The lingering state of war in Korea is a major contributor to instability in Asia and is a violation of the 1953 Armistice Agreement and United Nations Resolution 39/11 establishing a people's Right to Peace. In addition, the United States spends tens of billions of dollars in military expenditures and maintains more than 28,500 troops in South Korea in harm's way. See 10 REASONS WHY THE U.S. MUST SIGN A PEACE TREATY WITH NORTH KOREA.

Please sign onto our Campaign to End the Korean War.

CALL TO END THE KOREAN WAR

"When nations and peoples allow themselves to be defined by differences, the gulf between them widens. When we fail to pursue peace, then it stays forever beyond our grasp." President Barack Obama

Prague April 5, 2009

As a nationwide coalition of Americans of Korean descent and other concerned Americans, we applaud President Obama's call to a foreign policy that emphasizes diplomacy and negotiation, and hope that this will bring about a lasting peace on the Korean peninsula. An Armistice Agreement signed by the United States in 1953 called for a peace treaty and removal of all foreign troops from Korea. No treaty has been signed and we spend tens of billions of dollars each year in maintaining provocative military exercises and military buildups in South Korea, as well as stationing some 28,500 U.S. troops in dozens of posts and bases.

We call upon President Obama to make the signing of a peace treaty with North Korea (DPRK) a top priority of United States foreign policy. In addition, moving toward normal diplomatic relations would be a practical step toward resolving differences over nuclear proliferation and arms control, human rights, and economic reform. Relationship builds trust and understanding and provides a forum for further dialogue.

The United States divided Korea and plays a unique role in its peace and reconciliation. Recent hearings by the South Korean Truth and Reconciliation Commission has revealed that our government was present at or played a part in massacres during the Korean War. The best way to atone for past mistakes and console the souls of the millions who died in the horrific fighting in the 1950-1953 period is to build a permanent peace, justice and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula

We urgently request that the Congress and the Obama Administration address the peace treaty issue as soon as possible so that more than 70 million people living on the Korean peninsula and their families here in the United States can at last be freed from the fear of war. Only then can other major regional and global problems be resolved.

It is time to end the Korean War. As James Laney, former U.S. ambassador to South Korea, recently said in Seoul :

"... One item should be at the top of the agenda, however, in order to remove all unnecessary obstacles to progress, that is the establishment of a peace treaty to replace the truce that has been in place since 1953. One of the things that have bedeviled all talks until now is the unresolved status of the Korean War. A peace treaty would provide a baseline for relationships, eliminating the question of the other's legitimacy and its right to exist. Absent such a peace treaty, every dispute presents afresh the question of the other side's legitimacy."

Therefore the following organizations, scholars of Korean Relations and individuals stand together for:

- 1. A permanent peace settlement on the Korean Peninsula through an official end to the Korean War with a peace treaty.
- 2. Establishment of a new U.S. policy toward Korea, based on normalized relations and a greater respect for the fundamental human rights of Korean people to self-determination, peace, human security, and development.

Co-Signing Initiators

National Association of Korean Americans (NAKA) National Committee for Peace in Korea (NCPK) National Lawyers Guild, Korean Peace Project North American Network for Peace in Korea (NANPK) Veterans for Peace, Korea Peace Campaign

National Associations, Organizations, and Community Based Organizations

Agglobe Services International, Plymouth, Minnesota and Fairfax, Virginia

Alliance of Scholars Concerned about Korea (ASCK)

American Friends Service Committee, National

American Friends Service Committee, Peace & Economic Security Program, New England

American Friends Service Committee - Hawai'i Area Program

ANSWER Coalition, Hudson Valley, New York

Asia Pacific Freeze Campaign, USA

Boston Korea Friendship Association, Boston, Massachusetts

CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities, New York City, New York

Code Pink: Women for Peace, Washington, DC

Congress for Korean Reunification in USA (CKR)

DMZ-Hawai'i / Aloha 'Aina, Hawaii

Eclipse Rising, Zainichi Koreans in the Bay Area

Fellowship of Reconciliation, Nyack, New York

Forum For Peaceful Reunification Of Korea, Los Angeles, California

Good Friends, USA: Center for Peace, Human Rights and Refugees

International Action Center, National

June 15 Korean American Committee for Peace and Unification of Korea

Korea Policy Institute, Los Angeles, California

Korea Truth Commission, Three Rivers, California

Korean American Cultural Center of Virginia

Korean American League, Michigan

Korean American National Coordinating Council, New York City, New York

Korean Americans for Korea Democratic Labor Party, Torrance, California

Korean Americans United for Peace (KAUP), San Francisco Bay Area, California

Korean Community Center of the East Bay, Oakland, California

Korean Peace Network, USA

Korean Society of Maryland

Koreatown Immigrant Worker Advocates (KIWA), Los Angeles, California

Malu 'Aina Center of Nonviolent Education and Action, Honolulu, Hawaii

Nanum Corean Cultural Center, Los Angeles, California

Nodutdol for Korean Community Development, Queens, New York

Oakland Institute, Oakland, California

One Korea LA Forum, Los Angeles, California

Pan-Korean Alliance for Reunification in USA, Glendale, California

Peace Action and Peace Action Education Fund, Silver Spring, Maryland and National

Proposition 1: Convert Industry from Nuclear Arms to Humanitarian Aims, Washington, DC

Sahngnoksoo, Seattle, Washington

Tri-Valley CARES, Livermore, California

United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ), USA

United Methodist Church, Global Ministries

US-DPRK Medical Science Exchange Committee, Rochester, Michigan

Women of Color Resource Center, Oakland, California

Women for Genuine Security, San Francisco, California

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, U.S. Section

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, DC Branch

YouthSpeaks, San Francisco, California

Businesses & Media

Hodgepictures, Half Moon Bay, California Korean Center, San Francisco, California Korean Quarterly, St. Paul, Minnesota Korea Report, Washington, DC DMZ/38, Los Angeles, California Minjok Tongshin, Los Angeles, California

Korea Scholars

Bruce Cumings, Professor, University of Chicago

Henry Em, Professor, New York University

Cynthia Enloe, Professor, Clark University

Martin Hart-Landsberg, Professor, Lewis and Clark University

Ramsay Liem, Professor, Boston College

Katharine Moon, Professor, Wellesley College

Peter Rachleff, Professor, Macalester College

J.J. Suh, Professor, Johns Hopkins University

Grace Jeanmee Yoo, Professor, San Francisco State University

Theodore Jun Yoo, Professor, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Ji-Yeon Yuh, Professor, Northwestern University

"YES, I support the Call to End the Korean War."

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