September 20, 1982

General Chang Hwan Kim, ROKA, Ret.
President
Korean Veterans Association
2-197-7 Chang-Choong-Dong, Choong-Ku,
Seoul, Korea

Dear General Kim:

We are a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia in November 30th, 1981. Our organization has been recognized as a tax exempt corporation under the Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 act.

Our aim is to erect an appropriate and compelling Korean War Memorial in honor of the veterans Americans, Koreans and Allies who served during the war in Korea.

The initial steps have already been taken: Legislation has been proposed for the authorization of a suitable site within the Washington, D.C. monumental core and the response of congressmen from both parties has been overwhelmingly supportive primarily because such a memorial is long overdue.

The financing shall derive from public subscriptions and donations. No government is involved which means that the project's success is in the hands of the American general public. We have earmarked a target of $10 million US Dollars as an adequate sum to realize our aim and have every reason to believe that it is feasible with the proper and well coordinated promotion through corporations, foundations, T.V. Presentations, direct mail campaign and the various veteran's publications.

It is important that the public to its greatest extent be involved so that the memorial shall be proudly displayed as purely American accomplishment. Yet, it is of equal if not greater importance to Korea. We anticipate wide publicity especially through the planned T.V. show and this publicity shall invariably play to Korea's benefit. The whole schedule of events from the passing of the bill in both the House and Senate to the unveiling of the monument will be continuous mention of Korea, the war there and the ramifications thereof.
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The American public either does not know or has not been alerted by its mass media how important Korea is strategically and geopolitically to the Americans' interests in the Pacific area. Should Korea go that means isolations of Japan with her tremendous industry and fatal exposure of the Philippines, Taiwan and Australia. These matters and many more detailed points can be taken during the campaign for the building of the memorial which can only be to Korea's immense advantage. It is of equal importance that the effort for the memorial has no imprint of the Korean government because then the American public and the media might either ignore it or even be reminded of the adverse impressions left after the so called "Korea Gate" scandal.

As long as we operate as an American charitable organization Korea shall get the maximum possible publicity under the ideal of conditions. It is therefore of supreme importance to Korea and its government to help us realize our aim.

The undersigned will be in Seoul in the early part of October and wishes that you make necessary arrangements for a high level meeting with authoritative personalities of the same caliber like you i.e. a representative of the Ministry of Public Information, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Association. During that meeting she will present the detailed plans and outlines of the project and answer your questions. It should be conceived as a policy meeting the details of your participation to be discussed with the technicians and specialists of the respective ministries.

most sincerely yours,

Chayon Kim, Ph.D.
Executive Director/Secretary
National Committee for the
Korean War Memorial

cc: The Blue House
Korean Embassy, Washington, D.C.