



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE
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For Immediate Release

Korean War Veterans to Receive Overdue Recognition

Department of Defense Launches "The Year of the Korean War Veteran" Campaign on Veterans Day

November 9, 2012 – Arlington, Virginia – The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee will be launching a nationwide awareness campaign on Veterans Day called "The Year of the Korean War Veteran" to ensure that the legacy of Korean War Veterans is fully appreciated and remembered by all Americans. In Congress, a resolution is pending to recognize and honor all Korean War Veterans.

"It is imperative that the Veterans from all services who served in the Korean War are recognized and remembered for their service and sacrifice," said Colonel David J. Clark, Director of the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee. "The goal of the Year of the Korean War Veteran awareness campaign will be to reach as many Americans as possible and educate them about the significance of the Korean War and why what happened in Korea over 60 years ago remains relevant today."

For decades, the Korean War was known as the Forgotten War and the men and women who served on the Korean Peninsula believed their sacrifices had gone unnoticed. To the contrary, the Korean War Veterans fought in one of the most important events of the Cold War era; a fact that has become more apparent over time with the emergence of the Republic of Korea as a great power and US ally.

"The Republic of Korea has the world's 12th largest economy and a thriving democracy," said Colonel Clark. "Our Veterans helped enable the Republic of Korea to survive and establish itself as a leader among nations in the world. The Year of the Korean War Veteran will put renewed emphasis on their contributions in preserving democratic principles in Northeast Asia." On July 27, 2013, the United States will commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Signing of the Armistice in Washington, D.C. The Armistice ended fighting in Korea. Today, the United States Military still has over 28,000 troops stationed in the Republic of Korea.

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, authorized in the 2011 Defense Authorization Bill, is dedicated to thanking and honoring all Veterans of the Korean War and their families. Through 2013, the Committee will honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War Veterans, commemorate the key events of the war, and educate Americans of all ages about the historical significance of the Korean War. For more information visit <http://koreanwar.defense.gov>

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