim Suk-Kyu**

Colonel Kim taught Taekwon-Do to the 1<sup>st</sup> Army Corps. He was Director of Taekwon-Do for the Korean 2<sup>nd</sup> Army circa 1957/9. Master Kim was the Chief Instructor at the Army Headquarters in 1961. He served as Kwan Jang Nim of the Oh Do Kwan from 1961-66. Colonel Kim was deployed to Vietnam as a Military Taekwon-Do Instructor. In 1966 he was appointed when he was a Lt. Colonel as the Commanding Officer when the Korean Military Headquarters Taekwon-Do Instructor's Group was formally established. He then organized and led a Military Taekwon-Do demonstration of Korean Military Instructors from Vietnam to Bangkok Thailand, the host of the Asian Games in 1967. The Team performed over the course of 3 days in celebration of Korea Day that was sponsored by the ROK Government. In November 1969, he finished his term as director and returned to Korea and was then assigned as military attaché to a South American Embassy. He was one of the principal people to create the Argentina Taekwondo Association, Bolivia Taekwondo Association and Peru Taekwondo Association.

Colonel **Ko Jae-Chun** (Army Serial #206717)

Colonel Ko was an early student of Korean Karate first at Moo Duk Kwan and then the Chung Do Kwan. He went on to establish a branch or annex school he called the Chung Ryong Kwan in Kwang Ju. When in the military he joined the Oh Do Kwan after it opened in 1954, where he would become an instructor. He went onto teach in Kwang Ju circa 1957. In 1959 he was a member of the historic Military Taekwon Do Demonstration Team to perform in Vietnam and Taiwan, marking the first time Taekwon-Do was exhibited outside of Korea. Colonel Ko served as a Director and Examiner of the first Korean Taekwon-Do Association, formed in September of 1959. This Original Master held a position on the Army Taekwon-Do Promotion Committee in the 1960s. And in 1962 the future full Colonel helped to create the Army Taekwon-Do Team. As a Lieutenant Colonel he was appointed the Commanding Officer of the Korean Military Headquarters Taekwon-Do Instructor's Group in Vietnam during December of 1969. After the completion of his tour of duty in the Vietnam war he became the Director of Physical Education for the ROK Army's Administrative School. The Education Ministry of the Republic of (south) Korea inducted him into their Hall of Fame for his Physical Education efforts. This was the highest honor a Martial Artist in Korea could garner.

Lieutenant-Colonel **Lee Sang-Koo**

Colonel Lee was an early Military Taekwon-Do Instructor. He taught in Kwang Ju with Colonel Ko Jae Chun circa 1957. He sponsored Grandmasters C.K. Choi (Chang-Keun) and Rhee Ki-Ha to Malaysia in 1964. Colonel Lee played a behind the scenes role in supporting Kim Yong Chae as 5<sup>th</sup> President of the Korean Taekwon-Do Association. As President, Mr. Kim would play a significant role that often gets overshadowed by his successor, Dr. Kim Un Yong. Colonel Lee was instrumental in establishing the ITF in 1966 and conceived of the name of the organization for Gen. Choi. Colonel Lee would later become the Deputy Director of the Korean CIA and then served as Ambassador to Malaysia. Lieutenant-Colonel Lee also played a role in getting Mas Oyama to visit the ITF Headquarters and General Choi in Korea.

Deputy Director Lee would describe General Choi's outreach to North Korea as "anti-nationalist activity." This sums up the sentiment of many South Koreans and helps to explain much of the negativity towards General Choi. While people are entitled to these negative feelings they in this writer's mind do not justify the distortion of history or the elimination of General Choi's important contributions. After General Choi passed away, some of the "original" Taekwon-Do Pioneers advocated for Ambassador Lee to lead up an ITF Taekwon-Do unity movement. This gesture can be seen as not only a testament to his abilities, but also a reconfirmation of his tremendous contributions originally.

(2 Star) Major-General **Woo Jong-Lim** (Army Serial #209252)

General Woo was an early Military Taekwon-Do Instructor. He became Director of Taekwon-Do for the Korean First Army circa 1957. Around the late 1950s he opened the first civilian Taekwon-Do Oh Do Kwan school. Prior to this the Oh Do Kwan was limited to military personnel. Now the Original Taekwon-Do that was being developed was also available to the civilian population. General Woo was part of the team that first demonstrated Taekwon-Do outside of Korea when he traveled to Vietnam and Taiwan in March of 1959. Also in 1959, as a Major he proposed a Taekwon-Do program for the 1<sup>st</sup>

Army and every Wednesday was designated Taekwon-Do day. As a result all the soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army trained that day in Taekwon-Do. By 1966 the ROK Department of Defense issued order #95 that made this standard throughout the ROK Military, regardless of branch of service. He taught Taekwon-Do to the recruit soldiers in training as a Major under General Choi's command at the NoSan Army Training Center circa 1960. General Woo served as Chairman Army Taekwon-Do Department and was a Member of Army Taekwon-Do Promotion Committee in the 1960s. It was Major-General Woo who hosted the first ever Taekwon-Do tournament back in 1962. This championship was comprised of 4 categories, sparring, patterns, power (breaking) and special (flying) techniques (breaking). This was clearly the forerunner of the ITF tournament rules and composition. Also in 1962 he helped to create the Army Taekwon-Do Team. In 1964 then Lt. Colonel Woo was tasked by Ambassador Choi to disseminate 16 new additional Tuls to the Army. While a Lieutenant Colonel under 3 Star Lieutenant General Chae Myung Shin's direction he organized the Tiger Division Taekwon-Do Demo Team. This team went onto perform at the Vietnamese President's request to 40 shows in 15 days, including at the Presidential Palace.

Dr. He-Young Kimm, noted historian and scholar sums up Major-General Woo's tremendous contributions as such: From the 1950s to the late 1960s, General Woo worked not only to spread Taekwon-Do in the Army, but also to establish private Taekwon-Do schools in the city. "After finishing his military duties for the day, or on the holidays, he spent his time in the Taekwondo DoJang instructing students. Most of them were college or high school students."

Grandmaster Hyun Jong Myun: Was an early student of the Chung Do Kwan. In 1959 General Choi designated him as the leader of the student union. General Choi spoke to Kyung-Hee University's founding president Dr. Choue Young-Seek about initiating Taekwon-Do training at the institution. Hyun Jong-Min became the first instructor. Kyung Hee was founded in 1949 and was the first College to have Taekwon-Do. Grandmaster Hyun played a part in the development of both the Palgwe forms and the Taeguek Poomsae, eventually becoming the Director of the Oh Do Kwan. As such he played an instrumental role in the development of Kukki Taekwondo as well as being an early important and influential Military or Original Taekwon-Do Instructor.