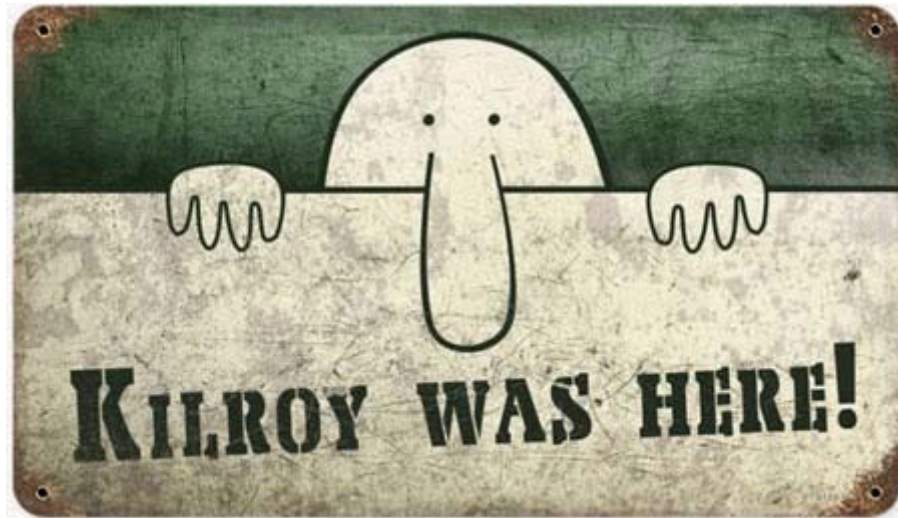


Here is a piece of Fun History.



**He is engraved
in stone
in
the
National War Memorial in
Washington,**

DC,

back

in a small alcove

where very few people have seen it.

For the WWII

generation, this

will bring back memories.

**For you younger folks, it's a
bit of**

**trivia that is a
part of our American history.**

**Anyone
born in
1913 to**

**about 1950, is familiar with
Kilroy.**

No one knew why

he was so well known,

**but everybody seemed to get into
it.**

***So who was
Kilroy?***



**In 1946 the
American**

**Transit Association, through its radio
program,**

**"Speak
to
America,"**

sponsored a nationwide

contest to

find the

real Kilroy, offering a

**prize of a real trolley car to the
person**

who could prove

himself

to

be the genuine article.

Almost

40 men stepped forward to make

that claim,

but

only James Kilroy from Halifax,

Massachusetts,

had evidence of

his

identity.



**'Kilroy' was a
46-year old
shipyard worker
during the
war
who worked as a
checker at the ForeRiver Shipyard
in Quincy. His
job was to go
around and check on the
number of rivets completed.
Riveters were
on piecework and
got
paid by the rivet. He would count a**

**block of
rivets and
put a check mark in semi-waxed
lumber chalk,
so the
rivets
wouldn't be counted twice.
When
Kilroy went
off duty, the riveters
would erase the mark.**

**Later
on, an
off-shift inspector would
come
through
and count the rivets a second
time,
resulting in
double pay for
the riveters.**



**One day Kilroy's
boss
called
him
into his office.**

**The
foreman was upset
about all the wages being paid
to riveters, and
asked him to**

investigate. It was then
he realized what had been going
on. The
tight spaces he
had
to crawl in to check the rivets didn't

lend

themselves to

lugging around a paint can and
brush, so
Kilroy

decided to

stick with the waxy chalk. He
continued to
put his check

mark on each job he
inspected, but added

'KILROY WAS

HERE'

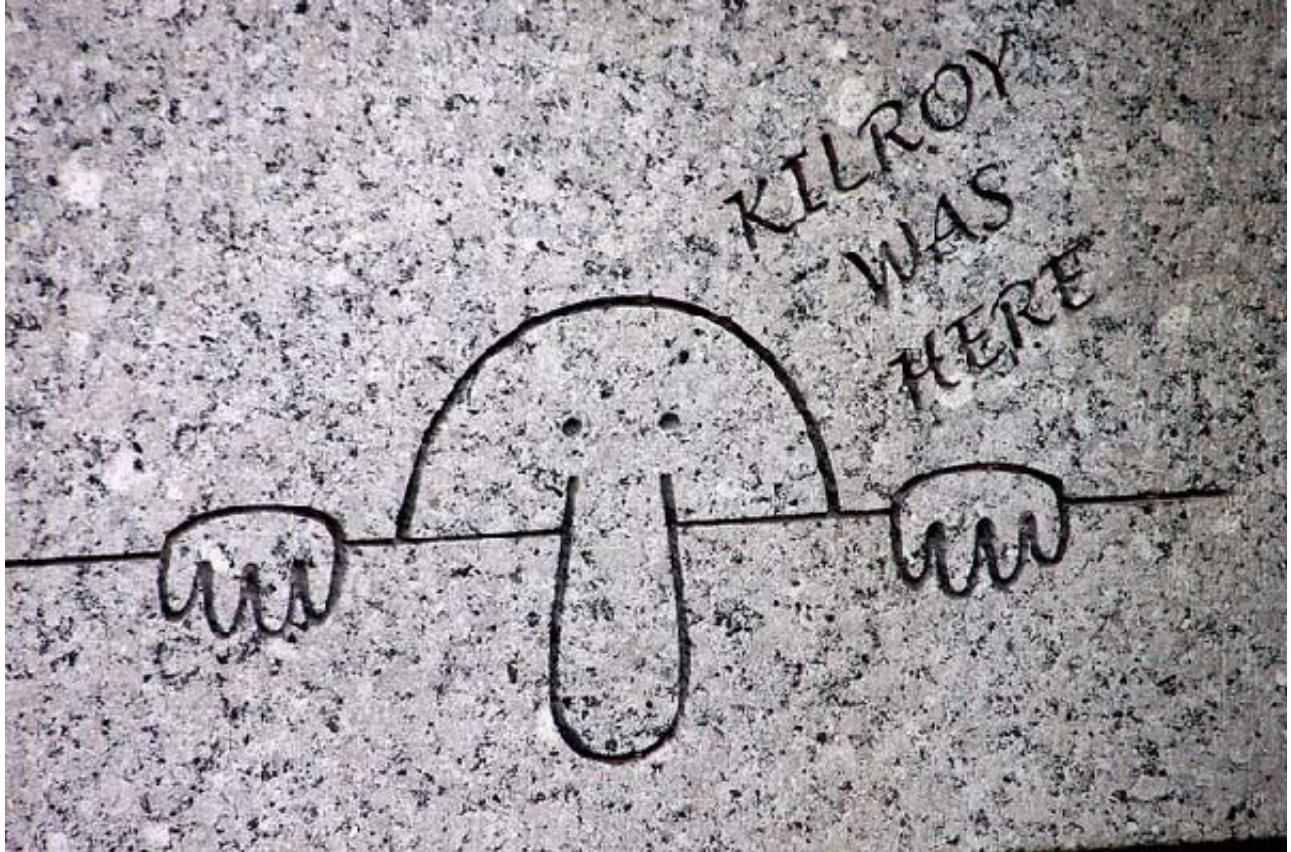
in

king-sized
letters next to the check, and eventually

added
the

sketch

**of the chap with the long nose
peering
over the fence and
that became part of
the Kilroy message.**



**Once he did
that, the
riveters**

stopped trying to wipe

**away
his marks. Ordinarily
the rivets**

and chalk marks

would have been covered up with
paint.

With the war on,

however,
ships were leaving the
Quincy
Yard so
fast

that there wasn't
time to paint them. As a result,

Kilroy's inspection
"trademark" was seen by

thousands of

servicemen who boarded the
troopships the
yard

produced.



**His message
apparently
rang
a
bell with the servicemen,**

**because
they picked it up
and spread it**

all over

Europe and the South

Pacific.



**Before war's
end,
"Kilroy"
had
been
here,
there,
and**

everywhere on the long

hauls to Berlin and

**Tokyo.
To
the troops outbound in those ships,**

**however,
he
was
a complete mystery; all they
knew for sure was
that
someone
named Kilroy had "been
there first."**

**As a

joke,
U.S.
servicemen began placing the graffiti**

**wherever they landed, claiming
it was
already
there when they arrived.**



**Kilroy became
the
U.S.
super-GI
who had always**

**"already
been" wherever
GIs went. It**

became a challenge

to place the logo in the most

unlikely

**places
imaginable
it**

**is said to be atop Mt. Everest,
the**

**Statue of
Liberty,**

**the
underside of the
Arc de
Triomphe,**

**and even scrawled
in the dust on the**

moon.



**As the war went
on, the
legend**

grew. Underwater demolition

**teams
routinely sneaked
ashore on**

Japanese-held Islands in the

Pacific to map the

**terrain
for
coming invasions by**

**U.S.
troops (and thus, presumably, were the**

**first GI's
there).**

**On
one occasion, however, they reported**

seeing

enemy

troops painting over the Kilroy

logo!



**In 1945, an
outhouse was
built**

for the exclusive use of Roosevelt,

**Stalin,
and Churchill at
the**

Potsdam conference.

Its' first occupant

**was Stalin, who emerged
and
asked his aide (in Russian),
"Who is
Kilroy?"**



**To
help prove his
authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy
brought along
officials
from
the
shipyard and some
of**

**the riveters. He won
the trolley car, which he gave to
his nine children as
a Christmas
gift and set it up as a
playhouse in the Kilroy yard in
Halifax,
Massachusetts.**



**And
The Tradition**

Continues...



**EVEN Outside
Osama Bin
Laden's
House!!!**

**Share This Bit
Of
Historic
Humor**

With

All Your

Friends! :)



***God
Bless you
World War II Veterans!***