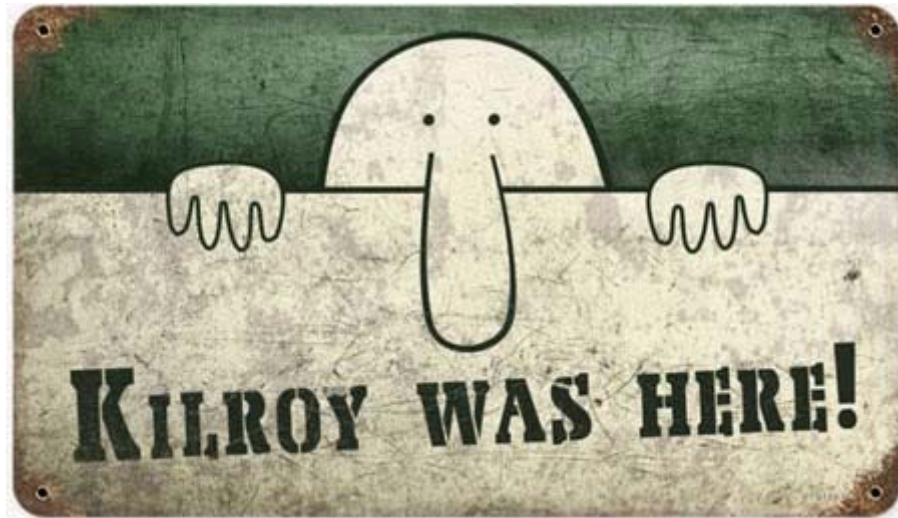


Here is a piece of Fun History.



**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

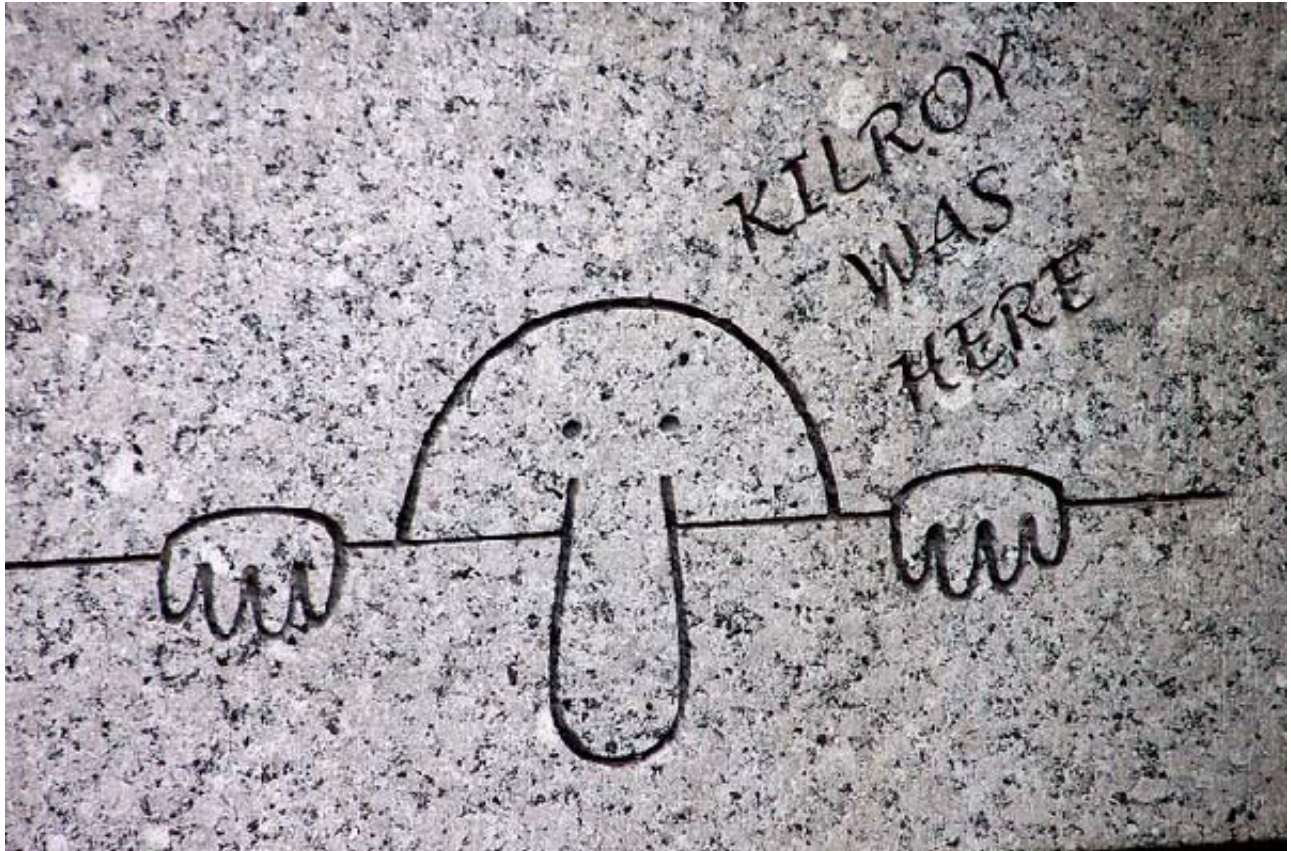
king-sized  
letters next to the check, and eventually

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!*