NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

Gen. Abrams visits the Joint Security Area
The United Nations Command (UNC), Combined Forces Command (CFC) and U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) Commander visited the Joint Security Area (JSA) with Gen. Park Han-ki, Republic of Korea (ROK) Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, within his first week of taking command. During the visit Gen. Abrams reaffirmed that the ROK-U.S. Alliance remains ironclad, and will continue to play an important role in preventing armed conflict on the Korean Peninsula and promoting peace and stability in the region.

Gen. Abrams visits the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Gen. Abrams visited the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his first meeting with Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha on Nov. 20. In his remarks, Gen. Abrams said that he has every intention of strengthening the ROK-U.S. Alliance. Kang cited a huge change to the security conditions on the Peninsula over the past year, saying, “It’s been possible because of the strong Alliance between our two countries. The Alliance has been fundamental to our endeavor and we see that getting stronger and closer as we move forward, and your role is instrumental in this.” Gen. Abrams extended his appreciation to the foreign minister for her warm hospitality; affirmed the U.S.’s ironclad commitment to the defense of the ROK; and stated that as USFK Commander, he would continuously support diplomatic efforts to achieve denuclearization and a lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula.

UNC supports the Comprehensive Military Agreement
The UNC continues to support steps towards peace through implementation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement (CMA) signed by representatives from both Koreas in Pyeongyang in Sept. In November, the UNC supported the initial phases of landmine removal to enable safe access for the joint recovery of remains and disarmament of the ISA. Support also included the removal of border guard posts and facilitating inter-Korea road and rail inspections, all while maintaining international sanctions on the North. UNC will continue to support peace efforts without compromising the Armistice and international sanctions until denuclearization of the North is achieved.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS
These officials saw the three commands first-hand during visits this past month.

- Kari Bingen, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, U.S. Department of Defense, Nov. 4-6
- Air Marshal Phil Osborn, Chief, Defence Intelligence, U.K. Ministry of Defence, Nov. 5-7
- Gen. Paul Selva, Vice Chairman, U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Nov. 6-8
- George Barnes, Deputy Director, National Security Agency, Nov. 6-8
- Lt. Gen. Takayuki Onozuka, Vice Chief of Staff, Japan Ground Self Defense Force, Nov. 7-8
- Lt. Gen. Takashi Motomatsu, Vice Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Japan, Nov. 7-8
- Adm. Phillip Davidson, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, Nov. 7-9
- Lt. Gen. Jerry Martinez, Commander, U.S. Forces Japan, Nov. 7-9
- Jeong Kyeong-Doo, Minister of National Defense, Republic of Korea, Nov. 8
- Lt. Gen. Eric Smith, Commander, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Nov. 28-29
- Jonathan Knight, Deputy Director, Defence Intelligence, U.K. Ministry of Defence, Nov. 29-30