



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

WASHINGTON, DC 20318-9999

24 July 2013

Mr. Dennis P. Halpin  
Executive Board  
Descendants of the Korean War Foundation  
470 L'Enfant Plaza, SW #23043  
Washington, DC 20026-3043

Dear Mr. Halpin,

Enclosed is the letter you requested for the Recognition and Awards Dinner program.

Thank you in advance for your support of our Korean War veterans and their families. Best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Martin E. Dempsey", is positioned above the typed name.

MARTIN E. DEMPSEY  
General, U.S. Army

Enclosure:  
As stated



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26 July 2013

**A Message for the Descendants of the Korean War Foundation  
on the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice**

The 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice gives us the opportunity to remember and reflect. The anniversary provides a marker for measuring our understanding of the conflict and, more importantly, our understanding of the courageous men and women who served on the Korean Peninsula. The passage of time allows us to more fully appreciate their legacy and reflect on its broader meaning.

Korea was the first battleground of a new Cold War. In the dawn of a nuclear era, it came unexpectedly. We were not well-prepared, and it taught us essential lessons about deterring aggression and responding to global contingencies. We needed to field and sustain a fully capable force that was versatile, ably led, and always ready. Since then, we have not wavered from this standard.

The blistering heat and bone-chilling cold of Korea's mountains also forged a deep appreciation for the relationships amongst our Services, allies, and governmental agencies. All were on the front lines from start to finish. We gained strength through these diverse partnerships.

The Korean War also speaks to our national conscience. Forty-two years after the armistice was signed, the Korean War Memorial was dedicated. For our veterans, it embodied their physical and emotional hardships. For the Nation, buoyed by the victory in DESERT STORM at the time of the monument's unveiling, it forced us to confront how we treated our veterans. We grew better as a result. This is the richest legacy of all, for it compels individual citizens to distinguish their support for the warrior from their feelings of war itself. Korea was called the "Forgotten War," but the brave men and women who served ensured there will never be forgotten warriors.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Martin E. Dempsey", is positioned above the typed name.

MARTIN E. DEMPSEY  
General, U.S. Army