



MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
SEOUL
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

24 May 2018

General Vincent K. Brooks
Commander
CFC/USFK/UNC

Dear General Brooks,

As we approach Memorial Day, on behalf of the service members of the Republic of Korea Armed Forces, I would like to extend my words of respect for the noble sacrifices endured by the U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who fell in battle in defense of freedom and world peace.


Men and women in uniform of the U.S. Armed Forces have overcome countless challenges and crises that have threatened free democracy, greatly contributing to the noble goal of realizing justice for humanity. Especially during the Korean War, approximately 37,000 young men and women from America gave their lives for the defense of the Republic of Korea, “a country they never knew.” 68 years have passed since the beginning of the Korean War, but the Korean people have not forgotten that Korea today would not have been able to enjoy the freedom and prosperity without the sacrifice made by the Korean War veterans. We will never forget their sacrifice.



Despite North Korea's continued threats and provocations, the ROK-U.S. Alliance has endured resolutely. I believe the recent turning point for peace on the Korean peninsula is the result of our countries' patience and efforts, rooted in the noble sacrifice made by the numerous ROK and U.S. service members. Going forward, let us develop this great Alliance, in a mutually reinforcing manner, into the locomotive that leads the efforts for peace on the peninsula and in the Northeast Asia.

I am immensely grateful for the efforts and commitment shown by you and the members of the USFK at the very frontier of the ROK-U.S. Alliance for the peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. Please accept my wishes for health and success of you and the people under your command.

Sincerely Yours,


Song, Young Moo