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
Mr. Hal Barker  
8656 Park Lane # 2008  
Dallas, Texas  75231

Sir:

In response to your letter of 27 July 1989, forwarded by the American Battle Monuments Commission to my home address and received 30 August 1989.

"Reasons for remembering the Korean War"

(1) Arriving in Pusan, Korea, December 1952 after serving 42 months of WW2 in Europe (combat time) included) disembarking from the transport, I said to several soldiers, "Here we go again, when do we stop".

(2) The poverty of Pusan and the fact that you could call the city one big slum.

(3) The constant odor of human waste, # irrigation ditches etc".

(4) The interest of younger children and teenagers in education.

(5) The generosity of the American soldier in supporting so many orphanages.

Being a veteran of 42 months in Europe, combat WW"2 and 18 months combat Korea, I have many memories some good and some not so good.

I hope I have been of some help.

Sincerely,

John A. Cunningham  
MSG USA (Ret)