



HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA

UNIT #15237
APO AP 96205-5237

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

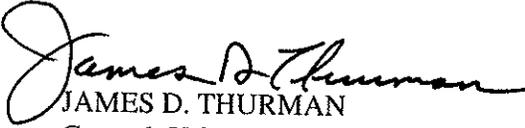
FKCC

27 JUN. 2012.

MEMORANDUM FOR United States Forces Korea (USFK) Personnel

SUBJECT: 2012 Commander's Fourth of July Message

1. To all of our dedicated service-members, civilians, and family members—Happy Fourth of July. On July 4th we will take time to celebrate our nation's 236th birthday. Since the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, values like personal liberty and free democracy have enabled our country to become a global leader. These values, and our defense of them, have led to the United States being “the shining city on the hill”; a role model for other countries to emulate.
2. Over those 236 years, our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines have fought to defend our nation's freedom and its citizen's liberty. We defended these values at home and around the world. Since 1950, we have defended these values in the Republic of Korea with our ROK allies. We follow in the footsteps of the generations of Americans who have defended freedom and served our nation far from home. Your hard work and dedication maintains the Armistice, deters aggression against the Republic of Korea (ROK), and contributes to stability throughout Northeast Asia. Your efforts are what make the ROK-U.S. Alliance the strongest in the world.
3. It is never easy to be away from home and family during a holiday, especially when it may be your first time. All of us, regardless of branch of service, are part of the USFK family. There will be numerous celebrations around the peninsula. Go out and participate in them, and celebrate the July 4th holiday with your USFK family. I encourage all of you to invite your Korean friends and coworkers to join you so you can share with them how we celebrate our nation's birthday and the values which make our country great.
4. Thank you for your service to our nation. I am honored and proud to serve with you. Your hard work and dedication continue to strengthen our already tremendous alliance.


JAMES D. THURMAN
General, U.S. Army
Commander