August 28, 1989

Enclosed is a letter from Mr. Hal Barker, who is currently writing a book concerning the Korean War Veterans' Memorial. As the names and addresses of contributors to the memorial fund are protected by the Privacy Act of 1976, Mr. Barker's letter is being forwarded to you through this Commission. The letter is self-explanatory.

If you wish to respond to Mr. Barker's letter, please do so by using the self-addressed stamped envelope which he provided.

Information concerning the current status of the memorial project may be found in the enclosed brochure.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
WILLIAM E. RYAN, JR.
Colonel, AD
Director of Operations
and Finance

Encls.
July 27, 1989

RE: Korean War Memorial

To Whom It May Concern:

In December, 1984, I made a $10 contribution to the American Battle Monuments Commission, and started the Korean War Veterans Memorial Fund. Much has happened since then.

Your own early donation to the Memorial Fund is a private matter, so I have asked the American Battle Monuments Commission to forward this letter to you, with the hope that you might consider contacting me.

I am attempting to contact the first 50 contributors to the Memorial Fund in preparation for a future book about the early contributors to the Fund. Each of us has different reasons for remembering the Korean War. I would like to know your reasons.

My own father was a helicopter rescue pilot with Marine Observation Squadron Six in 1951-1952. He would never talk about the ribbons on his uniform, or the Silver Star he won at Heartbreak Ridge. I had to find out for myself.

I have included a stamped envelope with the hope that I might hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Hal Barker

Hal Barker
September 30, 1989

Mr. Hal Barker
8656 Park Lane #2008
Dallas, TX 75213

Dear Mr. Barker:

We received your letter concerning the Korean War Memorial, via The American Battle Monuments Commission, about three weeks ago and want to apologize for not having answered sooner. I hope we can be of some help in your endeavor.

As you well know the Marine Corps League is an organization open to all Marines, both past and present. When we received a request to make a donation to a proposed Korean War Memorial, even though plans were not complete, we made an early response. We were certain it would be a way of honoring all Marines who were involved in that conflict. We had no individual Marine in mind.

Since receiving your request I checked our records to find how many of our members were involved in the Korean Service Period. Our present membership is 85. Of these members all were on active service during the Korean Service Period. Also 7 former members were on active duty during that time. Of the 16 members we do not have an accurate count of how many were actually in Korea. Some (like myself) were WW II veterans who were recalled to active duty but did not get shipped to Korea.

However one member, a veteran of WW II who eventually served 24 years in the Marine Corps, was in Korea from the landing at Inchon and went to the Chosin Reservoir with the 1st. Marine Division.

So as previously mentioned, we wanted to help honor all Marines who made any sacrifice however small and since we are a relatively small unit we were glad to assist in our own small way.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Petry
Detachment Adjutant

"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"