THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Washington, D.C.
jfisher@hrmgroup.net

MONTHLY REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2016

The following from the Executive Director of the Korean War Veterans Association is given for the month of September 2016.

1. **MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT REPORT:** Submitted by Mr. John “Sonny” Edwards - As of September 30, 2016

   - New members this Month: 65
   - New members last year: 49
   - New members TYTD: 541
   - New members LYTD: 547
   - Active members LYTD: 13,861
   - Active members TYTD: 13,248
   - Decrease: -613
   - Deceased Comrades TYTD: 1 059
   - Average: 117 a month

   Departments past 30 days with 4 plus new members:
   FL-6  MA-4  NV-5  OH-4  OK-7  TX-4  VA-6

   Hope each of you have a safe trip to and from the meeting. Wish I could be there. Thanks for everything that you do for the KWVA.

2. **AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE MEDAL PRESENTATION:**

   The Embassy has been backlogged with the number of requests for the Ambassador for Peace Medal. This has caused a longer delay in processing the medal for Korean War Veterans. We will stay on top of this issue and hope to have all requests for the medal processed in a timely manner.

3. **FREE FLU SHOTS:** From now through March 31, 2017, all veterans enrolled in the VA health care system can receive free flu shots at any Walgreens or Duane Reade pharmacy. The joint outreach health initiative is designed to help serve veterans closer to where they reside. Veterans must bring their VA identification cards with them, as well as another photo ID, and complete a short four-question application, which will be used to automatically update their VA Electronic Health Records. No appointments are necessary.

4. **LEGISLATIVE: CONGRESS PASSES BILL CALLING FOR 'WALL OF REMEMBRANCE' HONORING KOREAN WAR HEROES**

   WASHINGTON, Sept. 21 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Senate has passed legislation calling for erecting a "Wall of Remembrance" in Washington that lists the names of all American soldiers killed during the 1950-53 Korean War, sending the bill to President Barack Obama for signing. The Senate unanimously approved the Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act of 2016 (H.R.1475) at a plenary meeting Monday, congressional records showed Wednesday. The bill had passed the House.
of Representatives in February. The bill, which was introduced last year by Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX), a Korean War veteran, calls for authorizing the wall's establishment at the Korean War Veterans Memorial and allowing certain private contributions to fund the project. The number of co-sponsors has swelled to 307 as the bill passed through both chambers of Congress. The United States led the 21-nation Allied Forces to help South Korea repel the Chinese-backed communist troops invading from the North. More than 36,000 American soldiers sacrificed their lives, and 103,000 were wounded.

"The wall will remind people that freedom is not free," Rep. Charles Rangel said in a statement. "I am pleased that the Korean War Veterans Memorial will add a place for those to remember the sacrifices of our veterans and the heroes who never returned home."

See pictures of the signing ceremony at:
http://www.zimbio.com/pictures/eB3r6MjRVTV/House+Speaker+Paul+Ryan+Signs+Bill+Honoring/Paul+Ryan

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One Hundred Fourteenth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the fourth day of January, two thousand and sixteen

An Act

To authorize a Wall of Remembrance as part of the Korean War Veterans Memorial and to allow certain private contributions to fund that Wall of Remembrance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act”.

SEC. 2. WALL OF REMEMBRANCE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 8908(c) of title 40, United States Code, the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc., may construct a Wall of Remembrance at the site of the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Wall of Remembrance shall include a list of names of members of the Armed Forces of the United States who died in the Korean War, as determined by the Secretary of Defense, in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(B) CRITERIA; SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The Secretary of Defense
shall—

(i) establish eligibility criteria for the inclusion of names on the Wall of Remembrance under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) provide to the Secretary of the Interior a final list of names for inclusion on the Wall of Remembrance under subparagraph (A) that meet the criteria established under clause (i).

(3) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—The Wall of Remembrance may include other information about the Korean War, including the number of members of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army, the Republic of Korea Armed Forces, and the other nations of the United Nations Command who, in regards to the Korean War—

(A) were killed in action;

(B) were wounded in action;

(C) are listed as missing in action; or

(D) were prisoners of war.

(b) COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.—Except as provided in subsection (a)(1), chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Commemorative Works Act”), shall apply.

(c) NO FEDERAL FUNDS.—No Federal funds may be used to construct the Wall of Remembrance.

Attest:

Original Signed

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Attest:

Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.

• **Senate Holds Hearing on VA Best Practices:** The Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee held a hearing to discuss best practices that improve how VA delivers health care to veterans. Dr. Carolyn Clancy, VA deputy undersecretary for health for organizational excellence, informed the committee about VA’s initiative to identify clinical and administrative best practices, disseminate such practices to other health care facilities, and encourage standardization of practices that improve health care for veterans. Committee Chairman Isakson discussed the importance of discussing the success stories that occur throughout VA to ensure VA is recognized for the good things it does, rather than the tragedies that took place in Arizona and Denver and in other places. To watch the hearing, visit: [http://www.veterans.senate.gov/hearings/vha-best-practices-exploring-the-diffusion-of-excellence-initiative](http://www.veterans.senate.gov/hearings/vha-best-practices-exploring-the-diffusion-of-excellence-initiative).

• **Bill to Make Sure Veterans Get Equal Healthcare**

  Representatives Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Lee Zeldin (R-NY) introduced a bipartisan bill last week that would ensure veterans receive the same preventive health benefits as all insured Americans. Currently, veterans are the only insured Americans required to pay out-of-pocket copayments for
essential preventive healthcare services. Duckworth and Zeldin’s new Veterans Preventive Health Coverage Fairness Act would address this disparity and improve veteran care, helping reduce deaths from chronic illnesses while saving taxpayers from footing the bill for costlier, but largely preventable, treatments through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 7 of 10 deaths in this country are caused by chronic illnesses like cardiovascular disease and breast cancer that nearly half of all adults suffer from, and many of those illnesses are preventable with early and effective treatment. Catching these potentially fatal illnesses early may avoid costly and complex treatments down the line and, more importantly, increases patient survival odds. That’s one reason current law requires every insurer except the VA to cover important preventive services and medications at no additional cost to insured individuals. Given the costs, in both dollars and in lives, associated with chronic disease, investing in preventive healthcare strategies is both sensible, cost-effective and a more humane path forward. The bipartisan veterans Preventive Health Coverage Fairness Act would provide veterans preventive medication and services cost-free, the same benefit that all other insured Americans receive, and enhances continuity of care for servicemembers transitioning from military healthcare coverage. This will ensure the health benefits provided to military personnel, veterans, military retirees and civilians are subject to consistent copay standards for preventative health services.

- A U.S. Senate committee has passed legislation calling for erecting a "Wall of Remembrance" in Washington that lists the names of all American soldiers killed during the 1950-53 Korean War. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee unanimously approved the Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act of 2016 (H.R.1475) at a meeting on Thursday, according to congressional records. The bill was introduced last March by Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX), a Korean War veteran, and passed the House in February. It calls for authorizing the wall's establishment at the Korean War Veterans Memorial and allowing certain private contributions to fund the project. The Senate is expected to vote on the legislation after a seven-week recess."I am proud to join Reps. Johnson as an original sponsor of this important bill," said Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY), also a Korean War veteran who co-sponsored the legislation. "The wall will remind people that freedom is not free. I am pleased that the Korean War Veterans Memorial will add a place for those to remember the sacrifices of our veterans and the heroes who never returned home.

"Our nation has a responsibility to make sure that we do not forget the nearly 1.8 million members of the United States Armed Forces who served alongside Republic of Korea and 20 other Allied nations during the Korean War," he said. The United States led the 21-nation Allied Forces to help South Korea repel the Chinese-backed communist troops invading from the North. More than 36,000 American soldiers sacrificed their lives and 103,000 were wounded.

- Former legislation H.R. 5903 “To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat recipients of the Korea Defense Service Medal as war veterans for purposes of determining whether contributions to posts and organizations of war veterans are charitable contributions.” Mr. David Eiselsberg and Mr. Jett Thompson whom both work in Representative Sam Johnson’s are in charge of making this H.R. happen quickly. They stated to us that after H.R. 1475 is through mark-up, they will be putting a “full court press” on to make the old 5903 legislation up to date.

Congressman Johnson strongly stated that he will be personally pushing this legislation through. He firmly believes that it will be passed.

He also stated that he will need **ALL OF OUR HELP** in reaching out to his colleagues on the Hill encouraging them to support this Bill.

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that when the new House Resolution is ready to be introduced **ALL KOREAN WAR VETERANS, DEFENSE VETERANS AND FAMILIES** will need to flood their
Congressman’s office with requests to support this new House Resolution (HR). We will keep you informed once the new HR is published.

We will be publishing a one page fact sheet on this legislation with talking points to share amongst all our members and chapters to say when contacting their Congressmen and women.

5. **2016 ANNUAL MEETING AND BOARD MEETING:**
   As we all know, we will be heading to Las Vegas Nevada for our annual Korean War Veterans Association Membership meeting and Bi-annual Board Meeting.
   
   • The dates for the meetings will be October 10-13, 2016.
   • The venue for the meetings is the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino, 4000 West Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV.
   • The website for the venue is: [www.GoldCoastCasino.com](http://www.GoldCoastCasino.com)

6. **REVISIT TO KOREA PROGRAM:** Quotas for the Revisit to Korea Program are now published. Please contact to 1st Vice President Warren Wiedhahn or to Mr. Jamie Wiedhahn if interested when the tours are being conducted.
   Since MPVA approved Korea Defense Veterans (KDV) to participate in the *Revisit Korea* program. This program is receiving many more requests for 2017. The Data Base now contains over 400 total and more come in each week. These figures are both War and Defense veterans.

7. **THE SAE EDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN KOREA**–The Sae Eden Presbyterian Church is planning an event in Houston, Texas in June 2017. I am sure KWVA will be a part of this ceremony.

8. **KOREAN WAR MONUMENT DEDICATION:** Duplin County, North Carolina, and the Duplin County Historical Society, is honoring the men from our county who died in the Korean War. We will unveil and dedicate a granite monument on the Court House grounds on Friday, November 4, 2016, at 2:00 P.M. They are located just off Interstate 40, about half way between Raleigh and Wilmington, North Carolina. The organizers of this special dedication would like to have a large attendance of Korean War veterans and their families to honor these men who died in the “forgotten war.” For further information, please contact Mr. Charles M. Ingram at Email: [charles@ingramandingram.com](mailto:charles@ingramandingram.com) or call 910-296-3676.

9. **READING OF THE FALLEN:** The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation has been conducting a reading the names of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice during the Korean War. In 2015, all of the American Servicemen who died during the war had their names announced in a very dignified and solemn ceremony. This year all of the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army soldiers names who were killed had their names read at the Memorial. On June 25, 2017, The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation will read all of the fallen from the Allied Countries who came to the aid of South Korea will have their names read at the Memorial.

10. **POW/MIA REPORT:** Submitted by Mr. Rocky Harder, KWVA POW/MIA Coordinator.
    Monthly Teleconference, DPAA-Family Organizations/VSO/MSO Thursday, July 28, 2016, 1:00 PM

    **Army Cpl. Vernon D. Presswood**, missing from the Korean War, has now been accounted for.
    In late November 1950, Presswood was a member of Heavy Mortar Company, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, as one of approximately 2,500 U.S. Soldiers who were assembled with 700 South Korean soldiers, in the 31st Regimental Combat Team. The RCT was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when it was engaged by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces, driving the remnants of the 31st RCT to begin a fighting withdrawal to a more defensible position. At the end of the battle, Presswood could not be accounted for and he was reported missing in action as of Dec. 2, 1950. During the 25th Joint Recovery Operation in 2001, U.S. and North Korean recovery teams conducted operations in the vicinity of the Chosin Reservoir, where Presswood was reported missing in action. At least seven individuals' remains
were recovered. Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, established Presswood's remains were included. Interment services are pending.

**Army Cpl. Curtis J. Wells**, 19, of Ubly, Mich., will be buried Sept. 10 in nearby Harbor Beach. In late November 1950, Wells was assigned to Company C, 65th Engineer Combat Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, when his company joined with Task Force Wilson to fight in the vicinity of Unsan, North Korea. The task force was overwhelmed and by Nov. 27, 1950, began to extricate themselves south. Wells would be reported missing after his unit regrouped. Read more at: [http://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/News-Releases/Article/932875/soldier-missing-from-korean-war-accounted-for-wells/](http://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/News-Releases/Article/932875/soldier-missing-from-korean-war-accounted-for-wells/).

**Army Cpl. Larry M. Dunn**, 18, was buried Sept. 17 in his hometown of Cullman, Alabama. On Dec. 1, 1950, Dunn was a member of Company B, 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, when his unit was fighting through a roadblock that was heavily defended by enemy forces near Sonchu, North Korea. He was declared missing after the battle. Read more at: [http://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/News-Releases/Article/937905/soldier-missing-from-korean-war-accounted-for-dunn/](http://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/News-Releases/Article/937905/soldier-missing-from-korean-war-accounted-for-dunn/).

**Army Cpl. David T. Nordin, Jr.**, missing from the Korean War, has now been accounted for. On November 24, 1950, Nordin was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, and began moving with his unit north along the west side of the Kuryong River to establish a position southwest of the town of Unsan as part of a large United Nations Command offensive. The Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) launched a counterattack, and the unit was ordered to withdraw to a new defensive line. Nordin was reported missing in action November 28, 1950. During the 37th Joint Field Activity in April and May 2005, a site south of Pukchin-Tarigol prisoner of war camp was excavated, recovering a number of sets of remains. Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, established Nordin's remains were included. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Cpl. Nordin.

**Army Cpl. Joseph Trepasso**, missing from the Korean War, has now been accounted for. In late November 1950, Trepasso was a member of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) attacked the regiment and forced the unit to withdraw south to the Pungnyuri Inlet. Many soldiers became surrounded and attempted to escape and evade the enemy, but were captured and marched to POW camps. Trepasso was subsequently declared missing in action as a result of the battle that occurred Dec. 12, 1950. In September 2001, a U.S. and Korean People's Army recovery team conducted a Joint Recovery Operation in the vicinity of the Chosin Reservoir, Changjin County, Changjin District, South Hamgyong Province, North Korea, based on information provided by two Korean witnesses. During the excavation, the team recovered material evidence and possible human remains for at least seven individuals. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Cpl. Trepasso.

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Louis M. Baxter**, missing from the Korean War, has now been accounted for. In late November 1950, Baxter was a member of Headquarters Battery, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, 7th Infantry Division, on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) attacked the regiment and forced the unit to withdraw south to the Pungnyuri Inlet. Many soldiers became surrounded and attempted to escape and evade the enemy, but were captured and marched to POW camps. Baxter was subsequently declared missing in action as a result of the battle that occurred Dec. 6, 1950. In September 2001, a U.S. and Korean People's Army recovery team conducted a Joint Recovery Operation in the vicinity of the Chosin Reservoir, Changjin County, Changjin District, South Hamgyong Province, North Korea, based on information provided by two Korean witnesses. During the excavation, the team recovered material evidence and possible human remains for at least seven individuals. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Sgt. 1st Class Baxter.

**Army Cpl. Wayne Minard**, missing from the Korean War, has now been accounted for. In late November 1950, Minard was a member of Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division,
fighting units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in North Korea, in a delaying action south to Kunu-ri. Enemy forces launched a large-scale attack with heavy artillery and mortar fire on Nov. 25, when the regiment was located in defense positions near the Chongchon River. By the following day, enemy fighting had isolated the unit and they were ordered to withdraw. Minard was reported missing in action as of Nov. 26, 1950. In April and May of 2005, a Joint Recovery Team conducted the 37th Joint Field Activity in Unsan County, South Pyongan Province, North Korea. On April 19, the team visited a site reported by a local witness to contain American remains. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Cpl. Minard.

Army Pfc. Kenneth Miller, missing from the Korean War, has now been accounted for. On April 23, 1951, Miller was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, when his unit was forced to withdraw from their position while fighting the Chinese Communist Forces (CCF). Miller was reported missing in action following the withdrawal. In 1954, the remains of Korean War service members were returned to the United States in an operation called "Operation Glory." The remains unable to be identified were interred as unknowns at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Pfc. Miller.

Army Pfc. William V. Giovanniello, killed in the Korean War, has now been accounted for. On April 25, 1951, Giovanniello was a member of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, when his unit was along a defensive line west of Chorwon, South Korea, and were attacked by the Chinese People's Volunteer Force and Korea People's Army. The unit was forced to move south, and when they established a roadblock to cover movement, it was found that Giovanniello was not with his unit and reported missing in action. In June 1951, an unidentified set of remains, previously recovered from Yang Mun-Ni, were buried in the Tanggok United Nations Military Cemetery and labeled "Unknown X-1219." Although the remains were attempted to be identified, no positive match could be made and they were interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. On May 16, 2016, the remains were disinterred and sent to the laboratory for analysis. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Pfc. Giovanniello.

Army Pfc. Everett E. Johnson, killed in the Korean War, has now been accounted for. On Sept. 3, 1950, Johnson was a member of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, in Taegu, South Korea. Johnson's company was cut off by enemy attacks and withdrew to join the rest of the battalion. During the course of the enemy attack, Johnson was killed by enemy fire. In May 1951, an unidentified set of remains, previously recovered from a mass grave near Pultang, South Korea, were buried in the Tanggok United Nations Military Cemetery and labeled "Unknown X-1072." Although the remains were attempted to be identified, no positive match could be made and they were interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. On May 16, 2016, the remains were disinterred and sent to the laboratory for analysis. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Pfc. Johnson.

Army Cpl. William H. Smith, killed in the Korean War, has now been accounted for. In late November 1950, Smith was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, in a position southwest of Unsan, North Korea. The Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) launched a counterattack, hoping to draw the regiment into a trap, forcing them to withdraw to a new defensive line. Smith was reported missing in action Nov. 28, 1950. Between 1990 and 1994, North Korea returned to the United States 208 boxes of commingled human remains, which helped account for the remains of at least 500 U.S. servicemen who fought during the war. Interment services are set for Oct. 7 in Elmira, New York. Welcome home and rest in peace, Cpl. Smith.

ARMY CPL. ROY C. FINK, killed in the Korean War, has now been accounted for. Fink was assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when they were engaged by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces in late November 1950. Wounded soldiers were evacuated, but Fink could not be accounted for and he was reported missing in action as of Dec. 2, 1950. During the 25th Joint Recovery Operation in 2001, recovery teams
conducted operations on the eastern bank of the Chosin Reservoir, in an area where Fink was reported missing. At least seven individuals were recovered and returned to the laboratory for processing. Interment services are pending. Welcome home and rest in peace, Cpl. Fink.

**Army Pfc. William W. Cowan**, killed in the Korean War, has now been accounted for. Cowan was a member of Company M, 3rd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, when he was reported missing in action, after his unit attacked a road block set up by opposing forces near Hoengsong, South Korea, Feb. 12, 1950. On Sept. 7, 1954, a set of remains reportedly recovered from the prisoner of war cemetery at Camps 1 and 3, Chang Song, North Korea, were sent to the Central Identification Unit for attempted identification. The set of remains designated X-14230 were declared unidentifiable and transferred to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu. On June 13, 2016, the remains designated as X-14230 were exhumed and sent to the laboratory for analysis.


12. **POW/MIA FOREVER STAMP**: A MESSAGE FROM TOM THIEL ~ KWVA CID169 Sec, Ed, Web, DoF Web, AL#41. 19147 Park Place Blvd, Eustis, FL 32736 352-408-6612, kwvathiel@gmail.com

There are more than 83,000 MIAs in all wars starting with WWII to the present. According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, More than 7,800 Americans remain unaccounted-for from the Korean War. They were our brothers and sisters in arms, and U.S. Citizens. The Korean War and Korea Defense Service Veterans of Lake County, Chapter 169 Inc., has pledged to do all that it can to return all MIAs so that their families may gain some peace. We must do still more to keep the public aware of these 83,000 Missing in Action Americans. A First Class POW/MIA Forever Stamp would surely help us do this, and we want to convince the U.S. Postal Service to issue such a stamp. But the Post Office objects. Fortunately, one of our Korean War brothers, a POW for some 33 months, the late William “Bill” Allen, author of “My Old Box of Memories,” had already done a lot of spadework on this effort. But, sadly, Bill was not able to convince the Postal Service. So he went to his Congressman, Gus Bilirakis of Florida’s 12th District who in 2013 introduced HR2794, the Perpetual POW/MIA Stamp Act. In September 2015, Mr. Bilirakis reintroduced it as H.R. 3558 with the same name. I obtained this new information from Congressman Ron DeSantis, of FL 11th District. According to Mr. DeSantis, “This legislation would provide for the issuance of a forever stamp depicting the National League of Families POW/MIA flag to honor members of the Armed Forces who are still prisoners, missing, or unaccounted for.” Mr. DeSantis went on to say”H.R. 3558 has been referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.” Mr. DeSantis continued “As a member of this committee, I will diligently review this legislation with my colleagues and keep your thoughts in mind should this, or any similar measure, come to the House floor for a vote.” Sadly, our legislation is still buried in the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. We sincerely appreciate all that have contacted their U.S. Representatives on behalf of the original bill. But now you need to do it again—contact your Congress person, our FL representatives on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and leaders of this committee. Please also send this to your Veteran’s Group’s National Level so that this action might be implemented throughout the U.S., not just in Central Florida. Selected addresses follow:

**Congressman Gus Bilirakis** 2187 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-5755; Fax:(202) 225-4085  7132 Little Road New Port Richey, FL 34654 (727) 232-2921; FAX:(727) 232-2923

**Congressman John Mica** 2187 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4035; Fax:(202) 226-0821  100 East Sybelia Avenue, Suite 340 Maitland, FL 32751-4495 407-657-8080; Fax: 407-657-5353
13. **TELL AMERICA PROGRAM:**
The Map Poster of the Korean War continues to be requested. The map is available to those participating in the Tell America Program. If you would like maps for your presentations, please contact:
Director Roy Aldridge, Chairman, Tell America Program
6544 Grand Ridge, Dr
El Paso, TX 79912
Phone: 915-581-4725 ~ Email: Royalaldridge@sbcglobal.net

14. **RETIRED GEN. JAMES MATTIS SAYS CIVILIANS KNOW LITTLE ABOUT THE MILITARY**

Most Americans greatly admire the military -- but they actually know almost nothing about it.

“Most people know nobody in the military,” said retired Marine Corps Gen. Jim Mattis, who spent 44 years in uniform. “There are many people who do not know if the U.S. Army has 60,000 men or 6 million. They do not have a clue about that,” he said. Mattis, the revered four-star general who headed U.S. Central Command before retiring in 2013, is the co-author of a new book, "Warriors & Citizens," that reveals ground-breaking research about the cultural gap between the military and the civilian population it serves. Mattis, now a fellow at the Hoover Institution in California, launched a sweeping research project that surveyed thousands of Americans on their views about the military. The results revealed a surprising level of ignorance and unfamiliarity. One in three people confessed that they had little or no familiarity with the military and simply declined to answer many questions about it. Half of all Americans cannot recall socializing with a military service member or military spouse within the past year. When asked how many people are in the military, Americans on average guess about 6.4 million. The actual number is about 1.3 million. Experts say that reflects the shrinking size of the military, military recruiters’ heavy reliance on specific regions like the South, and the closure of many military bases during the past 20 years, which has isolated today’s troops in fewer locations. Yet most civilians admire the military and its service members, regardless of their lack of knowledge. About 70 percent of Americans said most members of civilian society have “a great deal of respect for the military.” And 85 percent said they are personally “proud of the men and women who serve in the military.” “It looks like that connection [between military and civilians] is very broad but very shallow. That was a surprise to us,” said Kori Schake, who co-authored the book with Mattis. She’s a former Pentagon official who studies military issues at the Hoover Institution. Mattis said he believes today’s civil-military relations are healthy. But he’s wary of the future, as the military continues to shrink and the gap potentially intensifies. “I think the gap can be tolerated so long as we maintain a fundamental friendliness in America toward one another and a respect for each other,” Mattis said in a recent Military Times interview. “America is quite right to be proud of their military, but at the same time there has got to be a sense of common purpose between these two elements. If, in fact, this gap grows and we lose the sense of common purpose, then I think we have a problem,” he said. Mattis said he was concerned that “policy makers who have never served in the military” will “continue to use the military to lead social change in this country,” pointing to the decision earlier this year to open all combat jobs to women. “We are liable to find ourselves paying the cost on a battlefield that we do not want to pay. There is no God-given right to victory on the battlefield. You win that
through the skill and the devotion, the valor and the ferocity of your troops. You have to be very, very careful, I think, if this gap grows, and it surely will. We have to be very careful that we do not undercut the military battlefield effectiveness with shortsighted social programs,” Mattis said.

15. **EMBASSY NEWS:** The Defense Attaché for the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, MG Kyoung Shin will be leaving his position toward the end of 2016. He has been a true friend to the Korean War Veterans across the United States. He will be truly missed.

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**Farewell Dinner for MG & Mrs. Kyoung Soo Shin**

Please join us on Thursday, November 10th, 2016 at 6:00 o’clock in the evening as we say goodbye to our dear friends.

**Location:** Fort Myer’s Officers Club, 214 Jackson Ave. Ft. Myer, VA 22211

**Dress:** Business Attire or Service Dress

Please RSVP by: November 1, 2016 to 703-740-7596 or email: kfishe1121@verizon.net

Dinner Buffet: $45.00 per person.

Please send payment to: KIVA

Attn: Jim Fisher

1533 Barrington Place

Montclair, CA 91763

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16. **FUND RAISING:** Director Tom McHugh has reported that the KWVA has reached its goal for 2016 fundraising drive. Our goal was set for $70,000.00. We are glad to say that we have raised $74,321. Thanks to Tom McHugh and all who helped sell the tickets for this fundraiser.

17. **HONOR FLIGHTS:** The Honor Flight schedule for the month of October 2016 is listed below. If you can make it out to the KWV Memorial to greet them, I know they would be very appreciative.

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<td>(920) 277-5934</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drew@maclaw-llc.com">drew@maclaw-llc.com</a></td>
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<td>10:35 AM</td>
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<td>(920) 277-5934</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drew@maclaw-llc.com">drew@maclaw-llc.com</a></td>
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<td>(920) 277-5934</td>
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<td>(920) 277-5934</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:drew@maclaw-llc.com">drew@maclaw-llc.com</a></td>
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18. **PHONE SCAM SEeks DONATIONS IN NAME OF WOUNDED-VETERANS GROUP:** The Military Order of the Purple Heart — a congressionally chartered service organization for active-duty and combat-wounded veterans — is warning about a telephone scam being conducted in its name. Unknown individuals have been cold-calling people across the United States, often from 315-516-2512, and requesting donations for the upcoming presidential election. The callers say they’re doing so on behalf of MOPH and mention the name of the group’s national commander, Robert Puskar. “The public should be informed that these calls are a hoax,” a MOPH statement said. “MOPH remains an apolitical organization and, as such, shall not contribute to or otherwise support or assist any political party of candidate for public office.” The statement asks people to contact local authorities if they receive such calls. MOPH was formed in 1932 “for the protection and mutual interest of all combat wounded veterans and active-duty men and women who have received a Purple Heart, the statement said. The group also helps with Veterans Administration claims, homelessness and employment assistance.
19. **DIRECT SCHEDULING FOR VA AUDIOLOGY AND OPTOMETRY APPOINTMENTS:** The VA announced it would eliminate a primary care referral requirement for veterans seeking appointments with audiologists or optometrists. The Audiology and Optometry Direct Scheduling Initiative is being piloted throughout the country and is expected to be fully operational within all VA Medical Centers by the end of 2016.

20. **RESCHEDULED: KWVMF FUND RAISING GALAS:** A Gala Benefit is scheduled for, October 31, 2016, at the Sheila Hotel, Seoul, Korea to raise money for the maintenance program at the Korean War Veterans Memorial and the Wall of Remembrance in Washington, D.C.

21. **CHOSIN FEW MEMORIAL DEDICATION** at Quantico Marine Corps Base (Museum) has been postponed indefinitely due to contractual problems.

22. **VETERANS DAY AT THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL - 2016**

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**The Chairman of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation and The President of the Korean War Veterans Association of the United States of America cordially invite you to attend**

**Veterans Day at the Korean War Veterans Memorial**

Friday, November Eleventh, Two Thousand Sixteen

at 4:00 PM

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**RSVP - 703-740-7396 or jsfisher1121@verizon.net**

Business Attire or Service Dress

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23. **U.S. LOOKS TO ACCELERATE DEPLOYMENT OF SOUTH KOREA MISSILE DEFENSE**

WASHINGTON — The U.S. intends to deploy a missile defense system in South Korea "as soon as possible" to counter the threat from North Korea despite opposition from China, the top U.S. diplomat for East Asia said Tuesday. Assistant Secretary of State Daniel Russel said he believes South Korea is firmly committed to the deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD system. He told a congressional hearing the system is purely defensive and is not aimed at China but at North Korea. The plans have complicated South Korea's efforts to foster warmer ties with China, which traditionally has had closer ties with North Korea, and have added to tensions between Washington and Beijing as well. Beijing says the system's radar could reach
into Chinese territory. Seoul and Washington began formal talks on THAAD earlier this year. Russel did not specify when the deployment would happen, but said "given the accelerated pace of North Korea's missile tests, we intend to deploy on an accelerated basis, I would say, as soon as possible."

A Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) interceptor is launched from a THAAD battery located on Wake Island, during Flight Test Operational (FTO)-02 Event 2a, conducted Nov. 1, 2015. During the test, the THAAD system successfully intercepted two air-launched ballistic missile targets.

North Korea has conducted two nuclear test explosions this year, and the latest one, on Sept. 9, was its largest to date, deepening worries that it is honing a capability to miniaturize a nuclear warhead. It has also conducted 22 ballistic missile test launches this year, the U.S. says. Tuesday's hearing of a House panel overseeing foreign policy toward Asia examined the state of cooperation South Korea and Japan — close U.S. allies that face a mutual threat from neighboring North Korea but sharp historical differences. Lawmakers welcomed signs of improved relations between them. But Republican Rep. Mo Brooks of Alabama said that the U.S. is heavily burdened by debt, and pressed Russel on whether a reduction in the billions that it spends on defending Japan and South Korea might compel them to be more self-sufficient and spend more on their own defense. Russel conceded "it might have that effect," but argued it would have a very destructive impact on regional stability and would open the door to China asserting itself more. The U.S. has a total of nearly 80,000 troops based in Japan and South Korea, the backbone of its military presence in Asia. The Obama administration has sought to strengthen these and other alliances, in part to counter the rise of China in a region of growing economic importance.

24. **WASHINGTON REDSKINS, ROLLING THUNDER UNVEIL POW/MIA SEAT AT FEDEX FIELD**
The more than 90,000 American service members who have been prisoners of war or missing in action will be remembered at the Washington Redskins stadium. Redskins Salute, the team’s military appreciation club, and Rolling Thunder unveiled a POW/MIA seat in section 342 during Monday’s home opener against the Pittsburgh Steelers. The seat will remain unoccupied in honor of the memory of the men and women who sacrificed for their country. Walt Sides, co-founder of Rolling Thunder, said the advocacy group’s role is remembrance and recognition of the POW/MIA issue. “We swore to ride till they all came home,” Sides said of Rolling Thunder, whose mission is to account for those service members still missing. “They’re not home, and that’s the reason we’re still here.” People still ask what POW/MIA means, said Sides, who served 21 years in the Marine Corps. “The more we get it out there, the more people will understand what we’re all about,” he said. “You should have some knowledge of what happens to the men and women that serve this country.” Coast Guard veteran Rhonda Killmon said she got chills when she found out about the POW/MIA seat that was being dedicated at the game she attended. “To know that we still have people unaccounted for is kind of sad,” said Killmon, who served in the Coast guard for 30 years. “Hopefully one day they’ll get to come home.” Susan Lewis, whose spouse served in the Navy for 25 years, said it shows how much the Washington Redskins care about the military community. “I think it’s awesome to honor and pay tribute to those that can’t be here,” she said. “I get a little emotional.” Service members and their families sacrifice a lot, she said, and “it’s nice to have that feel-good response from the public.” Retired Air Force Master Sgt. Rob Wilkins said the idea for the POW/MIA seat came about in November when Rolling Thunder spoke with Redskins representatives. “By remembering those who sacrificed so much for our country, we remember that they’re not forgotten,” he said. “That if you’re a child, someone is looking for your mom or dad.”
MASSACHUSETTS APPROVES KOREAN DEFENSE

VETERANS MONUMENT: Korea Defense Veterans are about to get their first dedicated monument! It will be on the site of the Korea War Memorial in Charlestown, MA. The memorial was conceived, designed, and constructed by the Korea Veterans of America which is Chapter #299 of the KWVA. Other monuments similar to this one are being planned in the New York/New Jersey area and on the West Coast. Jeff Brodeur, Second Vice President of the KWVA, was the force behind this effort and through his tireless efforts it will come into being on November 10, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at the Charlestown site. All are welcome to attend the dedication, and if they choose, they may still make a donation in any amount to its’ overall cost. Special thanks go out to Jongwoo Han, PhD., President of the Korean War Legacy Foundation, Inc. and World History Digital Education Foundation, Inc. for their financial support, as well the members of the KWVA who helped make this dream a reality. Membership in the KWVA is open to all who served in Korea at any time from 1950 – present. (www.kwva.org)

26. VETERANS DAY 2017: Director Paul Cunningham has been appointed Chair of the Veterans Day 2017 Committee. Other members include Director Whitmore and Executive Director Jim Fisher. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please inform Director Cunningham.

Our urgent interest in this planning lies in the necessity for the Korean War Veterans to prepare for Veterans Day, 2017 when we will be Host VSO.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and agenda items included:
• Review of quotes from caterers for Reception. Polish food items were included in the menu and reflected in the quotes of just under **$32,000** *(this includes all taxes and usage fees)*. This represents the largest single expense.

• Logistics of setting up the reception area to provide informative information regarding the PLAV, membership applications, National Service Director on Benefits available to veterans. Volunteers to “man” the tables, greeters and personnel to check the names of guests against the issued invitations. *(Must meet restrictions and/or rules set by VA)* Signage and its display.

• Invitation Cards for the reception.

• Ordering Lapel Pins for reception attendees and possibly members who will be unable to attend.

• Reception location. Women in Military Service Memorial Building. **RENTAL FEE: $1,500.00 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE).**

• Determination of Need for a Specific Checking Account for the 2017 Veterans Day Event with the requirement that 2 signatures be required for all checks.

• Hotels and Transportation needs for Departments. Consideration of “Specials” such as tours and monument visitations. Several area lodging sites had been visited and were discussed.

• Seating for the Ceremonies at Arlington Amphitheater and Bus information. Early arrival for PLAV is encouraged because of expected crowds. Amphitheater seating is limited and opens to the public on a “first come-first seated” basis after 8:00AM

27. **KIM JONG UN’S LEADERSHIP MODEL- HIS GRANDFATHER:** North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un has modeled his presidency on the legacy of his late grandfather, Kim Il Sung -- a deified figure in the world's last hereditary dictatorship. Click on the link for the video.


28. **NOMINATE A MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR:** The military family-oriented nonprofit Operation Homefront is now accepting Military Child of the Year nominations through Dec. 5, 2016. The annual awards program, now in its 9th year, will recognize six outstanding young people ages eight to 18 with $10,000 each, new laptops, and will be flown with a parent or guardian to attend an awards gala April 6 in Washington, D.C. Nominations are also being accepted for a Military Child of the Year Award for Innovation, for youth age 13-18. The winner of this category will receive $5,000, mentorship by award sponsor Booz Allen Hamilton, as well as be flown with a parent or guardian to Washington for the gala. Operation Homefront received 502 nominations last year, with the winners ranging in age from nine to 18. For more information, go to: [http://www.militarychildoftheyear.org/](http://www.militarychildoftheyear.org/).
29. **VA SECRETARY MCDONALD DESIGNATES THE 2016 KOREAN WAR VETERANS DAY CEREMONY AT THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL A REGIONAL SITE OBSERVANCE**

30. **ENLISTED PERSONNEL TO ONCE AGAIN PILOT U.S MILITARY AIRCRAFT**

They were not paid much, their opportunities for promotion were limited, and they were treated harshly in training, but that did not stop three generations of enlisted aviators from becoming pilots in the Army Air Corps. Beginning in 1912, enlisted pilots played an important role in writing the aviation history being celebrated this year during the Centennial of Flight. These enlisted pilots were known as "flying sergeants" for the staff sergeant rank they received upon graduation from flight training irrespective of their previous rank. Allowing enlisted airmen to earn their wings as pilots was a temporary response to drastic shortages of qualified pilot candidates during wartime. Two Congressional laws authorized the training: the Air Corps Act of 1926 and Public Law 99, which went into effect in 1941. Public Law 99 reduced the education requirement, making the average age of the sergeant pilot between 18 and 22, younger than most pilot training cadets with a college education. Enlisted pilot candidates trained six
days a week in class or in the air and spent Sundays doing drill. They flew in 22 campaigns from the Mexican-American War to World War II. Seventeen enlisted pilots became fighter aces, and 11 became general officers. Many sergeant pilots' heroic deeds and accomplishments reached historic significance. During World War II, 30 staff sergeant pilots flew transport missions in the China-Burma-India Theater, delivering supplies and people over the treacherous Himalaya Mountains better known as the "Hump." The opportunity for enlisted men to become pilots ended in late 1942 with the Flight Officer Act. This law replaced the program's sergeant pilot rank with the warrant officer rank, which was also eventually done away with. Retired Brig. Gen. Chuck Yeager, famous for breaking the sound barrier, was in the last class of the enlisted pilot program when it was replaced. The following year, all sergeant pilots received orders to be promoted to the new "Flight Officer" rank. Now, however, things are changing. Once again, due to a pilot shortage and high operational demand the Air Force has announced that it wants enlisted personnel to eventually account for more than half of the pilots flying the RQ-4 Global Hawk drone. Roughly 200 officers are authorized to fly the Global Hawk — yet enlisted personnel over the next several years will make up most of those slots, according to an Air Force spokesman. By 2020, the Air Force hopes to have a little more than half of its 198 RQ-4 pilots be enlisted airmen. By that point, roughly 70 percent of the 121 airmen flying Global Hawk missions on a day-to-day basis — not performing other duties such as staff positions at the wing will be enlisted airmen.”The prospective applicant pool is huge — upwards of 50,000 airmen though it’s not clear how many of those men or women will actually apply to make the move. Also unclear is whether enlisted personnel who distinguish themselves flying the spy drones will eventually be allowed to pilot their armed counterparts. The Air Force has much larger inventories of these medium-altitude “hunter-killer” systems.
HONOR & REMEMBRANCE

Film tells story of Battle of Inchon


More than 200 guests attended, including Legionnaires and Korean War veterans, who walked a red carpet. "Operation Chromite" opened No. 1 at the box office in South Korea; its distributor, CJ Entertainment, has pledged a portion of U.S. box office sales to The American Legion.

"This film is about actual war heroes, both Korean and American, who helped turn the tide of the war and save so many lives," said Mark Shaw, CEO of CJ Entertainment, who served with the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea from 1989 to 1990. He told Korean War veterans that they might recognize the names of some places he served. "They are all still there, thanks to your service and sacrifice."

Angela Killoren, CJ Entertainment's chief operations officer, described the story of "Operation Chromite" as an example of how a few brave men can make a difference. "Oftentimes real life is more fantastic than art," she said. "We're so happy to be able to do the screening here at The American Legion."

Jean Paul White, a retired Marine Corps lieutenant colonel, enjoyed the movie. "I never forgot Korea," he said. "That was a long time ago, but it was a highlight of my life. I was a young sergeant, 23 years old, first time getting shot at. We did some good work there. They didn't like what I was doing, so they dropped a little artillery near me. I'm glad I went, but I'm glad I came back."

He added, "To me, and my friends, it's not forgotten. There are other people who remember too, (such as) the South Korean people. What we did enabled them to make it a great nation, and I'm proud to be a part of that."

For Korean War veteran Chuck Wiley, "Operation Chromite" was somewhat reminiscent of Clint Eastwood's "Letters From Iwo Jima," telling the other side of the story. "This gave me a lot more perspective on everything that was going on prior to the North Koreans invading South Korea," he said.

John Burk, a former Army drill sergeant, veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, and motivational speaker, said it's past time Korean War veterans have a movie made about them. "We're trying to change this belief of it being the forgotten war," he said. "Let's give them a voice; let's make more people understand what it was about for them. I think it's a beautiful thing they're doing."

"Operation Chromite" will screen at other American Legion posts across the nation, including Post 365 in Vista, Calif., and Post 973 in Chicago.

- Michael Hjelmstad
Forgotten no more in San Francisco

More than six decades after the Korean War, a memorial honoring those who served was dedicated Aug. 1 in the Presidio National Cemetery in San Francisco.

Retired Marine Col. John Stevens conceived the idea for the memorial in 2009, when he was 88 years old.

"The Korean War is truly a forgotten war," said Stevens, a Pearl Harbor survivor who is a member of American Legion Post 384 in San Francisco. "We needed something to remind the people about the war and educate them about the war, which is our secondary mission. We'll do that in schools with materials that we provide, because these veterans won't be here."

Nearly 1,000 family members and supporters attended the dedication ceremony at the cemetery, where 2,273 veterans from the war are buried.

Retired Superior Court Judge Quentin Kopp, an Air Force veteran and a member of Post 238 in Pacifica, is president of the Korean War Memorial Foundation. Time has taken many Korean War veterans with whom he served. "I remember them with sorrow in my heart. They should be here today."

Kopp said the memorial's location is significant.

"This particular site is across the road from the national cemetery of San Francisco," he said. "It has a view not only of the bay and the ships that would traverse through the Golden Gate but a view of the Golden Gate Bridge itself ... this was a landmark cherished by those returning from war."

Gerard Parker, the foundation's executive director, welcomed more than 50 Korean War veterans in attendance and paid tribute to those who have passed on.

"This day and this memorial are for you," said Parker, a Vietnam War veteran and member of Post 384.

U.S., Korean and U.N. flags stand at the memorial, which features pictures and plaques illustrating the war. The centerpiece panel depicts Marines climbing over a seawall in the invasion of the port of Inchon, an important victory. More than 1,000 donors helped fund the memorial, including Legion posts throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

Kim Jung-Boon, South Korea's vice minister of veterans affairs, said the war devastated his nation. "There were so many homeless and so many orphans," he said. "Now Korea is a shining star in the Orient. The sacrifice was not wasted."

Denny Weisberger, a retired Marine gunnery sergeant, received the Navy Cross for his actions.

"It's a beautiful sight," said Weisberger, a member of Post 545 in Santa Clara, Calif. "This monument faces the 38th parallel. This is the best Korean War memorial in the United States, and it's the only major one on the West Coast."

Still, amid the celebration, Weisberger mourned the lost.

"I'll be thinking of a lot of guys," he said. "I have a good friend buried out here, Medal of Honor recipient Staff Sgt. Robert Kennemore. And I think of those who didn't make it back. We were only between 18 and 25. A lot of people call it the 'forgotten war.' It will never be forgotten by us."

-- Henry Howard

View a photo gallery and video online:
@www.legion.org/honor
STARS AND STRIPES: OBAMA PROMISES TO WORK TO TIGHTEN THE NOOSE ON NORTH KOREA: After months of escalating tensions and missile tests, President Barack Obama vowed Tuesday to work to tighten U.N. sanctions against North Korea while leaving the door open to dialogue.

His comments came a day after North Korea test-fired three missiles that South Korea’s military said traveled about 620 miles before crashing off the coast of Japan, suggesting that was a last straw. It was the latest in a series of missile launches, with varying degrees of success, as the North flouts tightened U.N. Security Council sanctions imposed earlier this year after it conducted its fourth nuclear test and sent a satellite into orbit.

On Tuesday the U.N. Security Council once again strongly condemned the North’s missile launches and threatened “further significant measures” if Pyongyang refuses to stop its nuclear and missile tests. North Korea has continued to flout U.N. sanctions imposed earlier this year after it conducted its fourth nuclear test and sent a satellite into orbit.

“We are going to work diligently together with the most recent U.N. sanctions,” Obama told reporters after a meeting with South Korea’s President Park Geun-hye in Laos. “We are going to work together to make sure we’re closing loopholes and make them even more effective.”

North Korea’s leader, meanwhile, declared Monday’s launch a success and promised to continue “bolstering up the nuclear force.” The remarks were published Tuesday with photographs of a smiling Kim and the fiery missiles taking off in the official Rodong Sinmun newspaper.

The state-run Korean Central News Agency said Kim was informed about the details of the planned drill, then ordered the commander of the Strategic Force to begin.

“The moment General Kim Rak Gyom shouted ‘Fire!’ ballistic rockets flew into the sky in succession,” it reported, adding the missiles’ performance was considered “perfect.”

The U.N. Security Council, which last month strongly condemned earlier missile launches, was expected to meet later Tuesday to discuss the latest round.

Obama called Monday’s launches “provocations” that violated international law and would lead to further isolation of the communist country, according to The Associated Press.

Threats to tighten sanctions and the imposition of unilateral U.S. measures against leader Kim Jong Un have so far failed to stop the North from pursuing its nuclear weapons program. But it was the first time since the situation escalated this summer that Obama has promised to work with U.S. allies to tighten the noose.

He also alluded to China, a traditional ally of North Korea that signed onto tightened sanctions in March. Beijing has been angered by U.S.-South Korean plans to deploy an advanced American missile defense system on the peninsula, which it fears could be used against its own military.

Questions also have been raised about Beijing’s willingness to implement the restrictive measures for fear that a collapse of the North Korean regime would lead to instability on its borders.

“President Park and I agreed that the entire international community needs to implement these sanctions fully and hold North Korea accountable,” Obama said of the meeting with his South Korean counterpart. He stressed, however, that dialogue was still possible if North Korea changes course to recognize its international obligations and enforce the denuclearization of the divided peninsula.

“We do not have any interest in an offensive approach to North Korea,” Obama said.

The missile test occurred on the closing day of a G-20 summit, hours after South Korea’s president met with her Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping in an effort to persuade him to drop his country’s opposition to the planned deployment of the anti-missile battery known as THAAD.

Seoul and Washington say the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense system is needed to guard against the growing missile threat from the North. But Beijing fears its powerful radar could be used against its own military.

Critics also say the system could be rendered ineffective if North Korea unleashes its sizable arsenal of missiles. The allied countries insist the THAAD is only part of a layered defense system that includes lower-altitude Patriots that together would protect the entire country.
ROK – U.S. ALLIANCE READY TO MEET MUTUAL DEFENSE OBLIGATIONS
OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea – In a demonstration of the steadfast United States (U.S.) commitment to the Republic of Korea’s (ROK) defense, two U.S. Air Force B-1B strategic bombers flew from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, to the airspace over the Republic of Korea, Sept. 13. General Vincent K. Brooks, Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea commander and General Lee, Sun-jin, Chairman of the Republic of Korea Joint Chiefs of Staff, stressed during a press conference after the flight that North Korea’s blatant disregard for its international obligations, demands ROK and U.S. forces to continue to enhance military readiness to take actions as directed to deter North Korea. “The United States and the Republic of Korea are taking actions every day to strengthen our Alliance and respond to North Korea’s continued aggressive behavior,” said Gen. Brooks. “Today’s demonstration provides just one example of the full range of military capabilities in the deep resources of this strong alliance to provide and strengthen extended deterrence. The Alliance military forces remain ready to meet mutual defense obligations against threats to the security of the Korean Peninsula and the region.” The B-1Bs, Republic of Korea F-15K fighter aircraft and U.S. F-16 fighter aircraft conducted a low-level flight in the vicinity of Osan Air Base. The flyover highlights the close cooperation between U.S. and ROK military forces that keeps them ready to respond at any time to threats to stability and security. The B-1 Lancer is a four-engine supersonic variable-sweep wing, jet-powered heavy supersonic strategic bomber with Mach 2 speed. The B-1s recently deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. “North Korea’s nuclear test is a dangerous escalation and poses an unacceptable threat,” said Gen. Brooks. “The United States has an unshakable commitment to defend allies in the region and will take necessary steps to do so, including operations like this one today, and the deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Air Defense (THAAD) battery to the Korean Peninsula.”

NOTE FROM THE KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION – SAN FRANCISCO
Dear Korean War Veterans, Donors, Members of the Media, and Other Friends,
We have now posted a comprehensive gallery of photos taken at the Opening Ceremony of the Korean War Memorial in the Presidio of San Francisco on August 1, 2016. These photos, by eminent photographer Tom Graves, depict the highlights of the ceremony from beginning to end.

Here is a link to the posting on the KWMF website: http://www.kwmf.org/category/news/
And here is a link to the posting on the KWMF Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/KoreanWarMemorialFoundation
If you were present at the ceremony, we believe that you will enjoy revisiting the event through this photo montage. If you were unable to attend, we believe that you will get a good feel for what the ceremony was like, and what the new Korean War Memorial looks like.
Sincerely,
Gerard Parker
Korean War Memorial Foundation
401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 313A
San Francisco, CA 94102
Office: 415 817 1858
Cell: 415 250 8518
http://www.kwmf.org/
Each year, nearly 40,000 high school students from across the country enter to win a share of $2 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the VFW’s Voice of Democracy audio-essay competition.

The VFW established the Voice of Democracy program (VOD) in 1947 to provide students grades 9-12 the opportunity to express themselves in regards to democratic ideas and principles.

The national first-place winner receives a $30,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient’s American university, college or vocational/technical school. Other national scholarships range from $1,000-$16,000, and the first-place winner from each (state) VFW Department wins a minimum scholarship of $1,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. STUDENTS CAN WIN $30,000!

WHO CAN ENTER:
The Voice of Democracy Program is open to students in grades 9-12 (on the Nov. 1 deadline), who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States and its territories.

HOW TO ENTER:
Click here to access the Voice of Democracy 2016-17 entry form and brochure.

To view the complete list of national scholarship awards available, click here.

If you experience problems with downloading or printing the application, please try to access the entry form using Internet Explorer. If you continue to experience problems, please contact the VFW National Headquarters at kharmer@vfw.org for assistance.

THE 2016-17 THEME IS: MY RESPONSIBILITY TO AMERICA

Students should record their reading of the draft to an audio CD or flash drive. The recording can be no shorter than three minutes and no longer than five minutes (plus or minus five seconds). Entries begin at the Post level. Once the student creates their essay and completes burning the audio version to an audio CD/flash drive, they can submit their typed version, CD/flash drive and the Voice of Democracy entry form to their local participating VFW Post by the November 1 deadline.

JUDGING CRITERIA:
Originality is worth 30 points: Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.
Content is worth 35 points: Clearly express your ideas in an organized manner. Fully develop your theme and use transitions to move smoothly from one idea to the other.

Delivery is worth 35 points: Speak in a clear and credible manner.

U.S., CHINA TO STEP UP COOPERATION ON NORTH KOREA. U.S. President Barack Obama and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang agreed on Monday to step up cooperation in the United Nations Security Council and in law-enforcement channels after North Korea's fifth nuclear test, the White House said. China and the United States are also targeting the finances of Liaoning Hongxiang Industrial, a Chinese conglomerate headed by a Communist Party cadre, that the Obama administration thinks has a role in assisting North Korea's nuclear program, the Wall Street Journal reported on Monday.

U.N. diplomats say the two countries have started discussions on a possible U.N. sanctions resolution in response to the nuclear test earlier this month, but Beijing has not said directly whether it will support tougher steps against North Korea. Obama met Li on the sidelines of the annual United Nations General Assembly session in New York.
"Both leaders condemned North Korea’s September 9 nuclear test and resolved to strengthen coordination in achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, including by invigorating cooperation in the United Nations Security Council and in law enforcement channels on North Korea," a White House statement said. China is isolated North Korea's most important diplomatic backer and its biggest trading partner. It has been angered by Pyongyang's repeated nuclear and missile tests and signed on to increasingly tough U.N. sanctions, but it has said it believes such steps are not the ultimate answer and called for a return to talks with North Korea.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told his Japanese counterpart last week China opposes "unhelpful" unilateral sanctions on North Korea but will work within the United Nations to formulate a response. Washington has pressed Beijing to do more to rein in North Korea. The United States has said it is willing to negotiate with the North if the country commits to get rid of its nuclear weapons, which Pyongyang has refused to do.

36. PRAYER LIST:
- Mrs. Virginia Edwards (Sonny’s wife) – remission
- Jeff Brodeur’s sister – Need a liver transplant
- Fred Ragusa’s wife – Three upcoming surgeries
- COL Bill Weber – Fitting of new prosthesis
- Director George Bruzgis – Circulation on legs
- Director Tine Martin’s wife – recovery from recent heart surgery
- Dody Green – Upcoming heart surgery

37. 604,000 UNINSURED VETERANS IN 2017 UNLESS MORE STATES EXPAND MEDICAID

More than 600,000 military veterans are likely to be without health coverage next year unless more states expand income eligibility for the Medicaid program, researchers at the Urban Institute reported Wednesday. Of 327,000 uninsured vets in non-expansion states, only 39 percent currently qualify for Medicaid or subsidized marketplace coverage. Seventy-seven percent would qualify if those states expanded Medicaid under the ACA, according to the report funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

“There is a tendency to think that all veterans get health coverage through the VA, which is far from the case,” said a statement from Kathy Hempstead, of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. “While the coverage situation for vets has improved a great deal, hundreds of thousands of veterans remain uninsured, many of whom would be eligible if their states expanded Medicaid.”

Amazingly, seventy percent of 277,000 uninsured vets in expansion states – nearly 194,000 veterans - are already eligible for Medicaid or subsidies to help them buy coverage through the insurance marketplace.

The report notes the need for better outreach to find and enroll these people in coverage.

Read more here: http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-orld/national/article104629146.html#storylink=cpy
The Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel looks forward to welcoming the Korean War Veterans Association!

**DATES**
October 4th – 8th, 2017 Rates available (3) days pre and post subject to hotel availability

**BOOKING LINK**
https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/KWVA2017 or call 1-800-325-3535 and ask for the Korean War Veterans Association

**RATES**
Standard room at $104.00 plus tax, Balcony room at $114.00 plus tax, Club Level king at $134.00 plus tax. Choice of two queen size beds or one king size bed, harbor view or city view. Club level rooms include access to complimentary continental breakfast and evening hors d’oeuvres.

**LOCATION**
Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510 www.sheraton.com/norfolk (757) 622-6664.
NORFOLK, VA WELCOMES THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION—OCTOBER 4-8, 2017
Nor-Fok or Naw-Fok, no matter how you pronounce it, the experience will always be the same: fun, vibrant entertainment and culture, delicious cuisine and 144 miles of shoreline waiting to be explored.

The military is a huge part of who Norfolk, Virginia is today. Norfolk believes all military veterans are our family, friends and our heart. Norfolk is home to the Atlantic Fleet, the largest and last battleship ever built by the U.S. Navy and the world’s largest naval station. We invite all military branches to come back home to Norfolk! You have served for our country, so now let us give you something in return with new friends, adventures and memories.

THINGS TO DO
Norfolk, Virginia is a vibrant waterfront city full of unique, fun things to do. Check out some of Norfolk’s celebrated military attractions and facilities— including the Battleship Wisconsin, Naval Station Norfolk, General Douglas MacArthur Memorial, and the Armed Forces Memorial. Within 12 walkable downtown city blocks, you will find delectable dining, exciting nightlife and entertainment, shopping and a burgeoning art scene. All of this, and much more, awaits your arrival in the heart of the Virginia Waterfront™.

WEATHER
The month of October is characterized by rapidly falling daily high temperatures, with daily highs decreasing from 75°F to 66°F over the course of the month. The average probability that some form of precipitation in a given day is 36%, with little variation over the course of the month.

Getting to Norfolk, VA is easy.

PASSENGER RAIL
- Round trip passenger rail service available to Petersburg, Richmond, Washington DC and cities north all the way up to Boston.
- Passenger train station conveniently located along the Downtown Norfolk waterfront.

NORFOLK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (ORF)
- Over 200 flights daily
- Norfolk International Airport located just minutes from downtown.

Visit www.visitnorfolktoday.com/transportation for more information.

FIND YOUR FUN IN NORFOLK!

Download the VisitNorfolk app. Search “VisitNorfolkVA” in the Apple or Android store. Turn on location services for turn-by-turn directions to shops, restaurants and more!
It is an honor to work with each of you and I hope we continue to look forward to continuing our progress in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Fisher

James R. Fisher  
National Executive Director  
Korean War Veterans Association, USA