

GLOBAL COALITION FOR KOREAN WAR RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation of the Korean War through Remembrance and Recognition



Who We Are

GLOBAL COALITION FOR KOREAN WAR RECONCILIATION, is an independent, non-governmental, global coalition made up of concerned citizens and organizations dedicated to fostering reconciliation of the Korean War through remembrance and recognition of the sacrifices made by the Korean people and *all* veterans of the War.

Our Mission

We hope to foster transnational reconciliation of the Korean War and peacebuilding on the Korean Peninsula to bring about an eventual replacement of the Korean War Armistice with a peace treaty.

Background

It is estimated that more than 1000 Korean War veterans die each day. This number will only increase exponentially with time. Before it is too late, we—the children and grandchildren of the Korean War veterans, Friends of Korea, and promoters of peace—would like to build understanding and cooperation among all those affected by the War.

As John F. Kennedy said in his Speech to UN General Assembly, Sept. 25, 1961, “Mankind must put an end to war or war will put an end to mankind.”

We believe it is time to put an end to the Korean War that cost 55 years (since the ceasefire) of enmity and sacrifices of 5 million veterans (1950-2008).

Our Vision

It took more than fifty long years to cross the DMZ and start a genuine dialogue. It is time to discharge the mistrust that has been harbored in the hearts of many for too long. Though it is important that we do not forget, we should reconcile with each other and forgive.

REMEMBRANCE

Raising public awareness of a War that still has not ended

RECOGNITION

Learning about the impact of the War on the Korean people and the Veterans

RECONCILIATION

Ridding enmity through understanding and forgiveness

The Moment into Action

The following are our preliminary goals:

- GOAL 1:** To collect at least 1 MILLION pledges from people who will support our mission and display the flag on Korean War Armistice Day (July 27), every year, until the Armistice is replaced with the peace treaty.
- GOAL 2:** To pass Korean War Veterans Recognition Act of 2007 (S.1888), to add National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day to the list of days on which the flag should especially be displayed.
- GOAL 3:** To document the stories and dialogues of the veterans and share with the general public through publications, recordings, films, exhibits, posters, etc. to educate the young generation about the atrocities of War and its impact.
- GOAL 4:** To convene a gathering on July 27, (if not in 2008, then 2009) inviting veterans and their (grand)children from both sides (all 24 countries) to share an exchange on how the war affected their lives back in their respective countries.

Following the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, “We never get rid of an enemy by meeting hate with hate; we get rid of an enemy by getting rid of enmity” we hope to replace enmity with reconciliation, first among the people, then between the governments.

Korean War Veterans (1950-1953)

United Nations Command:

-  Republic of Korea 590,911
-  United States 480,000
-  Australia 17,000
-  United Kingdom 63,000
-  Canada 26,791
-  Philippines 7,000
-  Netherlands 3,972
-  France 3,421
-  Turkey 5,455
-  New Zealand 1,389
-  Thailand 1,294
-  Ethiopia 1,271
-  Greece 1,263
-  Colombia 1,068
-  Belgium 900
-  South Africa 826
-  Luxembourg 44

Medical staff:

-  Denmark
-  Italy
-  Norway
-  Sweden

Total: 941,356–1,139,518

Communist:

-  North Korea 260,000
-  People's Republic of China 780,000
-  Soviet Union 26,000 mostly pilots and support staff

Total: 1,066,000 documented

***Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people
can change the world:***

Indeed it's the only thing that ever has!

~Margaret Mead

If you would like to join and/or support the Coalition, have any questions, suggestions, or comments, please feel free to contact Hannah Kim at hannahkim115@yahoo.com.