Dear Senator,

Enclosed please find a written statement submitted by the National Committee for the Korean War Memorial, Inc (NCKWM) in support of Senate Joint Resolutions 97, which our objective today is to provide you with a statement of our project concept in terms of the purpose of the NCKWM, our organization, design concept, site selection is essential, fund-raising plan and design competition procedures.

The NCKWM is a self-sponsored, non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. This organization has been recognized as a tax exempt corporation under the Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The purpose of the NCKWM is to erect in the District of Columbia, with funds raised through public contribution at no expense to the United States or the District of Columbia, a National Memorial to honor and commemorate the men and women who served in the Korean Conflict, upon a prominent site in the nation's capital monumental core.

The NCKWM seeks Congressional authorization to obtain a site area for the proposed memorial in Tidal Basin North East. The choice of such site is essential and appropriate because of the significance of the Korean Conflict in the United States history and of the world and need for a permanent, concrete symbol to commemorate the achievement of the past and to strengthen the framework for international peace for future.

Let the column which we are about to construct be at once a pledge and an emblem of perpetual strength, resolution and firmness of United States of America and the American people, and their 21 Allied Nations! Let the foundations be laid, let the superstructure be built up and cemented, let each stone be raised and riveted, in a spirit of international brotherhood! Our nation, in its haste to forget the past, has long over due and let us rectify an old injustice.

Sincerely,
STATEMENT OF THE
NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL, INC.
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
IN SUPPORT OF
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS
KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL

ABSTRACT

We are assembled to take the first step towards the fulfilment of a long-deferred obligation. In this 34th years the break of the Korean Conflict, we have come together to lay the corner-stone of a National Memorial to Veterans of the Korean Conflict.

We are self-sponsored, a non-profit organization incorporated in the laws of the District of Columbia. This charitable organization has been recognized as a tax-exempt corporation under the Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 Act.

The NCKWM is composed of three inter-related groups; A National Sponsoring Committee of prominent Americans who have expressed their interest and support for the objectives of the organization; An Ex-officio International Sponsoring Committee of 21 Allied Nations that rallied under the banner of the United Nations; and operating staff comprised of a Board of Directors and executive officers of both professional and volunteer personnel who handle the day-to-day operation.

The purpose and philosophy of the National Committee for the Korean War Memorial (NCKWM) is to erect in the District of Columbia, with funds raised from public contribution, no expense to the United States or the District of Columbia, a National Memorial to honor and commemorate the men and women who served in the Korean Conflict, upon a prominent site in the nation's capital monumental core.

The Korean Conflict represents one of the few moments in history of the United States and of the world, when a group of Allied Nations banded together to defend against armed communist aggression. In a unique way, it is living demonstration of the ties that bind United States, Republic of Korea and 20 Allied Nations to this day - Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Greece, India, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Republic of South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom - ties cemented in blood and sacrifice made more than 34 years ago and which have continue ever since, Should the Korean Conflict ever be re-enacted, it would be even more horrendous than it was three decades ago - the twin traumas of having a civilian airliner shot out of skies by Soviet fighters and having its Cabinet decimated by North Korean terrorists in Rangoon.
Conflict, it is feared, could arise out of misperceptions or miscalculations. Hence, the permanent tension between the two parts of the country, divided by an accident of history—separate liberation from the Japanese by Soviet and American troops in 1945.

The United States was the leader in an endeavour; more than 5.7 million men and women served in Korea, during the Conflict, more than 103,000 were wounded, and 54,246 who gave their lives.

They had been called upon to serve their nation, and they did so with courage, honor and dignity. They neither sought, nor were they accorded the recognition they deserve. Now, their sons and daughters have grown into adulthood, and the time has come to honor these defenders of freedom.

We, and those who came after us in successive generations, are its appointed, its privileged guardians. Maintain its freedom. Uphold its constitution. Preserve its Democracy. Defend its Liberty. Let it stand before the world in all its original strength and beauty, securing peace, order, equality, and freedom to all within its boundaries, and shedding light and hope and joy upon the pathway of human liberty throughout the world.

We seek Congressional authorization to obtain a site area for the proposed memorial in or within the close proximity to the capital monumental core. The choice of such site is essential and appropriate because of the significance of the Korean Conflict in the history of our country and of the world and need for a permanent, concrete symbol of the achievement of the past and to strengthen the framework for international peace for future.

The NCKWM has not yet developed a definite design which it propposes for approval because of its firm belief that the memorial should be of the highest aesthetic quality, harmonizing with and enhancing the existing beauty of park environment of Washington, D.C., a national treasures. Accordingly, a final design is dependent upon determination of specific site. The NCKWM has developed a concept for the memorial, however, with an overall landscaped solution to the question of design, to guide the architects and artists in their creative efforts when the specific site is determined. The elements of our design concepts are:

* An overall landscaped solution, emphasizing vertical elements with approximately 20 feet high, to create a living memorial in harmony with its surroundings.
* A spacious garden setting, with emphasis on the locale of the Conflict, "the Land of Morning Calm", inviting visitors and passerby to enter, rest and contemplate.

* The design must provide for symbol of 16 Allied Nations and 5 supporting Allied Nations.

* A design of memorial which shall bespeak the honor, not of War, or of Battle, or of Unit, not of individual; but of the people, the all men and women of the Korean Conflict, a National Memorial, erected by the people of America and its Allied Nations.

* Artistic integrity of design, components and materials.

The NCKWM believes that a memorial design in accordance with the foregoing elements will serve both the purpose of international honor and commemorate of the veterans of the Korean Conflict and emphasizing the strength, resolution and firmness of purposes of the United States of America and the American people, and their Allied Nations in the defense of freedom, democracy, and liberty while enhancing the natural beauty of the nation's capital.

A site outside of the monumental core would lack the significance for a memorial to honor of veterans of America and its allied nations who bind to this day. Furthermore, an indication of less than total honor of their achievement would present serious criticism and difficulties to NCKWM in gaining the financial support of the Americans and its people of the 21 Allied Nations. From the outset of its efforts, the NCKWM has been sensitive and has worked with the various federal agencies whose responsibility it is to insure the highest aesthetic, planned, and proper use of federal park lands in the nation's capital. This consideration began with our statement before the National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, presented on September 22, 1982 with Chayon Kim, Colonel John F.C. Kenney, Jr. and Colonel Lloyd L "Scooter" Burke. (Appendix A).

To insure that no appropriate site in the nation's capital has been overlooked, the NCKWM obtained site selection criteria from VVMF which was prepared by landscaped architectural firm, EDAW under the contract with VVMF. These criteria were developed after consultation with agencies and commissions relevent to the review and approval of memorials. Of the 12 site evaluated, eleven are determined not to warrant further consideration due to conflicts with existing major historical axes or vistas, or due to lack of sufficient
compatibility with the criteria. The study concludes that of the three site areas meriting further consideration, Tidal Basin North East is the most compatible with all the criteria, and of special symbolic significance because of its proximity to the Jefferson Memorial which stands as a symbol of the Great Champion of Liberty.

Since its incorporation the NCKWM has moved expeditiously to obtain and organize the financial, administrative, and professional resources necessary to complete the memorial within the minimum realistic time frame. Exemptions from Federal income tax as a charitable organization under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 Act was granted by letter 1045(DO)6-77, dated August 6, 1982, from the District Director, Internal Revenue Service, Baltimore, Maryland. The NCKWM adopted a management and organization plan providing for four task force to include Public Relations, Finance and accounting, Fund-Raising and Project development including design competition and construction, with each group headed by task group director. The plan also created executive director, responsible for day-to-day management of the affairs of the corporation, to be employed on salaried basis. The NCKWM will be opened its office for the duration of the Korean veterans memorial project. A "Lock Box" agreement will be entered into a Washington,D.C. banking institution, by which all mail received at the NCKWM's post office box address will be opened and screened for contributions, which are deposited and accounted for by the bank, before the mail is forwarded to the NCKWM. The purpose of direct mail campaign is to afford as many Americans and their allied nations as possible the opportunity to contribute, so that the memorial is truly an expression of broad based national and international sentiment. The grants and gifts from Corporation and foundations's campaign will be launched later this month. Although definite fund-raising plan for the memorial project cannot be established until final site selection is determined. We believe that the funds necessary to complete the memorial can be raised within two years after passage by the Congress of the proposal before your Committee.

We have enclosed a site selection criteria, design selection procedures and fund-raising plan with a statement before the National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee for your convenience.

* Appendix A
A Statement before the National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee on September 22, 1982

* Appendix B
Letters of support and endorsement

* Appendix C
List of Board of Directors
Articles of Incorporation and By-laws
In conclusion, let us state the NCKWM is pledge to provide the highest aesthetic quality, compelling, fitting memorial in a contemplative serene setting that will be compatible with the other memorials in the monumental core of the nation's capital.

The memorial would pay tribute to the fallen and all the veterans of the Korean Conflict — a justice long delayed in coming, and it will symbolize the pride and dignity of all veterans who served there. It will also representative of the spirit of all people who believe that this nation must continue to be foremost bastion against the suppression of freedom, democracy and liberty.

When the memorial is officially dedicated, the ceremonies would constitute a major occasion for re-affirming the close ties among the participating allies and a uniquely opportune moment to insure that those ties are strengthened.