February 24, 2022

Thank you for taking the time to write and share your story with President Biden. He is honored by the opportunity to serve you and the American people.

White House staff reviewed your correspondence and forwarded it to the appropriate Federal agency for further action. For additional information about the Federal government in the meantime, please visit www.USA.gov or call 1-800-FED-INFO.

Sincerely,

The White House
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

Mr. Harold R. Barker
9191 Garland Road 1126
Dallas, Texas 75218

Dear Mr. Barker:

Thank you for your letter dated March 18, 2021, to the Department of Defense (DoD) concerning the official list of Korean War casualties for inclusion on the Korean War Wall of Remembrance.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation identified problematic names after a series of reviews of the official listing of all Korean War casualty names, which they received from the DoD as a result of their Freedom of Information Act request in 2018. As a result, the DoD conducted a thorough review of all the names on the list, requiring extensive research of these Service members’ military records. This extensive review corrected thousands of names on the Korean War casualty list. In November of 2021, the Defense Human Resources Activity released the final official list to the Department of Interior pursuant to Public Law 114-230.

We appreciate and understand the sacred importance of this memorial to our Korean War Veterans. Thank you for your concerns, and for being an advocate for our Korean War veterans.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patricia Montes Barron
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Military Community and Family Policy
March 18, 2021

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, D.C.

Subject: Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Errors

Dear President Biden

I have an urgent issue with the construction of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance.

I sent the following message by web form.

I am Harold "Hal" Barker, founder of the National Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall.

President Obama signed Public Law 114-230, October 7, 2016, establishing a Wall of Remembrance of names of the fallen from the Korean War.

The Secretary of Defense was tasked with providing a list of names totaling 36,574 names after establishing criteria for inclusion.

Unfortunately, the list of names has widely known flaws. I have had substantial correspondence with Wendy Ginsberg of the House Oversight Committee, and correspondence with the Defense Department and the Defense Department Inspector General, but the results have not been conclusive.

When I wrote a letter on the errors and omission to the National Capital Planning Commission for a Hearing on the Wall of Remembrance on October 3, 2019, my integrity was personally attacked by a Commissioner. Ms. Ginsberg was at this hearing so she has fact knowledge and knows of my concerns.
The Korean government is paying the lion’s share of the costs, and there will be huge loss of face when thousands of errors and omissions are cut into stone. Medal of Honor recipients are misspelled, and many Puerto Ricans, Native Americans, and other Latinos are grossly mismanaged. Hundreds of names are missing from the list.

Sincerely,

Harold Barker
Korean War Project